



#### FELICITY-FRANKLIN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT CLERMONT COUNTY

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<u>Mary Taylor, CPA</u> Auditor of State

#### INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT

Felicity-Franklin Local School District Clermont County 415 Washington Street Felicity, Ohio 45120

To the Board of Education:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Felicity-Franklin Local School District, Clermont County, Ohio (the District), as of and for the year ended June 30, 2008, which collectively comprise the District's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents. These financial statements are the responsibility of the District's management. Our responsibility is to express opinions on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in the Comptroller General of the United States' *Government Auditing Standards*. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to reasonably assure 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 our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinions.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Felicity-Franklin Local School District, Clermont County, Ohio, as of June 30, 2008, and the respective changes in financial position for the year then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated January 29, 2009, on our consideration of the District's internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements and other matters. While we did not opine on the internal control over financial reporting or on compliance, that report describes the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*. You should read it in conjunction with this report in assessing the results of our audit.

Management's Discussion and Analysis and the budgetary comparison for the General Fund are not a required part of the basic financial statements but are supplementary information accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires. We have applied certain limited procedures, consisting principally of inquiries of management regarding the methods of measuring and presenting the required supplementary information. However, we did not audit the information and express no opinion on it.

Corporate Centre of Blue Ash / 11117 Kenwood Rd. / Blue Ash, OH 45242 Telephone: (513) 361-8550 (800) 368-7419 Fax: (513) 361-8577 www.auditor.state.oh.us Felicity-Franklin Local School District Clermont County Independent Accountant's Report Page 2

We conducted our audit to opine on the financial statements that collectively comprise the District's basic financial statements. The federal awards receipts and expenditures schedule is required by U.S. Office of Management and Budget Circular A-133, *Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations,* and is not a required part of the basic financial statements. We subjected the federal awards receipts and expenditures schedule to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements. In our opinion, this information is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the basic financial statements taken as a whole.

Mary Jaylor

Mary Taylor, CPA Auditor of State

January 29, 2009

#### MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS (Unaudited)

This discussion and analysis provides key information from management highlighting the overall financial performance of the Felicity - Franklin Local School District for the year ended June 30, 2008. This is meant to be an easily readable summary of the most important financial information regarding the accompanying financial statements. Please read it in conjunction with the School District's financial statements.

#### **Financial Highlights**

Major financial highlights for fiscal year 2008 are listed below:

- ✓ The assets of the School District exceeded its liabilities at year-end by \$19.1 million. Of this amount, \$18 million is invested in capital assets, net of related debt.
- ✓ In total, net assets decreased by \$1.6 million.
- ✓ The School District had \$12.9 million in expenses related to governmental activities; only \$2.5 million of these expenses were offset by program specific charges for services, grants or contributions. General revenue of \$8.8 million, made up primarily of property taxes and State Foundation payments provided the majority of funding for these programs.
- ✓ The General Fund balance decreased by approximately \$905,000 from \$1,485,000 at June 30, 2007 to \$580,000 at June 30, 2008.

# **OVERVIEW OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

This discussion and analysis are intended to serve as an introduction to the School District's basic financial statements. The School District's basic financial statements comprise three components: 1) government-wide financial statements, 2) fund financial statements, and (3) notes to the financial statements. This report also contains other supplementary information in addition to the basic financial statements themselves.

**Government-wide financial statements.** The government-wide financial statements are designed to provide readers with a broad overview of the School District's finances in a manner similar to a private-sector business.

The statement of net assets presents information on all of the School District's assets and liabilities, with the difference between the two reported as net assets. Over time, increases or decreases in net assets may serve as a useful indicator of whether the financial position of the School District is improving or deteriorating.

The statement of activities presents information showing how the government's net assets changed during the most recent fiscal year. All changes in net assets are reported as soon as the underlying event giving rise to the change occurs, regardless of the timing of related cash flows. Thus, revenues and expenses are reported in this statement for some items that will only result in cash flows in future fiscal years (e.g. uncollected taxes and earned but unused vacation leave).

Both of the government-wide financial statements distinguish functions of the School District that are principally supported by taxes and intergovernmental revenues (governmental activities) from other functions that are intended to recover all or a significant portion of their costs through user fees and charges (business-type activities). The governmental activities of the School District include instruction, support services, administration, operation and maintenance of plant, and extracurricular activities. The School District has no business-type activities.

**Fund financial statements.** A fund is a grouping of related accounts that is used to maintain control over resources that have been segregated for specific activities or objectives. The School District uses fund accounting to ensure and demonstrate compliance with finance-related legal requirements. All of the funds of the School District can be divided into two categories: governmental funds and fiduciary funds.

*Governmental funds.* Governmental funds are used to account for essentially the same functions reported as governmental activities in the government-wide financial statements. However, unlike the government-wide financial statements, governmental fund financial statements focus on near-term inflows and outflows of spendable resources, as well as on balances of spendable resources available at the end of the fiscal year. Such information may be useful in evaluating a government's near-term financing requirements.

Because the focus of governmental funds is narrower than that of the government-wide financial statements, it is useful to compare the information presented for governmental funds with similar information presented for government activities in the government-wide financial statements. By doing so, readers may better understand the long-term impact of the government's near-term financing decisions. Both the governmental fund balance sheet and the governmental fund statement of revenues, expenditures, and changes in fund balances provide a reconciliation to facilitate this comparison between government funds and governmental activities.

The School District accounts for its activities using many individual funds. The most significant funds are reported in separate columns in the governmental fund financial statements. These statements provide detailed information about the individual major funds – unlike the government-wide financial statements, which report on the School District as a whole. Some funds are required to be established by State law. Also, the School District may also establish separate funds to show that it is meeting legal requirements for using grants or other money.

*Fiduciary funds.* Fiduciary funds are used to account for resources held for the benefit of parties outside the government. Fiduciary funds are not reflected in the government-wide financial statements because the resources of those funds are not available to support the School District's own programs.

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

**Other information.** In addition to basic financial statements and accompanying notes, this report also contains required supplementary information concerning the budget of the General Fund.

#### GOVERNMENT-WIDE FINANCIAL ANALYSIS

#### A. Net assets at year-end

The following table presents a condensed summary of the School District's overall financial position at June 30, 2008 and 2007:

	FY08	FY07
Current and other assets	\$ 4,486,311	5,123,925
Capital assets	20,405,003	21,179,576
Total assets	24,891,314	26,303,501
Long-term liabilities outstanding	3,020,042	3,012,277
Other liabilities	2,757,298	2,610,987
Total liabilities	5,777,340	5,623,264
Net assets:		
Invested in capital assets, net of debt	17,925,221	18,679,576
Restricted:		
For other purposes	222,406	150,247
Debt service	920,351	874,162
Unrestricted	45,996	976,252
Total net assets	\$ 19,113,974	20,680,237

The decline in current assets was primarily related to current year expenses exceeding revenues resulting in a decrease in cash of approximately \$827,000. The decrease in capital assets was a result of current year depreciation exceeding capital asset additions by approximately \$775,000.

Current year depreciation expense was also the cause of the decrease in net assets invested in capital assets, net of related debt.

# B. Governmental Activities during fiscal year 2008

The following table presents a condensed summary of the School District's activities during fiscal year 2008 and 2007 and the resulting change in net assets:

	FY08	FY07
Revenues:		
Program revenues:		
Charges for services and sales	\$ 693,990	797,494
Operating grants and contributions	1,761,952	1,655,736
Capital grants and contributions	7,714	12,573
Total program revenues	2,463,656	2,465,803
General revenues:		
Property taxes	1,792,994	1,408,600
Grants and entitlements	6,776,967	6,767,298
Investment earnings	129,540	208,744
Miscellaneous	126,824	101,800
Total general revenues	8,826,325	8,486,442
Total revenues	11,289,981	10,952,245
Expenses:		
Instruction	7,705,543	7,362,552
Support services:		
Pupil	686,534	406,203
Instructional staff	436,030	424,953
Board of Education	14,657	9,564
Administration	813,395	832,646
Fiscal	368,370	320,558
Operation and maintenance of plant	1,179,755	1,140,207
Pupil transportation	683,436	931,563
Central	50,746	43,559
Extracurricular activities	209,816	190,752
Food services	562,442	594,071
Interest and fiscal charges	145,520	150,258
Total expenses	12,856,244	12,406,886
Change in net assets	\$ (1,566,263)	(1,454,641)

Of the total governmental activities revenues of \$11,289,981, \$2,463,656 (22%) is from program revenue. This means that the government relies on general revenues to fund the majority of the cost of services provided to the citizens. Of those general revenues, 20% (\$1,792,994) comes

from property tax levies and 77% (\$6,776,967) is from state funding. The School District's operations are reliant upon its property tax levy and the state's foundation program.

Property tax revenues increased by approximately \$384,000. New construction has replaced several farms that have been split off and sold within the School District. Operating grants increased approximately \$106,000 due to increases in Title I and Title VI-IDEA-B funds. Charges for services declined due to an increase in free and reduced lunches, especially at the high school, and reduced tuition receipts. Investment earnings were down due to less cash available for investment. In total, expenses increased by only about 3.6% which represents inflationary increases in salaries as well as purchases of goods and services.

