

GREATER OHIO VIRTUAL SCHOOL



Basic Financial Statements

June 30, 2015

**PLATTENBURG**  
Certified Public Accountants





# Dave Yost • Auditor of State

Board of Directors  
Greater Ohio Virtual School  
1879 Deerfield Road  
Lebanon, Ohio 45036

We have reviewed the *Independent Auditor's Report* of the Greater Ohio Virtual School, Warren County, prepared by Plattenburg & Associates, Inc., for the audit period July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2015. Based upon this review, we have accepted these reports in lieu of the audit required by Section 117.11, Revised Code. The Auditor of State did not audit the accompanying financial statements and, accordingly, we are unable to express, and do not express an opinion on them.

Our review was made in reference to the applicable sections of legislative criteria, as reflected by the Ohio Constitution, and the Revised Code, policies, procedures and guidelines of the Auditor of State, regulations and grant requirements. The Greater Ohio Virtual School is responsible for compliance with these laws and regulations.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dave Yost".

Dave Yost  
Auditor of State

February 11, 2016

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## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Greater Ohio Virtual School  
Warren County  
1879 Deerfield Road  
Lebanon, Ohio 45036

### Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying modified cash basis financial statements of the Greater Ohio Virtual School (the School) as of and for the year ended June 30, 2015, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the School's basic financial statements.

### Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with the modified cash accounting basis Note 2 describes. This responsibility includes determining that the modified cash accounting basis is acceptable for the circumstances. Management is also responsible for designing, implementing, and maintaining internal control relevant to preparing and fairly presenting financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

### Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to opine on these financial statements based on our audit. We audited in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the financial audit standards in the Comptroller General of the United States' *Government Auditing Standards*. Those standards require us to plan and perform the audit to reasonably assure the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit requires obtaining evidence about financial statements amounts and disclosures. The procedures selected depend on our judgment, including assessing the risks of material financial statement misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. In assessing those risks, we consider internal control relevant to the Government's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not to the extent to opine on the effectiveness of the Government's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of management's accounting policies and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates, as well as our evaluation the overall financial statement presentation.

We believe the audit evidence we obtained is sufficient and appropriate to support our audit opinions.

### Opinion

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to previously present fairly, in all material respects, the respective modified cash financial position of the Greater Ohio Virtual School, as of June 30, 2015, and the respective changes in the modified cash financial position thereof for the year then ended in accordance with the accounting basis described in Note 2.

## Accounting Basis

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

## Other Reporting Required by *Government Auditing Standards*

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated December 29, 2015, on our consideration of the School's internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the School's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

*Plattenburg & Associates, Inc.*

Plattenburg & Associates, Inc.

Cincinnati, Ohio

December 29, 2015

Greater Ohio Virtual School  
Statement of Net Position - Modified Cash Basis  
June 30, 2015

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	<u>Greater Ohio Virtual School</u>
Assets:	
Current Assets:	
Equity in Pooled Cash and Investments	<u>\$4,686,079</u>
Total Assets	<u>4,686,079</u>
Net Modified Cash Position:	
Restricted for:	
State and Federal Grants	14,260
Unrestricted	<u>4,671,819</u>
Total Net Modified Cash Position	<u><u>\$4,686,079</u></u>

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements.

Greater Ohio Virtual School  
Statement of Receipts, Disbursements and Changes in Net Position - Modified Cash Basis  
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2015

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	Greater Ohio Virtual School
Operating Receipts:	
Tuition and Fees	\$1,706
Foundation Payments	3,448,023
Other Receipts	<u>30,858</u>
Total Operating Receipts	<u>3,480,587</u>
Operating Disbursements:	
Salaries	1,392,940
Fringe Benefits	411,554
Purchased Services	1,116,560
Materials and Supplies	178,799
Capital Outlay	25,477
Other Disbursements	<u>239,582</u>
Total Operating Disbursements	<u>3,364,912</u>
Operating Income (Loss)	<u>115,675</u>
Non-Operating Receipts:	
Investment Earnings	6,813
State and Federal Grants	<u>278,189</u>
Total Non-Operating Receipts	<u>285,002</u>
Change in Net Modified Cash Position	400,677
Net Modified Cash Position - Beginning of Year	<u>4,285,402</u>
Net Modified Cash Position - End of Year	<u><u>\$4,686,079</u></u>

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements.



