



**NORWALK CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HURON COUNTY**

**SINGLE AUDIT**

**FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023**



**NORWALK CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HURON COUNTY  
JUNE 30, 2023**

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# OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE KEITH FABER



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## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Norwalk City School District  
Huron County  
134 Benedict Avenue  
Norwalk, Ohio 44857

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, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Norwalk City School District, Huron County, Ohio (the District), as of and for the year ended June 30, 2023, 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, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the District, as of June 30, 2023, and the respective changes in cash-basis financial position thereof and the budgetary comparison for the General Fund for the 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 basic 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 to opine on the financial statements as a whole 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 is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is 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 to 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, the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the basic financial statements as a whole.

**Other Information**

We applied no procedures to management's discussion and analysis, as listed in the table of contents. Accordingly, we express no opinion or any other assurance on it.

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 March 19, 2024, 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  
Auditor of State  
Columbus, Ohio

March 19, 2024

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**Norwalk City School District**  
**Huron County, Ohio**  
*Management's Discussion and Analysis*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023*  
*Unaudited*

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The discussion and analysis of the Norwalk City School District's (the "School District") financial performance provides an overall review of the School District's financial activities for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2023. The intent of this discussion and analysis is to look at the School District's performance as a whole; readers should also review the notes to the basic financial statements to enhance their understanding of the School District's financial performance.

***Financial Highlights***

Key financial highlights for fiscal year 2023 are as follows:

- In total, net position increased \$868,482.
- Outstanding debt decreased from \$3,855,000 to \$2,935,000.

***Using this Annual Report***

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

The *Statement of Net Position* and *Statement of Activities – Cash Basis* provide information about the activities of the whole School District. 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 School District's most significant funds with all other non-major funds presented in total in one column. For fiscal year 2023, the general fund and the bond retirement fund are the School District's most significant funds.

***Basis of Accounting***

The School District has elected to present its financial statements on the cash basis of accounting. This cash basis of accounting is a comprehensive basis of accounting other than generally accepted accounting principles. The cash basis of accounting involves the measurement of cash and investments and changes in cash and investments resulting from cash receipt and disbursement transactions.

Essentially, the only assets reported on this strictly cash receipt and disbursement basis presentation in a statement of net position will be cash and investments. The statement of activities reports cash receipts and disbursements, or in other words, the sources and uses of cash and cash equivalents. 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.

**Norwalk City School District**  
**Huron County, Ohio**  
*Management's Discussion and Analysis*  
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***Reporting the School District as a Whole***

*Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities*

While this document contains the large number of funds used by the School District to provide programs and activities, the view of the School District as a whole looks at all financial transactions and asks the question, "How did we do financially during fiscal year 2023?" The statement of net position and the statement of activities answer this question.

These two statements report the School District's *net position* and *changes in net position*. This change in net position is important because it tells the reader that, for the School District as a whole, the *financial position* of the School 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 School District's property tax base, current property tax laws in Ohio which restrict receipts growth, facility conditions, required educational programs, and other factors.

In the statement of net position and the statement of activities, governmental activities include the School District's programs and services, including instruction, support services, extracurricular activities and food service operations.

***Reporting the School District's Most Significant Funds***

*Fund Financial Statements*

Fund financial reports provide detailed information about the School District's major funds. The School District uses many funds to account for financial transactions. However, these fund financial statements focus on the School District's most significant funds. The School District's major governmental funds include the general fund and the bond retirement fund.

**Governmental Funds** - Most of the School 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. The governmental fund statements provide a detailed short-term view of the School District's general government operations and the basic services it provides. Governmental fund information helps determine whether there are more or less financial resources that can be spent in the near future to finance educational programs.

***Notes to the Basic Financial Statements***

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

**Norwalk City School District**  
**Huron County, Ohio**  
*Management's Discussion and Analysis*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023*  
*Unaudited*

**The School District as a Whole**

Table 1 provides a summary of the School District's net position for fiscal year 2023 compared to 2022.

**(Table 1)**  
**Net Position – Cash Basis**

	Governmental Activities		
	2023	2022	Change
<b>Assets</b>			
Equity in Pooled Cash and Investments	\$ 11,212,129	\$ 10,356,588	\$ 855,541
Cash and Cash Equivalents in Segregated Accounts	337,702	324,761	12,941
<i>Total Assets</i>	<u>11,549,831</u>	<u>10,681,349</u>	<u>868,482</u>
<b>Net Position</b>			
Restricted for:			
Capital Outlay	1,265,015	1,011,292	253,723
Debt Service	1,646,890	1,614,014	32,876
Other Purposes	2,295,720	1,815,913	479,807
Unrestricted	<u>6,342,206</u>	<u>6,240,130</u>	<u>102,076</u>
<i>Total Net Position</i>	<u>\$ 11,549,831</u>	<u>\$ 10,681,349</u>	<u>\$ 868,482</u>

See explanation of change in cash and net position below Table 2.

A portion of the School District's net position represents resources subject to external restrictions on how they may be used. The remaining balance of the government-wide unrestricted net position may be used to meet the School District's ongoing obligations.

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**Norwalk City School District**  
**Huron County, Ohio**  
*Management's Discussion and Analysis*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023*  
*Unaudited*

Table 2 shows the changes in net position for fiscal year 2023 as compared to fiscal year 2022.

