



OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE
KEITH FABER



**RIDGEMONT LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
HARDIN COUNTY
JUNE 30, 2024**

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Ridgemont Local School District
Hardin County
560 W. Taylor Street
Mount Victory, Ohio 43340

To the Board of Education:

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Opinions

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

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective cash-basis financial position of the governmental activities, the major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Ridgemont Local School District, as of June 30, 2024, and the respective changes in cash-basis financial position thereof for the fiscal year then ended in accordance with the cash-basis of accounting described in Note 2.

Basis for Opinions

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

Emphasis of Matter - Accounting Basis

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

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with the cash basis of accounting described in Note 2, and for determining that the cash basis of accounting is an acceptable basis for preparation of the financial statements in the circumstances. Management is also responsible for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

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

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

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

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

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

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

Supplementary Information

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the District's basic financial statements.

The Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards as required by Title 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 200, Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards and the Schedule of Receipts, Disbursements and Changes in Fund Balances – Budget and Actual (Budgetary Basis) – General Fund are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the financial statements.

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

Other Information

Management is responsible for the other information included in the annual financial report. The other information comprises the management's discussion and analysis but does not include the basic financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinions on the basic financial statements do not cover the other information, and we do not express an opinion or any form of assurance thereon.

In connection with our audit of the basic financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and consider whether a material inconsistency exists between the other information and the basic financial statements, or the other information otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on the work performed, we conclude that an uncorrected material misstatement of the other information exists, we are required to describe it in our report.

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated June 9, 2025, on our consideration of the District's internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the District's internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the District's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

KEITH FABER
Ohio Auditor of State



Tiffany L. Ridenbaugh, CPA, CFE, CGFM
Chief Deputy Auditor

June 9, 2025

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**RIDGEMONT LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
HARDIN COUNTY, OHIO**

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

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

Financial Highlights

Key financial highlights for fiscal year 2024 are as follows:

- At June 30, 2024, the District's net cash position of governmental activities increased \$1,523,419, which represents a 14.79% increase from fiscal year 2023.
- General cash receipts accounted for \$8,583,436 in cash receipts or 81.49% of all cash receipts. Program specific cash receipts in the form of charges for services and sales and grants and contributions accounted for \$1,949,718 or 18.51% of total cash receipts of \$10,533,154.
- The District had \$9,009,735 in cash disbursements related to governmental activities; \$1,949,718 of these cash disbursements were offset by program specific charges for services, grants or contributions. General cash receipts supporting governmental activities (primarily taxes and grants and entitlements) of \$8,583,436 were adequate to provide for these programs.
- The District's major governmental fund is the general fund. The general fund had \$8,882,680 in cash receipts and other financing sources and \$8,270,958 in cash disbursements and other financing uses. During fiscal year 2024, the general fund's fund cash balance increased \$611,722 from \$8,986,567 to \$9,598,289.

Using the Cash Basis Basic Financial Statements (BFS)

This annual report is presented in a format consistent with the presentation requirements of the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 34, as applicable to the District's cash basis of accounting.

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

Reporting the District as a Whole

Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities

The statement of net position - cash basis and the statement of activities - cash basis answer the question, "How did the District do financially during fiscal year 2024?" These statements include only net position using the cash basis of accounting, which is a basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. This basis of accounting takes into account only the current year's receipts and disbursements if the cash is actually received or paid.

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

As a result of the use of the cash basis of accounting, certain assets and their related revenues (such as accounts receivable and revenue for billed or provided services and not collected), liabilities and their related expenses (such as accounts payable and

**RIDGEMONT LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
HARDIN COUNTY, OHIO**

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

expenses for goods or services received but not yet paid, and accrued expenses and liabilities) and deferred inflows and outflows of resources are not recorded in these financial statements. Therefore, when reviewing the financial information and discussion within this annual report, the reader should keep in mind the limitations resulting from the use of the cash basis of accounting.

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

Reporting the District's Most Significant Funds

Fund Financial Statements

The analysis of the District's major governmental funds begins on page 11. Fund financial reports provide detailed information about the District's major funds. The District uses many funds to account for a multitude of financial transactions. However, these fund financial statements focus on the District's most significant funds. The District's major governmental fund is the general fund.

Governmental Funds

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 the cash basis of accounting, which is a basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. The governmental fund statements provide a detailed view of the District's operations and the basic services it provides. Governmental fund information helps to determine whether there are more or fewer cash basis financial resources that can be readily spent to finance various District programs.

Fiduciary Funds

Fiduciary funds are used to account for resources held for the benefit of parties outside the District. 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 District does not currently have any fiduciary funds.

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements

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

Supplementary Information

In addition to the basic financial statements and accompanying notes, this report also presents certain supplementary information concerning the District's general fund budgetary information.

The District as a Whole

The table below provides a summary of the District's net cash position at June 30, 2024 and June 30, 2023:

**RIDGEMONT LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
HARDIN COUNTY, OHIO**

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

	Net Cash Position	
	Governmental Activities <u>2024</u>	Governmental Activities <u>2023</u>
<u>Assets</u>		
Current assets	\$ 11,823,429	\$ 10,300,010
<u>Net Cash Position</u>		
Restricted	1,239,000	1,322,103
Unrestricted	<u>10,584,429</u>	<u>8,977,907</u>
Total net cash position	<u>\$ 11,823,429</u>	<u>\$ 10,300,010</u>

Total net cash position of the District increased \$1,523,419, which represents an 14.79% increase from the net cash position at June 30, 2023. A portion of the District's net cash position, \$1,239,000, represents resources that are subject to external restriction on how they may be used. The remaining balance of unrestricted net cash position of \$10,584,429 may be used to meet the District's ongoing obligations to the students and creditors.

The table below shows the changes in net cash position for fiscal years 2024 and 2023:

	Change in Net Cash Position	
	Governmental Activities <u>2024</u>	Governmental Activities <u>2023</u>
<u>Cash receipts:</u>		
Program cash receipts:		
Charges for services and sales	\$ 432,204	\$ 414,927
Operating grants and contributions	1,469,532	1,700,449
Capital grants and contributions	47,982	130,144
General cash receipts:		
Property taxes	2,536,363	2,403,875
Income taxes	1,502,825	1,444,537
Grants and entitlements		
Unrestricted	3,924,265	3,600,936
Earnings on investments	547,119	312,556
Miscellaneous	<u>72,864</u>	<u>58,935</u>
Total cash receipts	<u>\$ 10,533,154</u>	<u>\$ 10,066,359</u>

Continued

**RIDGEMONT LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
HARDIN COUNTY, OHIO**

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

Change in Net Cash Position (Continued)

	Governmental Activities <u>2024</u>	Governmental Activities <u>2023</u>
<u>Cash disbursements:</u>		
Current:		
Instruction:		
Regular	\$ 2,813,017	\$ 2,564,676
Special	1,094,020	1,018,332
Vocational	257,138	217,910
Other	16,242	3,522
Support services:		
Pupil	533,043	507,467
Instructional staff	177,694	226,785
Board of education	39,158	18,636
Administration	801,530	658,708
Fiscal	380,595	363,467
Operations and maintenance	1,104,995	1,431,310
Pupil transportation	461,050	673,691
Central	40,079	38,416
Operation of non-instructional services:		
Other non-instructional services	50,414	4,371
Food service operations	399,875	352,949
Extracurricular activities	336,923	350,059
Facilities acquisition and construction	155,787	272,757
Debt service:		
Principal retirement	185,000	190,000
Interest and fiscal charges	163,175	165,050
Total cash disbursements	<u>9,009,735</u>	<u>9,058,106</u>
Change in net cash position	1,523,419	1,008,253
Net cash position at beginning of year	<u>10,300,010</u>	<u>9,291,757</u>
Net cash position at end of year	<u><u>\$ 11,823,429</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 10,300,010</u></u>

Governmental Activities

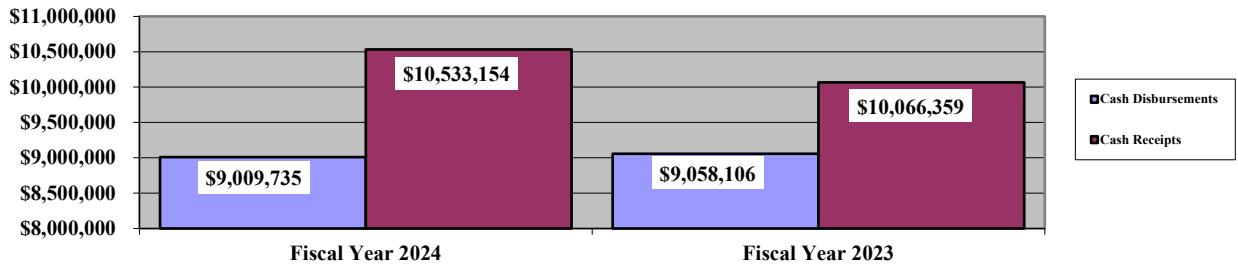
Net cash position of the District's governmental activities increased \$1,523,419. Total governmental cash disbursements of \$9,009,735 were offset by program cash receipts of \$1,949,718 and general cash receipts of \$8,583,436. Program cash receipts supported 21.64% of the total governmental cash disbursements.

The primary sources of cash receipts for governmental activities are derived from property taxes, income taxes and unrestricted grants and entitlements. These cash receipt sources represent 75.60% of total governmental cash receipts. The largest cash disbursement category of the District is for instructional programs. Instruction cash disbursements totaled \$4,180,417 or 46.40% of total governmental cash disbursements for fiscal year 2024. The increase in cash receipts and cash disbursements was due to increased spending and better rates on investments.

**RIDGEMONT LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
HARDIN COUNTY, OHIO**

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

Governmental Activities - Total Cash Receipts vs. Total Cash Disbursements



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**RIDGEMONT LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
HARDIN COUNTY, OHIO**

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

The statement of activities - cash basis shows the cost of program services and the charges for services and grants offsetting those services. The following table shows, for governmental activities, the total cost of services and the net cost of services for fiscal years 2024 and 2023. That is, it identifies the cost of these services supported by tax receipts and unrestricted State grants and entitlements.