**Greater Ohio Virtual School  
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements  
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2015**

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**Note 1 - Description of the School and Reporting Entity**

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**Description of the School**

The Greater Ohio Virtual School (the "School") is a nonprofit corporation established pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Chapters 3314 and 1702. The School is a conversion school, which is considered an extension of the traditional public school. The School qualifies as an "integral part of the public School," and is dominated by officials of such School (i.e. the School must have public officials acting in their capacity as a public official). Hence, the School is exempt from federal income tax filing. The School is a comprehensive educational program for students in grades 7 - 12 who reside within the State of Ohio. The School is established under Ohio Charter School Law and provides a virtual educational program at no cost to the student. The School is operated under the direction of a director and is sponsored by the Warren County Educational Service Center. The Warren County Educational Service Center furnishes leadership, consulting services, and fiscal agency services that are designed to strengthen the School in areas they are unable to staff independently. The School is staffed by 1 administrative, 5 classified, and 31 certified part-time employees.

The governing authority is the Greater Ohio Virtual School Board of Directors, which has, as voting members, those persons serving in the following two positions, except that the Warren County Educational Service Center (the Sponsor) may from time to time, at its discretion, substitute other administrative positions with a Sponsor Representative.

**Reporting Entity**

A reporting entity is comprised of the primary government, component units, and other organizations that are included to ensure that the financial statements are not misleading. The primary government of the School consists of all funds, departments, boards, and agencies that are not legally separate from the School. For Greater Ohio Virtual School, this is the general operation.

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

**Greater Ohio Virtual School  
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements  
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2015**

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

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The School is associated with the Southwest Ohio Computer Association (SWOCA), a jointly governed organization. Information about SWOCA is presented in Note 8 to the basic financial statements.

As discussed further in Note 3, these financial statements are presented on a modified cash basis of accounting. The modified cash basis of accounting differs from accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) include all relevant Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) pronouncements, which have been applied to the extent they are applicable to the modified cash basis of accounting. Following are the more significant of the School's accounting policies:

**Basis of Presentation**

The School's basic financial statements consist of a statement of net position and a statement of receipts, disbursements, and changes in net position. Both statements are prepared on a modified cash basis.

The School uses a single enterprise presentation for its financial records. Enterprise reporting focuses on the determination of operating income, changes in net position and financial position.

**Measurement Focus**

The School uses a modified cash basis of accounting for reporting purposes. With the exception of investment purchases and sales, receipts are recognized when they are received, and disbursements are recognized when they are paid.

**Basis of Accounting**

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

As a result of the modified cash basis of accounting, certain assets and their related receipts (such as accounts receivable and receipt billed for provided services not yet collected) and certain liabilities (such as accounts payable and disbursements for goods or services received but not yet paid, and accrued disbursements and liabilities) are not recorded in these financial statements. If the School utilized the basis of accounting recognized as generally accepted, the fund and all government-wide financials would be presented on the accrual basis of accounting

**Cash and Investments**

To improve cash management, cash received by the School is pooled. Monies for all funds are maintained in this pool. Individual fund integrity is maintained through School 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 Directors has, by resolution, specified the funds to receive an allocation of interest earnings. Investment earnings credited during fiscal year 2015 amounted to \$6,813.

**Greater Ohio Virtual School  
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements  
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2015**

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**Pensions**

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

**Capital Assets**

Acquisitions of property, plant and equipment are recorded as disbursements when paid. The financial statements do not report these assets.

**Net Modified Cash Position**

Net modified cash position is reported as restricted when there are limitations imposed on their use either through the enabling legislation adopted by the School or through external restrictions imposed by creditors, grantors or laws, or regulations of other governments.

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

**Budgetary Process**

Unlike other public schools located in the State of Ohio, community schools are not required to follow the budgetary provisions set forth in Ohio Revised Code Chapter 5705, unless specifically provided by the community school's contract with its sponsor. The contract between the School and its Sponsor prescribes an annual budget requirement as part of preparing a five year forecast, which is updated on an annual basis.

**Operating Receipts and disbursements**

Operating receipts are those receipts that are generated directly from the primary activity of the School. Operating disbursements are necessary costs incurred to provide the good or service that is the primary activity of the School. All receipts and expenditures not meeting this definition are reported as non-operating.