**(Table 2)**  
**Changes in Net Position – Cash Basis**

	Governmental Activities		
	2023	2022	Change
<b>Receipts</b>			
<b><i>Program Receipts</i></b>			
Charges for Services and Sales	\$ 988,350	\$ 795,723	\$ 192,627
Operating Grants, Contributions and Interest	7,132,495	6,005,434	1,127,061
Capital Grants and Contributions	59,173	47,538	11,635
<b><i>Total Program Receipts</i></b>	<b>8,180,018</b>	<b>6,848,695</b>	<b>1,331,323</b>
<b><i>General Receipts</i></b>			
Property Taxes	10,241,890	9,817,431	424,459
Income Taxes	3,129,762	2,784,158	345,604
Grants and Entitlements not Restricted to			
Specific Programs	16,115,491	16,017,815	97,676
Investment Earnings	277,326	80,653	196,673
Miscellaneous	384,018	414,380	(30,362)
<b><i>Total General Receipts</i></b>	<b>30,148,487</b>	<b>29,114,437</b>	<b>1,034,050</b>
<b><i>Total Receipts</i></b>	<b>38,328,505</b>	<b>35,963,132</b>	<b>2,365,373</b>
<b><i>Program Disbursements</i></b>			
Instruction:			
Regular	14,972,456	13,851,294	1,121,162
Special	6,936,442	6,582,137	354,305
Vocational	419,126	498,246	(79,120)
Other	138,504	133,762	4,742
Support Services:			
Pupils	1,981,933	1,807,161	174,772
Instructional Staff	587,097	588,523	(1,426)
Board of Education	72,758	74,807	(2,049)
Administration	2,514,035	2,427,147	86,888
Fiscal	900,342	869,578	30,764
Business	14,637	25,814	(11,177)
Operation and Maintenance of Plant	2,908,345	2,802,655	105,690
Pupil Transportation	1,776,062	1,019,958	756,104
Central	211,031	268,888	(57,857)
Operation of Non-Instructional Services:			
Food Service Operations	1,037,447	1,054,282	(16,835)
Community Services	848,055	823,817	24,238
Extracurricular Activities	979,841	945,929	33,912
Capital Outlay	144,987	130,638	14,349
Debt Service:			
Principal Retirement	920,000	895,000	25,000
Interest and Fiscal Charges	96,925	124,150	(27,225)
<b><i>Total Program Disbursements</i></b>	<b>37,460,023</b>	<b>34,923,786</b>	<b>2,536,237</b>
<b><i>Change in Net Position</i></b>	<b>868,482</b>	<b>1,039,346</b>	<b>(170,864)</b>
<b><i>Net Position Beginning of Year</i></b>	<b>10,681,349</b>	<b>9,642,003</b>	<b>1,039,346</b>
<b><i>Net Position End of Year</i></b>	<b>\$ 11,549,831</b>	<b>\$ 10,681,349</b>	<b>\$ 868,482</b>

**Norwalk City School District**  
**Huron County, Ohio**  
*Management's Discussion and Analysis*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023*  
*Unaudited*

Operating grants, contributions and interest receipts increased in 2023 primarily due to an increase in ESSER receipts in the fiscal year. Income tax general receipts also increased during the fiscal year as a result of increased income tax collections. Transportation support services increased due to the purchase of new school buses during the fiscal year.

***The School District's Funds***

The School District's governmental funds are accounted for using the cash basis of accounting.

The following table provides a summary of the School District's fund balance for 2023 compared to 2022:

	Fund Balance 6/30/2023	Fund Balance 6/30/2022	Increase (Decrease)
General Fund	\$ 6,342,648	\$ 6,240,582	\$ 102,066
Bond Retirement Fund	1,646,890	1,614,014	32,876
Other Governmental Funds	3,560,293	2,826,753	733,540
<i>Total</i>	\$ 11,549,831	\$ 10,681,349	\$ 868,482

The general fund had an increase in fund balance in fiscal year 2023, primarily due to increased property tax and income tax receipts.

The bond retirement fund's fund balance increased in 2023 due to a timing of debt service payments compared to receipts.

***General Fund Budgeting Highlights***

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

During the course of fiscal year 2023, the School District amended its general fund budget. Original budget revenues increased over the course of the year as income tax and property and other local tax revenue exceeded expectations, and original expenditure appropriations were decreased to account for expected cost savings.

There was no significant change between actual budget basis receipts and the final budget estimate. Final budgeted disbursements were slightly higher than actual disbursements.

**Norwalk City School District**  
**Huron County, Ohio**  
*Management's Discussion and Analysis*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023*  
*Unaudited*

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***Debt Administration***

The School District's long-term obligations decreased during the fiscal year due principal payments on debt. For further information regarding the School District's debt, refer to Note 11 of the basic financial statements.

***Current Issues***

Ohio's Biennial Budget, for fiscal years 2022 and 2023, was signed into law by Governor DeWine and included the Fair School Funding Plan. The Fair School Funding Plan brought about some major changes and restrictions to the general fund. Funding of non-public schools and open enrollment is completely different as the state now funds students where educated instead of using local tax dollars. Non-public school funding was increased by double digits while public school students are estimated at a 1.5 percent increase. The legislature has incorporated more publicly funded tax support of private schools into the state budget and increased the mandates for public schools to provide services to private schools.

New federal grants from the CARES Act significantly increased the amount of federal funds available for use in fiscal year 2021 and the next two years. Just under a million dollars of new federal money to offset the effects of the pandemic was spent in fiscal year 2021, 1.7 million dollars was spent in fiscal year 2022, and 2.79 million in fiscal year 2023. Most of the funds were for the additional disbursements but there was supplanting of general fund disbursements as allowed.

The School District has two union agreements, one with Norwalk Teachers' Association (NTA) and one with OAPSE Local #269. The new contracts are for three years, July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2025 and included a 1.75/1.75/2.0 percent base increase each year to the salary schedule along with annual step increases. A stipend paid from the ESSER/ARP 507 funds of \$750/\$750/\$500 was included for all staff except the Superintendent and Treasurer.

The district is in the planning stages for an OFCC project. The goal is to improve educational outcomes and operational efficiencies by combining the 4 elementary buildings into one new building located directly across from the current high school.

