

**ROSS LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT**



**Basic Financial Reports**

**June 30, 2017**





# Dave Yost • Auditor of State

Board of Education  
Ross Local School District  
3771 Hamilton Cleves Road  
Hamilton, Ohio 45013

We have reviewed the *Independent Auditor's Report* of the Ross Local School District, Butler County, prepared by Plattenburg & Associates, Inc., for the audit period July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017. 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 Ross Local School District is responsible for compliance with these laws and regulations.

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

Dave Yost  
Auditor of State

March 22, 2018

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## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Board of Education  
Ross Local School District

### Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Ross Local School District (the District) as of and for the year ended June 30, 2017, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the District'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 accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; this includes the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

### Auditor's Responsibility

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 *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

### Opinions

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to previously present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the District, as of June 30, 2017, and the respective changes in financial position for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

## Other Matters

### *Required Supplementary Information*

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

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

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated December 29, 2017, on our consideration of the District's internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is 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 District's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

*Plattensburg & Associates, Inc.*

Plattensburg & Associates, Inc.  
Cincinnati, Ohio  
December 29, 2017

**Ross Local School District, Ohio**  
**Management's Discussion and Analysis**  
**For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2017**  
**(Unaudited)**

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The discussion and analysis of Ross Local School District, Ohio's (the District) financial performance provides an overall review of the District's financial activities for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2017. The intent of this discussion and analysis is to look at the District's financial performance as a whole; readers should also review the basic financial statements and the notes to the basic financial statements to enhance their understanding of the District's performance.

### **Financial Highlights**

Key financial highlights for 2017 are as follows:

- Net Position of governmental activities decreased \$1,856,711 which represents a 9.4% decrease from 2016.
- General revenues accounted for \$24,476,104 in revenue or 86% of all revenues. Program specific revenues in the form of charges for services and sales, grants and contributions accounted for \$3,890,602 or 14% of total revenues of \$28,366,706.
- The District had \$30,223,417 in expenses related to governmental activities; \$3,890,602 of these expenses were offset by program specific charges for services, grants or contributions. General revenues of \$24,476,104 were also used to provide for these programs.

### **Overview of the Financial Statements**

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

The *Statement of Net Position* and the *Statement of Activities* provide information about the activities of the whole District, presenting both an aggregate view of the District's finances and a longer-term view of those finances. Fund financial statements provide the next level of detail. For governmental funds, these statements tell how services were financed in the short-term as well as what remains for future spending. The fund financial statements also look at the District's most significant funds with all other nonmajor funds presented in total in one column. The General Fund, Debt Service Fund, and Classroom Facilities Fund are the major funds of the District.

### **Government-wide Financial Statements**

While this document contains the large number of funds used by the District to provide programs and activities, the view of the District as a whole looks at all financial transactions and asks the question, "How did we do financially during 2017?" The Government-wide Financial Statements answer this question. These statements include *all assets and deferred outflows of resources, and liabilities and deferred inflows of resources* using the accrual basis of accounting similar to the accounting used by most private-sector companies. This basis of accounting takes into account all of the current year's revenues and expenses regardless of when cash is received or paid.

**Ross Local School District, Ohio**  
**Management's Discussion and Analysis**  
**For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2017**  
**(Unaudited)**

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These two statements report the District's *net position* and changes in net position. This change in net position is important because it tells the reader that, for the District as a whole, the financial position has improved or diminished. The causes of this change may be the result of many factors, both financial and non-financial. Non-financial factors include the District's property tax base, current property tax laws in Ohio restricting revenue growth, facility conditions, required educational programs and other factors.

In the Government-wide Financial Statements, the overall financial position of the District is presented as Governmental Activities. The District's programs and services include instruction, support services, operation of non-instructional services, extracurricular activities, and interest and fiscal charges.

**Fund Financial Statements**

The analysis of the District's major funds are presented in the Fund Financial Statements. Fund financial reports provide detailed information about the District's major funds. The District uses many funds to account for a multitude of financial transactions. However, these fund financial statements focus on the District's most significant funds.

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

**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 District's own programs. The accounting used for fiduciary funds is similar to proprietary funds.

**The District as a Whole**

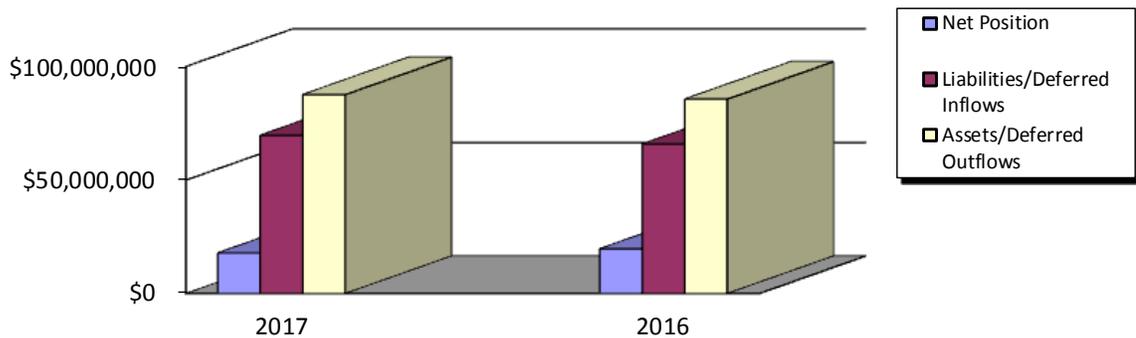
As stated previously, the Statement of Net Position looks at the District as a whole. Table 1 provides a summary of the District's net position for 2017 compared to 2016:

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**Ross Local School District, Ohio**  
**Management's Discussion and Analysis**  
**For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2017**  
**(Unaudited)**

Table 1  
 Net Position

	Governmental Activities	
	2017	2016
<b>Assets:</b>		
Current and Other Assets	\$27,940,853	\$27,065,482
Capital Assets	51,266,873	52,907,359
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>79,207,726</b>	<b>79,972,841</b>
<b>Deferred Outflows of Resources:</b>		
Deferred Charge on Refunding Pension	235,954	575,937
	8,156,094	5,060,719
<b>Total Deferred Outflows of Resources</b>	<b>8,392,048</b>	<b>5,636,656</b>
<b>Liabilities:</b>		
Other Liabilities	2,640,275	3,031,477
Long-Term Liabilities	57,068,685	49,725,522
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>59,708,960</b>	<b>52,756,999</b>
<b>Deferred Inflows of Resources:</b>		
Property Taxes	9,546,945	9,292,731
Revenue in Lieu of Taxes	362,471	205,000
Pension	93,087	3,609,745
<b>Total Deferred Inflows of Resources</b>	<b>10,002,503</b>	<b>13,107,476</b>
<b>Net Position:</b>		
Net Investment in Capital Assets	35,388,876	36,589,358
Restricted	5,652,843	5,823,049
Unrestricted	(23,153,408)	(22,667,385)
<b>Total Net Position</b>	<b>\$17,888,311</b>	<b>\$19,745,022</b>



**Ross Local School District, Ohio**  
**Management's Discussion and Analysis**  
**For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2017**  
**(Unaudited)**

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Over time, net position can serve as a useful indicator of a government's financial position. At June 30, 2017, the District's assets and deferred outflows of resources exceeded liabilities and deferred inflows of resources by \$17,888,311.

At year-end, capital assets represented 65% of total assets. Capital assets include land, land improvements, buildings and improvements, equipment, and vehicles. Capital assets, net of related debt to acquire the assets at June 30, 2017, was \$35,388,876. These capital assets are used to provide services to the students and are not available for future spending. Although the District's investment in capital assets is reported net of related debt, it should be noted that the resources to repay the debt must be provided from other sources, since capital assets may not be used to liquidate these liabilities.

A portion of the District's net position, \$5,652,843 represents resources that are subject to external restriction on how they must be used. The external restriction will not affect the availability of fund resources for future use.

Capital Assets decreased mainly due to current year depreciation expense exceeding current year additions. Long-Term Liabilities increased mainly due to the increase in Net Pension Liability.

Table 2 shows the changes in net position for fiscal years 2017 and 2016.

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**Ross Local School District, Ohio**  
**Management's Discussion and Analysis**  
**For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2017**  
(Unaudited)

**Table 2**  
**Changes in Net Position**

	Governmental Activities	
	2017	2016
Revenues:		
Program Revenues		
Charges for Services	\$1,548,136	\$1,477,054
Operating Grants, Contributions	2,342,466	2,040,211
General Revenues:		
Income Taxes	3,125,753	2,933,198
Property Taxes	9,563,748	9,483,709
Grants and Entitlements	11,106,217	11,170,878
Other	680,386	631,204
Total Revenues	<u>28,366,706</u>	<u>27,736,254</u>
Program Expenses:		
Instruction	17,178,323	15,893,513
Support Services:		
Pupil and Instructional Staff	1,735,179	1,506,473
School Administrative, General		
Administration, Fiscal, and Business	2,608,930	2,418,833
Operations and Maintenance	3,322,255	3,005,108
Pupil Transportation	2,072,186	1,789,008
Central	3,509	154
Operation of Non-Instructional Services	1,126,918	1,166,756
Extracurricular Activities	1,210,722	999,538
Interest and Fiscal Charges	965,395	713,853
Total Program Expenses	<u>30,223,417</u>	<u>27,493,236</u>
Change in Net Position	(1,856,711)	243,018
Net Position Beginning of Year	<u>19,745,022</u>	<u>19,502,004</u>
Net Position End of Year	<u>\$17,888,311</u>	<u>\$19,745,022</u>

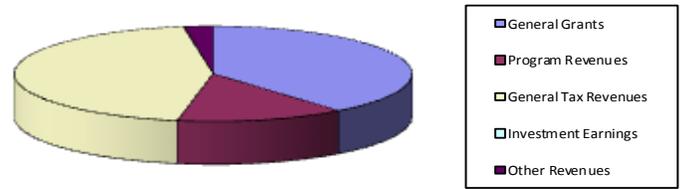
The District revenues are mainly from two sources. Property taxes levied for general, debt service, and capital project purposes and grants and entitlements comprised 73% of the District's revenues for governmental activities. The District's reliance upon tax revenues is demonstrated in the following graph:

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**Ross Local School District, Ohio**  
**Management's Discussion and Analysis**  
**For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2017**  
(Unaudited)

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Revenue Sources	2017	Percent of Total
General Grants	\$11,106,217	39.15%
Program Revenues	3,890,602	13.72%
General Tax Revenues	12,689,501	44.73%
Investment Earnings	16,583	0.06%
Other Revenues	663,803	2.34%
	<u>\$28,366,706</u>	<u>100.00%</u>



The District depends greatly on property taxes as a revenue source. The unique nature of property taxes in Ohio creates the need to routinely seek voter approval for operating funds. The overall revenues generated by a levy will not increase solely as a result of inflation. As an example, a homeowner with a home valued at \$100,000 and taxed at 1.0 mill would pay \$35.00 annually in taxes. If three years later the home were reappraised and increased to \$200,000 (and this inflationary increase in value is comparable to other property owners) the effective tax rate would become .5 mills and the owner would still pay \$35.00.

Thus, Ohio districts dependent upon property taxes are hampered by a lack of revenue growth and must regularly return to the voters to maintain a constant level of service. Property taxes made up 34% of revenue for governmental activities for the District in fiscal year 2017.

Total expenses increased mainly due to an increase in instructional services.

Instruction comprises 57% of governmental program expenses. Support services expenses were 32% of governmental program expenses. All other expenses including interest expense were 11%. Interest expense was attributable to the outstanding bond and borrowing for capital projects.