#### **Governmental** Activities

The following table presents the total cost of each of the government's primary services, and the comparative net cost after deducting the revenues generated by each function. Approximately 19% of the cost of the general government programs was recouped in program revenues. Instruction costs were \$7,705,543 but program revenue contributed to fund 23% of those costs. Thus, general revenues of \$5,899,847 were used to support of remainder of the instruction costs. The School District's governmental activities net assets decreased by \$1,566,263 largely due to depreciation expense of approximately \$923,000 on the School District's facilities. In addition, revenue growth has not kept pace with increases in costs to operate the School District.

	Total Cost of Services	Program Revenue	Revenues as a % of Total Costs	Net Cost of Services
Instruction	\$ 7,705,543	1,805,696	23%	5,899,847
Support services	4,232,923	84,012	2%	4,148,911
Non-instructional services	772,258	573,948	74%	198,310
Interest and fiscal charges	145,520		0%	145,520
Total	\$ 12,856,244	2,463,656	<u>19</u> %	10,392,588

#### **Governmental Activities**

#### FINANCIAL ANALYSIS OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT'S INDIVIDUAL FUNDS

#### **Governmental funds**

The School District has two major governmental funds: General Fund and Debt Service Fund. Assets of these two funds comprise \$4,201,026 (94%) of the total \$4,486,311 governmental funds assets.

*General Fund.* Fund balance at June 30, 2008 was \$579,528, with an unreserved fund balance of \$235,664. The fund balance decreased by \$905,019. The unreserved fund balance represents approximately 2% of current-year general fund expenditures.

**Debt Service Fund.** The debt service fund is used to retire general obligation bond principal and interest. The fund balance at June 30, 2008 was \$906,896. This fund balance will be used to make future principal and interest payments.

#### GENERAL FUND BUDGETARY HIGHLIGHTS

The schedule comparing the School District's original and final budgets and actual results are included in the required supplementary information. There were no significant differences between original and final budget. For the General Fund, budget basis actual revenue was \$8,809,804 with original budget estimates of \$8,844,667 and final budget estimates of \$8,810,058. On the expense side, significant differences between the actual and final budgets exist due to the School District's budget methodology. The School District's budget is passed with expenditures equal to the estimated available resources. Thus, the School District "over budgets" expenditures.

#### CAPITAL ASSET AND DEBT ADMINISTRATION

**Capital assets.** At June 30, 2008, the School District had \$20,405,003 invested in a broad range of capital assets, including land, buildings, equipment and vehicles. See Note 5 to the financial statements for more detail.

#### Capital Assets at Year-End (Net of Depreciation)

	FY08	FY07
Land	\$ 65,450	65,450
Land improvements	843,879	903,169
Buildings and improvements	18,731,798	19,440,327
Equipment and furniture	457,942	390,759
Vehicles	275,410	323,330
Textbooks	30,524	56,541
Total	\$ 20,405,003	21,179,576

#### Debt

The School District paid the required scheduled principal payment of \$110,000 on its general obligation school improvement bonds during the fiscal year. The total general obligation bonds outstanding at year-end were \$2,390,000 with \$115,000 due within one year. The School District's general obligation bonds mature December 1, 2024.

The School District entered into a capital lease agreement for two copiers in December, 2007 in the amount of \$101,640. Payments are made monthly over a period of 60 months. The School District paid \$11,858 in lease payments during the year.

See Note 10 to the financial statements.

# **ECONOMIC FACTORS**

A challenge facing the School District is the future of state funds. On December 11, 2002, the Court found the state's school funding system unconstitutional but declined to retain jurisdiction of the matter meaning the decision included no timeline for compliance or accountability for lack of compliance. The School District is currently unable to determine what effect, if any, this decision will have on its future State funding and on its financial operations.

The School District will be facing financial difficulties in the 2009-2010 school year, primarily due to the reduction in state foundation over the past three years. The School District has developed a "Financial Committee" to study a reduction of staff for the 2009-2010 school year, and the impact it will have financially to the School District.

# **REQUESTS FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

This financial report is designed to provide our citizens, taxpayers, customers, and investors and creditors with a general overview of the School District's finances and to show the School District's accountability for the money it receives. If you have questions about this report or need additional financial information, contact the Treasurer's office at the Felicity - Franklin Local School District, 415 W. Washington Street, Felicity, Ohio 45120.

Statement of Net Assets June 30, 2008

	Governmental Activities
Assets:	
Equity in pooled cash and investments	\$ 2,623,225
Receivables:	
Taxes	1,817,584
Supplies inventory	13,833
Prepaids	31,669
Nondepreciable capital assets	65,450
Depreciable capital assets, net	20,339,553
Total assets	24,891,314
Liabilities:	
Accounts payable	9,770
Accrued wages and benefits	956,168
Intergovernmental payable	252,613
Unearned revenue	1,527,326
Accrued interest payable	11,421
Noncurrent liabilities:	
Due within one year	263,541
Due within more than one year	2,756,501
Total liabilities	5,777,340
Net Assets:	
Invested in capital assets, net of related debt	17,925,221
Restricted for:	
Other purposes	222,406
Debt service	920,351
Unrestricted	45,996
Total net assets	\$ 19,113,974

Statement of Activities Year Ended June 30, 2008

				Program Revenues			Net (Expense) Revenue and Changes in Net Assets
		European	Charges for Services and Sales	Operating Grants and Contributions	Capital Grants and Contributions	• •	Governmental Activities
Governmental Activities:	-	Expenses	and Sales	Contributions	Contributions		Activities
Current:							
Instruction:							
Regular	\$	5,807,373	442,532	564,297	_	\$	(4,800,544)
Special education	ψ	718,557		468,516	_	ψ	(250,041)
Other		1,179,613	_	330,351	_		(849,262)
Support services:		1,179,015		550,551			(04),202)
Pupil		686,534	18,840	7,242	_		(660,452)
Instructional staff		436,030	-	39,522	-		(396,508)
Board of Education		14,657	-	-	-		(14,657)
Administration		813,395	-	-	-		(813,395)
Fiscal		368,370	-	-	-		(368,370)
Operation and maintenance of plant		1,179,755	-	-	-		(1,179,755)
Pupil transportation		683,436	5,694	-	7,714		(670,028)
Central		50,746	-	5,000	_		(45,746)
Non-instructional services:				,			
Extracurricular activities		209,816	47,170	-	-		(162,646)
Food service operations		562,442	179,754	347,024	-		(35,664)
Interest on long-term debt		145,520	-	-	-		(145,520)
Total Governmental Activities	\$	12,856,244	693,990	1,761,952	7,714		(10,392,588)
		neral Revenues:					
			for general purpose	es			1,523,803
		perty taxes, levied		· ~			269,191
			ts not restricted to	specific programs			6,776,967
		estment earnings					129,540
		scellaneous al general revenues	5				<u>126,824</u> 8,826,325
		ange in net assets					(1,566,263)
	Net	assets beginning c	of year				20,680,237
		assets end of year	-			\$	19,113,974

Balance Sheet Governmental Funds June 30, 2008

	_	General	Debt Service	Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
Assets:					
Equity in pooled cash and investments	\$	1,494,974	886,496	241,755	2,623,225
Receivables:					
Taxes		1,515,070	272,817	29,697	1,817,584
Prepaids		31,669	-	-	31,669
Materials and supplies inventory				13,833	13,833
Total assets		3,041,713	1,159,313	285,285	4,486,311
Liabilities:					
Accounts payable		9,770	-	-	9,770
Accrued wages and benefits		826,628	-	129,540	956,168
Intergovernmental payable		218,617	-	33,996	252,613
Deferred revenue		1,407,170	252,417	27,597	1,687,184
Total liabilities		2,462,185	252,417	191,133	2,905,735
Fund Balances:					
Reserved for:					
Encumbrances		39,464	-	15,628	55,092
Textbooks and instructional materials		88,334	-	-	88,334
Property taxes		107,900	20,400	2,100	130,400
Prepaids		31,669	_ •, • • •	_,- • •	31,669
Inventory		_	-	13,833	13,833
Designated for textbooks and instructional materials		76,497		,	,
Unreserved (deficit), reported in:		,			
General Fund		235,664	-	-	235,664
Special Revenue Funds		-	-	7,000	7,000
Debt Service Fund		-	886,496	-	886,496
Capital Projects Funds				55,591	55,591
Total fund balances		579,528	906,896	94,152	1,504,079
Total liabilities and fund balances	\$	3,041,713	1,159,313	285,285	4,409,814

#### Reconciliation of Total Governmental Fund Balances to Net Assets of Governmental Activities June 30, 2008

Total Governmental Fund Balances	5	\$ 1,504,079
Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of net assets		
Capital assets used in governmental activities are not financial resources and therefore are not reported in the funds.		20,405,003
Other long-term assets are not available to pay for current-period expenditures and therefore are not reported in the funds.		159,858
Long-term liabilities, including bonds payable, are not due and payable in th current period and therefore are not reported in the funds:	e	
General obligation bonds 2,390	,000	
Capital lease obligation 89	,782	
Compensated absences 540	,260	
Accrued interest payable 11	,421	
Total		(3,031,463)
Net Assets of Governmental Activities	9	\$ 19,037,477

Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances Governmental Funds Year Ended June 30, 2008