Governmental Activities

	Total Cost of Services <u>2024</u>	Net Cost of Services <u>2024</u>	Total Cost of Services <u>2023</u>	Net Cost of Services <u>2023</u>
Cash disbursements:				
Instruction:				
Regular	\$ 2,813,017	\$ 2,530,884	\$ 2,564,676	\$ 2,268,343
Special	1,094,020	618,993	1,018,332	574,010
Vocational	257,138	151,923	217,910	131,557
Other	16,242	13,178	3,522	1,148
Support services:				
Pupil	533,043	125,814	507,467	170,978
Instructional staff	177,694	154,853	226,785	155,599
Board of education	39,158	39,158	18,636	18,636
Administration	801,530	795,623	658,708	654,742
Fiscal	380,595	379,946	363,467	349,474
Operations and maintenance	1,104,995	1,101,961	1,431,310	1,301,249
Pupil transportation	461,050	409,227	673,691	357,642
Central	40,079	40,079	38,416	33,128
Operation of non-instructional services:				
Other non-instructional services	50,414	50,414	4,371	(968)
Food service operations	399,875	426	352,949	4,371
Extracurricular activities	336,923	143,576	350,059	164,870
Facilities acquisition and construction	155,787	155,787	272,757	272,757
Debt service:				
Principal retirement	185,000	185,000	190,000	190,000
Interest and fiscal charges	163,175	163,175	165,050	165,050
Total	<u><u>\$ 9,009,735</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 7,060,017</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 9,058,106</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 6,812,586</u></u>

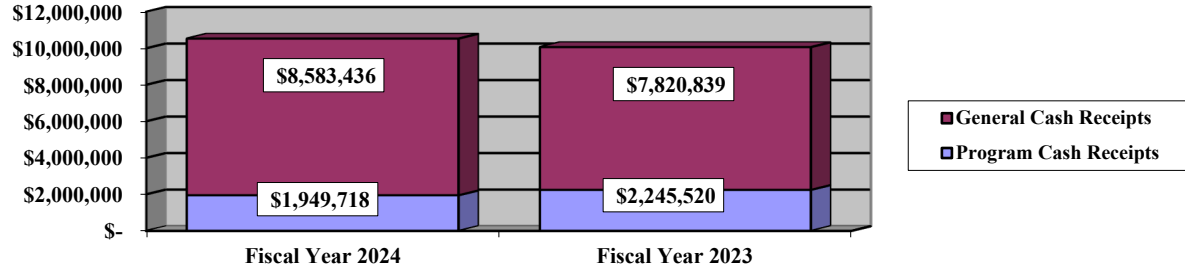
The dependence upon tax and other general cash receipts for governmental activities is apparent, 79.30% of instructional activities are supported through taxes and other general cash receipts. For all governmental activities, general cash receipt support is 78.36%. The District's taxpayers and unrestricted grants and entitlements are by far the primary support for the District's students.

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

**RIDGEMONT LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
HARDIN COUNTY, OHIO**

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

Governmental Activities - General and Program Cash Receipts



The District's Funds

The District's governmental funds reported a combined fund cash balance of \$11,823,429, which is \$1,523,419 higher than last year's total fund cash balance of \$10,300,010. The schedule below indicates the fund cash balance and the total change in fund cash balance as of June 30, 2024 and June 30, 2023.

	Fund Cash Balance <u>June 30, 2024</u>	Fund Cash Balance <u>June 30, 2023</u>	<u>Change</u>
General	\$ 9,598,289	\$ 8,986,567	\$ 611,722
Other governmental	<u>2,225,140</u>	<u>1,313,443</u>	<u>911,697</u>
Total	<u>\$ 11,823,429</u>	<u>\$ 10,300,010</u>	<u>\$ 1,523,419</u>

General Fund

The District's general fund cash balance increased \$611,722 during fiscal year 2024.

The table that follows assists in illustrating the financial activities and fund cash balance of the general fund.

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**RIDGEMONT LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
HARDIN COUNTY, OHIO**

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

	<u>2024</u> <u>Amount</u>	<u>2023</u> <u>Amount</u>	<u>Change</u>	<u>Percentage</u> <u>Change</u>
<u>Cash receipts</u>				
Taxes	\$ 3,693,834	\$ 3,491,011	\$ 202,823	5.81 %
Tuition	84,452	76,194	8,258	10.84 %
Earnings on investments	547,119	312,556	234,563	75.05 %
Intergovernmental	4,468,697	4,019,716	448,981	11.17 %
Other receipts	<u>88,330</u>	<u>87,886</u>	<u>444</u>	0.51 %
Total	<u>\$ 8,882,432</u>	<u>\$ 7,987,363</u>	<u>\$ 895,069</u>	11.21 %
<u>Cash disbursements</u>				
Instruction	\$ 3,749,803	\$ 3,453,665	\$ 296,138	8.57 %
Support services	3,209,236	3,427,888	(218,652)	(6.38) %
Non-instructional services	2,432	4,371	(1,939)	(44.36) %
Extracurricular activities	165,527	181,987	(16,460)	(9.04) %
Facilities acquisition and construction	<u>143,960</u>	<u>18,765</u>	<u>125,195</u>	667.17 %
Total	<u>\$ 7,270,958</u>	<u>\$ 7,086,676</u>	<u>\$ 184,282</u>	2.60 %

Overall cash receipts increased \$895,069 or 11.21% during fiscal year 2024. Earnings on investments increased \$234,563 from fiscal year 2023 due to higher interest rates earned on investments specifically STAR Ohio. Intergovernmental increased \$448,981 from fiscal year 2024 due to an increase in grants received.

Overall cash disbursements increased \$184,282 or 2.60% during fiscal year 2024. The increase in instruction is due to increased costs related to wages for employees.

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.

For the general fund, final budgetary basis receipts and other financing sources of \$8,955,870 were \$599,222 higher than original budget estimates of \$8,356,648. The actual budgetary basis receipts and other financing sources of \$8,869,374 were \$86,496 lower than the final budgetary basis receipts of \$8,955,870. The final budgetary basis disbursements and other financing uses of \$8,888,666 were \$1,093,864 higher than original budget estimates of \$7,794,802. The actual budgetary basis disbursements and other financing uses of \$8,578,823 were \$309,843 less than the final budget estimates.

Capital Assets and Debt Administration

Capital Assets

The District does not record capital assets in the accompanying cash basis basic financial statements, but records payments for capital assets as cash disbursements. The District had facilities acquisition and construction cash disbursements of \$155,787 during fiscal year 2024.

Debt Administration

At June 30, 2024, the District had \$5,305,000 in current interest bonds. Of this total, \$190,000 is due within one year and \$5,115,000 is due in more than one year. The following table summarizes the debt outstanding.

**RIDGEMONT LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
HARDIN COUNTY, OHIO**

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

Outstanding Debt, Year End

	Governmental Activities <u>2024</u>	Governmental Activities <u>2023</u>
Current interest bonds - Series 2021 Refunding	\$ 5,305,000	\$ 5,490,000
Total	<u>\$ 5,305,000</u>	<u>\$ 5,490,000</u>

See Note 7 to the basic financial statements for detail on the District's debt administration.

Current Financial Related Activities

The District faces many challenges in the future. As the preceding information shows, the District relies heavily upon grants and entitlements and property taxes. Another challenge facing the District is the future of state funding. The State of Ohio was found by the Ohio Supreme Court in March 1997 to be operating an unconstitutional educational system, one that was neither "adequate" nor "equitable." Since 1997, the State has directed its tax revenue growth toward schools' districts with little property tax wealth. On December 11, 2004, the Ohio Supreme Court issued an opinion regarding the State's school funding plan. The decision reaffirmed earlier decisions that Ohio's current school-funding plan is unconstitutional. Since then, the Ohio Supreme Court has relinquished jurisdiction over the case and directed the Ohio General Assembly to enact school funding plan that is thorough and efficient. The District is currently unable to determine what effect, if any, this decision will have on its future State funding and its financial operations.

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 Ms. Melissa Pollom, Treasurer, Ridgemont Local Schools, 560 W. Taylor Street, Mount Victory, OH 43340.

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**RIDGEMONT LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
HARDIN COUNTY, OHIO**

STATEMENT OF NET POSITION - CASH BASIS
JUNE 30, 2024

	<u>Governmental Activities</u>
Assets:	
Equity in pooled cash and cash equivalents	\$ 11,823,429
Total assets	<u><u>\$ 11,823,429</u></u>
Net position:	
Restricted for:	
Capital projects	\$ 429,653
Classroom facilities maintenance	434,080
Debt service	226,581
State funded programs	5,000
Food service operations	70,279
Student activities	64,311
Other purposes	9,096
Unrestricted	<u>10,584,429</u>
Total net position	<u><u>\$ 11,823,429</u></u>

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**RIDGEMONT LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
HARDIN COUNTY, OHIO**

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES - CASH BASIS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

					Net (Disbursements) Receipts and Changes in Net Cash Position
	Disbursements	Charges for Services and Sales	Program Receipts Operating Grants and Contributions	Capital Grants and Contributions	Total
Governmental activities:					
Instruction:					
Regular	\$ 2,813,017	\$ 30,087	\$ 252,046	\$ -	\$ (2,530,884)
Special	1,094,020	54,365	420,662	-	(618,993)
Vocational	257,138	-	105,215	-	(151,923)
Other	16,242	-	3,064	-	(13,178)
Support services:					
Pupil	533,043	-	407,229	-	(125,814)
Instructional staff	177,694	-	22,841	-	(154,853)
Board of education	39,158	-	-	-	(39,158)
Administration	801,530	-	5,907	-	(795,623)
Fiscal	380,595	-	649	-	(379,946)
Operations and maintenance	1,104,995	383	2,651	-	(1,101,961)
Pupil transportation	461,050	-	51,823	-	(409,227)
Central	40,079	-	-	-	(40,079)
Operation of non-instructional services:					
Food service operations	399,875	159,230	192,237	47,982	(426)
Other non-instructional services	50,414	-	-	-	(50,414)
Extracurricular activities	336,923	188,139	5,208	-	(143,576)
Facilities acquisition and construction	155,787	-	-	-	(155,787)
Debt service:					
Principal retirement	185,000	-	-	-	(185,000)
Interest and fiscal charges	163,175	-	-	-	(163,175)
Total governmental activities	<u>\$ 9,009,735</u>	<u>\$ 432,204</u>	<u>\$ 1,469,532</u>	<u>47,982</u>	<u>(7,060,017)</u>