The Statement of Activities shows the cost of program services and the charges for services and grants offsetting those services. Table 3 shows, for governmental activities, the total cost of services and the net cost of services. That is, it identifies the cost of these services supported by tax revenue and unrestricted State entitlements.

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**Ross Local School District, Ohio**  
**Management's Discussion and Analysis**  
**For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2017**  
(Unaudited)

**Table 3**  
**Governmental Activities**

	Total Cost of Services		Net Cost of Services	
	2017	2016	2017	2016
Instruction	\$17,178,323	\$15,893,513	(\$15,155,081)	(\$14,036,466)
Support Services:				
Pupil and Instructional Staff	1,735,179	1,506,473	(1,712,656)	(1,480,640)
School Administrative, General				
Administration, Fiscal and Business	2,608,930	2,418,833	(2,606,090)	(2,416,292)
Operations and Maintenance	3,322,255	3,005,108	(3,258,057)	(2,961,578)
Pupil Transportation	2,072,186	1,789,008	(2,053,070)	(1,768,968)
Central	3,509	154	(3,509)	(154)
Operation of Non-Instructional Services	1,126,918	1,166,756	391	(127,145)
Extracurricular Activities	1,210,722	999,538	(579,348)	(470,875)
Intergovernmental	0	0	0	0
Interest and Fiscal Charges	965,395	713,853	(965,395)	(713,853)
Total Expenses	<u>\$30,223,417</u>	<u>\$27,493,236</u>	<u>(\$26,332,815)</u>	<u>(\$23,975,971)</u>

**The District's Funds**

The District has three major governmental funds: the General Fund, Debt Service Fund, and Classroom Facilities Project Fund. Assets of these funds comprised \$25,608,789 (91%) of the total \$28,021,125 governmental funds' assets.

**General Fund:** Fund balance at June 30, 2017 was \$9,473,650, an increase in fund balance of \$960,993 from 2016. The primary reason for the increase in fund balance was due to an increase in pooled cash and investments.

**Debt Service Fund:** Fund balance at June 30, 2017 was \$850,167, an increase in fund balance of \$134,097 from 2016. The primary reason for the increase in fund balance was due to an increase in property taxes receivable.

**Classroom Facilities Project Fund:** Fund balance at June 30, 2017 was \$3,012,355, a decrease in fund balance of \$103,267 from 2016. The primary reason for the decrease in fund balance was due to a decrease in capital outlay expense.

**General Fund Budgeting Highlights**

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

During the course of fiscal year 2017, the District amended its general fund budget. The District uses site-based budgeting and the budgeting systems are designed to tightly control total site budgets but provide flexibility for site management.

**Ross Local School District, Ohio**  
**Management's Discussion and Analysis**  
**For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2017**  
(Unaudited)

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For the General Fund, the original budget basis revenue was \$23,174,087, compared to final budget estimates of \$23,653,393. The difference between the original budget basis and final budget was \$479,306, which was mostly due to conservative estimates in taxes and intergovernmental revenue.

The District's ending unobligated cash balance was \$9,657,714.

**Capital Assets and Debt Administration**

***Capital Assets***

At the end of fiscal year 2017, the District had \$51,266,873 invested in land, land improvements, buildings and improvements, equipment, and vehicles. Table 4 shows fiscal year 2017 balances compared to fiscal year 2016:

**Table 4**  
**Capital Assets, Net of Depreciation**

	Governmental Activities	
	2017	2016
Land	\$1,262,525	\$1,262,525
Land Improvements	514,466	518,293
Building and Improvements	48,273,973	50,151,839
Equipment	417,195	240,690
Vehicles	798,714	734,012
Total Net Capital Assets	<u>\$51,266,873</u>	<u>\$52,907,359</u>

Capital Assets decreased mainly due to current year depreciation expense and disposals exceeding current year additions

See Note 8 to the basic financial statements for further details on the District's capital assets.

***Debt***

At June 30, 2017, the District had \$16,113,951 in debt outstanding and \$710,000 due within one year. Table 5 summarizes outstanding debt at year end.

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**Ross Local School District, Ohio**  
**Management's Discussion and Analysis**  
**For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2017**  
**(Unaudited)**

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Table 5  
 Outstanding Debt

	Governmental Activities	
	2017	2016
<b>Governmental Activities:</b>		
General Obligation Bonds:		
2003 School Improvement Bonds	\$380,000	\$760,000
2006 Refunding:		
Current Interest Bonds	0	7,255,000
Current Term	0	1,720,000
2012 Refunding:		
Current Interest	6,300,000	6,410,000
Capital Appreciation Bonds - Principal	60,000	60,000
Capital Appreciation Bonds Accretion	106,890	78,565
2016 Refunding:		
Current Interest	8,500,000	0
Premiums	769,718	624,108
Discounts	(2,657)	(5,313)
Total Bonds	16,113,951	16,902,360
Capital Leases	0	70,143
Long-Term Debt	<u>\$16,113,951</u>	<u>\$16,972,503</u>

See Note 9 to the basic financial statements for further details on the District's outstanding debt.

**For the Future**

On June 30, 2015, Governor John Kasich signed House Bill 64, the state biennium budget bill for fiscal years 2015 and 2016. The budget bill limits the total increased funding that will be provided to public school districts. Coupled with the funding gain limits, House Bill 64 also introduced new spending mandates and increased deductions from public school districts to fund charter and non-public options. These funding limits, spending mandates and deduction increases all have to be taken into account in monitoring the operation of the District and future decisions on pursuing additional revenue or expenditure reductions. This scenario requires management to plan carefully and prudently to provide the resources to meet student needs over the next several years.

All of the District's financial abilities will be needed to meet the challenges of the future. With careful planning and monitoring of the District's finances, the District's management is confident that the District can continue to provide a quality education for our students and provide a secure financial future.

**Contacting the District's Financial Management**

This financial report is designed to provide our citizens, taxpayers, and investors and creditors with a general overview of the District's finances and to show the District's accountability for the money it receives. If you have questions about this report or need additional financial information, contact the Treasurer's office at the Ross Local School District, 3771 Hamilton Cleves Road, Hamilton, Ohio 45013.

Ross Local School District, Ohio  
Statement of Net Position  
June 30, 2017

	Governmental Activities
Assets:	
Equity in Pooled Cash and Investments	\$15,809,957
Restricted Cash and Investments	324,996
Receivables (Net):	
Taxes	10,993,140
Accounts	68,232
Interest	16,045
Intergovernmental	672,766
Prepaid Items	55,717
Nondepreciable Capital Assets	1,262,525
Depreciable Capital Assets, Net	<u>50,004,348</u>
 Total Assets	 <u>79,207,726</u>
Deferred Outflows of Resources:	
Deferred Charge on Refunding Pension	235,954
	<u>8,156,094</u>
 Total Deferred Outflows of Resources	 <u>8,392,048</u>
Liabilities:	
Accounts Payable	91,705
Accrued Wages and Benefits	2,434,870
Contracts Payable	12,785
Accrued Interest Payable	100,915
Long-Term Liabilities:	
Due Within One Year	842,472
Due In More Than One Year	
Net Pension Liability	40,208,939
Other Amounts	<u>16,017,274</u>
 Total Liabilities	 <u>59,708,960</u>
Deferred Inflows of Resources:	
Property Taxes	9,546,945
Revenue In Lieu of Taxes	362,471
Pension	<u>93,087</u>
 Total Deferred Inflows of Resources	 <u>10,002,503</u>
Net Position:	
Net Investment in Capital Assets	35,388,876
Restricted for:	
Debt Service	754,387
Capital Projects	3,925,885
Classroom facilities maintenance	520,266
Athletics	130,355
Auxiliary Services	34,568
Scholarships	122,010
Federal Grants	158,766
Other Purposes	6,606
Unrestricted	<u>(23,153,408)</u>
 Total Net Position	 <u><u>\$17,888,311</u></u>

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements.

Ross Local School District, Ohio  
Statement of Activities  
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2017

	Program Revenues		Net (Expense) Revenue and Changes in Net Position	
	Expenses	Charges for Services and Sales	Operating Grants and Contributions	Governmental Activities
Governmental Activities:				
Instruction:				
Regular	\$13,793,672	\$243,543	\$187,006	(\$13,363,123)
Special	2,724,248	44,324	1,501,910	(1,178,014)
Vocational	1,415	0	6,802	5,387
Other	658,988	39,657	0	(619,331)
Support Services:				
Pupil	1,223,226	0	0	(1,223,226)
Instructional Staff	511,953	0	22,523	(489,430)
General Administration	38,292	0	0	(38,292)
School Administration	1,909,231	331	2,509	(1,906,391)
Fiscal	658,917	0	0	(658,917)
Business	2,490	0	0	(2,490)
Operations and Maintenance	3,322,255	25,900	38,298	(3,258,057)
Pupil Transportation	2,072,186	0	19,116	(2,053,070)
Central	3,509	0	0	(3,509)
Operation of Non-Instructional Services	1,126,918	563,011	564,298	391
Extracurricular Activities	1,210,722	631,370	4	(579,348)
Interest and Fiscal Charges	965,395	0	0	(965,395)
Totals	<u>\$30,223,417</u>	<u>\$1,548,136</u>	<u>\$2,342,466</u>	<u>(26,332,815)</u>

General Revenues:	
Income Taxes	3,125,753
Property Taxes Levied for:	
General Purposes	7,962,265
Debt Service Purposes	1,360,632
Capital Projects Purposes	240,851
Grants and Entitlements, Not Restricted	11,106,217
Revenue in Lieu of Taxes	388,978
Investment Earnings	16,583
Other Revenues	274,825
Total General Revenues	<u>24,476,104</u>
Change in Net Position	(1,856,711)
Net Position - Beginning of Year	<u>19,745,022</u>
Net Position - End of Year	<u>\$17,888,311</u>

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements.

Ross Local School District, Ohio  
Balance Sheet  
Governmental Funds  
June 30, 2017

	General	Debt Service	Classroom Facilities Project	Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
<b>Assets:</b>					
Equity in Pooled Cash and Investments	\$10,109,224	\$830,691	\$3,025,140	\$1,844,902	\$15,809,957
Restricted Cash and Investments	324,996	0	0	0	324,996
<b>Receivables (Net):</b>					
Taxes	9,363,025	1,384,867	0	245,248	10,993,140
Accounts	61,720	0	0	6,512	68,232
Interest	16,045	0	0	0	16,045
Intergovernmental	362,471	0	0	310,295	672,766
Interfund	80,272	0	0	0	80,272
Prepaid Items	50,338	0	0	5,379	55,717
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>20,368,091</b>	<b>2,215,558</b>	<b>3,025,140</b>	<b>2,412,336</b>	<b>28,021,125</b>
<b>Liabilities:</b>					
Accounts Payable	68,052	0	0	23,653	91,705
Accrued Wages and Benefits	2,213,762	0	0	221,108	2,434,870
Compensated Absences	29,198	0	0	7,305	36,503
Contracts Payable	0	0	12,785	0	12,785
Interfund Payable	0	0	0	80,272	80,272
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>2,311,012</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>12,785</b>	<b>332,338</b>	<b>2,656,135</b>
<b>Deferred Inflows of Resources:</b>					
Property Taxes	7,996,553	1,365,391	0	241,840	9,603,784
Income Taxes	210,767	0	0	0	210,767
Grants and Other Taxes	362,471	0	0	216,038	578,509
Investment Earnings	13,638	0	0	0	13,638
<b>Total Deferred Inflows of Resources</b>	<b>8,583,429</b>	<b>1,365,391</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>457,878</b>	<b>10,406,698</b>
<b>Fund Balances:</b>					
Nonspendable	50,338	0	0	5,379	55,717
Restricted	0	850,167	3,012,355	1,732,712	5,595,234
Assigned	1,267,754	0	0	0	1,267,754
Unassigned	8,155,558	0	0	(115,971)	8,039,587
<b>Total Fund Balances</b>	<b>9,473,650</b>	<b>850,167</b>	<b>3,012,355</b>	<b>1,622,120</b>	<b>14,958,292</b>
<b>Total Liabilities, Deferred Inflows and Fund Balances</b>	<b>\$20,368,091</b>	<b>\$2,215,558</b>	<b>\$3,025,140</b>	<b>\$2,412,336</b>	<b>\$28,021,125</b>

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements.