				Other	Total
			Debt	Governmental	Governmental
	_	General	Service	Funds	Funds
Revenues:					
Taxes	\$	1,420,288	255,117	27,825	1,703,230
Tuition and fees		442,532	-	-	442,532
Interest		127,422	-	3,034	130,456
Charges for services		-	-	179,754	179,754
Intergovernmental		6,702,723	32,518	1,857,202	8,592,443
Other local revenues		91,906		91,154	183,060
Total revenues		8,784,871	287,635	2,158,969	11,231,475
Expenditures:					
Current:					
Instruction:					
Regular		4,496,507	-	570,265	5,066,772
Special education		252,715	-	487,154	739,869
Other instruction		1,179,849	-	24,881	1,204,730
Support services:					
Pupil		360,601	-	323,036	683,637
Instructional staff		353,593	-	59,147	412,740
Board of Education		14,657	-	-	14,657
Administration		808,616	-	2,162	810,778
Fiscal		364,167	-	-	364,167
Operation and maintenance of plant		1,124,652	-	50,140	1,174,792
Pupil transportation		619,750	-	-	619,750
Central		45,746	-	5,000	50,746
Non-instructional services:					
Extracurricular activities		158,819	-	46,421	205,240
Food service operation		_	-	544,822	544,822
Debt Service:					
Principal		11,858	110,000	-	121,858
Interest and fiscal charges		-	146,033	-	146,033
Total expenditures		9,791,530	256,033	2,113,028	12,160,591
Excess of revenues over expenditures		(1,006,659)	31,602	45,941	(929,116)
Other financing sources (uses):					
Inception of capital lease		101,640			101,640
Total other financing sources (uses):		101,640			101,640
Net change in fund balance		(905,019)	31,602	45,941	(827,476)
Fund balance, beginning of year		1,484,547	875,294	48,211	2,408,052
Fund balance, end of year	\$	579,528	906,896	94,152	1,580,576

#### Reconciliation of the Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances of Governmental Funds to the Statement of Activities Year Ended June 30, 2008

Net Change in Fund Balances - Total Governmental Funds	\$	(827,476)
Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of activities are different because		
Governmental funds report capital outlays as expenditures.		
However, in the statement of activities, the cost of those assets is		
allocated over their estimated useful lives as depreciation expense.		
Capital outlay Depreciation expense		148,562 (923,135)
Repayment of bond and lease principal is an expenditure in the governmental f repayment reduces long-term liabilities in the statement of net assets. In the statement of activities, the inception of a capital lease is eliminated and a recorded, whereas, in governmental funds it is reported as an other financing s	a liability	121,858 (101,640)
In the statement of activities, interest is accrued on outstanding bonds, whereas in governmental funds, an interest expenditure is reported when due.		513
Some expenses reported in the statement of activities, such as compensated absences do not require the use of current financial resources and therefore are not reported as expenditures in governmental funds.		(27,983)
Revenues in the statement of activities that do not provide current financial resources are not reported as revenues in the funds.		43,038

Change in Net Assets of Governmental Activities

\$ (1,566,263)

Statement of Assets and Liabilities Fiduciary Funds June 30, 2008

	Agency Funds
ASSETS	
Equity in pooled cash and investments	\$ 22,891
Total assets	22,891
Due to student groups	22,891
Total liabilities	\$ 22,891

# 1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The financial statements of the Felicity - Franklin Local School District (the "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. Private-sector standards of accounting and financial reporting issued prior to December 1, 1989, generally are followed in the government-wide financial statements to the extent they do not conflict with or contradict GASB pronouncements. The more significant of the School District's accounting policies are described below.

# A. <u>Reporting Entity</u>

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 to approximately 1,200 students and community members as authorized by state statute and/or federal guidelines. The School District was established in 1930 through the consolidation of existing land areas and school districts. The School District serves an area of approximately 84 square miles, is located in Clermont County, and includes the Villages of Felicity and Chilo, all of Franklin Township and a portion of Washington Township.

The reporting entity is comprised of the primary government, which consists of all funds, departments, boards, and agencies that are not legally separate from the 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 organization's 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 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. The School District has no component units.

The School District is associated with five organizations, three of which are defined as jointly governed organizations and two are insurance purchasing pools. These organizations include the Hamilton Clermont Cooperative Association/Unified Purchasing Association, the Hamilton/Clermont Cooperative Association, the U.S. Grant Vocational School, the Ohio School Boards Association Workers' Compensation Group Rating Plan, and the Clermont County Health Trust. These organizations are presented in Notes 12 and 13 to the basic financial statements.

# B. <u>Basis of Presentation</u>

*Government-wide Financial Statements* The statement of net assets and the statement of activities display information about the School District as a whole. These statements include the financials activities of the primary government except for fiduciary funds. The statements distinguish between those activities of the School District that are governmental and those that are considered business-type activities.

The government-wide statements are prepared using the economic resources measurement focus, which differs from the manner in which the governmental fund financial statements are prepared. Therefore, the governmental fund financial statements include reconciliations with brief explanations to better identify the relationship between the government-wide statements and the statements for governmental funds.

The government-wide statement of activities presents a comparison between direct expenses and program revenues for each function of the School District's governmental activities. Direct expenses are those that are specifically associated with a service, program or department and are therefore identifiable to a particular function. Program revenues include charges paid by the recipient of the goods or services offered by the program and grants and contributions that are restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular program. Revenues which are not classified as program revenues are presented as general revenues of the School District, with certain limited exceptions. The comparison of direct expenses with program revenues identifies the extent to which each governmental function is self-financing or draws from the general revenues of the School District.

*Fund Financial Statements* Fund financial statements report detailed information about the School District. The focus of governmental financial statements is on major funds rather than reporting funds by type. Each major fund is presented in a separate column. Nonmajor funds are aggregated and presented in a single column. Fiduciary funds are reported by fund type.

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 sources (i.e., revenues and other financing sources) and uses (i.e., expenditures and other financing uses) of current financial resources.

#### C. <u>Fund Accounting</u>

The School District uses funds 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. The funds of the School District are grouped into the categories governmental and fiduciary.

*Governmental funds* focus on the sources, uses and balances of current financial resources. Expendable assets are assigned to the various governmental funds according to the purposes for which they may or must be used. Current liabilities are assigned to the fund from which they will be paid. The difference between governmental fund assets and liabilities is reported as fund balance. The following are the School District's major governmental funds:

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

**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.

*Fiduciary Funds* report on net assets and changes in net assets. The School District's fiduciary funds consist of agency funds used to account for student activities. Agency funds are custodial in nature (assets equal liabilities) and do not involve measurement of results of operations.

#### D. <u>Basis of Accounting</u>

Basis of accounting refers to when revenues and expenditures are recognized in the accounts and reported in the financial statements and relates to the timing of the measurements made. The modified accrual basis of accounting is used by the governmental funds. On a modified accrual basis, revenues are recorded 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. Under the modified accrual basis, the following revenue sources are deemed both measurable and available: property taxes available for advance, tuition, student fees, and grants.

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 except for unmatured principal and interest on general long-term debt as well as expenditures related to compensated absences which are recognized when due. Allocations of cost, such as depreciation, are not recognized in the governmental funds.

Government-wide financial statements are prepared using the accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recognized when earned and expenses are recognized when incurred.

*Revenues - Exchange and Non-exchange transactions.* Revenue resulting from exchange transactions, in which each party gives and receives essentially equal value, is recorded on the accrual basis when the exchange takes place.

Non-exchange transactions, in which the School District receives value without directly giving value in return, include property taxes, grants, entitlements and donations. On an accrual basis, revenue from property taxes is recognized in the fiscal year for which the taxes were levied.

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

**Deferred Revenue** Deferred revenues arise when assets are recognized before revenue recognition criteria have been satisfied. Property taxes measurable as of June 30, 2008, which are intended to finance fiscal year 2009 operations, have been recorded as deferred revenue. On governmental fund financial statements, receivables that will not be collected within the available period have also been reported as deferred revenue.

# E. <u>Cash and Cash Equivalents</u>

To improve cash management, all cash received by the School District is pooled in central bank accounts. Monies for all funds are maintained in this account or temporarily used to purchase short-term investments. Individual fund integrity is maintained through School District records. Each fund's interest in the pool is presented as "Equity in Pooled Cash and Investments" on the financial statements. Following Ohio statutes, the Board of Education has, by resolution, specified the funds to receive an allocation of interest earnings.

During fiscal year 2008, investments were limited to STAROhio, and a U.S. Treasury Money Market Fund. Investments are reported at their fair value, which is based on quoted market prices and changes in the fair value are reported in the operating statement.

The Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement No. 31 (GASB 31), "Accounting and Financial Reporting for Certain Investments and for External Investment Pools", requires that investments be recorded at their fair value and that changes in the fair value be reported in the operating statement. At June 30, 2008, the fair value of investments approximates cost.

The School District has invested funds in the State Treasury Asset Reserve of Ohio (STAROhio) during fiscal year 2008. STAROhio is an investment pool managed by the State Treasurer's Office, which allows governments within the State to pool their funds for investment purposes. STAROhio 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 STAROhio are valued at STAROhio's share price, which is the price the investment could be sold for on June 30, 2008.

# F. <u>Inventory</u>

Inventory is stated at the lower of cost or market. Cost is determined on a first-in, first-out basis. Inventory consist of donated food, purchased food, and school supplies held for resale and are expensed when used.