General receipts:

Property taxes levied for:

 General purposes

2,191,009

 Debt service

310,702

 Special revenue

34,652

Income taxes levied for general purposes

1,502,825

Grants and entitlements:

 Unrestricted

3,924,265

Earnings on investments

547,119

Miscellaneous

72,864

Total general receipts

8,583,436

Change in net position

1,523,419

Net position at beginning of year

10,300,010

Net position at end of year

\$ 11,823,429

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**RIDGEMONT LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
HARDIN COUNTY, OHIO**

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND FUND BALANCES - CASH BASIS
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
JUNE 30, 2024

	<u>General</u>	<u>Nonmajor Governmental Funds</u>	<u>Total Governmental Funds</u>
Assets:			
Equity in pooled cash and cash equivalents	\$ 9,598,289	\$ 2,225,140	\$ 11,823,429
Total assets	<u>\$ 9,598,289</u>	<u>\$ 2,225,140</u>	<u>\$ 11,823,429</u>
Fund Balances:			
Nonspendable:			
Unclaimed monies	\$ 895	\$ -	\$ 895
Restricted:			
Debt service	-	226,581	226,581
Capital projects	-	429,653	429,653
Classroom facilities maintenance	-	434,080	434,080
Food service operations	-	70,279	70,279
State funded programs	-	5,000	5,000
Extracurricular	-	64,311	64,311
Other purposes	-	8,201	8,201
Assigned:			
Student instruction	5,317	-	5,317
Student and staff support	314,364	-	314,364
Extracurricular activities	-	-	-
Facilities acquisition and construction	38,732	-	38,732
Capital projects	-	1,000,000	1,000,000
Unassigned (deficit)	<u>9,238,981</u>	<u>(12,965)</u>	<u>9,226,016</u>
Total fund balances	<u>\$ 9,598,289</u>	<u>\$ 2,225,140</u>	<u>\$ 11,823,429</u>

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**RIDGEMONT LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
HARDIN COUNTY, OHIO**

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES - CASH BASIS
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

	General	Nonmajor Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
Receipts:			
Property taxes	\$ 2,191,009	\$ 345,354	\$ 2,536,363
Income taxes	1,502,825	-	1,502,825
Intergovernmental	4,468,697	959,686	5,428,383
Investment earnings	547,119	-	547,119
Tuition and fees	84,452	-	84,452
Extracurricular	15,061	173,056	188,117
Rental income	383	-	383
Charges for services	-	159,230	159,230
Contributions and donations	22	1,500	1,522
Miscellaneous	72,864	11,896	84,760
Total receipts	<u>8,882,432</u>	<u>1,650,722</u>	<u>10,533,154</u>
Disbursements:			
Current:			
Instruction:			
Regular	2,564,506	248,511	2,813,017
Special	952,310	141,710	1,094,020
Vocational	219,680	37,458	257,138
Other	13,307	2,935	16,242
Support services:			
Pupil	328,941	204,102	533,043
Instructional staff	149,619	28,075	177,694
Board of education	39,158	-	39,158
Administration	795,623	5,907	801,530
Fiscal	373,709	6,886	380,595
Operations and maintenance	1,021,057	83,938	1,104,995
Pupil transportation	461,050	-	461,050
Central	40,079	-	40,079
Operation of non-instructional services:			
Food service operations	-	399,875	399,875
Other non-instructional services	2,432	47,982	50,414
Extracurricular activities	165,527	171,396	336,923
Facilities acquisition and construction	143,960	11,827	155,787
Debt service:			
Principal retirement	-	185,000	185,000
Interest and fiscal charges	-	163,175	163,175
Total disbursements	<u>7,270,958</u>	<u>1,738,777</u>	<u>9,009,735</u>
Excess (deficiency) of receipts over (under) disbursements	<u>1,611,474</u>	<u>(88,055)</u>	<u>1,523,419</u>
Other financing sources (uses):			
Transfers in	-	1,000,000	1,000,000
Transfers (out)	(1,000,000)	-	(1,000,000)
Advances in	248	-	248
Advances (out)	-	(248)	(248)
Total other financing sources (uses)	<u>(999,752)</u>	<u>999,752</u>	<u>-</u>
Net change in fund balances	611,722	911,697	1,523,419
Fund balances at beginning of year	<u>8,986,567</u>	<u>1,313,443</u>	<u>10,300,010</u>
Fund balances at end of year	<u><u>\$ 9,598,289</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 2,225,140</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 11,823,429</u></u>

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**RIDGEMONT LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
HARDIN COUNTY, OHIO**

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

NOTE 1 - DESCRIPTION OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT AND REPORTING ENTITY

The Ridgemont Local School District (the “District”) is organized under Article VI, Sections 2 and 3 of the Constitution of the State of Ohio. The District operates under an elected Board of Education (5 members) elected at-large for staggered four year terms. The District provides educational services as authorized by state statute and/or federal guidelines. Average daily membership (ADM) as of June 30, 2024 was 465. The District employed 5 administrators, 39 certificated employees and 22 non-certified employees.

Reporting Entity

A reporting entity is comprised of the primary government, component units, and other organizations that are included to ensure that the financials are not misleading. The primary government of the District consists of all funds, departments, boards, and agencies that are not legally separate from the District.

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

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

JOINTLY GOVERNED ORGANIZATIONS

Western Ohio Computer Organization

WOCO is a jointly governed organization composed of 28 school districts, 3 educational service centers, 3 parochial schools and 4 community schools. It was formed for the purpose of applying modern technology with the aid of computers and other electronic equipment to the administrative and instructional functions among member districts. Each of the governments of these schools supports WOCO based upon a per pupil charge dependent upon the software package utilized. In the event of dissolution of the organization, all current members will share in net obligations or asset liquidations in a ratio proportionate to their last twelve months financial contributions. WOCO is governed by a Board of Directors consisting of superintendents of the members school districts. The degree of control exercised by any participating school district is limited to its representation on the board. In accordance with GASB Statements Nos. 14 and 61, the Center does not have an equity interest in WOCO as the residual interest in the net resources of an organization upon dissolution is not equivalent to an equity interest. Financial information can be obtained from WOCO, at 129 East Court Street, Sidney, Ohio 45365.

Ohio Hi-Point Career Center

The Ohio Hi-Point Career Center is a distinct political subdivision of the State of Ohio. The Career Center is operated under the direction of a Board consisting of one representative from each of the participating school districts’ elected boards. The Board possesses its own budgeting and taxing authority. Financial information is available from the Ohio Hi-Point Career Center, 2280 State Route 540, Suite A, Bellefontaine, Ohio 43311.

INSURANCE POOL

Hardin County School Employees’ Health and Welfare Benefit Plan and Trust

The Hardin County School Employees’ Health and Welfare Benefit Plan and Trust (the “Trust”) is a public entity shared risk pool consisting of seven school districts and the Ada Public Library. The Trust is organized as a Voluntary Employee Benefit association under Section 501(C)(9) of the Internal Revenue Code and provides sick, accident and other benefits to the employees of the participating school districts. Each participating school district’s superintendent is appointed to an Administrative Committee, which advises of the Trustee, Ohio Bank, concerning aspects of the administration of the Trust.

**RIDGEMONT LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
HARDIN COUNTY, OHIO**

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

NOTE 1 - DESCRIPTION OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT AND REPORTING ENTITY - (Continued)

Each school district and the District decides which plans offered by the Administrative Committee will be extended to its employees. Participation in the Trust is by written application subject to acceptance by the Administrative Committee and payment of the monthly premiums. Financial information may be obtained from Jefferson Health plan. Contact Mark Schlagheck, Chief Fiscal Officer at 2023 Sunset Boulevard, Steubenville, OH 43952.

RELATED ORGANIZATION

Ridgemont Public Library

The Ridgemont Public Library (the "Library") is a distinct political subdivision of the State of Ohio created under Chapter 3375 of the Ohio Revised Code. The Library is governed by a Board of Trustees appointed by the District's Board of Education. The Board of Trustees possessed its own contracting and budgeting authority, hires and fires personnel, and does not depend on the District for operational subsidies. Although the District serves as the taxing authority and may issue tax related debt on behalf of the Library, its role is limited to a ministerial function. The determination to request approval of a tax, the rate, and the purpose are discretionary decisions made solely by the Board of Trustees. Financial information may be obtained from the Ridgemont Public Library at 124 East Taylor Street, Mt. Victory, Ohio, 43340.

NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

As discussed in Note 2.C, these financial statements are presented on the cash basis of accounting. The cash basis of accounting differs from accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP). GAAP includes all relevant Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) pronouncements. In cases where these cash statements contain items that are the same as, or similar to, those items in financial statements prepared in conformity with GAAP, similar informative disclosures are provided. Following are the more significant of the District's accounting policies.

A. Basis of Presentation

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

The government-wide statement of activities compares disbursements with program receipts for each function or program of the District's governmental activities. These disbursements are those that are specifically associated with a service, program or department and are therefore clearly identifiable to a particular function. Program receipts include charges paid by the recipient of the goods or services offered by the program and grants and contributions that are restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular program. Receipts which are not classified as program receipts are presented as general receipts of the District. The comparison of direct disbursements with program receipts identifies the extent to which each business segment or governmental function is self-financing on the cash basis or draws from the general receipts of the District.

All cash assets associated with the operation of the District are included on the statement of net position.

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

**RIDGEMONT LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
HARDIN COUNTY, OHIO**

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

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

B. Fund Accounting

The District uses funds to maintain its financial records during the year. Fund accounting is designed to demonstrate legal compliance and to aid management by segregating transactions related to certain District functions or activities. A fund is defined as a fiscal and accounting entity with a self-balancing set of accounts. There are three categories of funds: governmental, proprietary and fiduciary.

GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS

Governmental funds are those through which most governmental functions typically are financed. Governmental fund reporting focuses on the sources, uses and balances of current financial resources. Expendable assets are assigned to the various governmental funds according to the purposes for which they may or must be used. The following is the District's major governmental fund:

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

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

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

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

Nonmajor debt service funds - Debt service funds are used to account for and report financial resources that are restricted, committed, or assigned to expenditure for principal and interest.