**Note 3 – Compliance**

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

**Greater Ohio Virtual School**  
**Notes to the Basic Financial Statements**  
**For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2015**

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**Note 4 - Deposits and Investments**

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

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

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

1. United States Treasury Notes, Bills, Bonds, or any other obligation or security issued by the United States Treasury or any other obligation guaranteed as to principal and interest by the United States.
2. Bonds, notes, debentures, or any other obligations or securities issued by any federal government agency or instrumentality, including but not limited to, the Federal National Mortgage Association, Federal Home Loan Bank, Federal Farm Credit Bank, Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation, 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 fair 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 fair value 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).

**Greater Ohio Virtual School**  
**Notes to the Basic Financial Statements**  
**For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2015**

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7. Certain banker's acceptances and commercial paper notes for a period not to exceed one hundred eighty days from the date of purchase in an amount not to exceed twenty-five percent of interim monies available for investment at any time.
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, and must be purchased with the expectation that it will be held to maturity.

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

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

**Deposits**

Custodial credit risk is the risk that, in the event of a bank failure, the School's deposits may not be returned. All deposits are collateralized with eligible securities. Such collateral, as permitted by the Ohio Revised Code, is held in single financial institution collateral pools at Federal Reserve Banks, or at member banks of the federal reserve system, in the name of the respective depository bank and pledged as a pool of collateral against all of the public deposits it holds or as specific collateral held at the Federal Reserve Bank in the name of the School.

At June 30, 2015, the carrying amount of all School deposits was \$4,686,079. Based on the criteria described in GASB Statement No. 40, "Deposit and Investment Risk Disclosures", as of June 30, 2015, \$982,444 of the School's bank balance of \$3,993,266 was exposed to custodial risk as discussed above, while \$3,010,822 was covered by Federal Deposit Insurance. The remaining \$982,444 exposed to custodial risk was collateralized with securities held by the pledging financial institution's trust departments or its agency in the School's name.

**Investments**

As of June 30, 2015, the School held \$750,582 in Star Ohio. Star Ohio was rated AAAM by Standard's & Poor's.

**Greater Ohio Virtual School  
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements  
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2015**

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**Note 5 - Risk Management**

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The School is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; injuries to employees and natural disasters. During fiscal year 2015, the School contracted with Governmental Underwriters of America for property insurance. Coverages provided are as follows:

Building and Contents (\$1,000 deductible)	\$3,732,232
Automobile Liability (\$1,000 deductible)	\$1,000,000
Uninsured Motorists Liability (\$1,000 deductible)	\$1,000,000
<i>General Liability:</i>	
Each Occurrence	\$1,000,000
Aggregate Limit	\$3,000,000
Fire Damage Limit – Any One Event	\$500,000
<i>Excess Liability – Umbrella Form:</i>	
Each Occurrence	\$5,000,000
Aggregate Limit	\$5,000,000

Settled claims have not exceeded this commercial coverage in any of the past two years. There has been no significant change in coverage from last year.

**Note 6 - Defined Benefit Pension Plans**

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**Net Pension Liability**

For fiscal year 2015, Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 68, “Accounting and Financial Reporting for Pensions” and GASB Statement No. 71, “Pension Transition for Contributions Made Subsequent to the Measurement Date—an amendment of GASB Statement No. 68” were effective. These GASB pronouncements had no effect on beginning net position as reported June 30, 2014, as the net pension liability is not reported in the accompanying financial statements. The net pension liability has been disclosed below.

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

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

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

GASB 68 assumes the liability is solely the obligation of the employer, because (1) they benefit from employee services; and (2) State statute requires all funding to come from these employers. All

**Greater Ohio Virtual School  
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements  
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2015**

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contributions to date have come solely from these employers (which also includes costs paid in the form of withholdings from employees). State statute requires the pension plans to amortize unfunded liabilities within 30 years. If the amortization period exceeds 30 years, each pension plan’s board must propose corrective action to the State legislature. Any resulting legislative change to benefits or funding could significantly affect the net pension liability. Resulting adjustments to the net pension liability would be effective when the changes are legally enforceable.

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

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

Age and service requirements for retirement are as follows:

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

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

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

One year after an effective benefit date, a benefit recipient is entitled to a three percent cost-of-living adjustment (COLA). This same COLA is added each year to the base benefit amount on the anniversary date of the benefit.