Ross Local School District, Ohio  
 Reconciliation of Total Governmental Fund Balance to  
 Net Position of Governmental Activities  
 June 30, 2017

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Total Governmental Fund Balance		\$14,958,292
Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of net position are different because:		
Capital assets used in governmental activities are not financial resources and, therefore, are not reported in the funds.		
Capital assets used in the operation of Governmental Funds		51,266,873
Other long-term assets are not available to pay for current-period expenditures and, therefore, are deferred in the funds.		
Income Taxes	\$210,767	
Delinquent Property Taxes	56,839	
Interest	13,638	
Intergovernmental	216,038	
		497,282
In the statement of net position interest payable is accrued when incurred; whereas, in the governmental funds interest is reported as a liability only when it will require the use of current financial resources.		
		(100,915)
Some liabilities reported in the statement of net position do not require the use of current financial resources and, therefore, are not reported as liabilities in governmental funds.		
Compensated Absences		(709,292)
Deferred charge on refunding associated with long-term liabilities that are not reported in the funds.		
		235,954
Deferred outflows and inflows or resources related to pensions are applicable to future periods and, therefore, are not reported in the funds.		
Deferred outflows of resources related to pensions	\$8,156,094	
Deferred inflows of resources related to pensions	(93,087)	
		8,063,007
Long-term liabilities are not due and payable in the current period and, therefore, are not reported in the funds.		
Net Pension Liability	(\$40,208,939)	
Other Amounts	(16,113,951)	
		(56,322,890)
Net Position of Governmental Activities		<u>\$17,888,311</u>

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements.

Ross Local School District, Ohio  
Statement of Revenues, Expenditures  
and Changes in Fund Balance  
Governmental Funds  
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2017

	General	Debt Service	Classroom Facilities Project	Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
<b>Revenues:</b>					
Property and Other Taxes	\$7,937,803	\$1,358,145	\$0	\$240,271	\$9,536,219
Income Taxes	2,960,027	0	0	168,209	3,128,236
Tuition and Fees	263,195	0	0	0	263,195
Investment Earnings	12,155	0	3,495	0	15,650
Intergovernmental	11,818,637	195,860	0	1,452,418	13,466,915
Extracurricular Activities	192,438	0	0	465,450	657,888
Charges for Services	0	0	0	613,358	613,358
Revenue in Lieu of Taxes	362,472	17,229	0	9,277	388,978
Other Revenues	94,735	0	0	59,209	153,944
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>23,641,462</b>	<b>1,571,234</b>	<b>3,495</b>	<b>3,008,192</b>	<b>28,224,383</b>
<b>Expenditures:</b>					
<b>Current:</b>					
<b>Instruction:</b>					
Regular	11,495,043	0	0	152,096	11,647,139
Special	1,809,872	0	0	703,552	2,513,424
Vocational	1,415	0	0	0	1,415
Other	656,006	0	0	0	656,006
<b>Support Services:</b>					
Pupil	1,186,672	0	0	0	1,186,672
Instructional Staff	428,295	0	0	21,047	449,342
General Administration	37,705	0	0	0	37,705
School Administration	1,814,970	0	0	1,163	1,816,133
Fiscal	614,016	15,547	0	3,106	632,669
Business	2,490	0	0	0	2,490
Operations and Maintenance	2,072,556	0	0	396,401	2,468,957
Pupil Transportation	1,762,439	0	0	199,418	1,961,857
Central	3,509	0	0	0	3,509
Operation of Non-Instructional Services	26,205	0	0	1,084,261	1,110,466
Extracurricular Activities	117,495	0	0	1,031,473	1,148,968
Capital Outlay	0	0	106,762	309,841	416,603
<b>Debt Service:</b>					
Principal Retirement	70,143	9,680,000	0	0	9,750,143
Interest and Fiscal Charges	2,034	878,682	0	0	880,716
Issuance Costs	0	127,081	0	0	127,081
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>22,100,865</b>	<b>10,701,310</b>	<b>106,762</b>	<b>3,902,358</b>	<b>36,811,295</b>
<b>Excess of Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures</b>	<b>1,540,597</b>	<b>(9,130,076)</b>	<b>(103,267)</b>	<b>(894,166)</b>	<b>(8,586,912)</b>
<b>Other Financing Sources (Uses):</b>					
Issuance of Refunded Bonds	0	8,715,000	0	0	8,715,000
Premium on Bonds Sold	0	549,173	0	0	549,173
Transfers In	0	0	0	579,604	579,604
Transfers (Out)	(579,604)	0	0	0	(579,604)
<b>Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)</b>	<b>(579,604)</b>	<b>9,264,173</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>579,604</b>	<b>9,264,173</b>
<b>Net Change in Fund Balance</b>	<b>960,993</b>	<b>134,097</b>	<b>(103,267)</b>	<b>(314,562)</b>	<b>677,261</b>
<b>Fund Balance - Beginning of Year</b>	<b>8,512,657</b>	<b>716,070</b>	<b>3,115,622</b>	<b>1,936,682</b>	<b>14,281,031</b>
<b>Fund Balance - End of Year</b>	<b>\$9,473,650</b>	<b>\$850,167</b>	<b>\$3,012,355</b>	<b>\$1,622,120</b>	<b>\$14,958,292</b>

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements.

Ross Local School District, Ohio  
 Reconciliation of the Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes  
 in Fund Balance of Governmental Funds to the Statement of Activities  
 For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2017

Net Change in Fund Balance - Total Governmental Funds \$677,261

Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of activities are different because:

Governmental funds report capital asset additions as expenditures. However, in the statement of activities, the cost of those assets is allocated over their estimated useful lives as depreciation expense. This is the amount of the difference between capital asset additions and depreciation in the current period.

Capital assets used in governmental activities	\$543,531	
Depreciation Expense	<u>(2,184,017)</u>	(1,640,486)

Governmental funds report district pension contributions as expenditures. However in the Statement of Activities, the cost of pension benefits earned net of employee contributions is reported as pension expense.

District pension contributions	\$1,996,944	
Cost of benefits earned net of employee contributions	<u>(3,556,700)</u>	(1,559,756)

Revenues in the statement of activities that do not provide current financial resources are not reported as revenues in the funds.

Income Taxes	(\$2,483)	
Delinquent Property Taxes	27,529	
Interest	933	
Intergovernmental	<u>116,344</u>	142,323

In the statement of activities, certain costs and proceeds associated with long-term debt obligations issued during the year are accrued and amortized over the life of the debt obligation. In governmental funds these costs and proceeds are recognized as financing sources and uses.

Refunding Bonds	(8,715,000)	
Premium on Bonds Issued	<u>(549,173)</u>	(9,264,173)

Repayment of bond principal, current refundings and the deferred charges and premiums associated with the old bonds are an expenditure in the governmental funds, but the repayment reduces long-term liabilities in the statement of net position.

9,741,671

In the statement of activities interest expense is accrued when incurred; whereas, in governmental funds an interest expenditure is reported when due.

9,803

Some expenses reported in the statement of activities do not require the use of current financial resources and, therefore, are not reported as expenditures in governmental funds.

Compensated Absences	(\$4,425)	
Amortization of Bond Premium	101,547	
Amortization of Bond Discount	(2,656)	
Bond Accretion	(28,325)	
Amortization of Deferred Charge on Refunding	<u>(29,495)</u>	36,646

Change in Net Position of Governmental Activities (\$1,856,711)

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements.

Ross Local School District, Ohio  
Statement of Fiduciary Net Position  
Fiduciary Funds  
June 30, 2017

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	Private Purpose Trust	Agency
Assets:		
Equity in Pooled Cash and Investments	<u>\$1,058</u>	<u>\$38,818</u>
Total Assets	<u>1,058</u>	<u>38,818</u>
Liabilities:		
Other Liabilities	<u>0</u>	<u>38,818</u>
Total Liabilities	<u>0</u>	<u>\$38,818</u>
Net Position:		
Held in Trust	<u>1,058</u>	
Total Net Position	<u>\$1,058</u>	

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements.

Ross Local School District, Ohio  
Statement of Changes in Fiduciary Net Position  
Fiduciary Fund  
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2017

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	Private Purpose Trust
Additions:	
Donations	\$0
Total Additions	0
Deductions:	
Scholarships	0
Total Deductions	0
Change in Net Position	0
Net Position - Beginning of Year	1,058
Net Position - End of Year	<u>\$1,058</u>

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements.

**Ross Local School District, Ohio**  
**Notes to the Basic Financial Statements**  
**For The Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2017**

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**Note 1 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies**

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Description of the District

The Ross Local School District (the "School District") is organized under Sections 2 and 3, Article VI, of the Constitution of the State of Ohio and Chapters 3311 and 3315 of the Ohio Revised Code. Under existing statutes, the Ross Local Board of Education, on behalf of the School District, has the authority to acquire, maintain and dispose of school property; develop and adopt school programs; and establish, organize and operate schools.

The financial statements of the Ross Local School District have been prepared in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) as applied to governmental units. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) is the accepted standard-setting body for establishing governmental accounting and financial reporting principles.

Reporting Entity

The financial reporting entity is composed of the School District (primary government). The primary government consists of all funds, departments, boards and agencies that are not legally separate from the School District. Potential component units were reviewed for possible inclusion in the financial statements. Component units are legally separate organizations for which the School District would be financially accountable. The School District would be financially accountable for an organization if the School District appointed a voting majority of the organization's governing board and (1) the School District was able to significantly influence the programs or services performed or provided by the organization; or (2) the School District was legally entitled to or can otherwise access the organization's resources; the School District was legally obligated or had otherwise assumed the responsibility to finance the deficits of or provided financial support to, the organization; or the School District was obligated for the debt of the organization. Component units may also include organizations that are fiscally dependent on the School District in that the School District approves the budget, the issuance of debt, or the levying of taxes. There were no component units included in the reporting entity.

The School District participates in two jointly governed organizations, one insurance purchasing pool, and a public entity risk pool. These organizations are:

Jointly Governed Organizations:

Southwest Ohio Computer Association  
Butler Technology and Career Development Schools

Insurance Purchasing Pool:

Cincinnati USA Regional Chamber Worker's Compensation GRP

Public Entity Risk Pool:

Butler Health Plan

These organizations are described in Notes 12, 16, and 17.

**Ross Local School District, Ohio**  
**Notes to the Basic Financial Statements**  
**For The Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2017**

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Basis of Presentation - Fund Accounting

*Government-wide Financial Statements* – The statement of net position and the statement of activities display information about the School District as a whole. These statements include financial activities of the primary government except for fiduciary funds. The effect of interfund activity has been removed from these statements. The statements distinguish between those types of activities of the School District that are governmental and those that are considered to be business-type activities. The School District has no 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 a program and grants and contributions that are restricted to meeting the operations 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 government 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. Non-major 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, deferred outflows of resources, current liabilities and deferred inflows of resources are generally included on the balance sheet. Operating statements of these funds present sources (i.e. revenues and other financial sources) and uses (i.e. expenditures and other financing uses) of current financial resources.

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 in 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.

The following fund types are used by the District:

**Governmental Funds** - 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

**Ross Local School District, Ohio**  
**Notes to the Basic Financial Statements**  
**For The Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2017**

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to the fund from which they will be paid. The difference between governmental fund assets and deferred outflows of resources, and liabilities and deferred inflows of resources is reported as fund balance.