PROPRIETARY FUNDS

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

FIDUCIARY FUNDS

Fiduciary fund reporting focuses on Net Position and changes in Net Position. The fiduciary fund category is split into four classifications: pension trust funds, investment trust funds, private-purpose trust funds and agency funds. Trust funds are used to account for assets held by the District under a trust agreement for individuals, private organizations, or other governments and are therefore not available to support the District's own programs. Custodial funds account for monies held on behalf of others that do not meet the definition of a trust fund. The District did not have any fiduciary funds.

C. Basis of Accounting

Although Ohio Administrative Code § 117-2-03(B) requires the District's financial report to follow generally accepted accounting principles, the District chooses to prepare its financial statements and notes in accordance with the cash basis of accounting, which is a comprehensive basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. The District recognizes receipts when received in cash rather than when earned and recognizes disbursements when paid rather than when a liability is incurred.

**RIDGEMONT LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
HARDIN COUNTY, OHIO**

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

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

Budgetary presentations report budgetary cash disbursements when a commitment is made (i.e. when an encumbrance is approved). The difference between disbursements reported in the fund and entity wide statements and disbursements reported in the budgetary schedule are due to current year encumbrances being added to disbursements reported on the budgetary schedule.

These statements include adequate disclosure of material matters, in accordance with the basis of accounting described in the preceding paragraph.

D. Budgetary Process

All funds, other than custodial funds, are legally required to be budgeted and appropriated. The major documents prepared are the tax budget, the appropriation 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 amounts that the Board of Education may appropriate. The appropriation resolution is the Board's authorization to spend resources and set annual limits on expenditures plus encumbrances at a level of control selected by the Board. The legal level of control has been established by the Board of Education at the fund level.

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

The appropriation resolution is subject to amendment by the Board throughout the year with the restriction that appropriations may not exceed estimated revenues. The amounts reported as the original budgeted amounts reflect the first appropriation for that fund that covered the entire year, including amounts automatically carried over from prior years. The amounts reported as the final budgeted amounts represent the final appropriation amounts passed by the Board during the year.

E. Cash and Investments

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

During fiscal year 2024, investments were limited to commercial paper, Farm Federal Credit Bank (FFCB) securities, Federal Home Loan Bank (FHLB) securities, Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation (FHLMC) securities, U.S. Treasury Notes, Negotiable CDs, investments in the State Treasury Asset Reserve of Ohio (STAR Ohio) and a U.S. Government money market account.

The District invested in STAR Ohio. STAR Ohio (the State Treasury Asset Reserve of Ohio), is an investment pool managed by the State Treasurer's Office which allows governments within the State to pool their funds for investment purposes. STAR Ohio is not registered with the SEC as an investment company, but has adopted Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB), Statement No. 79, "Certain External Investment Pools and Pool Participants." The District measures their investment in STAR Ohio at the net asset value (NAV) per share provided by STAR Ohio. The NAV per share is calculated on an amortized cost basis that provides an NAV per share that approximates fair value.

There were no limitations or restrictions on any participant withdrawals due to redemption notice periods, liquidity fees, or redemption gates. However, 24 hours notice in advance of all deposits and withdrawals exceeding \$100 million is encouraged. STAR Ohio reserves the right to limit the transaction to \$250 million, requiring the excess amount to be transacted the following business day(s), but only to the \$250 million limit. All accounts of the participant will be combined for these purposes.

**RIDGEMONT LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
HARDIN COUNTY, OHIO**

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

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

Following Ohio statutes, the Board of Education has, by resolution, specified the funds to receive an allocation of interest earnings. Interest revenue credited to the general fund during year 2024 amounted to \$547,119, which includes \$71,622 assigned from other funds.

For presentation on the financial statements, investments of the cash management pool and investments with an original maturity of three months or less at the time they are purchased by the District are considered to be cash equivalents. Investments with an initial maturity of more than three months that are not purchased from the pool are reported as investments.

Investments are reported as assets. Accordingly, purchases of investments are not recorded as disbursements and sales of investments are not recorded as receipts. Gains or losses at the time of sale are recorded as receipts or negative receipts (contra revenue), respectively.

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

F. Inventory and Prepaid Items

The District reports cash disbursements for inventory and prepaid items when paid. These items are not reflected as assets in the accompanying financial statements.

G. Capital Assets

Acquisitions of property, plant, and equipment purchased are recorded as disbursements when paid. These items are not reflected as assets on the accompanying financial statements.

H. Interfund Balances

On fund financial statements, the District reports advances in and advances out for interfund loans. These items are not reflected as assets and liabilities in the accompanying fund financial statements under the cash basis of accounting. Advances are eliminated in the governmental activities' column on the statement of net position.

I. Compensated Absences

Compensated absences of the District consist of vacation leave and sick leave. Employees are entitled to cash payments for unused vacation and sick leave in certain circumstances, such as upon leaving employment. Unpaid vacation and sick leave are not reflected as liabilities under the cash basis of accounting.

J. Long-Term Obligations

Bonds and other long-term obligations are not recognized as a liability in the financial statements under the cash basis of accounting. These statements report proceeds of debt when cash is received, and debt service disbursements for debt principal and interest payments. Since recording a capital asset (including the intangible right to use) when entering into a lease, financed purchase transaction, or Subscription Based Information Technology Arrangement (SBITA) is not the result of a cash transaction, neither an other financing source nor a capital outlay expenditure is reported at inception. Lease payments, financed purchase payments, and SBITA payments are reported when paid.

K. Fund Cash Balance

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

**RIDGEMONT LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
HARDIN COUNTY, OHIO**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

L. Restricted Assets

Assets are reported as restricted assets when limitations on their use change the normal understanding of the availability of the asset. Such constraints are either imposed by creditors, contributors, grantors, or laws of other governments or imposed by enabling legislation. The District did not have any restricted assets at June 30, 2024.

M. Net Cash Position

Net cash position is reported as restricted when there are limitations imposed on their use either through enabling legislation or through external restrictions imposed by creditors, grantors or laws or regulations of other governments. Net cash position restricted for other purposes include amounts restricted for unclaimed monies, special trusts, and other grant funds. The District did not have any net cash position restricted by enabling legislation at June 30, 2024.

N. Interfund Activity

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

**RIDGEMONT LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
HARDIN COUNTY, OHIO**

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

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

O. Extraordinary and Special Items

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

P. Pensions/Other Postemployment Benefits (OPEB)

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

Q. Subscription Based Information Technology Arrangements (SBITAs)

The District has Subscription Based Information Technology Arrangements (SBITAs) under noncancelable arrangements. SBITA payables are not reflected under the District's cash basis of accounting. SBITA disbursements are recognized when paid.

NOTE 3 - ACCOUNTABILITY AND COMPLIANCE

A. Change in Accounting Principles

For fiscal year 2024, the District has implemented certain paragraphs of GASB Implementation Guide No. 2021-1, certain paragraphs of GASB Statement No. 99, "*Omnibus 2022*", GASB Statement No. 100, "*Accounting Changes and Error Corrections - an amendment of GASB Statement No. 62*" and Implementation Guide No. 2023-1.

GASB Implementation Guide 2021-1 provides clarification on issues related to previously established GASB guidance. The implementation of GASB Implementation Guide 2021-1 did not have an effect on the financial statements of the District.

GASB Statement No. 99 is to enhance comparability in accounting and financial reporting and to improve the consistency of authoritative literature by addressing (1) practice issues that have been identified during implementation and application of certain GASB Statements and (2) accounting and financial reporting for financial guarantees. The implementation of GASB Statement No. 99 did not have an effect on the financial statements of the District.

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

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

**RIDGEMONT LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
HARDIN COUNTY, OHIO**

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

NOTE 3 - ACCOUNTABILITY AND COMPLIANCE – (Continued)

B. Compliance

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

C. Deficit Fund Balances

Fund balances at June 30, 2024 included the following individual fund deficits:

<u>Nonmajor governmental funds</u>	<u>Deficit</u>
Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief	\$ 3,585
School Improvement Stimulus A	339
Improving Teacher Quality	4,783
Miscellaneous Federal Grants	4,258

The deficit fund balances resulted from a lag between disbursements made by the District and reimbursements from grantors and are allowable under Ohio Revised Code Section 3315.20.

NOTE 4 - DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS

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

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

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

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

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

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

1. United States Treasury Notes, Bills, Bonds, or any other obligation or security issued by the United States Treasury or any other obligation guaranteed as to principal and interest by the United States;
2. Bonds, notes, debentures, or any other obligations or securities issued by any federal government agency or instrumentality, including, but not limited to, the Federal National Mortgage Association, Federal Home Loan Bank, Federal Farm Credit Bank, Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation, and Government National Mortgage Association.. All federal agency securities shall be direct issuances of federal government agencies or instrumentalities;

**RIDGEMONT LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
HARDIN COUNTY, OHIO**

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

NOTE 4 - DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS – (Continued)

3. Written repurchase agreements in the securities listed above provided that the fair value of the securities subject to the repurchase agreement must exceed the principal value of the agreement by at least two percent and be marked to market daily, and that the term of the agreement must not exceed thirty days;
4. Bonds and other obligations of the State of Ohio, and with certain limitations including a requirement for maturity within ten years from the date of settlement, bonds and other obligations of political subdivisions of the State of Ohio, if training requirements have been met;
5. Time certificates of deposit or savings or deposit accounts including, but not limited to, passbook accounts;
6. No-load money market mutual funds consisting exclusively of obligations described in items (1) and (2) above and repurchase agreements secured by such obligations, provided that investments in securities described in this division are made only through eligible institutions;
7. The State Treasurer's investment pool, the State Treasury Asset Reserve of Ohio (STAR Ohio);
8. Certain banker's acceptances (for a period not to exceed one hundred eighty days) and commercial paper notes (for a period not to exceed two hundred seventy days) in an amount not to exceed 40 percent of the interim monies available for investment at any one time if training requirements have been met.

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

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

A. Cash on Hand

At year end, the District had \$1,775 in undeposited cash on hand which is included on the financial statements of the District as part of "equity in pooled cash and cash equivalents".

B. Deposits with Financial Institutions

At June 30, 2024, the carrying amount of all District deposits was \$101,604 and the bank balance of all District deposits was \$293,238. Of the bank balance, \$250,000 was covered by the FDIC and \$43,238 was potentially exposed to custodial credit risk discussed below because those deposits were uninsured and could be uncollateralized. Although all statutory requirements for the deposit of money had been followed, noncompliance with Federal requirements could potentially subject the District to a successful claim by the FDIC.