Funding Policy – Plan members are required to contribute 10 percent of their annual covered salary and the School is required to contribute 14 percent of annual covered payroll. The contribution requirements of plan members and employers are established and may be amended by the SERS’ Retirement Board up to statutory maximum amounts of 10 percent for plan members and 14 percent for employers. The Retirement Board, acting with the advice of the actuary, allocates the employer contribution rate among four of the System’s funds (Pension Trust Fund, Death Benefit Fund, Medicare B Fund, and Health Care Fund). For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2015, the allocation to pension, death benefits, and Medicare B was 13.18 percent. The remaining 0.82 percent of the 14 percent employer contribution rate was allocated to the Health Care Fund.

The School’s contractually required contribution to SERS was \$97,933 for fiscal year 2015.

**Greater Ohio Virtual School  
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements  
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2015**

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

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

New members have a choice of three retirement plans; a Defined Benefit (DB) Plan, a Defined Contribution (DC) Plan and a Combined Plan. Benefits are established by Ohio Revised Code Chapter 3307. The DB plan offers an annual retirement allowance based on final average salary multiplied by a percentage that varies based on years of service. Effective August 1, 2015, the calculation will be 2.2 percent of final average salary for the five highest years of earnings multiplied by all years of service. With certain exceptions, the basic benefit is increased each year by two percent of the original base benefit. For members retiring August 1, 2013, or later, the first two percent is paid on the fifth anniversary of the retirement benefit. Members are eligible to retire at age 60 with five year of qualifying service credit, or age 55 with 25 years of service, or 30 years of service regardless of age. Age and service requirements for retirement will increase effective August 1, 2015, and will continue to increase periodically until they reach age 60 with 35 years of service or age 65 with five year of service on August 1, 2026.

The DC Plan allows members to place all their member contributions and 9.5 percent of the 14 percent employer contributions into an investment account. Investment allocation decisions are determined by the member. The remaining 4.5 percent of the 14 percent employer rate is allocated to the defined benefit unfunded liability. A member is eligible to receive a retirement benefit at age 50 and termination of employment. The member may elect to receive a lifetime monthly annuity or a lump sum withdrawal.

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

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

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



**Greater Ohio Virtual School  
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements  
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2015**

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retirement benefits begin, the member’s designated beneficiary is entitled to receive the member’s account balance.

Funding Policy – Employer and member contribution rates are established by the State Teachers Retirement Board and limited by Chapter 3307 of the Ohio Revised Code. The statutory maximum employee contribution rate was increased one percent July 1, 2014, and will be increased one percent each year until it reaches 14 percent on July 1, 2016. For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2015, plan members were required to contribute 12 percent of their annual covered salary. The School was required to contribute 14 percent; the entire 14 percent was the portion used to fund pension obligations. The fiscal year 2015 contribution rates were equal to the statutory maximum rates.

The School’s contractually required contribution to STRS was \$122,773 for fiscal year 2015.

**Net Pension Liability**

The net pension liability was measured as of June 30, 2014, and the total pension liability used to calculate the net pension liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of that date. The School’s proportion of the net pension liability was based on the School’s share of contributions to the pension plan relative to the projected contributions of all participating entities. Following is information related to the proportionate share:

	<u>SERS</u>	<u>STRS</u>	<u>Total</u>
Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability	\$279,820	\$1,664,515	\$1,944,335
Proportion of the Net Pension Liability	0.005529%	0.00684325%	

**Actuarial Assumptions - SERS**

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

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

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

**Greater Ohio Virtual School**  
**Notes to the Basic Financial Statements**  
**For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2015**

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Key methods and assumptions used in calculating the total pension liability in the latest actuarial valuation, prepared as of June 30, 2014, are presented below:

Wage Inflation	3.25 percent
Future Salary Increases, including inflation	4.00 percent to 22 percent
COLA or Ad Hoc COLA	3 percent
Investment Rate of Return	7.75 percent net of investments expense, including inflation
Actuarial Cost Method	Entry Age Normal

For post-retirement mortality, the table used in evaluating allowances to be paid is the 1994 Group Annuity Mortality Table set back one year for both men and women. Special mortality tables are used for the period after disability retirement.