The following are the District's major governmental funds:

General Fund - This 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 and payment of general obligation bond principal and interest from governmental resources when the government is obligated in some manner for payment.

Classroom Facilities Project Fund – This fund was created to account for State monies to be received and used for improvements on existing facilities of the School District.

***Fiduciary Funds*** - Fiduciary fund reporting focuses on net position and changes in net position. The School District's fiduciary funds consist of a private purpose trust fund and an agency fund. The private-purpose trust fund accounts for scholarship programs for students. These assets are not available for the School District's use. Agency funds, which are used to account for student activities, are custodial in nature (assets equals liabilities) and do not involve measurement of results of operations.

**Note 2 - Basis of Accounting**

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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, revenue is recorded in the fiscal year in which the resources are measurable and become 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, income taxes, interest, 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. However, debt service expenditures, as well as expenditures related to compensated absences, are recorded only when payment is due. Allocations of cost, such as depreciation, are not recognized in governmental funds.

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

**Ross Local School District, Ohio**  
**Notes to the Basic Financial Statements**  
**For The Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2017**

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Revenues – Exchange and Non-exchange Transactions

Revenues resulting from exchange transactions, in which each party gives and receives essentially equal value, are recorded on the accrual basis when the exchange takes place.

Non-exchange transactions, in which the School District receives value without directly giving equal value in return, include property and income taxes, grants, entitlements, and donations. On an accrual basis, revenue from property and income taxes is recognized in the fiscal year for which the taxes are 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 of the fiscal year in which use is first permitted, matching requirements, in which the School District must provide local resources to be used for specific 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 Outflows/Inflows of Resources

In addition to assets, the statements of financial position will sometimes report a separate section for deferred outflows of resources. Deferred outflows of resources, represents a consumption of net position that applies to a future period and will not be recognized as an outflow of resources (expense/expenditure) until then. The deferred outflows of resources related to a deferred charge on refunding and pension are reported on the governmental-wide statement of net position. For more pension related information, see Note 13.

In addition to liabilities, the statements of financial position report a separate section for deferred inflows of resources. Deferred inflows of resources represent an acquisition of net position that applies to a future period and will not be recognized as an inflow of resources (revenue) until that time. For the District, deferred inflows of resources include property taxes, revenue in lieu of taxes, pension, grants and other taxes, income taxes, and investment earnings. Property taxes represent amounts for which there is an enforceable legal claim as of June 30, 2017, but which were levied to finance year 2018 operations. These amounts have been recorded as deferred inflows on both the government-wide statement of net position and the governmental fund financial statements. Revenue in lieu of taxes (other taxes) has been recorded as deferred inflows on both the government-wide statement of net position and the governmental fund financial statements. Grants, income taxes, and investment earnings have been recorded as deferred inflows on the governmental fund financial statements. Deferred inflows of resources related to pension are reported on the government-wide statement of net position. For more pension related information, see Note 13.

Equity in Pooled Cash and Investments

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

**Ross Local School District, Ohio**  
**Notes to the Basic Financial Statements**  
**For The Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2017**

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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, with certain exceptions, be recorded at their fair value and that changes in the fair value are reported in the operations statements. The School District recorded investments held at June 30, 2017 at fair value.

Following Ohio statutes, the Board of Education has, by resolution, specified the funds to receive an allocation of interest earnings.

Restricted Assets

Restricted assets in the general fund represent equity in pooled cash and investments set aside for the budget stabilization and retainage owed to contractors.

Prepaid Items

Payments made to vendors for services that will benefit periods beyond June 30, 2017, 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 expenditure/expense is reported in the year in which the services are consumed.

Inventories

Inventories of governmental funds are stated at cost, determined on a first-in, first-out basis. The costs of inventory items are recorded as expenditures in the governmental funds when purchased.

Capital Assets

Capital assets, which include property, plant and equipment, are reported in the government-wide financial statements but are not reported in the governmental fund 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 reported at cost or estimated historical cost. Donated capital assets are stated at their estimated acquisition value when 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. Capital assets are reported as expenditures of the current period in the governmental fund financial statements.

All reported capital assets except land and construction in progress are depreciated. Depreciation is computed using the straight-line method over the following useful lives:

<u>Description</u>	<u>Estimated Lives</u>
Buildings and Improvements	30-50 years
Land Improvements	10-20 years
Furniture and Equipment	5-20 years
Vehicles	10 years

**Ross Local School District, Ohio**  
**Notes to the Basic Financial Statements**  
**For The Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2017**

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Compensated Absences

Vacation benefits are accrued as a liability as the benefits are earned if the employees' rights to receive compensation are attributable to services already rendered and it is probable that the School District will compensate the employees for the benefits through paid time off or some other means. The School District records a liability for accumulated unused vacation time when earned for all employees with more than one year of service. Sick leave benefits are accrued as a liability using the vesting method. The liability includes the employees who are currently eligible to receive termination benefits and those the School District has identified as probable of receiving payment in the future. The amount is based on accumulated sick leave and employees' wage rates at fiscal year end, taking into consideration any limits specified in the School District's termination policy.

The entire compensated absences 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.

Accrued Liabilities and Long-Term Obligations

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

Pensions

For purposes of measuring the net pension liability, deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions, and pension expense, 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.

Net Position

Net position represents the difference between assets and liabilities. Net investment in capital assets consists of capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation, reduced by the outstanding balances of any borrowings used for the acquisition, construction or improvements of those assets. Net position is reported as restricted when there are limitations imposed on its use either through the enabling legislation adopted by the School District or through external restrictions imposed by creditors, grantors, or laws and regulations of other governments. The School District applies restricted resources when an expense is incurred for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted net position is available. None of the District's restricted net position was restricted by enabling legislation.

Interfund Transactions

Exchange transactions between funds are reported as revenues in the seller funds and as expenditures/expenses in the purchaser funds. Flows of cash or goods from one fund to another

**Ross Local School District, Ohio**  
**Notes to the Basic Financial Statements**  
**For The Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2017**

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without a requirement for repayment are reported as interfund transfers. Interfund transfers are reported as other financing sources/uses in governmental funds.

On fund financials, receivables and payables resulting from short-term interfund loans are classified as "interfund receivable/payable." These amounts are eliminated in the governmental activities column of the statement of net position.

Fund Balance

In accordance with Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement No. 54, Fund Balance Reporting and Governmental Fund Type Definitions, the District classifies its fund balance based on the purpose for which the resources were received and the level of constraint placed on the resources. The following categories are used:

Nonspendable – resources that are not in spendable form (inventory) or have legal or contractual requirements to maintain the balance intact.

Restricted – resources that have external purpose restraints imposed on them by providers, such as creditors, grantors, or other regulators.

Committed – resources that can be used only for the specific purposes imposed by a formal action (board resolution) of the District's Board of Education. The Board of Education is the highest level of decision making authority for the District. Those committed resources cannot be used for any other purpose unless the District's Board of Education removes or changes the specified use by taking the same type of action (board resolution) it employed to previously commit those resources.

Assigned – resources intended to be used by the District for specific purposes but do not meet the criteria to be classified as restricted or committed. In the general fund, assigned amounts are intended to be used for specific purposes as approved through the District's formal purchase order procedure by the Superintendent and the Treasurer. The adoption of the board appropriation resolution is the established policy, which gives the authorization to assign resources for a specific purpose.

Unassigned – residual fund balance within the General Fund that is not restricted, committed, or assigned. In other governmental funds, the unassigned classification is used only to report a deficit balance resulting from incurred expenses for specific purposes exceeding amounts which had been restricted, committed or assigned for said purposes.

The District considers committed, assigned, and unassigned fund balances, respectively, to be spent when expenditures are incurred for purposes for which any of the unrestricted fund balance classifications could be used.

Estimates

The preparation of the 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 could differ from those estimates.

**Ross Local School District, Ohio**  
**Notes to the Basic Financial Statements**  
**For The Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2017**

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**Note 3 – Deficit Fund Balances**

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At June 30, 2017, the following funds had a deficit fund balance:

<u>Fund</u>	<u>Deficit</u>
Other Governmental Funds:	
IDEA, Part B	\$6,599
Title I	43,706
Food Service	61,440

These deficit balances 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.

**Note 4 - Equity in Pooled Cash and Investments**

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State statute requires the classification of monies held by the School District into three categories:

Active Deposits - Those monies required to be kept in a "cash" or "near cash" status for immediate use by the School District. Such monies must by law 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 - Those monies not required for use within the current two-year period of designated depositories. Ohio law permits inactive monies to be deposited or invested as certificates of deposit maturing not later than the end of the current period of designated depositories or as savings or deposit accounts, including, but not limited to, passbook accounts.

Interim Deposits - 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 accounts including passbook accounts.

Protection of the School District's deposits is provided by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC), by eligible securities pledged by the financial institution as security for repayment, 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 moneys deposited with the institution.

Ohio law permits interim monies to be invested or deposited 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

**Ross Local School District, Ohio**  
**Notes to the Basic Financial Statements**  
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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 180 days from the date of purchase in an amount not to exceed 25 percent of the interim moneys available for investment at any one time; and
- (8) Under limited circumstances, 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 No. 3, "Deposits with Financial Institutions, Investments and Reverse Repurchase Agreements" and amended by GASB Statement No. 40 "Deposit and Investment Risk Disclosures":

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**Ross Local School District, Ohio**  
**Notes to the Basic Financial Statements**  
**For The Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2017**

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**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, \$10,810,307 of the School District's bank balance of \$11,060,307 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, 2017 are as summarized as follows:

Investment Type	Value	Fair Value Hierarchy	Weighted Average Maturity (Years)
Federal National Mortgage Association	\$1,521,647	Level 2	2.62
Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation	229,612	Level 2	0.66
Federal Home Loan Bank - Discount Note	1,189,046	Level 2	0.77
Federal Farm Credit Corporation	124,046	Level 2	2.41
Negotiable CDs	2,119,935	Level 2	2.20
U.S. Money Market Funds	3,944	N/A	0.00
Total Investments	\$5,188,230		
Portfolio Weighted Average Maturity			1.93

The District categorizes its fair value measurements within the fair value hierarchy established by generally accepted accounting principles. The hierarchy is based on the valuation inputs used to measure the fair value of the asset. Level 1 inputs are quoted prices in active markets for identical assets. Level 2 inputs are significant other observable inputs. Level 3 inputs are significant unobservable inputs. The above table identifies the District's recurring fair value measurements as of June 30, 2017.

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. The District's investments in Federal National Mortgage Association, Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation, Federal Home Loan Bank – Discount Note, and Federal Farm Credit Corporation were rated AAA by Standard & Poor's and Aaa by Moody's Investors Service. The School District's investments in Negotiable CDs and U.S. Money Market Funds were not rated.

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.

**Ross Local School District, Ohio**  
**Notes to the Basic Financial Statements**  
**For The Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2017**

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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.

Concentration of Credit Risk – The School District’s investment policy does not place any limit on investments in any single issuer. The School District’s investments are in the following:

Investments	Percent
Federal National Mortgage Association	29%
Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation	4%
Federal Home Loan Bank - Discounct Note	23%
Federal Farm Credit Corporation	2%
Negotiable CDs	41%
U.S. Money Market Funds	1%

**Note 5 – Property Taxes**

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Property taxes are levied and assessed on a calendar year basis. Distributions from the second half of the calendar year occur in the subsequent fiscal year and are intended to finance the operations of that year, except monies available to be advanced against such distributions which may be appropriated and used in the current fiscal year. Property taxes include amounts levied against real and public utility property located within the School District.

Real property taxes and public utility taxes are levied after April against the assessed value listed as of the prior January 1, the lien date. Assessed values are established by State law at 35 percent of appraised value.