# G. <u>Prepaids</u>

Payments made to vendors for services that will benefit periods beyond June 30, 2008 are recorded as prepaid items using the consumption method. A current asset for the prepaid amount is recorded at the time of the purchase and an expenditure/expense is reported in the year in which services are consumed.

# H. <u>Capital Assets</u>

Capital assets, which include property, plant and equipment, are reported in the governmentwide financial statements. The School District defines capital assets as those with an individual cost of more than \$5,000 and an estimated useful life in excess of one year. All capital assets are capitalized at cost or estimated historical cost where no historical records exist. Donated capital assets are recorded at their estimated fair values as of the date received. The School District does not possess any infrastructure. Improvements are capitalized; the costs of normal maintenance and repairs that do not add to the value of the asset or materially extend an asset's life are not capitalized.

When capital assets are purchased, they are capitalized and depreciated in the government-wide statements and the proprietary fund statements. Capital assets are reported as expenditures of the current period in the governmental fund financial statements. All reported capital assets except land are depreciated. Depreciation is computed using the straight-line method over the following useful lives:

Buildings	10 - 75 years
Land improvements	5 - 15 years
Building improvements	10 - 35 years
Equipment and furniture other than vehicles	5 - 20 years
Vehicles	5 - 20 years

# I. <u>Compensated Absences</u>

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 entire compensated absence liability is reported on the government-wide financial statements. For governmental fund financial statements, a liability is recorded only for the portion of unpaid compensated absences that has matured, for example, as a result of employee resignations and retirements. There were no matured compensated absences as of year-end.

#### J. Accrued Liabilities and Long-Term Obligations

All payables, accrued liabilities and long-term obligations are reported in the governmentwide financial statements. Governmental fund payables and accrued liabilities are reported as obligations of the funds regardless of whether they will be liquidated with current resources with the exception of compensated absences as noted above.

#### K. <u>Fund Balance Reserves</u>

The School District records reservations for portions of fund equity that are legally segregated for specific future use or which do not represent available expendable resources and therefore are not available for appropriation or expenditure. Unreserved fund balances indicates that portion of fund equity that is available for appropriation in future periods. Fund equity reserves are established for encumbrances, property taxes, prepaids, and inventory. The reserve for property taxes represents taxes recognized as revenue under generally accepted accounting principles but not available for appropriations under State statutes.

#### L. <u>Net Assets</u>

Net assets represent the difference between assets and liabilities. Net assets invested in capital assets, net of related debt consists of capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation, reduced by the outstanding balances of any borrowings used for the acquisition, construction or improvement of those assets. Net assets are reported as restricted when there are limitations imposed on their use either through the enabling legislation adopted by the School District or through external restrictions imposed by creditors, grantors or laws or regulations of other governments.

The School District applies restricted resources when an expense is incurred for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted net assets are available.

# M. <u>Estimates</u>

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.

# 2. FUND BALANCE DEFICITS

At June 30, 2008, the following special revenue funds had deficit fund balances:

Title I	\$43,542
Improving Teacher Quality	\$3,179
Poverty Based Intervention Assistance	\$62,632

The deficits 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.

# 3. **DEPOSITS**

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

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

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

Protection of the District's deposits is provided by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, 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 are permitted to be deposited or invested in the following securities:

- 1. United States treasury notes, bills, bonds, or any other obligation or security issued by the United States treasury or any other obligation guaranteed as to principal or interest by the United States;
- 2. Bonds, notes, debentures, or any other obligations or securities issued by the 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 that the market value of the securities subject to the repurchase agreement must exceed the principal value of the agreement by at least two percent and be marked to market daily, and that the term of the agreement must not exceed thirty days;
- 4. Bonds and other obligations of the State of Ohio;
- 5. No-load money market mutual funds consisting exclusively of obligations described in division (1) or (2) of this section and repurchase agreements secured by such obligations, provided that investments in securities described in this division are made only through eligible institutions;

- 6. The State Treasurer's investment pool (STAR Ohio);
- 7. Certain bankers' acceptances and commercial paper notes for a period not to exceed one hundred and eighty days in an amount not to exceed twenty-five percent of the interim monies available for investment at any one time; and,
- 8. Under limited circumstances, corporate debt interests rated in either of the two highest rating classifications by at least two nationally recognized rating agencies.

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, if the securities are not represented by a certificate, upon receipt of confirmation of transfer from the custodian.

The following information classifies deposits and investments by categories of risk as defined in GASB Statement 3, "Deposits with Financial Institutions, Investments and Reverse Repurchase Agreements" and amended by GASB Statement No. 40 "Deposit and Investment Risk Disclosures":

# **Deposits**

# Custodial Credit Risk

Custodial credit risk is the risk that in the event of a bank failure, the School District's deposits may not be returned to it. The School District does not have a custodial credit risk policy. At year-end, \$190,659 of the School District's bank balance of \$290,659 was exposed to custodial credit risk since it was uninsured and collateralized with securities held by the pledging financial institution's trust department or agent, but not in the School District's name.

#### **Investments**

The School District's investments at June 30, 2008 are as summarized as follows:

		Fair Value	Average Maturity (Years)
STAROhio	\$	805,899	n/a
U.S. Treasury Money Market Fund	-	1,825,308	n/a
	\$	2,631,207	

# Credit Risk

It is the School District's policy to limit its investments that are not obligations of the U.S. Government or obligations explicitly guaranteed by the U.S. Government to investments which have a credit quality rating of the top 2 ratings by nationally recognized statistical rating organizations. Investments in STAR Ohio were rated AAAm by Standard & Poor's.

# Custodial Credit Risk

Custodial credit risk is the risk that in the event of a failure of a counter party, the School District will not be able to recover the value of its investments or collateral securities that are in the possession of an outside party. The School District's investment securities are registered in the name of the School District.

# Interest Rate Risk

In accordance with the investment policy, the School District manages its exposure to declines in fair value by limiting the weighted average maturity of its investment portfolio to five years.

# 4. **PROPERTY TAXES**

Property taxes are levied and assessed on a calendar year basis while the School District fiscal year runs from July through June. First half tax collections are received by the School District in the second half of the fiscal year. Second half distributions occur in the first half of the following fiscal year. Property taxes include amounts levied against all real, public utility, and tangible personal property (used in business) located in the School District. Real property taxes are levied after April 1 on the assessed value listed as of the prior January 1, the lien date. Assessed values for real property taxes are established by State law at 35 percent of appraised market value. Real property taxes are payable annually or semi-annually. If paid annually, payment is due December 31; if paid semi-annually, the first payment is due December 31 with the remainder payable by June 20. Under certain circumstances, State statute permits alternate payment dates to be established.

Public utility property taxes attached as a lien on December 31 of the prior year, were levied April 1 and are collected with real property taxes. Public utility property taxes are assessed on tangible personal property at varying percentages of true value and on real property at 35% of true value.

Tangible personal property taxes are levied after April 1 on the value as of December 31 of the current year. In prior years, tangible personal property was assessed at twenty-five percent of true value for capital assets and twenty-three percent of true value for inventory. The tangible personal property tax is being phased out – the assessment percentage for all property including inventory for 2008 was 6.25 percent. This will be reduced to zero for 2009. Payments by multi-county taxpayers are due September 20. Single county taxpayers may pay annually or semi-annually. If paid annually, payment is due April 30; if paid semi-annually, the first payment is due April 30, with the remainder payable by September 20. Tangible personal property taxes paid by April 30 are usually received by the School District prior to June 30.

The School District receives property taxes from the Clermont County Auditor, who 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, 2008 are available to finance fiscal year 2008 operations. Accrued property taxes receivable represents delinquent taxes outstanding and real property, tangible personal property, and public utility taxes that became measurable as of June 30, 2008. 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.

	2007 Second- Half Collections		2008 First- Half Collections	
	Amount	Percent	Amount	Percent
Agricultural/Residential				
and Other Real Estate	\$ 63,325,170	89.69%	64,550,670	89.15%
Public Utility	6,692,920	9.48%	7,359,460	10.16%
Tangible Personal Property	588,832	0.83%	494,772	0.68%
Total Assessed Value	\$ 70,606,922	100.00%	72,404,902	100.00%
Tax rate per \$1,000 of assessed valuation	\$32.30		\$32.60	

The assessed values upon which fiscal year 2008 taxes were collected are:

# 5. CAPITAL ASSETS

Capital assets activity for the year ended June 30, 2008 was as follows:

		Balance 7/1/07	Additions	Disposals	Balance 6/30/08
Governmental Activities	1				
Nondepreciable:					
Land	\$	65,450	-	-	65,450
Depreciable:					
Land improvements		1,185,781	-	-	1,185,781
Buildings and improvements		24,192,837	17,748	-	24,210,585
Equipment and furniture		729,342	130,814	-	860,156
Vehicles		1,276,348	-	-	1,276,348
Textbooks		499,045	-	-	499,045
Subtotal		27,883,353	148,562	-	28,031,915
Totals at historical cost	1	27,948,803	148,562	-	28,097,365
T					
Less accumulated depreciation:		202 (12	50.200		241.002
Land improvements		282,612	59,290	-	341,902
Buildings and improvements		4,752,510	726,277	-	5,478,787
Equipment and furniture		338,583	63,631	-	402,214
Vehicles		953,018	47,920	-	1,000,938
Textbooks	1	442,504	26,017	-	468,521
Total accumulated depreciation	1	6,769,227	923,135		7,692,362
Capital assets, net	\$	21,179,576	(774,573)	-	20,405,003

Depreciation expense was charged to functions as follows:

Instruction:	
Regular	\$ 819,037
Other instruction	2,390
Support services:	
Instructional staff	18,560
Fiscal	744
Operation and maintenance of plant	1,889
Pupil transportation	66,026
Food services	14,443
Extracurricular activities	46
Total depreciation expense	\$ 923,135

# 6. RISK MANAGEMENT

The School District is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft or damage to, and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; injuries to employees; and natural disasters. During fiscal year 2008, the School District contracted with commercial carriers for property and fleet insurance, liability insurance and inland marine coverage. Settled claims have not exceeded this commercial coverage in any of the past three years. There has been no significant change in coverage in the last year.