***Contacting the School District's Financial Management***

This financial report is designed to provide our citizens, taxpayers, investors, and creditors with a general overview of the School District's finances and to show the School District's accountability for the money it receives. If you have any questions about this report or need additional financial information, contact Joyce Dupont, Treasurer of Norwalk City School District, 134 Benedict Avenue, Norwalk, OH 44857 or [treasurer@norwalktruckers.net](mailto:treasurer@norwalktruckers.net).

**Norwalk City School District**  
**Huron County, Ohio**  
*Statement of Net Position - Cash Basis*  
*June 30, 2023*

	Governmental Activities
<b>Assets</b>	
Equity in Pooled Cash and Investments	\$ 11,212,129
Cash and Cash Equivalents in Segregated Accounts	337,702
<i>Total Assets</i>	<i>\$ 11,549,831</i>
<b>Net Position</b>	
Restricted for:	
Capital Outlay	\$ 1,265,015
Debt Service	1,646,890
Other Purposes	2,295,720
Unrestricted	6,342,206
<i>Total Net Position</i>	<i>\$ 11,549,831</i>

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements.

**Norwalk City School District**  
**Huron County, Ohio**  
*Statement of Activities - Cash Basis*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023*

	Program Cash Receipts				Net (Disbursements)
	Cash	Charges for	Operating	Capital	Receipts and Changes
	Disbursements	Services	Grants,	Grants and	in Net Position
		and Sales	Contributions	Contributions	Governmental
			and Interest		Activities
<b>Governmental Activities</b>					
Instruction:					
Regular	\$ 14,972,456	\$ 120,537	\$ 2,491,957	\$ -	\$ (12,359,962)
Special	6,936,442	283,795	1,904,345	-	(4,748,302)
Vocational	419,126	-	-	-	(419,126)
Other	138,504	-	-	-	(138,504)
Support Services:					
Pupils	1,981,933	7,545	183,508	-	(1,790,880)
Instructional Staff	587,097	-	3,105	-	(583,992)
Board of Education	72,758	-	-	-	(72,758)
Administration	2,514,035	-	346	-	(2,513,689)
Fiscal	900,342	-	-	1,899	(898,443)
Business	14,637	-	-	-	(14,637)
Operation and Maintenance of Plant	2,908,345	5,788	820,342	30,111	(2,052,104)
Pupil Transportation	1,776,062	-	168,570	-	(1,607,492)
Central	211,031	-	10,800	-	(200,231)
Operation of Non-Instructional Services:					
Food Service Operations	1,037,447	241,790	702,349	-	(93,308)
Community Services	848,055	566	809,742	-	(37,747)
Extracurricular Activities	979,841	328,329	37,431	-	(614,081)
Capital Outlay	144,987	-	-	27,163	(117,824)
Debt Service:					
Principal Retirement	920,000	-	-	-	(920,000)
Interest and Fiscal Charges	96,925	-	-	-	(96,925)
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$ 37,460,023</b>	<b>\$ 988,350</b>	<b>\$ 7,132,495</b>	<b>\$ 59,173</b>	<b>(29,280,005)</b>

**General Receipts**

Property Taxes Levied for:	
General Purposes	8,858,443
Debt Service	942,127
Capital Outlay	441,320
Income Taxes Levied for:	
General Purposes	3,129,762
Grants and Entitlements not Restricted to Specific Programs	16,115,491
Investment Earnings	277,326
Miscellaneous	384,018
<b>Total General Receipts</b>	<b>30,148,487</b>
<b>Change in Net Position</b>	<b>868,482</b>
<b>Net Position Beginning of Year</b>	<b>10,681,349</b>
<b>Net Position End of Year</b>	<b>\$ 11,549,831</b>

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements.



**Norwalk City School District**  
**Huron County, Ohio**  
*Statement of Assets and Fund Balances - Cash Basis*  
*Governmental Funds*  
*June 30, 2023*

	General	Bond Retirement	Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
<b>Assets</b>				
Equity in Pooled Cash and Investments	\$ 6,342,648	\$ 1,646,890	\$ 3,222,591	\$ 11,212,129
Cash and Cash Equivalents in Segregated Accounts	-	-	337,702	337,702
<i>Total Assets</i>	<u>\$ 6,342,648</u>	<u>\$ 1,646,890</u>	<u>\$ 3,560,293</u>	<u>\$ 11,549,831</u>
<b>Fund Balances</b>				
Nonspendable	\$ 440	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 440
Restricted	-	1,646,890	3,560,293	5,207,183
Committed	335,190	-	-	335,190
Assigned	3,113,520	-	-	3,113,520
Unassigned	2,893,498	-	-	2,893,498
<i>Total Fund Balances</i>	<u>\$ 6,342,648</u>	<u>\$ 1,646,890</u>	<u>\$ 3,560,293</u>	<u>\$ 11,549,831</u>

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements.

**Norwalk City School District**  
**Huron County, Ohio**  
*Statement of Receipts, Disbursements and Changes*  
*in Fund Balances - Cash Basis - Governmental Funds*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023*