The School District receives property taxes from the Butler County Auditor, who periodically advances to the School District its portion of taxes collected. Second-half real property tax payments collected by the County by June 30, 2017 are available to finance fiscal year 2018 operations.

Accrued property taxes receivable represents delinquent taxes outstanding and real property and public utility taxes that became measurable as of June 30, 2017. 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 inflows of resources for that portion not intended to finance current year operations. The amounts available as advances in the General Fund, Debt Service Fund, and Other Governmental Funds at June 30, 2017 were \$101,726, \$19,476, and \$3,408 respectively.

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

	Amount
Agricultural/Residential and Other	
Real Estate	\$354,873,800
Public Utility/Personal Property	37,874,530
Total Assessed Value	<u>\$392,748,330</u>

**Ross Local School District, Ohio**  
**Notes to the Basic Financial Statements**  
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**Note 6 – Interfund Transactions**

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Interfund transactions at June 30, 2017 consisted of the following transfers in/out and interfund receivables and payables:

	Transfers		Interfund	
	In	Out	Receivable	Payable
General	\$0	\$579,604	\$80,272	\$0
Other Governmental Funds	579,604	0	0	80,272
Total	<u>\$579,604</u>	<u>\$579,604</u>	<u>\$80,272</u>	<u>\$80,272</u>

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

**Note 7 – Income Tax**

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The School District levies a voted tax of .75 percent for general operations on the income of residents and estates. The voted levy is for a continuous term. Employers of residents are required to withhold income tax on compensation and remit the tax to the State. Taxpayers are required to file an annual return. The State makes quarterly distributions to the School District after withholding amounts for administrative fees and estimated refunds. Income tax revenue is credited to the General Fund and the Classroom Facilities Maintenance Fund. The State requires the School District to set aside a certain amount of money for maintaining classrooms. This is being funded with income tax as allowed by law.

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**Ross Local School District, Ohio**  
**Notes to the Basic Financial Statements**  
**For The Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2017**

**Note 8 – Capital Assets**

A summary of the changes in capital assets for governmental activities during the fiscal year is as follows:

	Beginning Balance	Additions	Deletions	Ending Balance
<b>Governmental Activities</b>				
<b>Capital Assets, not being depreciated:</b>				
Land	\$1,262,525	\$0	\$0	\$1,262,525
<b>Capital Assets, being depreciated:</b>				
Land Improvements	2,206,068	56,833	0	2,262,901
Buildings and Improvements	78,759,827	50,164	0	78,809,991
Equipment	387,863	237,116	0	624,979
Vehicles	2,526,168	199,418	118,400	2,607,186
Totals at Historical Cost	<u>85,142,451</u>	<u>543,531</u>	<u>118,400</u>	<u>85,567,582</u>
<b>Less Accumulated Depreciation:</b>				
Land Improvements	1,687,775	60,660	0	1,748,435
Buildings and Improvements	28,607,988	1,928,030	0	30,536,018
Equipment	147,173	60,611	0	207,784
Vehicles	1,792,156	134,716	118,400	1,808,472
Total Accumulated Depreciation	<u>32,235,092</u>	<u>2,184,017</u>	<u>118,400</u>	<u>34,300,709</u>
Governmental Activities Capital Assets, Net	<u>\$52,907,359</u>	<u>(\$1,640,486)</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$51,266,873</u>

Depreciation expenses were charged to governmental functions as follows:

Instruction:	
Regular	\$1,214,207
Support Services:	
School Administration	26,414
Operations and Maintenance	792,326
Pupil Transportation	129,992
Operation of Non-Instructional Services	6,756
Extracurricular Activities	14,322
Total Depreciation Expense	<u>\$2,184,017</u>

**Ross Local School District, Ohio**  
**Notes to the Basic Financial Statements**  
**For The Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2017**

**Note 9 – Long-Term Obligations**

The changes in the School District’s long-term obligations during fiscal year 2017 were as follows:

	Interest Rate	Beginning Balance	Issued	Retired	Ending Balance	Due In One Year
<b>Governmental Activities:</b>						
General Obligation Bonds:						
2003 School Improvement Bonds	3.1-5.0%	\$760,000	\$0	(\$380,000)	\$380,000	\$380,000
2006 Refunding:						
Current Interest Bonds		7,255,000	0	(7,255,000)	0	0
Current Term	4.0-4.375%	1,720,000	0	(1,720,000)	0	0
2012 Refunding:						
Current Interest	2.0-3.0%	6,410,000	0	(110,000)	6,300,000	110,000
Capital Appreciation Bonds - Principal		60,000	0	0	60,000	0
Capital Appreciation Bonds Accretion		78,565	28,325	0	106,890	0
2016 Refunding:						
Current Interest		0	8,715,000	(215,000)	8,500,000	220,000
Premiums		624,108	549,173	(403,563)	769,718	0
Discounts		(5,313)	0	2,656	(2,657)	0
Total Bonds		16,902,360	9,292,498	(10,080,907)	16,113,951	710,000
Capital Leases		70,143	0	(70,143)	0	0
Compensated Absences		715,869	160,054	(130,128)	745,795	132,472
Subtotal Bonds and Other Amounts		17,688,372	9,452,552	(10,281,178)	16,859,746	842,472
Net Pension Liability:						
STRS		25,985,577	6,346,600	0	32,332,177	0
SERS		6,051,573	1,825,189	0	7,876,762	0
Subtotal Net Pension Liability		32,037,150	8,171,789	0	40,208,939	0
Total Long-Term Obligations		<u>\$49,725,522</u>	<u>\$17,624,341</u>	<u>(\$10,281,178)</u>	<u>\$57,068,685</u>	<u>\$842,472</u>

The School District issued \$24,900,000 in School Improvement Bonds in fiscal year 2003 that was originally scheduled to mature in fiscal year 2025, for the construction of a high school and improvements to the School District’s elementary schools. The original issue included current interest serial bonds and capital appreciation bonds. The School District advanced refunded \$16,105,000 of this issuance in fiscal years 2007 and 2012. The remaining current interest serial bonds will be fully matured in 2017. The refunded bonds were not included in the School District’s outstanding debt since the School District has satisfied its obligations through the advance refunding.

The School District issued \$6,690,000 in Series 2012 Refunding Bonds that mature in December 2024, for the partial advance refunding of \$6,690,000 in Series 2003 School Improvement Bonds. These bonds include serial bonds that will mature in December 2024 and capital appreciation bonds that will mature in December 2019. The maturity amount of the capital appreciation bonds is \$320,000.

On August 23, 2016 the District issued \$8,715,000 in General Obligation Bonds with an interest rate between 1.00% and 3.00% which was used to current refund \$8,975,000 of the outstanding 2006 Refunding Bonds with an interest rate between 4.00% and 4.375%. The net proceeds of \$9,264,173 (after payment of underwriting fees, insurance and other issuance costs) were used to purchase U.S. government securities. Those securities were deposited into an irrevocable trust with an escrow agent

**Ross Local School District, Ohio**  
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**For The Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2017**

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on September 13, 2016 and the securities matured and were paid off on December 1, 2016, within 90 days of purchase.

All general obligation debt is supported by the full faith and credit of the School District. The School Improvement and Refunding Bonds are paid from the Debt Service Fund. Compensated absences and the STRS early retirement incentive are generally paid by the General Fund and Special Revenue funds.

Principal and interest requirements to retire the School District’s long-term general obligation bonds outstanding at June 30, 2017 are shown in the table below.

Fiscal Year Ending June 30	Current Interest Bonds			Capital Appreciation		
	Principal	Interest	Total	Principal	Interest	Total
2018	\$710,000	\$793,775	\$1,503,775	\$0	\$0	\$0
2019	1,155,000	365,525	1,520,525	0	0	0
2020	855,000	606,362	1,461,362	60,000	260,000	320,000
2021	1,195,000	323,913	1,518,913	0	0	0
2022	1,260,000	293,776	1,553,776	0	0	0
2023-2027	6,935,000	903,964	7,838,964	0	0	0
2028-2029	3,070,000	84,950	3,154,950	0	0	0
Total	<u>\$15,180,000</u>	<u>\$3,372,265</u>	<u>\$18,552,265</u>	<u>\$60,000</u>	<u>\$260,000</u>	<u>\$320,000</u>

**Note 10 – Operating Lease – Lessee Disclosure**

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The School District entered into an operating lease agreement with M.B.A. Holdings Company for a bus garage. The future minimum annual rental payments are \$42,037 and is payable monthly at \$3,503. For fiscal year 2017, the School District’s rental costs were \$38,216.

**Note 11 – Other Employee Benefits**

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Accumulated Unpaid Vacation

School District classified employees earn vacation leave at varying rates based upon negotiated agreements and State laws. In the case of death or retirement, an employee (or his estate) is paid for his unused vacation leave.

Accumulated Unpaid Sick Leave

School District employees may accumulate sick leave. Upon retirement, payment is made for 26.5% of the total unused sick leave balance up to a maximum of fifty days for certified and classified employees.

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**Notes to the Basic Financial Statements**  
**For The Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2017**

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**Note 12 – Cincinnati USA Regional Chamber Worker’s Comp Program**

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The School District participates in the Group Retrospective Program of the Cincinnati USA Regional Chamber, an insurance purchasing pool. Each year, the participating school districts pay an enrollment fee to cover the costs of administering the program.

**Note 13 – Defined Benefit Pension Plans**

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**Net Pension Liability**

The net pension liability reported on the statement of net position represents a liability to employees for pensions. 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 obligation to sacrifice resources for pensions is a present obligation because it was created as a result of employment exchanges that already have occurred.

The net pension liability represents the employer’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 obligation for this liability to annually required payments. The employer cannot control benefit terms or the manner in which pensions are financed; however, the employer 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 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.

The proportionate share of each plan’s unfunded benefits is presented as a long-term net pension liability on the accrual basis of accounting. Any liability for the contractually-required pension contribution outstanding at the end of the year is included in accrued wages and benefits on both the accrual and modified accrual bases of accounting.

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

Plan Description – 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

**Ross Local School District, Ohio**  
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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 65 with 5 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 or \$86.00 multiplied by the years of service credit. 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 employer 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, 2017, the allocation to pension, death benefits, and Medicare B was 14.00 percent. None of the 14 percent contribution rate was allocated to the Health Care Fund.

The contractually required contribution to SERS was \$501,288 for fiscal year 2017. Of this amount \$99,474 is reported as accrued wages and benefits.

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

Plan Description – 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).

**Ross Local School District, Ohio**  
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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 years 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 increased 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 years 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 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, 2017, plan members were required to contribute 14 percent of their annual covered salary. The employer was

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required to contribute 14 percent; the entire 14 percent was the portion used to fund pension obligations. The fiscal year 2017 contribution rates were equal to the statutory maximum rates.

The contractually required contribution to STRS was \$1,495,656 for fiscal year 2017. Of this amount \$241,816 is reported as accrued wages and benefits.