Custodial credit risk is the risk that, in the event of bank failure, the District will not be able to recover deposits or collateral securities that are in the possession of an outside party. The District has no deposit policy for custodial credit risk beyond the requirements of State statute.

**RIDGEMONT LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
HARDIN COUNTY, OHIO**

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

NOTE 4 - DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS - (Continued)

Ohio law requires that deposits either be insured or protected by (1) eligible securities pledged to the District and deposited with a qualified trustee by the financial institution as security for repayment whose fair value at all times shall be at least 105 percent of the deposits being secured, or (2) participation in the Ohio Pooled Collateral System (OPCS), a collateral pool of eligible securities deposited with a qualified trustee and pledged to the Treasurer of State to secure the repayment of all public monies deposited in the financial institution. OPCS requires the total fair value of the securities pledged to be 102 percent of the deposits being secured or a reduced rate set by the Treasurer of State.

C. Investments

As of June 30, 2024, the District had the following investment and maturity:

Investment type	Carrying Amount	Investment Maturities				
		6 months or less	7 to 12 months	13 to 18 months	19 to 24 months	Greater than 24 months
STAR Ohio	\$ 8,567,214	\$ 8,567,214	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
FHLB	1,064,918	224,970	209,986	149,962	-	480,000
FHLMC	278,725	-	148,725	-	-	130,000
FFCB	99,931	-	-	99,931	-	-
US Treasury Notes	588,482	-	-	-	99,797	488,685
Negotiable CDs	234,600	-	-	124,875	-	109,725
Commercial Paper	883,449	739,279	144,170	-	-	-
Government Money Market	2,731	2,731	-	-	-	-
Total	<u>\$ 11,720,050</u>	<u>\$ 9,534,194</u>	<u>\$ 502,881</u>	<u>\$ 374,768</u>	<u>\$ 99,797</u>	<u>\$ 1,208,410</u>

The weighted average maturity of investments is 0.54 years

Interest Rate Risk: Interest rate risk arises because potential purchasers of debt securities will not agree to pay face value for those securities if interest rates substantially increase. The District has no policy limiting investment maturities as a means of managing its exposure to fair value losses arising from increasing interest rates. State statute requires that an investment mature within five years from the date of purchase, unless matched to a specific obligation or debt of the District, and that investment must be purchased with the expectation that it will be held to maturity.

Credit Risk: The District's investments in commercial paper were rated P-1 by Moody's Investor Services. The District's investments in federal agency securities were rated AA+ and Aaa by Standard & Poor's and Moody's Investor Services, respectively. Standard & Poor's has assigned STAR Ohio and the U.S. Government money market an AAAm money market rating. Ohio Law requires that STAR Ohio maintain the highest rating provided by at least one nationally recognized standard rating service. The District's investment policy does not specifically address credit risk beyond the adherence to all relevant sections of the Ohio Revised Code.

Custodial Credit Risk: For an investment, custodial credit risk is the risk that, in the event of the failure of the counterparty, the District will not be able to recover the value of its investments or collateral securities that are in the possession of an outside party. The federal agency securities are exposed to custodial credit risk in that they are uninsured, unregistered and held by the counterparty's trust department or agent, but not in the District's name. The District has no investment policy dealing with investment custodial risk beyond the requirement in State statute that prohibits payment for investments prior to the delivery of the securities representing such investments to the Treasurer or qualified trustee.

**RIDGEMONT LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
HARDIN COUNTY, OHIO**

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

NOTE 4 - DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS - (Continued)

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

<u>Investment type</u>	<u>Carrying Value</u>	<u>% of Total</u>
STAR Ohio	\$ 8,567,214	73.10
FHLB	1,064,918	9.09
FHLMC	278,725	2.38
FFCB	99,931	0.85
US Treasury Notes	588,482	5.02
Negotiable CDs	234,600	2.00
Commercial Paper	883,449	7.54
Government Money Market	2,731	0.02
	<u>\$ 11,720,050</u>	<u>100.00</u>

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

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

<u>Cash and investments per note disclosure</u>	
Carrying amount of deposits	\$ 101,604
Investments	11,720,050
Cash on hand	<u>1,775</u>
Total	<u>\$ 11,823,429</u>
<u>Cash and investments per statement of net position</u>	
Governmental activities	<u>\$ 11,823,429</u>

NOTE 5 - INTERFUND TRANSACTIONS

A. Advances for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024, as reported on the fund statements, consist of the following:

<u>Advances in</u>	<u>Advances out</u>	<u>Amount</u>
General	Nonmajor governmental	\$ 248

The primary purpose of the advances is to cover costs in specific funds where expected funds were not received by June 30. New advances are expected to be repaid once the anticipated funds are received.

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

**RIDGEMONT LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
HARDIN COUNTY, OHIO**

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

NOTE 5 - INTERFUND TRANSACTIONS - (Continued)

B. Transfers for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024, as reported on the fund statements, consist of the following:

<u>Transfers in</u>	<u>Transfers out</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Nonmajor governmental	General	<u>\$ 1,000,000</u>

Transfers are used to move cash receipts from the fund that statute or budget required to collect them to the fund that statute or budget requires to disburse them and to use unrestricted cash receipts collected in the general fund to finance various programs accounted for in other funds in accordance with budgetary authorizations. All transfers were made in compliance with Ohio Revised Code Sections 5705.14, 5705.15 and 5705.16.

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

NOTE 6 - TAXES

A. PROPERTY TAXES

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

Property taxes include amounts levied against all real property and public utility property. Real property tax revenues received in calendar year 2024 represent the collection of calendar year 2023 taxes. Real property taxes received in calendar year 2024 were levied after April 1, 2023, on the assessed values as of January 1, 2023, the lien date. Assessed values for real property taxes are established by State statute at 35 percent of appraised fair value. Real property taxes are payable annually or semiannually. If paid annually, payment is due December 31; if paid semiannually, the first payment is due December 31, with the remainder payable by June 20. Under certain circumstances, State statute permits alternate payment dates to be established. Public utility property tax revenues received in calendar year 2024 represent the collection of calendar year 2023 taxes. Public utility real and personal property taxes received in calendar year 2024 became a lien on December 31, 2022, were levied after April 1, 2023, and are collected with real property taxes. Public utility real property is assessed at 35 percent of true value; public utility tangible personal property is currently assessed at varying percentages of true value.

The District receives property taxes from Hardin and Logan Counties. The County Auditors periodically advance to the District its portion of the taxes collected. Second-half real property tax payments collected by the Counties by June 30, 2024, are available to finance fiscal year 2024 operations. The amount of second-half real property taxes available for advance at fiscal year-end can vary based on the date the tax bills are sent.

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

	2023 Second Half Collections		2024 First Half Collections	
	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Agricultural/residential and other real estate	\$ 84,048,580	89.58	\$ 115,346,910	91.84
Public utility personal	<u>9,774,390</u>	<u>10.42</u>	<u>10,243,100</u>	<u>8.16</u>
Total	<u>\$ 93,822,970</u>	<u>100.00</u>	<u>\$ 125,590,010</u>	<u>100.00</u>
Tax rate per \$1,000 of assessed valuation	\$35.30		\$34.30	

**RIDGEMONT LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
HARDIN COUNTY, OHIO**

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

NOTE 6 - TAXES (Continued)

B. INCOME TAXES

The District levies a voted tax of 1.75 percent for general operations on the residents and estates. A portion of the tax (1 percent) was effective on January 1, 1991, and is a continuing tax. The remaining portion of the tax (.75 percent) is renewable every 5 years and was last renewed for the period from January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2025. Employers of residents are required to withhold income tax on compensation and remit the tax to the State. Taxpayers are required to file an annual return. The State makes quarterly distributions to the District after withholding amounts for administrative fees and estimated refunds. Income tax receipts are recorded in the general fund.

NOTE 7 - LONG-TERM DEBT

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

	Balance Outstanding 06/30/23	Additions	Reductions	Balance Outstanding 06/30/24	Amounts Due in One Year
Governmental activities:					
<i>General obligation bonds:</i>					
Refunding bonds, Series 2021					
Refunded Series 2021					
Current interest bonds	\$ 5,490,000	\$ -	\$ (185,000)	\$ 5,305,000	\$ 190,000
Total long-term obligations	<u>\$ 5,490,000</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ (185,000)</u>	<u>\$ 5,305,000</u>	<u>\$ 190,000</u>

Refunding General Obligation Bonds – Series 2021: During fiscal year 2022, the District issued bonds, in the amount of \$5,750,000, to refund bonds previously issued in fiscal year 2012 to provide funds for the constructing and renovating of the District's buildings. The refunding bond issue consists of serial bonds, in the amount of \$5,750,000 plus original issue premium \$774,720, less the underwriter's discount of \$64,905. The bonds carry an interest rate between 1.00% and 4.00%, and the maturity date is December 1, 2044. The bonds are being repaid from the bond retirement debt service fund (a nonmajor governmental fund). The bonds are saving a total of \$2,325,517 and the net present value savings come to a total of \$1,619,503.

The scheduled payments of principal and interest on the Series 2021 general obligation bonds outstanding at June 30, 2024 are as follows:

Fiscal Year Ending June 30,	Current Interest Bonds		
	Principal	Interest	Total
2025	\$ 190,000	\$ 162,250	\$ 352,250
2026	195,000	158,450	353,450
2027	195,000	154,550	349,550
2028	200,000	152,600	352,600
2029	210,000	144,600	354,600
2030 - 2034	1,170,000	593,450	1,763,450
2035 - 2039	1,365,000	392,400	1,757,400
2040 - 2044	1,585,000	174,450	1,759,450
2045	195,000	5,850	200,850
Total	<u>\$ 5,305,000</u>	<u>\$ 1,938,600</u>	<u>\$ 7,243,600</u>

**RIDGEMONT LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
HARDIN COUNTY, OHIO**

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

NOTE 7 - LONG-TERM DEBT - (Continued)

B. Legal Debt Margin

The Ohio Revised Code provides that voted net general obligation debt of the District shall never exceed 9% of the total assessed valuation of the District. The code further provides that unvoted indebtedness shall not exceed 1/10 of 1% of the property valuation of the District. The code additionally states that unvoted indebtedness related to energy conservation debt shall not exceed 9/10 of 1% of the property valuation of the District. The assessed valuation used in determining the District's legal debt margin has been modified by House Bill 530 which became effective March 30, 2006. In accordance with House Bill 530, the assessed valuation used in the District's legal debt margin calculation excluded tangible personal property used in business, telephone or telegraph property, interexchange telecommunications company property, and personal property owned or leased by a railroad company and used in railroad operations. The effects of these debt limitations at June 30, 2024, are a voted debt margin of \$6,224,682 (including available funds of \$226,581) and an unvoted debt margin of \$125,590.