The most recent experience study was completed June 30, 2010.

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

<u>Asset Class</u>	<u>Target Allocation</u>	<u>Long Term Expected Real Rate of Return</u>
Cash	1.00 %	0.00 %
US Stocks	22.50	5.00
Non-US Stocks	22.50	5.50
Fixed Income	19.00	1.50
Private Equity	10.00	10.00
Real Assets	10.00	5.00
Multi-Asset Strategies	<u>15.00</u>	7.50
Total	<u>100.00 %</u>	

**Discount Rate** The total pension liability was calculated using the discount rate of 7.75 percent. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed the contributions from employers and from the members would be computed based on contribution requirements as stipulated by State statute. Projected inflows from investment earning were calculated using the long-term assumed investment rate of return (7.75 percent). Based on those assumptions, the plan's fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all future benefit payments of current plan members. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments was applied to all periods of projected benefits to determine the total pension liability.

**Greater Ohio Virtual School  
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements  
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2015**

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***Sensitivity of the School's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate*** Net pension liability is sensitive to changes in the discount rate, and to illustrate the potential impact the following table presents the net pension liability calculated using the discount rate of 7.75 percent, as well as what each plan's net pension liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is one percentage point lower (6.75 percent), or one percentage point higher (8.75 percent) than the current rate.

	1% Decrease (6.75%)	Current Discount Rate (7.75%)	1% Increase (8.75%)
School's proportionate share of the net pension liability	\$399,219	\$279,820	\$179,394

**Actuarial Assumptions - STRS**

The total pension liability in the June 30, 2014, actuarial valuation was determined using the following actuarial assumptions, applied to all periods included in the measurement:

Inflation	2.75 percent
Projected salary increases	2.75 percent at age 70 to 12.25 percent at age 20
Investment Rate of Return	7.75 percent, net of investment expenses
Cost-of-Living Adjustments (COLA)	2 percent simple applied as follows: for members retiring before August 1, 2013, 2 percent per year; for members retiring August 1, 2013, or later, 2 percent COLA paid on fifth anniversary of retirement date.

Mortality rates were based on the RP-2000 Combined Mortality Table (Projection 2022—Scale AA) for Males and Females. Males' ages are set-back two years through age 89 and no set-back for age 90 and above. Females younger than age 80 are set back four years, one year set back from age 80 through 89 and not set back from age 90 and above.

Actuarial assumptions used in the June 30, 2014, valuation are based on the results of an actuarial experience study, effective July 1, 2012.

The 10 year expected real rate of return on pension plan investments was determined by STRS' investment consultant by developing best estimates of expected future real rates of return for each major asset class. The target allocation and best estimates of geometric real rates of return for each major asset class are summarized as follows:

**Greater Ohio Virtual School  
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements  
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2015**

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<u>Asset Class</u>	<u>Target Allocation</u>	<u>Long Term Expected Real Rate of Return</u>
Domestic Equity	31.00 %	8.00 %
International Equity	26.00	7.85
Alternatives	14.00	8.00
Fixed Income	18.00	3.75
Real Estate	10.00	6.75
Liquidity Reserves	<u>1.00</u>	3.00
Total	<u>100.00 %</u>	

**Discount Rate** The discount rate used to measure the total pension liability was 7.75 percent as of June 30, 2014. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumes member and employer contributions will be made at the statutory contribution rates in accordance with rate increases described above. For this purpose, only employer contributions that are intended to fund benefits of current plan members and their beneficiaries are included. Projected employer contributions that are intended to fund the service costs of future plan members and their beneficiaries, as well as projected contributions from future plan members, are not included. Based on those assumptions, STRS' fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments to current plan members as of June 30, 2014. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments of 7.75 percent was applied to all periods of projected benefit payment to determine the total pension liability as of June 30, 2014.