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

The net pension liability was measured as of June 30, 2016, and the total pension liability used to calculate the net pension liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of that date. The proportion of the net pension liability was based on the share of contributions to the pension plan relative to the contributions of all participating entities. Following is information related to the proportionate share and pension expense:

	<u>SERS</u>	<u>STRS</u>	<u>Total</u>
Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability	\$7,876,762	\$32,332,177	\$40,208,939
Proportion of the Net Pension Liability			
Prior Measurement Date	0.10605500%	0.09402434%	
Proportion of the Net Pension Liability			
Current Measurement Date	<u>0.10761960%</u>	<u>0.09659177%</u>	
Change in Proportionate Share	0.00156460%	0.00256743%	
Pension Expense	917,485	2,639,215	3,556,700

At June 30, 2017, reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions from the following sources:

	<u>SERS</u>	<u>STRS</u>	<u>Total</u>
Deferred Outflows of Resources			
Differences between expected and actual experience	\$106,239	\$1,306,376	\$1,412,615
Changes of assumptions	525,817	0	525,817
Net difference between projected and actual earnings on pension plan investments	649,719	2,684,439	3,334,158
Changes in employer proportionate share of net pension liability	66,390	820,170	886,560
Contributions subsequent to the measurement date	<u>501,288</u>	<u>1,495,656</u>	<u>1,996,944</u>
Total Deferred Outflows of Resources	<u>\$1,849,453</u>	<u>\$6,306,641</u>	<u>\$8,156,094</u>
Deferred Inflows of Resources			
Changes in employer proportionate share of net pension liability	<u>93,087</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>93,087</u>
Total Deferred Inflows of Resources	<u>\$93,087</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$93,087</u>

\$1,996,944 reported as deferred outflows of resources related to pension resulting from contributions subsequent to the measurement date will be recognized as a reduction of the net pension liability in the

**Ross Local School District, Ohio**  
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year ending June 30, 2018. Other amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pension will be recognized in pension expense as follows:

Fiscal Year Ending June 30:	SERS	STRS	Total
2018	\$301,452	\$856,707	\$1,158,159
2019	300,984	856,706	1,157,690
2020	465,875	1,886,801	2,352,676
2021	186,767	1,210,771	1,397,538
Total	<u>\$1,255,078</u>	<u>\$4,810,985</u>	<u>\$6,066,063</u>

**Actuarial Assumptions - SERS**

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

Key methods and assumptions used in calculating the total pension liability in the latest actuarial valuation, prepared as of June 30, 2016, are presented below:

Wage Inflation	3.00 percent
Future Salary Increases, including inflation	3.50-18.20 percent
COLA or Ad Hoc COLA	3.00 percent
Investment Rate of Return	7.50 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 RP-2014 Blue Collar Mortality Table with fully generational projection and Scale BB, with 120% of male rates and 110% of female rates used. The RP-2000 Disabled Mortality Table with 90% for male rates and 100% for female rates set back five years is used for the period after disability retirement. Special mortality tables are used for the period after disability retirement.

**Ross Local School District, Ohio**  
**Notes to the Basic Financial Statements**  
**For The Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2017**

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

Asset Class	Target Allocation	Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return
Cash	1.00 %	0.50 %
US Stocks	22.50	4.75
Non-US Stocks	22.50	7.00
Fixed Income	19.00	1.50
Private Equity	10.00	8.00
Real Assets	15.00	5.00
Multi-Asset Strategies	10.00	3.00
Total	100.00 %	

**Discount Rate**

The total pension liability was calculated using the discount rate of 7.50 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 (7.50 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.

**Sensitivity of the 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 7.50 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 (6.50 percent), or one percentage point higher (8.50 percent) than the current rate.

	1% Decrease (6.50%)	Current Discount Rate (7.50%)	1% Increase (8.50%)
Proportionate share of the net pension liability	\$10,428,342	\$7,876,762	\$5,740,983

**Actuarial Assumptions - STRS**

The total pension liability in the July 1, 2016, actuarial valuation was determined using the following actuarial assumptions, applied to all periods included in the measurement:

**Ross Local School District, Ohio**  
**Notes to the Basic Financial Statements**  
**For The Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2017**

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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, including inflation
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, 2016, 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:

Asset Class	Target Allocation	Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return
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	1.00	3.00
Total	100.00 %	7.61 %

**Discount Rate**

The discount rate used to measure the total pension liability was 7.75 percent as of June 30, 2016. 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, 2016. 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, 2016.

**Sensitivity of the Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate**

The following table presents the proportionate share of the net pension liability calculated using the current period discount rate assumption of 7.75 percent, as well as what the proportionate share of the

**Ross Local School District, Ohio**  
**Notes to the Basic Financial Statements**  
**For The Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2017**

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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%)
Proportionate share of the net pension liability	\$42,966,836	\$32,332,177	\$23,361,215

**Changes Between Measurement Date and Report Date**

In March 2017, the STRS Board adopted certain assumption changes which will impact their annual actuarial valuation prepared as of June 30, 2017. The most significant change is a reduction in the discount rate from 7.75 percent to 7.45 percent. In April 2017, the STRS Board voted to suspend cost of living adjustments granted on or after July 1, 2017. Although the exact amount of these changes is not known, the overall decrease to the net pension liability is expected to be significant.

**Note 14 - Post Employment Benefits**

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***School Employees Retirement System***

Health Care Plan Description – Sections 3309.375 and 3309.69 of the Ohio Revised Code permit SERS to offer health care benefits to eligible retirees and beneficiaries. SERS’ Retirement Board reserves the right to change or discontinue any health plan or program. SERS offers several types of health plans from various vendors, including HMOs, PPOs, Medicare Advantage 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 Ohio Revised Code provides the statutory authority to fund SERS’ postemployment benefits through employer contributions. Active members do not make contributions to the postemployment benefit plan.

The Health Care Fund was established under, and is administered in accordance with Internal Revenue Code 105(e). Each year after the allocation for statutorily required pensions and benefits, the Retirement Board may allocate the remainder of the employer 14% contribution to the Health Care Fund in accordance with the funding policy. For the year ended June 30, 2017, the health care allocation is 0.00%. An additional health care surcharge on employers is collected for employees earning less than an actuarially determined minimum compensation amount, pro-rated if less than a full year of service credit was earned. By statute no employer shall pay a health care surcharge greater than 2.0% 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 2017, the minimum compensation level was established at \$23,500. The surcharge, added to the unallocated portion of the 14% employer contribution rate is the total amount assigned to the Health Care Fund. The District’s contributions assigned to health care for the years ended June 30, 2017, 2016, and 2015 were \$0, \$0, and \$87,635, respectively.

**Ross Local School District, Ohio**  
**Notes to the Basic Financial Statements**  
**For The Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2017**

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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.

The financial reports of SERS' Health Care plan are included in its Comprehensive Annual Financial Report. That report can be obtained on SERS' website at [www.ohsers.org](http://www.ohsers.org) under Employers/Audit Resources.

***State Teachers Retirement System***

Plan Description – The District 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 recent year, pay a monthly premium. Under Ohio law, funding for post-employment health care may be deducted from employer contributions. For fiscal year 2017, STRS did not allocate any employer contributions to post-employment health care. The District's contributions for health care for the fiscal years ended June 30, 2017, 2016, and 2015 were \$0, \$0, and \$0, respectively.

**Note 15 – Fund Balances**

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

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**Ross Local School District, Ohio**  
**Notes to the Basic Financial Statements**  
**For The Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2017**

Fund Balances	General	Debt Service	Classroom Facilities Project	Other Governmental Funds	Total
<b>Nonspendable:</b>					
Prepays	\$50,338	\$0	\$0	\$5,379	\$55,717
<b>Total Nonspendable</b>	<b>50,338</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5,379</b>	<b>55,717</b>
<b>Restricted for:</b>					
Other Local Grants	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$6,606	\$6,606
Classroom Facilities Maintenance	0	0	0	520,266	520,266
Athletics	0	0	0	133,278	133,278
Auxiliary Service	0	0	0	34,224	34,224
Improving Teacher Quality	0	0	0	3,723	3,723
Special Revenue	0	0	0	122,010	122,010
Title III LEP	0	0	0	273	273
Debt Service	0	850,167	0	0	850,167
Permanent Improvement	0	0	0	912,332	912,332
Capital Improvements	0	0	3,012,355	0	3,012,355
<b>Total Restricted</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>850,167</b>	<b>3,012,355</b>	<b>1,732,712</b>	<b>5,595,234</b>
<b>Assigned to:</b>					
Budgetary Resource	612,743	0	0	0	612,743
Public School Support	58,321	0	0	0	58,321
Encumbrances	596,690	0	0	0	596,690
<b>Total Assigned</b>	<b>1,267,754</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1,267,754</b>
<b>Unassigned (Deficit)</b>	<b>8,155,558</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(115,971)</b>	<b>8,039,587</b>
<b>Total Fund Balance</b>	<b>\$9,473,650</b>	<b>\$850,167</b>	<b>\$3,012,355</b>	<b>\$1,622,120</b>	<b>\$14,958,292</b>

**Note 16 – Jointly Governed Organizations**

Southwest Ohio Computer Association

The Southwest Ohio Computer Association (SWOCA) is a jointly governed organization among a three county consortium of Ohio school districts. The jointly governed 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 of the member school districts. Each member school district appoints a representative to the Board of Directors which is the legislative and managerial body of SWOCA. The degree of control exercised by any participating member school district is limited to its representation on the Board.

Butler Technology and Career Development Schools

The Butler Technology and Career Development Schools (BTCDS), a jointly governed organization, 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 participating school districts' elected board. The Board possesses

**Ross Local School District, Ohio**  
**Notes to the Basic Financial Statements**  
**For The Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2017**

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its own budgeting and taxing authority as a separate body politic and corporate, established by the Ohio Revised Code. BTCDS was formed for the purpose of providing vocational education opportunities to the students of the member school districts which includes the students of the School District.

The School District has no ongoing financial interest in or responsibility for BTCDS. To obtain financial information, write to BTCDS, at 3603 Hamilton-Middletown, Hamilton, Ohio 45011.

**Note 17 – Risk Management**

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The School District is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts, theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets, errors and omissions, injuries to employees and natural disasters. During the fiscal year, the School District contracted with commercial insurance carriers for property and general liability insurance and boiler and machinery insurance.

The School District has elected to provide employee medical and dental benefits through Butler Health Plan (BHP), a public entity risk pool currently operating as a common risk management and insurance program. BHP is comprised of sixteen other school districts in Butler and Hamilton Counties. CareSource provides claims review and processing services for BHP. The School District pays a monthly premium to the pool for its general insurance coverage. The employees share the cost of the monthly premium for the coverage with the Board. The risk of loss transfers entirely to BHP.

There were no significant reductions in insurance coverage from the prior year. Also, there were no settlements that exceeded insurance coverage for the past three fiscal years.

**Note 18 – Contingencies**

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Foundation Funding

School District foundation funding is based on the annualized full-time equivalent (FTE) enrollment of each student. The Ohio Department of Education (ODE) is legislatively required to adjust/reconcile funding as enrollment information is updated by schools throughout the State, which can extend past the fiscal year end. As of the date of this report, additional ODE adjustments for fiscal year 2017 are not finalized. As a result, the impact of future FTE adjustments on the fiscal year 2017 financial statements is not determinable, at this time. Management believes this may result in either an additional receivable to, or a liability of, the School District.

Litigation

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

Federal and State Funding

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

**Ross Local School District, Ohio**  
**Notes to the Basic Financial Statements**  
**For The Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2017**

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applicable funds. However, the effect of any such disallowed claims on the overall financial position of the School District at June 30, 2017, if applicable, cannot be determined at this time.

**Note 19 – Statutory Reserves**

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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 acquisition, maintenance, 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.

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

	Capital Acquisition	Budget Stabilization
Set Aside Reserve Balance as of June 30, 2016	\$0	\$324,996
Current Year Set Aside Requirements	473,779	0
Current Year Qualifying Expenditures	0	0
Current Year Offsets	(473,779)	0
Set Aside Reserve Balance as of June 30, 2017	0	324,996
Restricted Cash as of June 30, 2017	\$0	\$324,996
Carried Forward as of June 30, 2017	\$15,207,828	

The Ohio General Assembly eliminated the requirement for the budget stabilization set-aside and effective April 10, 2001, the Board of Education could choose to eliminate the set-aside with the exception of rebates received from the Bureau of Workers Compensation. The budget stabilization set-aside is no longer required. However, the School District has opted to leave this reserve intact.