For fiscal year 2008, the School District participated in the Ohio School Boards Association Workers' Compensation Group Rating Program (GRP), an insurance purchasing pool (Note 13). The intent of the GRP is to achieve the benefit of a reduced premium for the School District by virtue of its grouping and representation with other participants in the GRP. The workers' compensation experience of the participating school districts is calculated as one experience and a common premium rate is applied to all school districts in the GRP. Each participant pays its workers' compensation premium to the State based on the rate for the GRP rather than its individual rate. Total savings are then calculated and each participant's individual performance is compared to the overall savings percentage of the GRP. A participant will then either receive money from or be required to contribute to the "Equity Pooling Fund". This "equity pooling" arrangement insures that each participant shares equally in the overall performance of the GRP. Participation in the GRP is limited to school districts that can meet the GRP's selection criteria. The firm of Gates McDonald & Co. provides administrative, cost control and actuarial services to the GRP.

For fiscal year 2008, the School District participated in the Clermont County Health Trust (the Trust), a group insurance purchasing pool (Note 13), in order to provide dental, life, medical, and disability benefits to employees, their dependents and designated beneficiaries and to set aside funds for such purposes. The Trustee provides insurance policies in whole or in part through one or more group insurance policies.

# 7. DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS

#### 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. SERS provides retirement and disability benefits, annual cost-of-living adjustments, and death benefits to plan members and beneficiaries. Authority to establish and amend benefits is provided by Chapter 3309 of the Ohio Revised Code. SERS issues a publicly available, stand-alone financial report that includes financial statements and required supplementary information. That report may be obtained by writing to the School Employees Retirement System, 300 East Broad Street, Suite 100, Columbus, Ohio 43215-3746, by calling (800) 878-5853 or by visiting the SERS website at <u>www.ohsers.org</u> under *Forms and Publications*.

Plan members are required to contribute 10% of their annual covered salary and the School District is required to contribute at an actuarially determined rate, which is currently 14% of annual covered payroll. A portion of the School District's contribution is used to fund pension obligations with the remainder being used to fund health care benefits. 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 contributions to SERS for the fiscal years ended June 30, 2008, 2007, and 2006 were approximately \$210,000, \$203,000, and \$190,000, respectively. Approximately 49% has been contributed for fiscal year 2008 and 100% for the fiscal years 2007 and 2006. The unpaid contribution for fiscal year 2008 is recorded as a liability within the financial statements.

# **State Teachers Retirement System**

The School District contributes to the State Teachers Retirement System of Ohio (STRS), a costsharing multiple employer public employee retirement system. STRS provides retirement and diability benefits to members and death and survivor benefits to beneficiaries. Benefits are established by Chapter 3307 of the Ohio Revised Code. STRS issues a stand-alone financial report that may be obtained by writing to STRS, 275 East Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215-3771, by calling toll-free 1-888-227-7877 or by visiting the STRS Ohio web site at <u>www.strsoh.org</u>.

*Plan Options* - New members have a choice of three retirement plans, a Defined Benefit (DB) Plan, a Defined Contribution (DC) Plan and a Combined Plan. The DC plan allows members to allocate all their member contributions and employer contributions equal to 10.5% of earned compensation among various investment choices. The Combined Plan offers features of both the DC Plan and the DB Plan. In the Combined Plan, member contributions are invested by the member, and employer contributions are used to fund the defined benefit payment at a reduced level from the regular DB Plan. Contributions into the DC Plan and the Combined Plan are credited to member accounts as employers submit their payroll information to STRS Ohio, generally on a biweekly basis. DC and Combined Plan members will transfer to the DB Plan during their fifth year of membership unless they permanently select the DC or Combined Plan.

**DB** Plan Benefits – Plan benefits are established under Chapter 3307 of the Revised Code. Any member may retire who has (i) five years of service credit and attained age 60; (ii) 25 years of service credit and attained age 55; or (iii) 30 years of service credit regardless of age. The annual retirement allowance, payable for life, is greater of the "formula benefit" or the "money-purchase benefit" calculation. Under the "formula benefit," the retirement allowance is based on years of credited service and final average salary, which is the average of the member's three highest salary years. The annual allowance is calculated by using a base percentage of 2.2% multiplied by the total number of years of service credit (including Ohio-valued purchased credit) times the final average salary. The 31<sup>st</sup> year of earned Ohio service credit is calculated at 2.5%. An additional one-tenth of a percent is added to the calculation for every year of earned Ohio service over 31 years (2.6% for 32 years, 2.7% for 33 years and so on) until 100% of final average salary is reached. For members with 35 or more years of Ohio contributing service, the first 30 years will be calculated at 2.5% instead of 2.2%. Under the "money-purchase benefit" calculation, a member's lifetime contributions plus interest at

specified rates are matched by an equal amount from other STRS Ohio funds. This total is then divided by an actuarially determined annuity factor to determine the maximum annual retirement allowance.

**DC Plan Benefits** – Benefits are established under Sections 3307.80 to 3307.89 of the Revised Code. For members who select the DC Plan, all member contributions and employer contributions at a rate of 10.5% are placed in an investment account. The member determines how to allocate the member and employer money among various investment choices. A member is eligible to receive a retirement benefit at age 50 and termination of employment. The member may elect to receive a lifetime monthly annuity or a lump-sum withdrawal. Employer contributions into members' accounts are vested after the first anniversary of the first day of paid service. Members in the DC Plan who become disabled are entitled only to their account balance. If a member dies before retirement benefits begin, the member's designated beneficiary is entitled to receive the member's account balance.

**Combined Plan Benefits** – Member contributions are allocated by the member, and employer contributions are used to fund a defined benefit payment. A member's defined benefit is determined by multiplying 1% of the member's final average salary by the member's years of service credit. The defined benefit portion of the Combined Plan payment is payable to a member on or after age 60. The defined contribution portion of the account may be taken as a lump sum or converted to a lifetime monthly annuity at age 50.

A retiree of STRS Ohio or another Ohio public retirement system is eligible for reemployment as a teacher following the elapse of two months from the date of retirement. Contributions are made by the reemployed member and employer during the reemployment. Upon termination of reemployment or age 65, whichever comes later, the retiree is eligible for an annuity benefit or equivalent lump-sum payment in addition to the original retirement allowance. A reemployed retiree may alternatively receive a refund of only member contributions with interest before age 65, once employment is terminated.

Benefits are increased annually by 3% of the original base amount for DB Plan participants.

The DB and Combined Plans offer access to health care coverage to eligible retirees who participated in the plans and their eligible dependents. Coverage under the current program includes hospitalization, physicians' fees, prescription drugs and partial reimbursement of monthly Medicare Part B premiums. By Ohio law, health care benefits are not guaranteed.

Plan members are required to contribute 10% of their annual covered salary and the School District is required to contribute 14%. Contribution rates are established by STRS, upon recommendation of its consulting actuary, not to exceed statutory maximum rates of 10% for members and 14% for employers. The School District's required contributions to STRS for the fiscal years ended June 30, 2008, 2007, and 2006 were approximately \$673,000, \$645,000, and \$630,000, respectively. Approximately 83% has been contributed for fiscal year 2008 and 100% for the fiscal years 2007 and 2006. The unpaid contribution for fiscal year 2008 is recorded as a liability.

#### **Social Security System**

All employees not otherwise covered by SERS or STRS have an option to choose Social Security or the School Employees Retirement System/State Teachers Retirement System. Members of the Board of Education have elected Social Security. The Board's liability is 6.2% of wages paid.

# 8. **POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS**

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

STRS Ohio administers a pension plan that is comprised of: a defined benefit plan; a self-directed defined contribution plan and a combined plan which is a hybrid of the defined benefit and defined contribution plan. Ohio law authorizes STRS Ohio to offer a cost-sharing, multiple-employer health care plan. STRS Ohio provides access to health care coverage to eligible retirees who participated in the defined benefit or combined plans. Pursuant to 3307 of the Ohio Revised Code, the Retirement Board has discretionary authority over how much, if any, of the associated health care costs will be absorbed by STRS Ohio. All benefit recipients, for the most recent year, pay a portion of the health care costs in the form of a monthly premium. Under Ohio law, funding for post-employment health care may be deducted from employer contributions. Of the 14% employer contribution rate, 1% of covered payroll was allocated to post-employment health care for years ended June 30, 2008, 2007, and 2006. The 14% employer contribution rate is the maximum rate established under Ohio law. The School District's contributions to STRS Ohio allocated to post-employment health care for the years June 30, 2008, 2007, and 2006, and \$45,000, respectively.