	General	Bond Retirement	Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
<b>Receipts</b>				
Property and Other Local Taxes	\$ 8,858,443	\$ 942,127	\$ 441,320	\$ 10,241,890
Income Taxes	3,129,762	-	-	3,129,762
Intergovernmental	16,392,421	129,634	6,553,405	23,075,460
Investment Income	277,326	-	32,203	309,529
Tuition and Fees	358,672	-	-	358,672
Extracurricular Activities	-	-	336,440	336,440
Gifts and Donations	6,168	-	193,328	199,496
Charges for Services	11,406	-	247,578	258,984
Rent	34,254	-	-	34,254
Miscellaneous	371,380	-	12,638	384,018
<i>Total Receipts</i>	<u>29,439,832</u>	<u>1,071,761</u>	<u>7,816,912</u>	<u>38,328,505</u>
<b>Disbursements</b>				
Current:				
Instruction:				
Regular	12,445,145	-	2,527,311	14,972,456
Special	5,461,330	-	1,475,112	6,936,442
Vocational	419,126	-	-	419,126
Other	138,504	-	-	138,504
Support Services:				
Pupils	1,705,662	-	276,271	1,981,933
Instructional Staff	579,596	-	7,501	587,097
Board of Education	72,758	-	-	72,758
Administration	2,513,689	-	346	2,514,035
Fiscal	868,245	21,960	10,137	900,342
Business	14,637	-	-	14,637
Operation and Maintenance of Plant	2,591,747	-	316,598	2,908,345
Pupil Transportation	1,617,907	-	158,155	1,776,062
Central	200,231	-	10,800	211,031
Extracurricular Activities	650,814	-	329,027	979,841
Operation of Non-Instructional Services:				
Food Service Operations	-	-	1,037,447	1,037,447
Community Services	58,375	-	789,680	848,055
Capital Outlay	-	-	144,987	144,987
Debt Service:				
Principal Retirement	-	920,000	-	920,000
Interest and Fiscal Charges	-	96,925	-	96,925
<i>Total Disbursements</i>	<u>29,337,766</u>	<u>1,038,885</u>	<u>7,083,372</u>	<u>37,460,023</u>
<i>Net Change in Fund Balances</i>	102,066	32,876	733,540	868,482
<i>Fund Balances Beginning of Year</i>	<u>6,240,582</u>	<u>1,614,014</u>	<u>2,826,753</u>	<u>10,681,349</u>
<i>Fund Balances End of Year</i>	<u>\$ 6,342,648</u>	<u>\$ 1,646,890</u>	<u>\$ 3,560,293</u>	<u>\$ 11,549,831</u>

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements.

**Norwalk City School District**  
**Huron County, Ohio**  
*Statement of Receipts, Disbursements and Changes in*  
*Fund Balance - Budget and Actual (Budget Basis)*  
*General Fund*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023*

	<u>Budgeted Amounts</u>		<u>Actual</u>	<u>Variance with Final Budget</u>
	<u>Original</u>	<u>Final</u>		
Receipts and Other Financing Sources	\$ 28,243,180	\$ 29,577,000	\$ 29,028,778	\$ (548,222)
Disbursements and Other Financing Uses	<u>32,548,224</u>	<u>29,242,083</u>	<u>29,239,867</u>	<u>2,216</u>
Net Change in Fund Balance	(4,305,044)	334,917	(211,089)	(546,006)
<i>Fund Balance Beginning of Year</i>	5,423,841	5,423,841	5,423,841	-
Prior Year Encumbrances Appropriated	<u>548,223</u>	<u>548,223</u>	<u>548,223</u>	<u>-</u>
<i>Fund Balance End of Year</i>	<u>\$ 1,667,020</u>	<u>\$ 6,306,981</u>	<u>\$ 5,760,975</u>	<u>\$ (546,006)</u>

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements.

**Norwalk City School District**  
**Huron County, Ohio**  
*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023*

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**NOTE 1 – DESCRIPTION OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT**

The Norwalk City School District (the School District) is a body politic and corporate established for the purpose of exercising the rights and privileges conveyed to it by the constitution and laws of the State of Ohio. The School District is a city school district as defined by Section 3311.04 of the Ohio Revised Code. The School District operates under an elected Board of Education, consisting of five members, and is responsible for providing public education to residents of the School District.

***Reporting Entity***

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

Component units are legally separate organizations for which the School District is financially accountable. The School District is financially accountable for an organization if the School District appoints a voting majority of the organization's governing board and 1) the School District is able to significantly influence the programs or services performed or provided by the organization; or 2) the School District is legally obligated or has otherwise assumed the responsibility to finance the deficits of or provided financial support to the organization; or the School District is obligated for the debt of the organization. Component units may also include organizations that are fiscally dependent on the School District in that the School District approves the budget, the issuance of debt or the levying of taxes. The School District has no component units. Management believes the financial statements included in the report represent all of the funds of the School District over which the School District has the ability to exercise direct operating control.

***Jointly Governed Organizations***

***Bay Area Council of Governments (BACG)***

The BACG is a jointly governed organization. Members of the BACG consist of various districts representing seven counties (Ottawa, Sandusky, Seneca, Erie, Huron, Wood and Crawford). The BACG was formed for the purpose of purchasing goods and services at a lower cost. The item currently being purchased through the council of governments is natural gas. The only cost to the School District is an administrative charge if they participate in purchasing through the BACG. The BACG consists of the superintendent of each district. The Board of Directors of the BACG consists of one elected representative from each county, the superintendent of the fiscal agent and two non-voting members (administrator and fiscal agent.)

Members of the Board serve two year terms that are staggered. Financial information can be obtained by contacting North Point ESC, who serves as fiscal agent, at 4918 Milan Road, Sandusky, Ohio 44870. The School District did not pay any fees to BACG during fiscal year 2023.

**Norwalk City School District**  
**Huron County, Ohio**  
*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023*

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***Northern Ohio Educational Computer Association (NOECA)***

NOECA is a jointly governed organization among various districts, 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 NOECA 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 liquidation's in a ratio proportionate to their last twelve months' financial contributions. NOECA is governed by a Board of Directors consisting of superintendents of the member districts. The degree of control exercised by any participating district is limited to its representation on the Board. In accordance with GASB Statement No. 14, the School District does not have an equity interest in NOECA because the residual interest in the net resources of a joint venture upon dissolution is not equivalent to an equity interest. The School District paid NOECA \$73,285 during the fiscal year for USAS, USPS, student, library and EMIS state software. Financial information can be obtained by contacting North Point ESC, fiscal agent for NOECA, at 4918 Milan Road, Sandusky, Ohio 44870.

***Erie Huron Ottawa Vocational Education Career Center (EHOVE)***

The vocational school district is a separate body politic and corporate, established by the Ohio Revised Code (ORC) to provide vocational and special education needs of the students. The school accepts nontuition students from the School District as a member school; however, it is considered a separate political subdivision and is not considered to be part of the School District.