**Note 20 – Significant Contractual Commitments**

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The School District utilizes encumbrance accounting to the extent necessary to assure effective budgetary control and accountability and to facilitate effective cash planning and control. The School District’s outstanding encumbrance amounts at June 30, 2017 were:

General Fund	\$664,742
Classroom Facilities Fund	12,785
Other Governmental Funds	157,010

**Note 21 – Change in Accounting Principles**

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For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2017, the District has implemented Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 77, Tax Abatement Disclosures, GASB Statement No. 78, “Pensions Provided Through Certain Multiple-Employer Defined Benefit Pension Plans”, GASB Statement No. 80, “Blending Requirements for Certain Component Units - An Amendment of GASB Statement No. 14” and GASB Statement No. 82, “Pension Issues - An Amendment of GASB Statements No. 67, No. 68 and No. 73”.

**Ross Local School District, Ohio**  
**Notes to the Basic Financial Statements**  
**For The Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2017**

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GASB Statement No. 77 establishes improved financial reporting by giving users of financial statements essential information that is not consistently or comprehensively reported to the public at present. Disclosure of information about the nature and magnitude of tax abatements will make these transactions more transparent to financial statement users. As a result, users will be better equipped to understand (1) how tax abatements affect a government's future ability to raise resources and meet its financial obligations and (2) the impact those abatements have on a government's financial position and economic condition. The implementation of GASB Statement No 77 did not have an effect on the financial statements of the District.

GASB Statement No. 78 establishes accounting and financial reporting standards for defined benefit pensions provided to the employees of state or local governmental employers through a cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan (cost-sharing pension plan) that meets the criteria in paragraph 4 of Statement 68 and that (a) is not a state or local governmental pension plan, (b) is used to provide defined benefit pensions both to employees of state or local governmental employers and to employees of employers that are not state or local governmental employers, and (c) has no predominant state or local governmental employer (either individually or collectively with other state or local governmental employers that provide pensions through the pension plan). The implementation of GASB Statement No. 78 did not have an effect on the financial statements of the District.

GASB Statement No. 80 amends the blending requirements for the financial statement presentation of component units of all state and local governments. The additional criterion requires blending of a component unit incorporated as a not-for-profit corporation in which the primary government is the sole corporate member. The additional criterion does not apply to component units included in the financial reporting entity pursuant to the provisions of Statement No. 39, *Determining Whether Certain Organizations Are Component Units*. The implementation of GASB Statement No. 80 did not have an effect on the financial statements of the District.

GASB Statement No. 82 addresses issues regarding (1) the presentation of payroll-related measures in required supplementary information, (2) the selection of assumptions and the treatment of deviations from the guidance in an Actuarial Standard of Practice for financial reporting purposes, and (3) the classification of payments made by employers to satisfy employee (plan member) contribution requirements. The implementation of GASB Statement No. 82 did not have an effect on the financial statements of the District.

# **REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**

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Ross Local School District, Ohio  
Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance  
Budget and Actual (Non-GAAP Budgetary Basis)  
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2017

	General Fund			
	Original Budget	Final Budget	Actual	Variance from Final Budget
<b>Revenues:</b>				
Taxes	\$10,690,077	\$10,911,178	\$10,911,180	\$2
Revenue in lieu of taxes	355,127	362,472	362,472	0
Tuition and Fees	283,718	289,586	289,586	0
Investment Earnings	72,180	73,673	73,673	0
Intergovernmental	11,579,145	11,818,635	11,818,637	2
Extracurricular Activities	100,620	102,701	102,701	0
Other Revenues	93,220	95,148	95,148	0
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>23,174,087</b>	<b>23,653,393</b>	<b>23,653,397</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Expenditures:</b>				
<b>Current:</b>				
<b>Instruction:</b>				
Regular	11,564,249	11,804,248	11,797,481	6,767
Special	1,831,595	1,869,607	1,868,535	1,072
Vocational	1,387	1,416	1,415	1
Other	695,956	710,399	709,992	407
<b>Support Services:</b>				
Pupil	1,177,912	1,202,359	1,201,669	690
Instructional Staff	417,717	426,386	426,142	244
General Administration	41,834	42,702	42,678	24
School Administration	1,836,975	1,875,099	1,874,024	1,075
Fiscal	676,690	690,734	690,338	396
Business	2,441	2,491	2,490	1
Operations and Maintenance	2,270,783	2,317,909	2,316,581	1,328
Pupil Transportation	1,853,111	1,891,569	1,890,485	1,084
Central	3,440	3,511	3,509	2
Extracurricular Activities	102,572	104,701	104,641	60
<b>Debt Service:</b>				
Principal Retirement	68,756	70,183	70,143	40
Interest and Fiscal Charges	1,994	2,035	2,034	1
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>22,547,412</b>	<b>23,015,349</b>	<b>23,002,157</b>	<b>13,192</b>
<b>Excess of Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures</b>	<b>626,675</b>	<b>638,044</b>	<b>651,240</b>	<b>13,196</b>
<b>Other Financing Sources (Uses):</b>				
Advances In	30,108	30,731	30,731	0
Advances (Out)	(78,685)	(80,318)	(80,272)	46
Transfers (Out)	(536,404)	(547,536)	(547,222)	314
<b>Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)</b>	<b>(584,981)</b>	<b>(597,123)</b>	<b>(596,763)</b>	<b>360</b>
<b>Net Change in Fund Balance</b>	<b>41,694</b>	<b>40,921</b>	<b>54,477</b>	<b>13,556</b>
<b>Fund Balance Beginning of Year, (includes prior year encumbrances appropriated)</b>	<b>9,603,237</b>	<b>9,603,237</b>	<b>9,603,237</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Fund Balance - End of Year</b>	<b>\$9,644,931</b>	<b>\$9,644,158</b>	<b>\$9,657,714</b>	<b>\$13,556</b>

See accompanying notes to the required supplementary information.

Ross Local School District, Ohio  
 Required Supplementary Information  
 Schedule of the District's Proportionate Share  
 of the Net Pension Liability  
 State Teachers Retirement System of Ohio  
 Last Four Fiscal Years (1)

	2017	2016	2015	2014
District's Proportion of the Net Pension Liability	0.09659177%	0.09402434%	0.09263936%	0.09263936%
District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability	\$32,332,177	\$25,985,577	\$22,533,098	\$26,768,995
District's Covered-Employee Payroll	\$10,214,657	\$9,786,343	\$10,193,277	\$10,774,062
District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability as a Percentage of its Covered-Employee Payroll	316.53%	265.53%	221.06%	248.46%
Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total Pension Liability	66.80%	72.10%	74.70%	69.30%

(1) - Information prior to 2014 is not available

Note- Amounts presented as of the District's measurement date which is the prior fiscal year end.

See accompanying notes to the Required Supplementary Information.

Ross Local School District, Ohio  
 Required Supplementary Information  
 Schedule of the District's Proportionate Share  
 of the Net Pension Liability  
 School Employees Retirement System of Ohio  
 Last Four Fiscal Years (1)

	2017	2016	2015	2014
District's Proportion of the Net Pension Liability	0.107620%	0.106055%	0.109146%	0.109146%
District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability	\$7,876,762	\$6,051,573	\$5,523,817	\$6,492,508
District's Covered-Employee Payroll	\$3,687,600	\$4,136,449	\$3,203,608	\$3,842,428
District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability as a Percentage of its Covered-Employee Payroll	213.60%	146.30%	172.42%	168.97%
Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total Pension Liability	62.98%	69.16%	71.70%	65.52%

(1) - Information prior to 2014 is not available

Note- Amounts presented as of the District's measurement date which is the prior fiscal year end.

See accompanying notes to the Required Supplementary Information.

Ross Local School District, Ohio  
 Required Supplementary Information  
 Schedule of District Contributions  
 State Teachers Retirement System of Ohio  
 Last Ten Fiscal Years

	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>
Contractually Required Contribution	\$1,495,656	\$1,430,052	\$1,370,088	\$1,325,126	\$1,400,628
Contributions in Relation to the Contractually Required Contribution	<u>(1,495,656)</u>	<u>(1,430,052)</u>	<u>(1,370,088)</u>	<u>(1,325,126)</u>	<u>(1,400,628)</u>
Contribution Deficiency (Excess)	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>
District Covered-Employee Payroll	\$10,683,257	\$10,214,657	\$9,786,343	\$10,193,277	\$10,774,062
Contributions as a Percentage of Covered-Employee Payroll	14.00%	14.00%	14.00%	13.00%	13.00%

See accompanying notes to the Required Supplementary Information.

<u>2012</u>	<u>2011</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>2008</u>
\$1,547,952	\$1,598,184	\$1,568,832	\$1,501,128	\$1,488,540
<u>(1,547,952)</u>	<u>(1,598,184)</u>	<u>(1,568,832)</u>	<u>(1,501,128)</u>	<u>(1,488,540)</u>
<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>
\$11,907,323	\$12,293,723	\$12,067,938	\$11,547,138	\$11,450,308
13.00%	13.00%	13.00%	13.00%	13.00%

Ross Local School District, Ohio  
 Required Supplementary Information  
 Schedule of District Contributions  
 School Employees Retirement System of Ohio  
 Last Ten Fiscal Years

	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>
Contractually Required Contribution	\$501,288	\$516,264	\$545,184	\$444,020	\$531,792
Contributions in Relation to the Contractually Required Contribution	<u>(501,288)</u>	<u>(516,264)</u>	<u>(545,184)</u>	<u>(444,020)</u>	<u>(531,792)</u>
Contribution Deficiency (Excess)	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>
District Covered-Employee Payroll	\$3,580,629	\$3,687,600	\$4,136,449	\$3,203,608	\$3,842,428
Contributions as a Percentage of Covered-Employee Payroll	14.00%	14.00%	13.18%	13.86%	13.84%

See accompanying notes to the Required Supplementary Information.

2012	2011	2010	2009	2008
\$483,912	\$531,744	\$451,344	\$434,736	\$412,020
(483,912)	(531,744)	(451,344)	(434,736)	(412,020)
\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
\$3,597,859	\$4,230,263	\$3,333,412	\$4,418,049	\$4,195,723
13.45%	12.57%	13.54%	9.84%	9.82%

**Ross Local School District, Ohio**  
**Notes to the Required Supplementary Information**  
**For The Year Fiscal Ended June 30, 2017**

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**Note 1 - Budgetary Process**

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All funds, except agency funds, are legally required to be budgeted and appropriated. The major documents prepared are the tax budget, the appropriations resolution and the certificate of estimated resources which are prepared on the budgetary basis of accounting. The tax budget demonstrates a need for existing or increased tax rates. The certificate of estimated resources establishes a limit on the amount that the Board of Education may appropriate. The appropriation resolution is Board's authorization to spend resources and sets annual limits on expenditures plus encumbrances at the level of control selected by Board. The legal level of control has been established by Board at the fund level. Any budgetary modifications at this level may only be made by resolution of the Board of Education. During the course of fiscal year 2017, the District amended its budget at several times, however none were significant.

The certificate of estimated resources may be amended during the year if projected increases or decreases in revenue are identified by the School District Treasurer. The amounts reported as the original budgeted amounts on the budgetary statements reflect the amounts on the certificate of estimated resources when the original appropriations were adopted. The amounts reported as the final budgeted amounts on the budgetary statements reflect the amounts on the final amended certificate of estimated resources issued during the fiscal year 2017.

The appropriation resolution is subject to amendment by the Board throughout the year with the restriction that appropriations cannot exceed estimated resources. The amounts reported as the original budgeted amounts reflect the first appropriation resolution for that fund that covered the entire year, including amounts automatically carried forward from prior years. The amounts reported as the final budgeted amounts represent the final appropriation amounts passed by Board during the year. At the close of each fiscal year, the unencumbered balance of each appropriation reverts to the respective fund from which it was appropriated and becomes subject to future appropriation. Encumbered appropriations are carried forward to the succeeding fiscal year and are not reappropriated.