SERS administers two postemployment benefit plans:

*Medicare B Plan* - The Medicare B plan reimburses Medicare Part B premiums paid by eligible retirees and beneficiaries as set forth in Ohio Revised Code (ORC) 3309.69. Qualified benefit recipients who pay Medicare Part B premiums may apply for and receive a monthly reimbursement from SERS. The reimbursement amount is limited by statute to the lesser of the January 1, 1999 Medicare Part B premium or the current premium. The Medicare Part B premium for calendar year 2007 was \$93.50; SERS' reimbursement to retirees was \$45.50.

The Retirement Board, acting with the advice of the actuary, allocates a portion of the current employer contribution rate to the Medicare B Fund. For fiscal year 2007, the actuarially required allocation was 0.68%. The School District contributions for the year ended June 30, 2008 were \$10,000, which equaled the required contributions for the year.

*Health Care Plan* - ORC 3309.375 and 3309.69 permit SERS to offer health care benefits to eligible retirees and beneficiaries. SERS' Retirement Board reserves the right to change or discontinue any health care plan or program. SERS offers several types of health plans from various vendors, including HMO's, PPO's, and traditional indemnity plans. A prescription drug program is also available to those who elect health coverage. SERS employs two third-party administrators and a pharmacy benefit manager to manage the self-insurance and prescription drug plans, respectively.

The ORC provides the statutory authority to fund SERS' postemployment benefits through employer contributions. Active members do not make contributions to the postemployment benefit plans.

The Health Care Fund was established under, and is administered in accordance with, Internal Revenue Code 401(h). Each year after the allocation for statutorily required benefits, the Retirement Board allocates the remainder of the employer 14% contribution to the Health Care Fund. At June 30, 2008, the health care allocation was 4.18%. The actuarially required contribution (ARC), as of the December 31, 2006 annual valuation, was 11.50% of covered payroll. The ARC represents a level of funding that, if paid on an ongoing basis, is projected to cover normal cost each year and amortize any unfunded actuarial liabilities of the plan over a period not to exceed thirty years. The School District's contributions for the years ended June 30, 2008, 2007, and 2006 were \$50,000, \$48,000, and \$46,000, respectively.

An additional health care surcharge on employers is collected for employees earning less than an actuarially determined minimum compensation amount, pro-rated according to service credit earned. Statutes provide that no employer shall pay a health care surcharge greater than 2% of that employer's SERS-covered payroll; nor may SERS collect in aggregate more than 1.5% of the total statewide SERS-covered payroll for the health care surcharge. For fiscal year 2008, the minimum compensation level was established at \$35,800. The SERS Retirement Board establishes the rules for the premiums paid by the retirees for health care coverage for themselves and their dependents or for their surviving beneficiaries. Premiums vary depending on the plan selected, qualified years of service, Medicare eligibility, and retirement status.

# 9. EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

## **Compensated Absences**

The criteria for determining vacation and sick leave components are derived from State laws. Classified employees earn ten to twenty days of vacation per fiscal 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 the rate of one and one-fourth days per month and sick leave may be accumulated with no maximum for employees hired before January 1, 2001 and up to a maximum of 300 days for employees hired after January 1, 2001. Upon retirement of an employee hired before January 1, 2001, payment is made for 25% of accrued, but unused sick leave, for the first 300 days and 10% for days in excess of 300. Upon retirement of an employee hired after January 1, 2001, payment is made for 25% of accrued, but unused sick leave, for the

## 10. LONG-TERM OBLIGATIONS

Long-term liability activity for the year ended June 30, 2008 was as follows:

	Principal Outstanding 7/1/07	Additions	Deductions	Principal Outstanding 6/30/08	Amount due in one year
Governmental Activities:					
School Improvement bonds: 1986 Issue - 8.375%	\$ 100,000	-	30,000	70,000	35,000
1997 Issue - 6.085%	1,230,000	-	35,000	1,195,000	35,000
2002 Issue - 5.315%	1,170,000		45,000	1,125,000	45,000
	2,500,000		110,000	2,390,000	115,000
Capital lease obligation	-	101,640	11,858	89,782	20,328
Compensated absences	512,277	143,786	115,803	540,260	128,213
Total	\$ 3,012,277	245,426	237,661	3,020,042	263,541

*Felicity-Franklin Junior High School Addition General Obligation Bonds* - On July 1, 1986, the School District issued voted general obligations bonds for the purpose of an addition and improvements to the junior high school building. The bonds were issued for a twenty year period with final maturity at December 1, 2009.

*Felicity-Franklin Elementary School Addition General Obligation Bonds* - On July 1, 1997, the School District issued voted general obligations bonds for the purpose of construction of an elementary school under the State Classroom Facilities Program. The bonds were issued for a twenty year period with final maturity at December 1, 2018.

*Felicity-Franklin High School General Obligation Bonds* - On March 18, 2002, voted general obligations bonds were issued for the purpose of construction of a high school under the State Classroom Facilities Program for a twenty year period with final maturity at December 1, 2024.

All general obligation debt is supported by the full faith and credit of the School District and will be paid from the Debt Service Fund. The capital lease obligation will be paid from the General Fund. Compensated absences will be paid from the fund from which the employees' salaries are paid, which is primarily the General Fund. The School District's voted legal debt margin was \$4,967,260 with an unvoted debt margin of \$71,671 at June 30, 2008.

Principal and interest requirements to retire general obligation bonds outstanding at June 30, 2008 are as follows:

Fiscal Year	Drivesianal	Interest	Tatal
Ending June 30,	Principal	Interest	Total
2009	\$ 115,000	133,767	248,767
2010	125,000	126,869	251,869
2011	135,000	119,783	254,783
2012	140,000	112,648	252,648
2013	160,000	104,730	264,730
2014-2018	965,000	371,718	1,336,718
2019-2023	560,000	121,969	681,969
2024-2025	190,000	11,700	201,700
Total	\$ 2,390,000	1,103,184	3,493,184

## 11. CAPITAL LEASES – LESSEE DISCLOSURE

During the year the District entered into a lease agreement for two copiers. This lease meets the criteria of a capital lease as defined by Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 13, "Accounting for Leases", which defines a capital lease generally as one which transfers benefits and risks of ownership to the lessee at the conclusion of the lease term. Capital lease payments will be reflected as debt service expenditures in the basic financial statements for the governmental funds. The following is a schedule of the future minimum lease payments for the capital leases, and the present value of the future minimum lease payments at June 30, 2008:

Fiscal Year Ending June 30,	
2009	\$ 20,328
2010	20,328
2011	20,328
2012	20,328
2013	8,470
Total	89,782
Less amount representing interest	
Present value of minimum lease payements	\$ 89,782

# 12. JOINTLY GOVERNED ORGANIZATIONS

### The Hamilton Clermont Cooperative Association

The School District is a participant in a two-county consortium of school districts that operate the Hamilton/Clermont Cooperative Association (H/CCA). H/CCA is an association of public districts in a geographic area determined by the Ohio Department of Education. The organization was formed for the purpose of applying modern technology with the aid of computers and other electronic equipment to administrative and instructional functions among member districts. The Board of H/CCA consists of one representative from each of the participating members. Complete financial statements for H/CCA can be obtained from their administrative offices at 7615 Harrison Avenue, Cincinnati 45231.

### The Hamilton Clermont Cooperative Association/Unified Purchasing Association

The Hamilton Clermont Cooperative Association/Unified Purchasing Association is a jointly governed organization among a two-county consortium of school districts. The Unified Purchasing Cooperative was organized by H/CCA to benefit member districts with a more economically sound purchasing mechanism for general school, office and cafeteria supplies. The Unified Purchasing Cooperative organization is governed by representatives from each of the governments that create the organization, but there is no ongoing financial interest or responsibility by the participating governments. Complete financial statements for H/CCA can be obtained from their administrative offices at 7615 Harrison Avenue, Cincinnati, Ohio 45231.

## U.S. Grant Joint Vocational School District

The U.S. Grant Joint Vocational School District is a distinct political subdivision of the State of Ohio operated under the direction of a Board, consisting of one representative from each of the four participating school district's elected board with an additional representative rotated among the four schools. U.S. Grant possesses its own budgeting and taxing authority and was formed for the purpose of providing vocational education opportunities to the students of the member school districts. The School District has no ongoing financial interest in or responsibility for U.S. Grant. To obtain financial information, write to U.S. Grant at 3046 State Route 125, Bethel, Ohio 45106.

## **13. INSURANCE PURCHASING POOLS**

## Ohio School Boards Association Workers' Compensation Group Rating Plan

The School District participates in the Ohio School Boards Association Workers' Compensation Group Rating Program (GRP), an insurance purchasing pool. The GRP's business and affairs are conducted by a three member Board of Directors consisting of the President, the President-Elect and the Immediate Past President of the OSBA. The Executive Director of the OSBA, or his designee, serves as coordinator of the program. Each year, the participating school districts pay an enrollment fee to the GRP to cover the costs of administering the program.