***Related Organizations***

***Norwalk Public Library***

The School District is not involved in budgeting or management of the Norwalk Public Library facilities, nor does it subsidize or finance the operation of the library. The selection of directors and budget approval is conducted merely to comply with state code requirements.

*Parochial Schools* - Within the School District boundaries, the Norwalk Catholic Schools are operated through the Toledo Catholic Diocese. Current State legislation provides funding to these parochial schools. These monies are received and disbursed on behalf of the parochial schools by the Treasurer of the School District, as directed by the parochial schools and are accounted for in the auxiliary services fund.

**NOTE 2 – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

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

**Norwalk City School District**  
**Huron County, Ohio**  
*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023*

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**A. Basis of Accounting**

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

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

**B. Basis of Presentation**

The School District's basic financial statements consist of government-wide financial statements, including a statement of net position and a statement of activities, and fund financial statements, which provide a more detailed level of financial information.

**1. Government-Wide Financial Statements**

The Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities display information about the School District as a whole. These statements include the financial activities of the primary government, except for fiduciary funds.

The statement of net position presents the financial condition of the governmental activities of the School District at fiscal year-end. The statement of activities compares disbursements with program receipts for each function or program of the School District's governmental activities. Disbursements are reported by function. A function is a group of related activities designed to accomplish a major service or regulatory program for which the government is responsible. Program receipts include charges paid by the recipient of the program's goods or services and grants, contributions, and interest restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular program. General receipts are all receipts not classified as program receipts, with certain limited exceptions. The comparison of direct disbursements with program receipts identifies the extent to which each governmental function is self-financing or draws from the School District's general receipts.

**2. Fund Financial Statements**

During the fiscal year, the School District segregates transactions related to certain School District functions or activities in separate funds in order to aid financial management and to demonstrate legal compliance. Fund financial statements are designed to present financial information of the School District at this more detailed level. The focus of governmental fund financial statements is on major funds. Each major fund is presented in a separate column. Non-major funds are aggregated and presented in a single column. Fiduciary funds are reported by type.

**Norwalk City School District**  
**Huron County, Ohio**  
*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023*

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***C. Fund Accounting***

The School District uses funds to maintain its financial records during the fiscal year. A fund is defined as a fiscal and accounting entity with a self-balancing set of accounts. The funds of the School District are divided into two categories, governmental and fiduciary.

**1. Governmental Funds**

Governmental funds are those through which most governmental functions of the School District are financed. The following are the School District's major governmental funds:

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

***Bond Retirement Fund*** – The bond retirement debt service fund is used to account for the accumulation of resources for, and the payment of, general long-term principal, interest and related costs.

The other governmental funds of the School District account for grants and other resources to which the School District is bound to observe constraints imposed internally or externally.

**2. Fiduciary Funds**

Fiduciary fund reporting focuses on net position and changes in net position. The fiduciary fund category is split into four categories: pension trust funds, investment trust funds, private purpose trust funds and custodial funds. Trust funds are distinguished from custodial funds by the existence of a trust agreement or equivalent arrangements that has certain characteristics. Custodial funds are used to report fiduciary activities that are not required to be reported in a trust fund. The School District's fiduciary funds are custodial funds. The School District currently does not have any fiduciary funds.

***D. Budgetary Process***

All funds, except custodial funds, are legally required to be budgeted and appropriated. The major documents prepared are the tax budget, the certificate of estimated resources, and the appropriations resolution, all of which are prepared on the budgetary basis of accounting. The tax budget demonstrates a need for existing or increased tax rates. The certificate of estimated resources establishes a limit on the amount the Board of Education may appropriate. The appropriations resolution is the Board's authorization to spend resources and sets annual limits on cash disbursements plus encumbrances at the level of control selected by the Board. The legal level of control has been established by the Board at the fund level for all funds. Budgetary allocations at the function and object level within all funds are made by the Treasurer.

**Norwalk City School District**  
**Huron County, Ohio**  
*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023*

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The certificate of estimated resources may be amended during the fiscal year if projected increases or decreases in receipts are identified by the Treasurer. The amounts reported as the original budgeted amounts on the budgetary statements reflect the amounts on the certificate of estimated resources when the original appropriations were adopted. The amounts reported as the final budgeted amounts on the budgetary statements reflect the amounts on the amended certificate of estimated resources in effect at the time final appropriations were passed by the Board.

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

***E. Cash and Investments***

To improve cash management, cash received by the School District is pooled. Monies for all funds are maintained in this pool. Individual fund integrity is maintained through School District records. Interest in the pool is presented as “Equity in Pooled Cash and Investments” on the financial statements.

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 School 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.

For the fiscal year 2023, there were no limitations or restrictions on any participant withdrawals due to redemption notice periods, liquidity fees, or redemption gates. However, notice must be given 24 hours in advance of all deposits and withdrawals exceeding \$100 million. 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.

Following Ohio Statutes, the Board of Education has, by resolution, specified the funds to receive an allocation of interest earnings. Interest receipts credited to the General Fund during fiscal year 2023 were \$277,326, which includes \$113,262 interest assigned from other School District funds.

Investments of the School District’s cash management pool and investments with an original maturity of three months or less at the time they are purchased by the School District are presented on the financial statements as “equity in pooled cash and investments.” Investments with an initial maturity of more than three months that were not purchased from the cash management pool are reported as “investments.”

***F. Property, Plant and Equipment***

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



**Norwalk City School District**  
**Huron County, Ohio**  
*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023*

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***G. Compensated Absences***

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 used by the School District.

***H. Long-term Obligations***

The School District's cash basis financial statements do not report liabilities for bonds and other long-term obligations. Proceeds of debt are reported when cash is received and principal and interest payments are reported when paid. Since recording a capital asset (including the intangible right to use) when entering into a lease, subscription based information technology arrangement (SBITA) or financed purchase transaction is not the result of a cash transaction, neither an other financing source nor a capital outlay disbursement is reported at inception. Lease, SBITA and financed purchase payments are reported when paid.