While the District is reporting financial position, results of operations and changes in fund balance on the basis of generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP), the budgetary basis as provided by law is based upon accounting for certain transactions on a basis of cash receipts, disbursements and encumbrances. The Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances – Budget and Actual (Non-GAAP Budgetary Basis) 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 as follows:

1. Revenues are recorded when received in cash (budget basis) as opposed to when susceptible to accrual (GAAP basis).
2. Expenditures are recorded when paid in cash (budget basis) as opposed to when the liability is incurred (GAAP basis).
3. Encumbrances are treated as expenditures for all funds (budget basis) rather than as an assignment of fund balance for governmental fund types and expendable trust funds (GAAP basis).

**Ross Local School District, Ohio**  
**Notes to the Required Supplementary Information**  
**For The Year Fiscal Ended June 30, 2017**

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4. Advances in and advances out are operating transactions (budget basis) as opposed to balance sheet transactions.
5. Some funds are reported as part of the general fund (GAAP basis) as opposed to the general fund being reported alone (budget basis).

The following table summarizes the adjustments necessary to reconcile the GAAP basis to the budgetary basis for the general fund.

Net Change in Fund Balance	
	General
GAAP Basis	\$960,993
Revenue Accruals	11,935
Expenditure Accruals	(246,859)
Transfers (Out)	32,382
Advances In	30,731
Advances (Out)	(80,272)
Encumbrances	(654,457)
Funds Budgeted Elsewhere	24
Budget Basis	\$54,477

**Note 2 – SERS Changes in Benefits Terms and Assumptions**

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**Changes in Benefit Terms**

There were no changes in benefit terms from the amounts reported for fiscal years 2014 - 2017.

**Changes in Assumptions**

There were no changes in methods and assumptions used in the calculation of actuarial determined contributions for fiscal years 2014-2016. For fiscal year 2017, the following changes of assumptions affected the total pension liability since the prior measurement date: (1) discount rate was reduced from 7.75% to 7.50%, (2) the assumed rate of inflation was reduced from 3.25% to 3.00%, (3) payroll growth assumption was reduced from 4.00% to 3.50%, (4) assumed real wage growth was reduced from 0.75% to 0.50%, (5) Rates of withdrawal, retirement and disability were updated to reflect recent experience, (6) mortality among active members was updated to RP-2014 Blue Collar Mortality Table with fully generational projection and a five year age set-back for both males and females, (7) mortality among service retired members, and beneficiaries was updated to the following RP-2014 Blue Collar Mortality Table with fully generational projection with Scale BB, 120% of male rates, and 110% of female rates and (8) mortality among disabled members was updated to RP-2000 Disabled Mortality Table, 90% for male rates and 100% for female rates, set back five years is used for the period after disability retirement.

**Note 3 – STRS Changes in Benefits Terms and Assumptions**

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**Changes in Benefit Terms**

There were no changes in benefit terms from the amounts reported for fiscal years 2014 - 2017.

**Changes in Assumptions**

There were no changes in methods and assumptions used in the calculation of actuarial determined contributions for fiscal years 2014 - 2017. See the notes to the basic financials for the methods and assumptions in this calculation.

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**ROSS LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT**



**Single Audit Reports**

**June 30, 2017**

**ROSS LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2017**

Federal Grant/ Pass Through Grantor Program Title	Pass Through Entity Number	Federal CFDA Number	Disbursements	Non-Cash Disbursements
<u>U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE</u>				
Passed Through Ohio Department of Education:				
Child Nutrition Cluster:				
School Breakfast Program	3L70	10.553	\$25,395	\$0
National School Lunch Program	3L60	10.555	280,342	77,578
Total Child Nutrition Cluster			<u>305,737</u>	<u>77,578</u>
Total U.S. Department of Agriculture			<u>305,737</u>	<u>77,578</u>
<u>U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION</u>				
Passed Through Ohio Department of Education:				
Special Education Cluster:				
Special Education-Grants to States	3M20	84.027	543,743	0
Total Special Education Cluster			<u>543,743</u>	<u>0</u>
Title I Grants to Local Educational Agencies	3M00	84.010	274,246	0
Improving Teacher Quality State Grants	3Y60	84.367	77,526	0
Total U.S. Department of Education			<u>895,515</u>	<u>0</u>
Total Federal Assistance			<u>\$1,201,252</u>	<u>\$77,578</u>

NOTES TO SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS

NOTE A -- SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The accompanying schedule of federal awards expenditures is a summary of the activity of the District's federal award programs. The schedule has been prepared using the cash basis of accounting. The information in this schedule is presented in accordance with the requirements of Title 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations Part 200, Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards (Uniform Guidance). The District did not elect to use the 10-percent de minimis indirect cost rate as allowed under the Uniform Guidance.

**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***

To the Board of Education  
Ross Local School District

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 governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Ross Local School District (the District), as of and for the year ended June 30, 2017, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the District's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated December 29, 2017.

**Internal Control over Financial Reporting**

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

*A deficiency in internal control* exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, misstatements on a timely basis. *A material weakness* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the 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 and therefore, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified. We did identify certain deficiencies in internal control, described in the accompanying schedule of findings and questioned costs that we consider to be material weaknesses. Finding 2017-001 and 2017-002.

**Compliance and Other Matters**

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the District's financial statements are free from material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the 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 no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

## District's Response to Findings

The District's responses to the findings identified in our audit are described in the accompanying schedule of findings and questioned costs. The responses were not subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and, accordingly, we express no opinion on them.

## 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.

*Plattenburg & Associates, Inc.*

Plattenburg & Associates, Inc.  
Cincinnati, Ohio  
December 29, 2017

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON COMPLIANCE FOR EACH MAJOR FEDERAL PROGRAM AND  
ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER COMPLIANCE AND REPORT ON SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF  
FEDERAL AWARDS REQUIRED BY UNIFORM GUIDANCE**

To the Board of Education  
Ross Local School District

**Report on Compliance for Each Major Federal Program**

We have audited the Ross Local School District's (the District) compliance with the types of compliance requirements described in the *OMB Compliance Supplement* that could have a direct and material effect on each of the District's major federal programs for the year ended June 30, 2017. The District's major federal programs are identified in the summary of auditor's results section of the accompanying schedule of findings and questioned costs.

***Management's Responsibility***

Management is responsible for compliance with the requirements of laws, regulations, contracts, and grants applicable to its federal programs.

***Auditor's Responsibility***

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on compliance for each of the District's major federal programs based on our audit of the types of compliance requirements referred to above. 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 the audit requirements of Title 2 U.S. *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (Uniform Guidance). Those standards and the Uniform Guidance require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether noncompliance with the types of compliance requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on a major federal program occurred. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence about the District's compliance with those requirements and performing such other procedures, as we considered necessary in the circumstances.

We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion on compliance for each major federal program. However, our audit does not provide a legal determination of the District's compliance.

***Opinion on Each Major Federal Program***

In our opinion, the District, complied, in all material respects, with the types of compliance requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on each of its major federal programs for the year ended June 30, 2017.

**Report on Internal Control over Compliance**

Management of the District is responsible for establishing and maintaining effective internal control over compliance with the types of compliance requirements referred to above. In planning and performing our audit of compliance, we considered the District's internal control over compliance with the types of requirements that could have a direct and material effect on each major federal program to determine the auditing procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing an opinion on compliance for each major federal program and to test and report on internal control over compliance in accordance with the Uniform Guidance, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control over compliance. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the District's internal control over compliance.

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

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

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

#### **Report on Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards Required by the Uniform Guidance**

We have audited the financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund and the aggregate remaining fund information of the District, as of and for the year ended June 30, 2017, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the District's basic financial statements. We issued our report thereon dated December 29, 2017, which contained unmodified opinions on those financial statements. Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the basic financial statements. The accompanying schedule of expenditures of federal awards is presented for purposes of additional analysis as required by the Uniform Guidance and is not a required part of the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements or to the basic financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the schedule of expenditures of federal awards is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the basic financial statements as a whole.

*Plattenburg & Associates, Inc.*

Plattenburg & Associates, Inc.  
Cincinnati, Ohio  
December 29, 2017

**ROSS LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS  
Year Ended June 30, 2017**

**Section I – Summary of Auditor’s Results**

**Financial Statements**

Type of auditor’s report issued on whether the financial statements audited were prepared in accordance with GAAP: Unmodified

Internal control over financial reporting:

- Material weakness(es) identified? Yes
- Significant Deficiency(s) identified? None reported

Noncompliance material to financial statements noted? No

**Federal Awards**

Internal control over major federal programs:

- Material weakness(es) identified? No
- Significant Deficiency(s) identified? None reported

Type of auditor’s report issued on compliance for major federal programs: Unmodified

Any audit findings disclosed that are required to be reported in accordance with 2 CFR 200.516(a)? No

Identification of major federal programs:

Special Education Cluster:  
Special Education-Grants to States CFDA #84.027

Dollar threshold used to distinguish between Type A and Type B Programs \$750,000

Auditee qualified as low-risk auditee? Yes

## **Section II – Findings Related to the Financial Statements Required to be reported in Accordance with GAGAS**

### **2017-001-Material Weakness-Controls Related to Monthly Reconciliation of Cash**

At June 30, 2017 the operating bank reconciliation does not agree to the general ledger by \$320.88. Multiple bank reconciliations at month end throughout the fiscal year do not agree to the general ledger, including the May 2017 bank reconciliation. The bank reconciliation for May 2017 does not agree to the general ledger by \$5,717.35. The bank balance is above book balance. In addition to the operating bank reconciliation, the payroll bank reconciliation is not reconciled at June 30, 2017. The payroll bank reconciliation did not agree to the general ledger by \$1,135.97. The bank balance is above book balance.

#### Recommendation

We recommend that the District's monthly cash reconciliations include proper identification of all reconciling items, recording of all necessary items in the accounting system, and timely follow up of items not clearing in subsequent months.

#### Management's Response

The District agrees.

### **2017-002-Material Weakness-Controls Related to Extracurricular Revenues**

During the course of our audit and testing of the extracurricular revenues, we were not able to determine the internal control process related to participation fees for athletics. The explanation was that the Athletic Director (AD) was no longer at the District and the District could not explain how the revenue process worked. This indicates a lack of segregation of duties since the AD was the only staff with the knowledge and details of the processing of participation fees for athletics.

#### Recommendation

We recommend that the District review the internal control procedures / policies and the segregation of duties for the extracurricular revenues (participation fees for athletics) and update as needed.

#### Management's Response

The District agrees. The District has implemented a new software module in fiscal year 2018 to record all extracurricular revenues. The District will also review and update the internal control procedures / policies and the segregation of duties as needed.

## **Section III – Federal Award Findings and Questioned Costs**

None

**ROSS LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**June 30, 2017**

**SCHEDULE OF PRIOR AUDIT FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS**

**None Noted.**

**ROSS LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN  
JUNE 30, 2017**

<u>Finding Number</u>	<u>Planned Corrective Action</u>	<u>Anticipated Completion Date</u>	<u>Responsible Contact Person</u>
2017-001	The District has made progress on this issue by identifying certain reconciling items and properly recording the items on their accounting system. The District will continue to work on this issue.	June 2018	John Kinsel
2017-002	The District has implemented a new software module in FY18 to record all participation fees. The District will also review and update internal controls and the segregation of duties for extracurricular revenues as needed.	June 2018	John Kinsel



# Dave Yost • Auditor of State

ROSS LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

BUTLER 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  
APRIL 3, 2018