### The Clermont County Health Trust

The Clermont County Health Trust (the Trust), an insurance purchasing pool, is a health trust formed to provide affordable and desirable dental, life, medical, and other disability group insurance for member's employees, eligible dependents and designated beneficiaries of such employees. The Board of Directors consists of one representative from each of the participating members and is elected by the vote of a majority of the member school districts. The School District pays premiums to a third party administrator which in turns buys the insurance policies from various insurance companies. Upon termination, the School District shall be responsible for prompt payment of all plan liabilities accruing as a result of such termination and maintain no right to any assets of the Trust. The School District may terminate participation in the Trust for the benefit of its employees upon written notice to the Trustee delivered at least sixty days prior to the annual review date of the policy. Financial information can be obtained from the Clermont County Health Trust at P. O. Box 526, Middletown, Ohio 45042.

### 14. CONTINGENCIES

### 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 are subject to audit by the grantor agencies. Any disallowed claims resulting from such audits could become a liability of the General Fund or other applicable funds. However, in the opinion of management, any such disallowed claims will not have a material adverse effect on the overall financial position of the School District at June 30, 2008.

## Litigation

The School District is party to legal proceedings and is of the opinion that the ultimate disposition of claims will not have a material effect, if any, on the financial condition of the School District.

## 15. REQUIRED SET-ASIDES

The School District is required by State Statute to annually set aside in the general fund an amount based on the 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 year-end or offset by similarly restricted resources received during the year must be held in cash at year-end and carried forward to be used for the same purposes in future years. Although no longer required by state statute, a budget stabilization reserve may still be set aside at the discretion of the School District.

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

	Textbooks	Capital Improvements
Set-aside balance as of June 30, 2007 Current year set-aside requirement Less qualifying disbursements and offsets Total	\$ 13,934 186,159 (111,759) 88,334	- 186,159 (186,159) -
Balance carried to FY2009 Cash balance as of June 30, 2008	\$ 88,334 164,831	<u> </u>

## 16. CHANGE IN ACCOUNTING PRINCIPLE

For the year ended June 30, 2008, the School District implemented GASB Statement No. 45, *Accounting and Financial Reporting by Employers for Postemployment Benefits Other Than Pensions*. This statement addresses how state and local governments should account and disclose their costs and obligations related to postemployment healthcare and other non-pension benefits. The implementation had no effect to the School District's financial statement amounts.

## **17. COMPLIANCE**

The School District did not properly encumber all funds as required by Ohio Revised Code, Section 5705.41(D)(1).

## FELICITY - FRANKLIN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance - Budget and Actual (Non-GAAP Budgetary Basis) General Fund Year Ended June 30, 2008

Year Ended June 30, 2008					Variance
		Original	Final		With Final
		Budget	Budget	Actual	Budget
Revenues:		Budget	Buuger	littui	Buuger
Taxes	\$	1,356,456	1,442,588	1,442,588	_
Tuition and fees	Φ	501,832	450,531	450,531	_
Interest		206,838	127,676	127,422	(254)
Intergovernmental		6,697,956	6,702,723	6,702,723	(234)
Other local revenues		81,585	86,540	86,540	_
Total revenues		8,844,667	8,810,058	8,809,804	(254)
Expenditures:					
Current:					
Instruction:					
Regular		4,918,668	4,766,445	4,373,736	392,709
Special education		271,209	295,003	254,577	40,426
Other instruction		1,391,302	1,302,983	1,175,995	126,988
Support services:					
Pupil		378,042	377,766	357,029	20,737
Instructional staff		408,179	402,129	369,087	33,042
Board of Education		17,626	19,625	13,688	5,937
Administration		919,475	857,639	796,987	60,652
Fiscal		401,258	399,912	371,760	28,152
Operation and maintenance of plant		1,237,600	1,222,263	1,115,672	106,591
Pupil transportation		710,111	703,166	623,204	79,962
Central		49,588	49,588	42,994	6,594
Non-instructional services:					
Extracurricular activities		161,271	157,676	156,284	1,392
Total expenditures		10,864,329	10,554,195	9,651,013	903,182
Excess of revenues over expenditures		(2,019,662)	(1,744,137)	(841,209)	902,928
Other financing sources (uses):					
Transfers out		(269,656)	(545,181)		545,181
Total other financing sources (uses):		(269,656)	(545,181)		545,181
Net change in fund balance		(2,289,318)	(2,289,318)	(841,209)	1,448,109
Fund balance, beginning of year		2,172,211	2,172,211	2,172,211	
Prior year encumbrances appropriated		117,107	117,107	117,107	
Fund balance, end of year	\$	-		1,448,109	

See accompanying notes to required supplemental information.

# FELICITY - FRANKLIN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Notes to Required Supplementary Information Year Ended June 30, 2008

### Note A Budgetary Basis of Accounting

While the School District is reporting financial position, results of operations, and changes in fund balances 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 Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances - Budget and Actual (Non-GAAP Budgetary Basis) is presented on the budgetary basis to provide a meaningful comparison of actual results with the budget. The major differences between the budget basis and GAAP basis are that:

Revenues are recorded when received in cash (budget basis) as opposed to when susceptible to accrual (GAAP basis).

Expenditures are recorded when paid in cash (budget basis) as opposed to when the liability is incurred (GAAP basis).

The following tables summarize the adjustments necessary to reconcile the GAAP statements and the budgetary basis schedule:

	General
Net change in fund balance - GAAP Basis	\$ (905,019)
Increase / (decrease):	
Due to revenues	24,933
Due to expenditures	187,382
Due to other sources	(101,640)
Due to encumbrances	(46,865)
Net change in fund balance - Budget Basis	\$ (841,209)

#### SCHEDULE OF FEDERAL AWARDS RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2008

Federal Grantor/ Pass Through Grantor Program Title	Pass Through Entity Number	Federal CFDA Number	Receipts	Non-Cash Receipts	Disbursements	Non-Cash Disbursements
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE Passed Through Ohio Department of Education: Child Nutrition Cluster:						
Food Distribution Program		10.550	\$0	\$42,999	\$0	\$42,999
National School Breakfast Program		10.553 10.555	52,046	0	52,046	0
National School Lunch Program		10.555	241,150	0	241,150	0
Total Child Nutrition Cluster			293,196	0	293,196	0_
Total Department of Agriculture			293,196	42,999	293,196	42,999
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION Passed Through Ohio Department of Education:						
Special Education Grants to States (IDEA Part B)	2008	84.027	303,595	0	303,595	0
Title I Grants to Local Educational Agencies	2008	84.010	468,516	0	468,516	0
Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities - State Grants	2008	84.186	7,242	0	7,242	0
Innovative Educational Program Strategies	2008	84.298	2,860	0	2,860	0
Improving Teacher Quality	2008	84.367	88,422	0	88,422	0
Rural and Low Income	2008	84.358	33,051	0	33,051	0
Technology Literacy Challenge Grant	2008	84.318	4,759	0	4,759	0
Total Department of Education			908,445	0	908,445	0
Totals			\$1,201,641	\$42,999	\$1,201,641	\$42,999

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

#### NOTES TO THE FEDERAL AWARDS RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES SCHEDULE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2008

#### **NOTE A - SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

The accompanying Federal Awards Expenditures Schedule (the Schedule) summarizes activity of the District's federal award programs. The schedule has been prepared on the cash basis of accounting.

#### **NOTE B - CHILD NUTRITION CLUSTER**

Cash receipts from the U.S. Department of Agriculture are commingled with State grants. It is assumed federal monies are expended first.

### NOTE C – FOOD DONATION PROGRAM

Program regulations do not require the District to maintain separate inventory records for purchased food and food received from the U.S. Department of Agriculture. This non-monetary assistance (expenditures) is reported in the Schedule at the fair value of the commodities received.



<u>Mary Taylor, CPA</u> Auditor of State

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

Felicity-Franklin Local School District Clermont County 415 Washington Street Felicity, Ohio 45120

To the Board of Education:

We have audited the financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Felicity-Franklin Local School District, Clermont County, Ohio (the District), as of and for the year ended June 30, 2008, which collectively comprise the District's basic financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated January 29, 2009. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in the Comptroller General of the United States' *Government Auditing Standards*.

#### Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit, we considered the District's internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing our audit procedures for expressing our opinion on the financial statements, but not to opine on the effectiveness of the District's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we have not opined on the effectiveness of the District's internal control over financial reporting.

A control deficiency exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in performing their assigned functions, to prevent or detect misstatements on a timely basis. A significant deficiency is a control deficiency, or combination of control deficiencies, that adversely affects the District's ability to initiate, authorize, record, process, or report financial data reliably in accordance with its applicable accounting basis, such that there is more than a remote likelihood that the District's internal control will not prevent or detect a more-than-inconsequential financial statement misstatement.

A material weakness is a significant deficiency, or combination of significant deficiencies resulting in more than a remote likelihood that the District's internal control will not prevent or detect a material financial statement misstatement.

Our consideration of internal control over financial reporting was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and would not necessarily identify all internal control deficiencies that might be significant deficiencies or material weaknesses. We did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting that we consider material weaknesses, as defined above.

Felicity-Franklin Local School District Clermont County Independent Accountants' Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Required by *Government Auditing Standards* Page 2

We noted certain matters that we reported to the District's management in a separate letter dated January 29, 2009.