***I. Intergovernmental Receipts***

Unrestricted intergovernmental receipts received on the basis of entitlement are recorded as receipts when the entitlement is received. Federal and State reimbursement type grants for the acquisition or construction of capital assets are recorded as receipts when the grant is received.

***J. Inventory and Prepaid Items***

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

***K. Employer Contributions to Cost-Sharing Pension Plans***

The School District recognizes disbursements for employer contributions to cost-sharing plans when they are paid. As described in Notes 9 and 10, the employer contributions include portions for pension benefits and for postretirement health care benefits.

***L. Pensions and Other Post Employment Benefits (OPEB)***

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

**Norwalk City School District**  
**Huron County, Ohio**  
*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023*

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***M. Equity Classifications***

GOVERNMENT-WIDE STATEMENTS

Equity is classified as net position and is displayed in separate components:

1. Restricted net position – Consists of net position with constraints placed on the use either by (1) external groups such as creditors, grantors, contributors, or laws or regulations of other governments, or (2) law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation adopted by the School District. Net position restricted for other purposes include resources restricted for food service operations, music and athletic programs, and federal and state grants restricted to expenditure for specified purposes. At June 30, 2023, there was no net position restricted by enabling legislation.
2. Unrestricted net position – All other net position that do not meet the definition of “restricted.”

The School District’s policy is to first apply restricted resources when a cash disbursement is incurred for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted net position are available.

FUND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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

1. Non-spendable - The non-spendable classification includes amounts that cannot be spent because they are not in spendable form or legally or contractually required to be maintained intact. The “not in spendable form” includes items that are not expected to be converted to cash.
2. Restricted - Fund balance is reported as restricted when constraints placed on the use of resources are either externally imposed by creditors (such as through debt covenants), grantors, contributors, or laws or regulations of other governments, or is imposed by law through constitutional provisions.
3. Committed - The committed classification includes amounts that can be used only for the specific purposes imposed by a formal action (resolution) of the Board of Education. The committed amounts cannot be used for any other purpose unless the 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 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.
4. Assigned - Amounts in the assigned classification are intended to be used by the School District for specific purposes but do not meet the criteria to be classified as restricted or committed. In governmental funds, other than the general fund, assigned fund balance represents the remaining amount that is not restricted or committed. In the general fund, assigned amounts represent intended uses established by the Board of Education. The Board of Education has by resolution authorized the Treasurer to assign fund balance. The Board of Education may also assign fund balance as it does when appropriating fund balance to cover a gap between estimated revenue and appropriations in the subsequent year’s appropriated budget.

**Norwalk City School District**  
**Huron County, Ohio**  
*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023*

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5. Unassigned - Unassigned fund 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 used only to report a deficit balance resulting from overspending for specific purposes for which amounts had been restricted, committed, or assigned.

The School District first applies restricted resources when a disbursement is incurred for purposes for which either restricted or unrestricted (committed, assigned, and unassigned) amounts are available. Similarly, within unrestricted fund balance, committed amounts are reduced first followed by assigned and then unassigned amounts when disbursements are incurred for purposes for which amounts in any of the unrestricted fund balance classifications can be used.

***N. Interfund Activity***

Transfers within governmental activities are eliminated on the government-wide financial statements.

During the course of normal operations, the School District may have numerous transactions between funds. The most significant include:

1. Transfers of resources from one fund to another fund through which resources to be expended are recorded as transfers.
2. Reimbursements from one fund to another are treated as disbursements/expenses in the reimbursing fund and a reduction in disbursements/expense in the reimbursed fund.

The School District reports advances-in and advances-out for interfund loans. These items are not reflected as assets and liabilities in the accompanying financial statements. The School District did not report any interfund activity for fiscal year 2023.

***O. Receipts and Disbursements***

Program Receipts

In the Statement of Activities, receipts that are derived directly from each activity or from parties outside the School District's taxpayers are reported as program receipts. The School District has the following program receipts: charges for services and sales, operating grants, capital grants, contributions and interest.

All other governmental receipts are reported as general. All taxes are classified as general receipts even if restricted for a specific purpose.

Disbursements

Governmental activities include the School District's programs and services, including instruction, support services, extracurricular activities, and food service operations.

***P. Extraordinary and Special Items***

Extraordinary items are transactions or events that are both unusual 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 2023.

**Norwalk City School District**  
**Huron County, Ohio**  
*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023*

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***Q. Leases***

The School District is the lessee in various leases related to buildings, vehicles and other equipment under noncancelable leases. Lease receivables/payables are not reflected under the School District's modified cash basis of accounting. Lease revenue/disbursements are recognized when they are received/paid.

***R. Subscription-Based Information Technology Arrangements (SBITA)***

For fiscal year 2023, GASB Statement No. 96, *Subscription-Based Information Technology Arrangements* (SBITA) was effective. This GASB pronouncement had no effect on beginning net position/fund balance.

The School District is party to various SBITAs; however, liabilities are not reflected under the School District's cash basis of accounting. SBITA disbursements are recognized when they are paid.

**NOTE 3 - COMPLIANCE**

Ohio Administrative Code, Section 117-2-03 (B) requires the School District to file annual financial reports, which are prepared using generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP). For the fiscal year, the School District prepared financial statements that, although formatted similar to financial statements prescribed by Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement No. 34, report on the basis of cash receipts and cash disbursements, rather than GAAP. The accompanying financial statements and notes omit assets, deferred outflows, liabilities, deferred inflows, fund equities, and disclosures that, while material, cannot be determined at this time. Pursuant to Ohio Rev. Code Section 117.38, the School District may be fined and subject to various other administrative remedies for its failure to file the required financial report.