NOTE 8 - RISK MANAGEMENT

A. Employee Life, Death, Medical/Surgical, Dental and Vision

The District provides life, accidental death and dismemberment, medical/surgical, dental, and vision insurance to most employees through Hardin County School Employees' Health and Welfare Benefit Plan and Trust (See Note 1 for detail). Depending upon the plan chosen, the employees share the cost of the monthly premium with the Board. The premium varies by employee depending on the terms of the union contract.

B. Comprehensive

The District is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to, or destruction of assets; errors and omissions; injuries to employees and natural disasters. During fiscal year 2024, the District maintained comprehensive insurance coverage with a private carrier for real property, building contents, and vehicles. Vehicle policies include liability coverage for bodily injury and property damage. Real property and contents are fully registered. The District has entered into contracts with various insurance agencies for the following amounts of coverage and deductibles:

<u>Type of Coverage</u>		<u>Coverage</u>	<u>Deductible</u>
General Liability	\$ 5,000,000 3,000,000	General Aggregate Each Occurrence	
Vehicle Policy	3,000,000 1,000,000 1,000,000	Liability Property Damage Uninsured Motorist	\$ 250
Buildings and Contents	41,283,366	Per Occurrence	1,000
Violence	1,000,000	General Aggregate	
Crime	100,000	Per Individual	
		Each Occurrence	1,000
Pollution	5,000,000	Per Occurance	25,000
Cyber	1,000,000	Per Occurance	25,000

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

NOTE 8 - RISK MANAGEMENT – (Continued)

Settled claims have not exceeded commercial coverage in any of the past three years. Also, the District has no significantly reduced coverage in the past year.

C. Workers' Compensation

The District pays the State Workers' Compensation System a premium for employee injury coverage. The premium is calculated by multiplying the monthly total gross payroll by a factor that is calculated by the State.

NOTE 9 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS

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

Net Pension Liability/Net OPEB Liability/Asset

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

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

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

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

The net pension/net OPEB liability (asset) are not reported on the face of the financial statements, but rather are disclosed in the notes because of the use of the cash basis framework.

The remainder of this note includes the required pension disclosures. See Note 10 for the required OPEB disclosures.

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

NOTE 9 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS - (Continued)

Plan Description - School Employees Retirement System (SERS)

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

Age and service requirements for retirement are as follows:

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

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

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

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

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

The District's contractually required contribution to SERS was \$137,054 for fiscal year 2024.

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

NOTE 9 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS - (Continued)

Plan Description - State Teachers Retirement System (STRS)

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

New members have a choice of three retirement plans: a Defined Benefit (DB) Plan, a Defined Contribution (DC) Plan and a Combined (CO) Plan. Benefits are established by Ohio Revised Code Chapter 3307.

The DB plan offers an annual retirement allowance based on final average salary multiplied by a percentage that varies based on years of service. Effective August 1, 2015, the calculation is 2.20% of final average salary for the five highest years of earnings multiplied by all years of service. In April 2017, the Retirement Board made the decision to reduce COLA granted on or after July 1, 2017, to 0 percent upon a determination by its actuary that it was necessary to preserve the fiscal integrity of the retirement system. Benefit recipients' base benefit and past cost-of living increases are not affected by this change. Effective July 1, 2022, a one-time ad-hoc COLA of 3 percent of the base benefit was granted to eligible benefit recipients to begin on the anniversary of their retirement benefit in fiscal year 2023 as long as they retired prior to July 1, 2018. Effective July 1, 2023, a one-time ad-hoc COLA of 1 percent of the base benefit was granted to eligible benefit recipients to begin on the anniversary of their retirement benefit in fiscal year 2024 as long as they retired prior to July 1, 2019. Pursuant to Ohio Revised Code 3307.67(E) the STRS Ohio Retirement Board may adjust the COLA upon a determination by the board's actuary that a change will not materially impair the fiscal integrity of the system or is necessary to preserve the fiscal integrity of the system. Eligibility changes will be phased in until August 1, 2023, when retirement eligibility for unreduced benefits will be five years of service credit and age 65, or 34 years of service credit at any age.

Eligibility changes for DB Plan members who retire with actuarially reduced benefits will be phased in until August 1, 2023 when retirement eligibility will be five years of qualifying service credit and age 60, or 30 years of service credit regardless of age.

The DC Plan allows members to place all of their member contributions and 11.09% of the 14% employer contributions into an investment account. The member determines how to allocate the member and employer money among various investment choices offered by STRS Ohio. The remaining 2.91% of the 14% employer rate is allocated to the defined benefit unfunded liability. A member is eligible to receive a retirement benefit at age 50 and termination of employment. The member may elect to receive a lifetime monthly annuity or a lump sum withdrawal.

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

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.

**RIDGEMONT LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
HARDIN COUNTY, OHIO**

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

NOTE 9 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS - (Continued)

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

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

The District's contractually required contribution to STRS was \$380,380 for fiscal year 2024.

Net Pension Liability

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

Following is information related to the proportionate share:

	<u>SERS</u>	<u>STRS</u>	<u>Total</u>
Proportion of the net pension liability prior measurement date	0.023992000%	0.019049000%	
Proportion of the net pension liability current measurement date	<u>0.024180200%</u>	<u>0.018246770%</u>	
Change in proportionate share	<u>0.000188200%</u>	<u>-0.000802230%</u>	
Proportionate share of the net pension liability	\$ 1,336,081	\$ 3,929,431	\$ 5,265,512

Actuarial Assumptions - SERS

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

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

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

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NOTE 9 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS - (Continued)

many cases actuarial calculations reflect several decades of service with the employer and the payment of benefits after termination.

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

Wage inflation:	
Current measurement date	2.40%
Future salary increases, including inflation:	
Current measurement date	3.25% to 13.58%
COLA or ad hoc COLA:	
Current measurement date	2%, on or after April 1, 2018 COLAs for future retirees will be delayed for three years following commencement
Investment rate of return:	
Current measurement date	7.00% net of system expenses
Actuarial cost method	Entry age normal (level percent of payroll)

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

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

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

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

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

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NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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NOTE 9 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS - (Continued)

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

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

	1% Decrease	Current Discount Rate	1% Increase
District's proportionate share of the net pension liability	\$ 1,971,987	\$ 1,336,081	\$ 800,451

Actuarial Assumptions - STRS

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

	June 30, 2023
Inflation	2.50%
Projected salary increases	Varies by service from 2.50% to 8.50%
Investment rate of return	7.00%, net of investment expenses, including inflation
Discount rate of return	7.00%
Payroll increases	3.00%
Cost-of-living adjustments (COLA)	0.00% effective July 1, 2017

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

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

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

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NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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NOTE 9 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS - (Continued)

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

* Final target weights reflected at October 1, 2022.

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

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

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

	1% Decrease	Current Discount Rate	1% Increase
District's proportionate share of the net pension liability	\$ 6,042,594	\$ 3,929,431	\$ 2,142,272

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

NOTE 10 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS

Net OPEB Liability/Asset

See Note 9 for a description of the net OPEB liability (asset).

Plan Description - School Employees Retirement System (SERS)

Health Care Plan Description - The District contributes to the SERS Health Care Fund, administered by SERS for non-certificated retirees and their beneficiaries. For GASB 75 purposes, this plan is considered a cost-sharing other postemployment benefit (OPEB) plan. SERS' Health Care Plan provides healthcare benefits to eligible individuals receiving retirement, disability, and survivor benefits, and to their eligible dependents. Members who retire after June

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NOTE 10 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS - (Continued)

1, 1986, need 10 years of service credit, exclusive of most types of purchased credit, to qualify to participate in SERS' health care coverage. In addition to age and service retirees, disability benefit recipients and beneficiaries who are receiving monthly benefits due to the death of a member or retiree, are eligible for SERS' health care coverage. Most retirees and dependents choosing SERS' health care coverage are over the age of 65 and therefore enrolled in a fully insured Medicare Advantage plan; however, SERS maintains a traditional, self-insured preferred provider organization for its non-Medicare retiree population. For both groups, SERS offers a self-insured prescription drug program. Health care is a benefit that is permitted, not mandated, by statute. The financial report of the Plan is included in the SERS Annual Comprehensive Financial Report which can be obtained on SERS' website at www.ohsers.org under Employers/Audit Resources.

The Health Care program is financed through a combination of employer contributions, recipient premiums, investment returns, and any funds received on behalf of SERS' participation in Medicare programs. The System's goal is to maintain a health care reserve account with a 20-year solvency period in order to ensure that fluctuations in the cost of health care do not cause an interruption in the program. However, during any period in which the 20-year solvency period is not achieved, the System shall manage the Health Care Fund on a pay-as-you-go basis.

Access to health care for retirees and beneficiaries is permitted in accordance with Section 3309 of the Ohio Revised Code. The Health Care Fund was established and is administered in accordance with Internal Revenue Code Section 105(e). SERS' Retirement Board reserves the right to change or discontinue any health plan or program. Active employee members do not contribute to the Health Care Plan. The SERS Retirement Board established the rules for the premiums paid by the retirees for health care coverage for themselves and their dependents or for their surviving beneficiaries. Premiums vary depending on the plan selected, qualified years of service, Medicare eligibility, and retirement status.

Funding Policy - State statute permits SERS to fund the health care benefits through employer contributions. Each year, after the allocation for statutorily required pensions and benefits, the Retirement Board may allocate the remainder of the employer contribution of 14% of covered payroll to the Health Care Fund in accordance with the funding policy. For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024, SERS did not allocate any employer contributions to post-employment health care. An additional health care surcharge on employers is collected for employees earning less than an actuarially determined minimum compensation amount, pro-rated if less than a full year of service credit was earned. For fiscal year 2024, this amount was \$30,000. Statutes provide that no employer shall pay a health care surcharge greater than 2% of that employer's SERS-covered payroll; nor may SERS collect in aggregate more than 1.5% of the total statewide SERS-covered payroll for the health care surcharge. For fiscal year 2024, the District's surcharge obligation was \$18,536.