#### **Compliance and Other Matters**

As part of reasonably assuring whether the District's financial statements are free of material misstatement, we tested its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could directly and materially affect 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 an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed an instance of noncompliance or other matters that we must report under *Government Auditing Standards* which is described in the accompanying schedule of findings as item 2008-001.

We also noted certain noncompliance or other matters not requiring inclusion in this report that we reported to the District's management in a separate letter dated January 29, 2009.

We intend this report solely for the information and use of the audit committee, management, Board of Education, and federal awarding agencies and pass-through entities. We intend it for no one other than these specified parties.

Mary Jaylo

Mary Taylor, CPA Auditor of State

January 29, 2009



Mary Taylor, CPA Auditor of State

### INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT ON COMPLIANCE WITH REQUIREMENTS APPLICABLE TO EACH MAJOR FEDERAL PROGRAM AND ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER COMPLIANCE IN ACCORDANCE WITH OMB CIRCULAR A-133

Felicity-Franklin Local School District Clermont County 415 Washington Street Felicity, Ohio 45120

To the Board of Education:

#### Compliance

We have audited the compliance of Felicity-Franklin Local School District, Clermont County, Ohio (the District), with the types of compliance requirements described in the U.S. Office of Management and Budget (OMB) *Circular A-133, Compliance Supplement* that apply to each of its major federal programs for the year ended June 30, 2008. The summary of auditor's results section of the accompanying schedule of findings identifies the District's major federal programs. The District's management is responsible for complying with the requirements of laws, regulations, contracts, and grants applicable to each major federal program. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the District's compliance based on our audit.

We conducted our audit of compliance in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America; the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States; and OMB Circular A-133, *Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations*. Those standards and OMB Circular A-133 require that we plan and perform the audit to reasonably assure whether noncompliance occurred with the types of compliance requirements referred to above that could directly and materially affect a major federal program. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence about the District's compliance with those requirements and performing other procedures we considered necessary in the circumstances. We believe our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion. Our audit does not provide a legal determination on the District's compliance with those requirements.

In our opinion, the District complied, in all material respects, with the requirements referred to above that apply to each of its major federal programs for the year ended June 30, 2008.

### Internal Control Over Compliance

The District's management is responsible for establishing and maintaining effective internal control over compliance with the requirements of laws, regulations, contracts, and grants applicable to federal programs. In planning and performing our audit, we considered the District's internal control over compliance with requirements that could directly and materially affect a major federal program in order to determine our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on compliance, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control over compliance. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the District's internal control over compliance.

Corporate Centre of Blue Ash / 11117 Kenwood Rd. / Blue Ash, OH 45242 Telephone: (513) 361-8550 (800) 368-7419 Fax: (513) 361-8577 www.auditor.state.oh.us Felicity-Franklin Local School District Clermont County Independent Accountants' Report on Compliance with Requirements Applicable to Each Major Federal Program and Internal Control Over Compliance In Accordance with OMB Circular A-133 Page 2

A control deficiency in internal control over compliance exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, when performing their assigned functions, to prevent or detect noncompliance with a federal program compliance requirement on a timely basis. A significant deficiency is a control deficiency, or combination of control deficiencies, that adversely affects the District's ability to administer a federal program such that there is more than a remote likelihood that the District's internal control will not prevent or detect more-than-inconsequential noncompliance with a federal program compliance requirement.

A material weakness is a significant deficiency, or combination of significant deficiencies, that results in more than a remote likelihood that the District's internal control will not prevent or detect material noncompliance with a federal program's compliance requirements.

Our consideration of internal control over compliance was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and would not necessarily identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be significant deficiencies or material weaknesses. We did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over compliance that we consider to be material weaknesses, as defined above.

We intend this report solely for the information and use of the audit committee, management, Board of Education, federal awarding agencies, and pass-through entities. It is not intended for anyone other than these specified parties.

Mary Jaylo

Mary Taylor, CPA Auditor of State

January 29, 2009

#### SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS OMB CIRCULAR A -133 § .505 JUNE 30, 2008

	1. SUMMART OF AUDITOR 3 RES	
(d)(1)(i)	Type of Financial Statement Opinion	Unqualified
(d)(1)(ii)	Were there any material control weaknesses reported at the financial statement level (GAGAS)?	No
(d)(1)(ii)	Were there any other significant deficiencies in internal control reported at the financial statement level (GAGAS)?	No
(d)(1)(iii)	Was there any reported material noncompliance at the financial statement level (GAGAS)?	Yes
(d)(1)(iv)	Were there any material internal control weaknesses reported for major federal programs?	No
(d)(1)(iv)	Were there any other significant deficiencies in internal control reported for major federal programs?	No
(d)(1)(v)	Type of Major Programs' Compliance Opinion	Unqualified
(d)(1)(vi)	Are there any reportable findings under § .510?	No
(d)(1)(vii)	Major Programs (list):	Special Education – Grants to States CFDA 84.027 & Child Nutrition Cluster CFDA 10.553,10.555
(d)(1)(viii)	Dollar Threshold: Type A\B Programs	Type A: > \$ 300,000 Type B: all others
(d)(1)(ix)	Low Risk Auditee?	Yes

### 1. SUMMARY OF AUDITOR'S RESULTS

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

#### FINDING NUMBER 2008-001

#### Noncompliance Citation

**Ohio Rev. Code, Section 5705.41(D)(1),** prohibits a subdivision or taxing entity from making any contract or ordering any expenditure of money unless a certificate signed by the Treasurer is attached thereto. The Treasurer must certify that the amount required to meet any such contract or expenditure has been lawfully appropriated and is in the treasury, or is 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 shall be null and void.

Felicity-Franklin Local School District Clermont County Schedule of Findings Page 2

#### FINDING NUMBER 2008-001 (Continued)

There are several exceptions to the standard requirement stated above that a Treasurer's certificate must be obtained prior to a subdivision or taxing authority entering into a contract or order involving the expenditure of money. The main exceptions are: "then and now" certificates, blanket certificates, and super blanket certificates, which are provided for in sections 5705.41(D)(1) and 5705.41(D)(3), respectively, of the Ohio Revised Code.

1. "Then and Now" Certificate - If the Treasurer can certify that both at the time that the contract or order was made ("then"), and at the time that the Treasurer is completing the certification ("now"), that sufficient funds were available or in the process of collection, to the credit of a proper fund, properly appropriated and free from any previous encumbrance, the District can authorize the drawing of a warrant for the payment of the amount due. The District has thirty days from the receipt of the "then and now" certificate to approve payment by ordinance or resolution.

Amounts of less than \$3,000 may be paid by the Treasurer without a resolution or ordinance upon completion of the "then and now" certificate, provided that the expenditure is otherwise lawful. This does not eliminate any otherwise applicable requirement for approval of expenditures by the District.

- 2. Blanket Certificate Treasurers may prepare "blanket" certificates for a certain sum of money not in excess of an amount established by resolution or ordinance adopted by a majority of the members of the legislative authority against any specific line item account over a period not running beyond the end of the current fiscal year. The blanket certificates may, but need not, be limited to a specific vendor. Only one blanket certificate may be outstanding at one particular time for any one particular line item appropriation.
- 3. Super Blanket Certificate The District may also make expenditures and contracts for any amount from a specific line-item appropriation account in a specified fund upon certification of the fiscal officer for most professional services, fuel, oil, food items, and any other specific recurring and reasonably predictable operating expense. This certification is not to extend beyond the current year. More than one super blanket certificate may be outstanding at a particular time for any line item appropriation.

The District did not properly certify the availability of funds for purchase commitments for 20 percent or 12 out of 60 expenditures tested and none of the exceptions above applied. Failure to properly certify the availability of funds can result in overspending funds and negative cash fund balances.

Unless the District uses the exceptions noted above, prior certification is not only required by statute but also is a key control in the disbursement process to assure that purchase commitments receive prior approval. To improve controls over disbursements and to help reduce the possibility of the District's funds exceeding budgetary spending limitations, we recommend that the Treasurer certify that funds are or will be available prior to obligation by the District. When prior certification is not possible, "then and now" certification should be used.

We recommend the District obtain the Treasurer's certification of the availability of funds prior to commitment being incurred. The most convenient certification method is to use purchase orders that include the certification language 5705.41(D) requires to authorize disbursements. The Treasurer should sign the certification at the time the District incurs a commitment, and only when the requirements of 5705.41(D) are satisfied. The Treasurer should post approved purchase orders to the proper appropriation code to reduce the available appropriation.

Felicity-Franklin Local School District Clermont County Schedule of Findings Page 3

### FINDING NUMBER 2008-001 (Continued)

### Officials' Response:

We did not receive a response from Officials to the finding reported above.

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

None

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### SCHEDULE OF PRIOR AUDIT FINDINGS OMB CIRCULAR A -133 § .315 (b) JUNE 30, 2008

Finding Number	Finding Summary	Fully Corrected?	Not Corrected, Partially Corrected; Significantly Different Corrective Action Taken; or Finding No Longer Valid; <i>Explain</i>
2007-001	Revised Code § 5705.41(d), failure to certify the availability of funds for certain commitments	No	Repeated as 2008-001





### FELICITY-FRANKLIN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

### **CLERMONT 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 Babbett

CLERK OF THE BUREAU

CERTIFIED FEBRUARY 17, 2009

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