**NOTE 4 – BUDGETARY BASIS OF ACCOUNTING**

The statement of receipts, disbursements and changes in fund balance - budget and actual (budget basis) presented for the general fund is presented on the budgetary basis to provide a meaningful comparison of actual results with the budget. The major differences between the budget basis and the cash basis are that:

- a. In order to determine compliance with Ohio law, and to reserve that portion of the applicable appropriation, total outstanding encumbrances (budget basis) are recorded as the equivalent of a disbursement;
- b. Some funds are included in the general fund (cash basis), but have separate legally adopted budgets (budget basis).

The adjustments necessary to convert the results of operations for the year on the budget basis to the cash basis for the general fund are as follows:

**Norwalk City School District**  
**Huron County, Ohio**  
*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023*

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Net Change in Fund Balance

	General Fund
Cash Basis	\$ 102,066
Funds Budgeted Elsewhere**	(135,290)
Adjustment for Encumbrances	(177,865)
Budget Basis	\$ (211,089)

\*\* As part of Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement No. 54, *Fund Balance Reporting and Governmental Fund Type Definitions*, certain funds that are legally budgeted in separate special revenue funds are considered part of the general fund on a cash basis. This includes public school support fund, faculty funds, wellness plan fund, uniform school supplies fund, severance benefits fund and unclaimed monies.

**NOTE 5 – DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS**

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

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

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

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.

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

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

1. United States Treasury Notes, Bills, Bonds, or any other obligation or security issued by the United States Treasury or any other obligation guaranteed as to principal 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

**Norwalk City School District**  
**Huron County, Ohio**  
*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023*

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Mortgage Association, Federal Home Loan Bank, Federal Farm Credit Bank, Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation, Government National Mortgage Association, and Student Loan Marketing Association. All federal agency securities shall be direct issuances of federal government agencies or instrumentalities;

3. Written repurchase agreements in the securities listed above provided that the market value of the securities subject to the repurchase agreement must exceed the principal value of the agreement by at least two percent and be marked to market daily, and that the term of the agreement must not exceed thirty days;
4. Bonds and other obligations of the State of Ohio;
5. No-load money market mutual funds consisting exclusively of obligations described in division (1) or (2) of this section and repurchase agreements secured by such obligations, provided that investments in securities described in this division are made only through eligible institutions;
6. The State Treasurer's investment pool (STAR Ohio);
7. Certain banker's acceptance and commercial paper notes for a period not to exceed one hundred eighty days and two hundred seventy days, respectively, from the purchase date in an amount not to exceed 40 percent of the interim monies available for investment at any one time; and,
8. Under limited circumstances, corporate debt interests rated in either of the two highest classifications by at least two nationally recognized rating agencies.

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

***Cash on Hand*** - At June 30, 2023 the School District had \$550 in undeposited cash on hand, which is included as part of "Equity in Pooled Cash and Investments."

***Segregated Cash and Cash Equivalents*** - The building fund is maintained separately in a STAR Ohio account and is reported as "Cash and Cash Equivalents in Segregated Accounts."

***Deposits*** - At year-end, \$103,576 was uninsured but collateralized, as described below. Although the securities were held by the pledging financial institutions' trust department in the School District's name and all statutory requirements for the investment of money had been followed, noncompliance with Federal requirements could potentially subject the School District to a successful claim by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC).

**Norwalk City School District**  
**Huron County, Ohio**  
*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023*

**Custodial Credit Risk** Custodial credit risk for deposits is the risk that in the event of a bank failure, the School District will not be able to recover deposits or collateral securities that are in possession of an outside party. Civista Bank maintains specific pledged collateral; as such none of the District's deposits would be subject to custodial credit risk.

The School District has no deposit policy for custodial risk beyond the requirements of State statute. Ohio law requires that deposits either be insured or protected by:

- Eligible securities pledged to the School District and deposited with a qualified trustee by the financial institution as security for repayment whose market value at all times shall be at least 105 percent of the deposits being secured; or
- 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 required the total market value of the securities pledged to be 102 percent of the deposits being secured or a rate set by the Treasurer of State.

**Investments:**

As of June 30, 2023, the School District had the following investments:

Ratings		Measurement	Investment Maturities (in months)			% Investments
		Amount	0 - 12	13 - 36	Greater than 36	
	Net Asset Value:					
AAAm	STAR Ohio	\$ 5,282,407	\$ 5,282,407	\$ -	\$ -	45.40%
	Cost:					
Aaa	U.S. Treasury Securities	150,000	-	150,000	-	1.29%
AA+	U.S. Government Bonds	500,000	125,000	225,000	150,000	4.30%
N/A	Negotiable Certificates of Deposit	5,701,000	2,024,000	3,142,000	535,000	49.01%
	Totals	\$ 11,633,407	\$ 7,431,407	\$3,517,000	\$ 685,000	100.00%

**Interest Rate Risk:** The School District has no investment policy that addresses interest rate risk. 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 School District, and that an investment must be purchased with the expectation that it will be held to maturity.

**Credit Risk:** The credit ratings of the School District's investments are listed above. STAR Ohio is an investment pool operated by the Ohio State Treasurer. It is unclassified since it is not evidenced by securities that exist in physical or book entry form. Ohio law requires STAR Ohio maintain the highest rating provided by at least one nationally recognized standard rating service. The weighted average of maturity of the portfolio held by STAR Ohio as of June 30, 2023, is 39 days.

**Concentration of Credit Risk:** The School District places no limit on the amount the School District may invest in any one issuer.