The surcharge added to the allocated portion of the 14% employer contribution rate is the total amount assigned to the Health Care Fund. The District's contractually required contribution to SERS was \$18,536 for fiscal year 2024.

Plan Description - State Teachers Retirement System (STRS)

Plan Description - The State Teachers Retirement System of Ohio (STRS) administers a cost-sharing Health Plan administered for eligible retirees who participated in the defined benefit or combined pension plans offered by STRS. Ohio law authorizes STRS to offer this plan. Benefits include hospitalization, physicians' fees, prescription drugs and partial reimbursement of monthly Medicare Part B premiums. Health care premiums were reduced by a Medicare Part B premium credit beginning in 2023. The Plan is included in the report of STRS which can be obtained by visiting www.strsoh.org or by calling (888) 227-7877.

Funding Policy - Ohio Revised Code Chapter 3307 authorizes STRS to offer the Plan and gives the Retirement Board discretionary authority over how much, if any, of the health care costs will be absorbed by STRS. Active employee members do not contribute to the Health Care Plan. Nearly all health care plan enrollees, for the most recent year, pay a portion of the health care costs in the form of a monthly premium. Under Ohio law, funding for post-employment

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NOTE 10 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS - (Continued)

health care may be deducted from employer contributions, currently 14% of covered payroll. For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024, STRS did not allocate any employer contributions to post-employment health care.

Net OPEB Liability/Asset

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

Following is information related to the proportionate share:

	<u>SERS</u>	<u>STRS</u>	<u>Total</u>
Proportion of the net OPEB liability/asset prior measurement date	0.024571600%	0.019049000%	
Proportion of the net OPEB liability/asset current measurement date	<u>0.024938100%</u>	<u>0.018246770%</u>	
Change in proportionate share	<u>0.000366500%</u>	<u>-0.000802230%</u>	
Proportionate share of the net OPEB liability	\$ 410,842	\$ -	\$ 410,842
Proportionate share of the net OPEB asset	\$ -	\$ (354,874)	\$ (354,874)

Actuarial Assumptions - SERS

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

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

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

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NOTE 10 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS - (Continued)

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

Wage inflation:	
Current measurement date	2.40%
Future salary increases, including inflation:	
Current measurement date	3.25% to 13.58%
Investment rate of return:	
Current measurement date	7.00% net of investment
Actuarial Cost Method	Entry Age Normal (Level Percent of Payroll)
Fiduciary Net Position is Projected to be Depleted	2048
Municipal bond index rate:	
Current measurement date	3.86%
Prior measurement date	3.69%
Single equivalent interest rate, net of plan investment expense, including price inflation:	
Current measurement date	4.27%
Prior measurement date	4.08%
Medical trend assumption:	
Current measurement date	6.75 to 4.40%
Prior measurement date	7.00 to 4.40%

In 2023, the following mortality assumptions were used:

Healthy Retirees - PUB-2010 General Employee Amount Weighted Below Median Healthy Retiree mortality table projected to 2017 with ages set forward 1 year and adjusted 94.20% for males and set forward 2 years and adjusted 81.35% for females.

Disabled Retirees - PUB-2010 General Disabled Retiree mortality table projected to 2017 with ages set forward 5 years and adjusted 103.3% for males and set forward 3 years and adjusted 106.8% for females.

Contingent Survivors - PUB-2010 General Amount Weighted Below Median Contingent Survivor mortality table projected to 2017 with ages set forward 1 year and adjusted 105.5% for males and adjusted 122.5% for females.

Actives - PUB-2010 General Amount Weighted Below Median Employee mortality table.

Mortality Projection - Mortality rates are projected using a fully generational projection with Scale MP-2020.

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

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NOTE 10 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS - (Continued)

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

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

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

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

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

Discount Rate - The discount rate used to measure the total OPEB liability at June 30, 2023, was 4.27%. The discount rate used to measure total OPEB liability prior to June 30, 2023, was 4.08%. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed that contributions will be made from members and the System at the contribution rate of 1.50% of projected covered payroll each year, which includes a 1.50% payroll surcharge and no contributions from the basic benefits plan. Based on these assumptions, the OPEB plan's fiduciary net position is projected to be depleted in 2048 by SERS' actuaries. The Fidelity General Obligation 20-year Municipal Bond Index Rate was used in the determination of the single equivalent interest rate for both the June 30, 2022 and the June 30, 2023 total OPEB liability. The Municipal Bond Index Rate is the single rate that will generate a present value of benefit payments equal to the sum of the present value determined by the long-term expected rate of return, and the present value determined by discounting those benefits after the date of depletion. The Municipal Bond Index Rate was 3.86% at June 30, 2023 and 3.69% at June 30, 2022.

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NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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NOTE 10 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS - (Continued)

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

	1% Decrease	Current Discount Rate	1% Increase
District's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability	\$ 525,173	\$ 410,842	\$ 320,686
	1% Decrease	Trend Rate	1% Increase
District's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability	\$ 301,831	\$ 410,842	\$ 555,295

Actuarial Assumptions - STRS

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

	June 30, 2023		June 30, 2022	
Projected salary increases	Varies by service from 2.50% to 8.50%		Varies by service from 2.50% to 8.50%	
Investment rate of return	7.00%, net of investment expenses, including inflation		7.00%, net of investment expenses, including inflation	
Payroll increases	3.00%		3.00%	
Cost-of-living adjustments (COLA)	0.00%		0.00%	
Discount rate of return	7.00%		7.00%	
Health care cost trends				
	Initial	Ultimate	Initial	Ultimate
Medical				
Pre-Medicare	7.50%	4.14%	7.50%	3.94%
Medicare	-10.94%	4.14%	-68.78%	3.94%
Prescription Drug				
Pre-Medicare	-11.95%	4.14%	9.00%	3.94%
Medicare	1.33%	4.14%	-5.47%	3.94%

Projections of benefits include the historical pattern of sharing benefit costs between the employers and retired plan members.

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NOTE 10 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS - (Continued)

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

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

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

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

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

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

* Final target weights reflected at October 1, 2022.

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

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

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

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**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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NOTE 10 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS - (Continued)

	<u>1% Decrease</u>	<u>Current Discount Rate</u>	<u>1% Increase</u>
District's proportionate share of the net OPEB asset	\$ 300,355	\$ 354,874	\$ 402,355
	<u>1% Decrease</u>	<u>Current Trend Rate</u>	<u>1% Increase</u>
District's proportionate share of the net OPEB asset	\$ 404,559	\$ 354,874	\$ 295,031

NOTE 11 - OTHER EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

Compensated Absences

The criteria for determining vested vacation and sick leave components are derived from negotiated agreements and State laws. Administrative and classified employees earn ten to twenty-five days of vacation per year depending upon length of service. Accumulated, unused vacation time is paid to classified employees upon termination of employment. Teachers do not earn vacation time.

Teachers, administrators, and classified employees earn sick leave at the rate of one and one-fourth days per month. For administrators, teachers, and classified employees such days shall accumulate equal to a maximum of 260 days. Upon retirement, payment is made at the rate of one fourth of the accumulated sick leave limited to a maximum of 60 paid days.

NOTE 12 - CONTINGENCIES

A. Grants

The District received financial assistance from federal and State agencies in the form of grants. The expenditure of funds received under these programs generally requires compliance with terms and conditions specified in the grant agreements and are subject to audit by the grantor agencies. Any disallowed claims resulting from such audits could become a liability of the general fund or other applicable funds. This also encompasses the Auditor of State's ongoing review of student attendance data. However, the effect of any such disallowed claims on the overall financial position of the District at June 30, 2024, if applicable, cannot be determined at this time.

B. Litigation

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

C. Foundation Funding

Foundation funding is based on the annualized full-time equivalent (FTE) enrollment of each student. Traditional districts must comply with minimum hours of instruction, instead of a minimum number of school days each year. The funding formula the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce (ODEW) is legislatively required to follow will continue to adjust as enrollment information is updated by the District, which can extend past the fiscal year-end. As of the date of this report, ODE has finalized the impact of enrollment adjustments to the June 30, 2024 Foundation Funding for the District. The Adjustments were not significant for the District.

**RIDGEMONT LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
HARDIN COUNTY, OHIO**

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

NOTE 13 - SET-ASIDES

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

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

	<u>Capital Improvements</u>
Set-aside balance June 30, 2023	\$ -
Current year set-aside requirement	110,599
Current year offsets	(39,628)
Prior year offset from bond proceeds	<u>(70,971)</u>
Total	<u>\$ -</u>
Balance carried forward to fiscal year 2025	<u>\$ -</u>
Set-aside balance June 30, 2024	<u>\$ -</u>

NOTE 14 - OTHER COMMITMENTS

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

<u>Fund</u>	<u>Year-End Encumbrances</u>
General	\$ 324,308
Other governmental	<u>9,819</u>
Total	<u>\$ 334,127</u>

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

**RIDGEMONT LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
HARDIN COUNTY, OHIO**

SCHEDULE OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS AND CHANGES IN
FUND BALANCES - BUDGET AND ACTUAL (BUDGETARY BASIS)
GENERAL FUND
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

	Budgeted Amounts		Actual Amounts Budgetary Basis	Variance with Final Budget - Over (Under) Actual Amounts
	Original	Final		
Budgetary receipts and other financing sources	\$ 8,356,648	\$ 8,955,870	\$ 8,869,374	\$ (86,496)
Budgetary disbursements and other financing uses	7,794,802	8,888,666	8,578,823	(309,843)
Net change in fund balance	561,846	67,204	290,551	223,347
Budgetary fund balance at beginning of year	8,824,394	8,824,394	8,824,394	-
Prior year encumbrances appropriated	124,036	124,036	124,036	-
Budgetary fund balance at end of year	<u>\$ 9,510,276</u>	<u>\$ 9,015,634</u>	<u>\$ 9,238,981</u>	<u>\$ 223,347</u>

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

**RIDGEMONT LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
HARDIN COUNTY, OHIO**

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

NOTE 1 - BUDGETARY PROCESS

The budgetary basis as provided by law is based upon accounting for certain transactions on the basis of cash receipts, disbursements, and encumbrances. The Schedule of Receipts, Disbursements and Changes in Fund Balance - Budget and Actual - Budgetary Basis presented for the general fund is prepared on the budgetary basis to provide a meaningful comparison of actual results with the budget. The difference between the budgetary basis and the cash basis are as follows:

1. Outstanding year end encumbrances are treated as a cash disbursements (budgetary basis) rather than as restricted, committed or assigned fund balance (cash basis).
2. Some funds are included in the general fund (cash basis) but have separate legally adopted budgets (budgetary basis).