**Sensitivity of the School's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate** The following table presents the School's proportionate share of the net pension liability calculated using the current period discount rate assumption of 7.75 percent, as well as what the School's proportionate share of the net pension liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is one-percentage-point lower (6.75 percent) or one-percentage-point higher (8.75 percent) than the current rate:

	<u>1% Decrease (6.75%)</u>	<u>Current Discount Rate (7.75%)</u>	<u>1% Increase (8.75%)</u>
School's proportionate share of the net pension liability	\$2,382,935	\$1,664,515	\$1,056,974

**Greater Ohio Virtual School  
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements  
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2015**

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**Note 7 - Post Employment Benefits**

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***School Employees Retirement System***

Health Care Plan Description - The School contributes to the SERS Health Care Fund, administered by SERS for non-certificated retirees and their beneficiaries. For GASB 45 purposes, this plan is considered a cost-sharing, multiple-employer, defined benefit other postemployment benefit (OPEB) plan. The Health Care Plan includes hospitalization and physicians' fees through several types of plans including HMO's, PPO's, Medicare Advantage, and traditional indemnity plans as well as a prescription drug program. The financial report of the Plan is included in the SERS Comprehensive Annual Financial Report which can be obtained on SERS' website at [www.ohsers.org](http://www.ohsers.org) under Employers/Audit Resources.

Access to health care for retirees and beneficiaries is permitted in accordance with Section 3309 of the Ohio Revised Code. The Health Care Fund was established and is administered in accordance with Internal Revenue Code Section 105(e). SERS' Retirement Board reserves the right to change or discontinue any health plan or program. Health care is financed through a combination of employer contributions and retiree premiums, copays and deductibles on covered health care expenses, investment returns, and any funds received as a result of SERS' participation in Medicare programs. Active employee members do not contribute to the Health Care Plan. Retirees and their beneficiaries are required to pay a health care premium that varies depending on the plan selected, the number of qualified years of service, Medicare eligibility and retirement status.

Funding Policy - State statute permits SERS to fund the health care benefits through employer contributions. Each year, after the allocation for statutorily required basic benefits, the Retirement Board allocates the remainder of the employer contribution of 14 percent of covered payroll to the Health Care Fund. For fiscal year 2015, 0.82 percent of covered payroll was allocated to health care. In addition, employers pay a surcharge for employees earning less than an actuarially determined minimum compensation amount, pro-rated according to service credit earned. For fiscal year 2015, this amount was \$20,450. Statutes provide that no employer shall pay a health care surcharge greater than 2 percent of that employer's SERS-covered payroll; nor may SERS collect in aggregate more than 1.5 percent of the total statewide SERS-covered payroll for the health care surcharge.

The School's contributions for health care for the fiscal years ended June 30, 2015, 2014, and 2013 were \$5,736, \$266, and \$342, respectively. The full amount has been contributed for fiscal years 2015, 2014 and 2013.

***State Teachers Retirement System***

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

Funding Policy – Ohio Revised Code Chapter 3307 authorizes STRS Ohio to offer the Plan and gives the Retirement Board authority over how much, if any, of the health care costs will be absorbed by STRS. Active employee members do not contribute to the Health Care Plan. All benefit recipients, for the most

**Greater Ohio Virtual School  
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements  
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2015**

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recent year, pay a monthly premium. Under Ohio law, funding for post-employment health care may be deducted from employer contributions. For fiscal year 2015, STRS did not allocate any employer contributions to post-employment health care. The School's contributions for health care for the fiscal years ended June 30, 2015, 2014, and 2013 were \$0, \$9,823, and \$5,210 respectively. The full amount has been contributed for fiscal years 2015, 2014 and 2013.

**Note 8 - Jointly Governed Organizations**

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**Southwest Ohio Computer Association**

The School is a participant in the Southwest Ohio Computer Association (SWOCA), which is a computer consortium. SWOCA is an association of public schools and community schools within the boundaries of Butler, Preble, and Warren Counties. The organization was formed for the purpose of applying modern technology with the aid of computers and other electronic equipment to the administrative and instructional functions among member Schools. The governing board of SWOCA consists of the superintendent (or the superintendent's designee) from each member School. Financial information can be obtained from the fiscal agent, Butler Tech, 3603 Hamilton-Middletown Road, Hamilton, Ohio 45011.

**Note 9 - Sponsorship Agreement with Warren County Educational Service Center**

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The School has entered into a sponsorship agreement with Warren County Educational Service Center, its Sponsor, whereby, the Sponsor shall receive compensation for services provided to School. As part of this agreement, the School shall compensate the Sponsor not to exceed three percent (3%) of the per-pupil allocation (foundation) paid to the School by the State of Ohio.