Adjustments necessary to convert the results of operations at the end of the year on the budgetary basis to the cash basis are as follows:

	<u>General</u>
Budgetary basis	\$ 290,551
Funds budgeted elsewhere	(3,137)
Encumbrances	<u>324,308</u>
Cash basis	<u><u>\$ 611,722</u></u>

As part of Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement No. 54, "Fund Balance Reporting", certain funds that are legally budgeted in separate special revenue funds are considered part of the general fund. This includes the uniform school supplies fund, unclaimed monies fund, and the public school support fund

RIDGEMONT LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
HARDIN COUNTY

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

FEDERAL GRANTOR <i>Pass Through Grantor</i> Program / Cluster Title	Federal AL Number	Total Federal Expenditures
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE		
<i>Passed Through Ohio Department of Education and Workforce</i>		
Child Nutrition Cluster:		
School Breakfast Program:		
School Breakfast Program	10.553	\$43,096
School Breakfast Program Non-Cash Assistance (Food Distribution)	10.553	4,529
Total School Breakfast Program		<u>47,625</u>
National School Lunch Program:		
National School Lunch Program	10.555	125,968
COVID-19 National School Lunch Program	10.555	18,979
National School Lunch Program Non-Cash Assistance (Food Distribution)	10.555	13,587
Total National School Lunch Program		<u>158,534</u>
Total Child Nutrition Cluster		<u>206,159</u>
Child Nutrition Discretionary Grants Limited Availability	10.579	<u>47,982</u>
Total U.S. Department of Agriculture		<u>254,141</u>
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TREASURY		
<i>Passed through Ohio Facilities Construction Commission</i>		
COVID-19 Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds	21.027	<u>81,644</u>
Total U.S. Department of Treasury		<u>81,644</u>
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION		
<i>Direct Program</i>		
Rural Education	84.358	8,457
<i>Passed Through Ohio Department of Education and Workforce</i>		
Title I Grants to Local Educational Agencies	84.010	186,477
Special Education Cluster (IDEA):		
Special Education_Grants to States	84.027	117,530
COVID-19 Special Education_Grants to States	84.027X	25,506
Special Education_Preschool Grants	84.173	3,814
Total Special Education Cluster (IDEA)		<u>146,850</u>
Supporting Effective Instruction State Grants	84.367	30,102
Student Support and Academic Enrichment Program	84.424	57,335
COVID-19 Education Stabilization Fund		
COVID-19 American Rescue Plan Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ARP ESSER)	84.425U	233,548
COVID-19 American Rescue Plan Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief - Homeless Children and Youth	84.425W	3,585
Total COVID-19 Education Stabilization Fund		<u>237,133</u>
Total U.S. Department of Education		<u>666,354</u>
Total Expenditures of Federal Awards		<u>\$1,002,139</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this schedule.

**RIDGEMONT LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
HARDIN COUNTY**

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

NOTE A – BASIS OF PRESENTATION

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

NOTE B – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

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

NOTE C – INDIRECT COST RATE

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

NOTE D - CHILD NUTRITION CLUSTER

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

NOTE E – FOOD DONATION PROGRAM

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

NOTE F - TRANSFERS BETWEEN PROGRAM YEARS

Federal regulations require schools to obligate certain federal awards by June 30. However, with the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce's (DEW) consent, schools can transfer unobligated amounts to the subsequent fiscal year's program. The District transferred the following amounts from 2024 to 2025 programs:

Program Title	AL Number	Amount Transferred
Title I Grants to Local Educational Agencies	84.010	\$5,778.14
Supporting Effective Instruction State Grants	84.367	\$63.71
Student Support and Academic Enrichment Program	84.424	\$1,476.67

OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE KEITH FABER

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS REQUIRED BY GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS

Ridgemont Local School District
Hardin County
560 W. Taylor Street
Mount Victory, Ohio 43340

To the Board of Education:

We have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States (*Government Auditing Standards*), the cash basis financial statements of the governmental activities, the major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Ridgemont Local School District, Hardin County, Ohio (the District) as of and for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the District's basic financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated June 9, 2025, wherein we noted the District uses a special purpose framework other than generally accepted accounting principles.

Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the District's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our 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 District's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. A *significant deficiency* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

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

Report on Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the District's financial statements are free from material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the financial statements. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed an instance of noncompliance or other matter that is required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards* and which is described in the accompanying schedule of findings as item 2024-001.


School District's Response to Findings

Government Auditing Standards requires the auditor to perform limited procedures on the District's response to the finding identified in our audit and described in the accompanying schedule of findings and/or Corrective Action Plan. The District's response was not subjected to the other auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and, accordingly, we express no opinion on the response.

Purpose of this Report

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

KEITH FABER
Ohio Auditor of State



Tiffany L. Ridenbaugh, CPA, CFE, CGFM
Chief Deputy Auditor

June 9, 2025

OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE KEITH FABER

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

Ridgemont Local School District
Hardin County
560 W. Taylor Street
Mount Victory, Ohio 43340

To the Board of Education:

Report on Compliance for Each Major Federal Program

Opinion on Each Major Federal Program

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

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

Basis for Opinion on Each Major Federal Program

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

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

Responsibilities of Management for Compliance

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

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance

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

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

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

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

Report on Internal Control Over Compliance

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

Ridgemont Local School District
Hardin County
Independent Auditor's Report on Compliance with Requirements
Applicable to Each Major Federal Program and on Internal Control Over
Compliance Required by the Uniform Guidance
Page 3

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

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

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

KEITH FABER
Ohio Auditor of State



Tiffany L. Ridenbaugh, CPA, CFE, CGFM
Chief Deputy Auditor

June 9, 2025

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**RIDGEMONT LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
HARDIN COUNTY**

**SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS
2 CFR § 200.515
JUNE 30, 2024**

1. SUMMARY OF AUDITOR'S RESULTS

(d)(1)(i)	Type of Financial Statement Opinion	Unmodified
(d)(1)(ii)	Were there any material weaknesses in internal control reported at the financial statement level (GAGAS)?	No
(d)(1)(ii)	Were there any significant deficiencies in internal control reported at the financial statement level (GAGAS)?	No
(d)(1)(iii)	Was there any reported material noncompliance at the financial statement level (GAGAS)?	Yes
(d)(1)(iv)	Were there any material weaknesses in internal control reported for major federal programs?	No
(d)(1)(iv)	Were there any significant deficiencies in internal control reported for major federal programs?	No
(d)(1)(v)	Type of Major Programs' Compliance Opinion	Unmodified
(d)(1)(vi)	Are there any reportable findings under 2 CFR § 200.516(a)?	No
(d)(1)(vii)	Major Programs (list):	COVID-19 Education Stabilization Fund (ALN 84.425U and ALN 84.425W) Child Nutrition Cluster
(d)(1)(viii)	Dollar Threshold: Type A/B Programs	Type A: > \$ 750,000 Type B: all others
(d)(1)(ix)	Low Risk Auditee under 2 CFR § 200.520?	No

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

FINDING NUMBER 2024-001

Noncompliance Citation – Failure to File GAAP

Ohio Rev. Code § 117.38 provides that each public office shall file a financial report for each fiscal year. The Auditor of State may prescribe forms by rule or may issue guidelines, or both, for such reports. If the Auditor of State has not prescribed a rule regarding the form for the report, the public office shall submit its report on the form utilized by the public office.

FINDING NUMBER 2024-001
(Continued)

Ohio Admin. Code 117-2-03(B) requires the District to file annual financial reports which are prepared using generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP).

The District prepared financial statements that, although formatted similar to financial statements prescribed by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board, report on the cash basis of accounting rather than GAAP. The accompanying financial statements and notes omit certain assets, liabilities, deferred inflows/outflows of resources, fund equities/net position, and disclosures that, while presumed material, cannot be determined at this time.

Pursuant to Ohio Rev. Code § 117.38 the District may be fined and subject to various other administrative remedies for its failure to file the required financial report. Failure to report on a GAAP basis compromises the District's ability to evaluate and monitor the overall financial condition of the District. To help provide the users with more meaningful financial statements, the District should prepare its financial statements according to generally accepted accounting principles.

OFFICIALS' RESPONSE:

See Corrective Action Plan on page 63.

3. FINDINGS FOR FEDERAL AWARDS

None

Ridgemont Local School District



Brian Hogan, Superintendent

Melissa Pollom, Treasurer

SUMMARY SCHEDULE OF PRIOR AUDIT FINDINGS 2 CFR § 200.511(b) JUNE 30, 2024 (Prepared by Management)

Finding Number	Finding Summary	Status	Additional Information
2023-001	Ohio Rev. Cod § 117.38 and Ohio Admin. Code § 117-2-03(B) – Failed to file annual financial reports using generally accepted accounting principles. This was first reported for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2013	Not Corrected	The cost of reporting in GAAP form exceeds the value of the report in the opinion of the Board of Education.

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Ridgemont Local School District



Brian Hogan, Superintendent

Melissa Pollom, Treasurer

CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN 2 CFR § 200.511(C) JUNE 30, 2024 (Prepared by Management)

Finding Number: 2024-001

Planned Corrective Action: The cost of reporting in GAAP form exceeds the value of the report in the opinion of the Board of Education. The District acknowledges this requirement but will continue to report on the cash basis in order to save resources for the District.

Anticipated Completion Date: N/A

Responsible Contact Person: Melissa Pollom, Treasurer

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OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE KEITH FABER



RIDGEMONT LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

HARDIN COUNTY

AUDITOR OF STATE OF OHIO CERTIFICATION

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



Certified for Release 7/1/2025

65 East State Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215
Phone: 614-466-4514 or 800-282-0370

This report is a matter of public record and is available online at
www.ohioauditor.gov