For this fee, the Sponsor monitors and evaluates the academic and fiscal performance and the organization and operations of the School, as well as other requirements under the law:

During fiscal year 2015, the School paid the Sponsor \$78,661 under this agreement.

**Note 10 – Contingencies**

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**Foundation Funding**

School Foundation funding is based on the annualized full-time equivalent (FTE) enrollment of each student. Effective for the 2014-2015 school year, traditional Schools must comply with minimum hours of instruction, instead of a minimum number of school days each year. The funding formula the Ohio Department of Education (ODE) is legislatively required to follow will continue to adjust as enrollment information is updated by the School, which can extend past the fiscal year end. As of the date of this report, ODE has not finalized the impact of enrollment adjustments to the June 30, 2015 Foundation funding for the School; therefore, the financial statement impact is not determinable at this time. ODE and management believe this will result in either a future receipt or future expenditure of the School that is related to the current fiscal year.

**Grants**

The School 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 of

**Greater Ohio Virtual School**  
**Notes to the Basic Financial Statements**  
**For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2015**

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conditions specified in the grant agreements and is subject to audit by the grantor agencies. Any disallowed claims resulting from such audits could become a liability of the general fund or other applicable funds. However, in the opinion of management, any such disallowed claims will not have a material adverse effect on the overall financial position of the School at June 30, 2015.

**Litigation**

The School's attorney estimates that all other potential claims against the School not covered by insurance resulting from all other litigation would not materially affect the financial statements of the School.

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GREATER OHIO VIRTUAL SCHOOL



Yellow Book Report

June 30, 2015

**PLATTENBURG**  
Certified Public Accountants

## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS BASED ON AN AUDIT OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH *GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS*

Greater Ohio Virtual School  
Warren County  
1879 Deerfield Road  
Lebanon, Ohio 45036

We have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of the Greater Ohio Virtual School (the School), as of and for the year ended June 30, 2015, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the School's basic financial statements on the modified cash basis of accounting rather than in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, as disclosed in Note 2.

### Internal Control over Financial Reporting

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

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

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

### Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the School's financial statements are free from material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit, and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed an instance of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*, and which is described in the accompanying schedule of findings and responses as item 2015-001.

## School's Response to Findings

The School's response to the finding identified in our audit is described in the accompanying schedule of findings and responses. The response was not subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and, accordingly, we express no opinion on it.

## Purpose of this Report

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

*Plattensburg & Associates, Inc.*

Plattensburg & Associates, Inc.  
Cincinnati, Ohio  
December 29, 2015

GREATER OHIO VIRTUAL SCHOOL  
SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND RESPONSES  
Year Ended June 30, 2015

Finding 2015 – 001 – Noncompliance – GAAP Reporting

Ohio Rev. Code Section 117.38 provides that each public office shall file a financial report for each fiscal year. The auditor of state may prescribe forms by rule or may issue guidelines, or both, for such reports. If the auditor of state has not prescribed a rule regarding the form for the report, the public office shall submit its report on the form utilized by the public office. Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03 further clarifies the requirements of Ohio Rev. Code Section 117.38.

Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03(B) requires the School to prepare its annual financial report in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP). For fiscal year 2015, the School prepared financial statements on the modified cash basis, rather than GAAP. The accompanying financial statements and notes omit certain assets, liabilities, deferred inflows, deferred outflows, fund equities, and disclosures, that while material, cannot be determined at this time. Pursuant to Ohio Rev. Code Section 117.38 the School may be fined and subject to various other administrative remedies for its failure to file the required financial report. Failure to report on a GAAP basis compromises the School's ability to evaluate and monitor the overall financial condition of the School.

We recommend the School prepare its financial statements on the GAAP basis of accounting.

**Officials' Response:**

The School has considered both the cost and benefits to filing GAAP statements in lieu of the currently used modified cash basis statements. At this time, we believe the cost savings and benefits to filing modified cash basis statements outweigh the costs and benefits to filing GAAP statements. The School will continue to evaluate the costs and benefits to filing modified cash basis statements annually in the event that a change needs to be made in the future.



# Dave Yost • Auditor of State

**GREATER OHIO VIRTUAL SCHOOL**

**WARREN COUNTY**

**CLERK'S CERTIFICATION**

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

*Susan Babbitt*

**CLERK OF THE BUREAU**

**CERTIFIED  
FEBRUARY 23, 2016**