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**NOTE 6 – PROPERTY TAXES AND INCOME TAXES**

***A. Property Taxes***

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

Property taxes include amounts levied against all real and public utility property located in the School District. Real property tax revenue received in calendar year 2023 represents collections of calendar year 2022 taxes. Real property taxes received in calendar year 2023 were levied after April 1, 2022, on the assessed value listed as of January 1, 2022, the lien date. Assessed values for real property taxes are established by State law at 35 percent of appraised market value. Real property taxes are payable annually or semi-annually. If paid annually, payment is due December 31; if paid 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 revenue received in calendar 2023 represents collections of calendar year 2022 taxes. Public utility real and tangible personal property taxes received in calendar year 2023 became a lien December 31, 2021, were levied after April 1, 2022 and are collected in 2023 with real property taxes. Public utility real property is assessed at 35 percent of true value; public utility tangible personal property currently is assessed at varying percentages of true value.

The School District receives property taxes from Huron County. The County Auditor periodically advances to the School District its portion of the taxes collected. Second-half real property tax payments collected by the County by June 30, 2023, are available to finance fiscal year 2023 operations. The amount available to be advanced can vary based on the date the tax bills are sent.

The assessed values upon which the fiscal year 2023 taxes were collected are:

	2022 Second Half Collections		2023 First Half Collections	
	Amount	Percent	Amount	Percent
Real Estate	\$ 366,434,540	95.55%	\$ 370,656,390	95.07%
Public Utility Personal Property	17,069,720	4.45%	19,207,080	4.93%
 Total Assessed Valuation	 <u>\$ 383,504,260</u>	 <u>100.00%</u>	 <u>\$ 389,863,470</u>	 <u>100.00%</u>
 Tax rate per \$1,000 of assessed valuation	 <u>\$ 47.45</u>		 <u>\$ 47.45</u>	

***B. Income Taxes***

The School District has a 0.5 percent income tax levy. Employers of residents are required to withhold income tax on compensation and remit the tax to the State. Taxpayers are required to file an annual return. The State makes quarterly distributions to the School District after withholding amounts for administrative fees and estimated refunds. Income tax receipts are credited to the general fund.



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**NOTE 7 – RISK MANAGEMENT**

***A. Workers' Compensation***

The School District participates in a Workers' Compensation Group Rating Program (Program), an insurance purchasing pool. The School District evaluates enrollment fees and group quotes annually to determine the best value. Each year, the participating school districts or businesses pay an enrollment fee to the Program to cover the costs of administering the program. The intent of the Program is to achieve the benefit of a reduced premium for the School District by virtue of its grouping and representation with other participants in the Program.

***B. Property and Liability***

The School District is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; injuries to employees; and natural disasters. The School District maintains comprehensive insurance coverage with Ohio School Plan for real property, building contents and vehicles. Vehicle policies include liability coverage for bodily injury and property damage. Real property and contents are fully insured. Settled claims resulting from these risks have not exceeded commercial insurance coverage in any of the past three fiscal years. There has not been a significant reduction in insurance coverage from the prior year.

***C. Employee Medical***

In October 1981, the School District joined together with several other school districts in two counties to form the Huron-Erie School Employees Insurance Association (HESEIA), a public entity risk pool. Monthly payments are made to the Association for health, dental and vision insurance coverage. The pool agreement provides that HESEIA will be self-sustaining through member premiums, and HESEIA will purchase stop-loss insurance policies from commercial insurance carriers to cover any yearly claims in excess of 120 percent of the prior year's aggregate claims. Financial information can be obtained by writing to the North Point Educational Service Center, 4918 Milan Road, Sandusky, Ohio 44870.

***D. Ohio Schools Council (OSC)***

The Ohio Schools Council is a regional council of governments created under ORC 167, created by school districts for the purpose of saving dollars through volume purchases. OSC's membership has grown to over 230 school districts, educational service centers, joint vocational districts, and developmental disabilities boards located in 33 counties. Each participant supports the OSC by paying an annual participation fee. Each participating School District's superintendent serves as a representative of the Assembly. The Assembly elects a nine member Board of Directors (Board) which is the policy making authority of the OSC. The Board appoints an Executive Director to oversee operations of the OSC. The Board exercises total control over the operations of the Council including budgeting, appropriating, contracting, and the designation of management. Each participants control is limited to its representation on the Board. Financial information can be obtained by contacting the Executive Director at the Ohio Schools Council a 6393 Oak Tree Blvd., Suite 377, Independence, Ohio 44131.

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**NOTE 8 – OTHER EMPLOYEE BENEFITS**

The criteria for determining vacation and sick leave components are derived from negotiated agreements and State laws. Classified employees earn 10 to 25 days of vacation per year, depending upon length of service. Accumulated unused vacation time is paid to classified employees upon termination of employment. Teachers and administrators do not earn vacation time, with the exception of the Superintendent, Treasurer, Director of Support Services, Director of Curriculum and Technology, Food Service Director, Assistant Director of Support Services and High School Principal.

Teachers, administrators, and classified employees earn sick leave at a rate of one and one-fourth days per month. Accumulation of sick leave is unlimited for all groups. Upon retirement, payment is made for one-fourth of their accrued, but unused sick leave credit to a maximum of 85 days. Certified and classified employees can earn compensated leave if they do not use their days of personal leave in any given year. In addition, employees may earn an additional 1-3 days of compensated leave days if only 0-6 days of sick leave are used within a year. The accumulated irrevocable severance is paid to employees upon termination of employment. Compensated leave is paid annually.

**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 net pension/OPEB liability (asset) represents the School 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 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 this estimate annually.

Ohio Revised Code limits the School District’s obligation for this liability to annually required payments. The School District cannot control benefit terms or the manner in which pensions/OPEB are financed; however, the School 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 all funding to come from these employers. All contributions to date have come solely from these employers (which also includes costs paid in the form of withholdings from employees). State statute requires the pension plans to amortize unfunded liabilities (assets) within 30 years. If the amortization period exceeds 30 years, each pension plan’s board must propose corrective action to the State legislature. Any resulting legislative change to benefits or funding could significantly affect the net pension/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.

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

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

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

Age and service requirements for retirement are as follows:

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

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

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

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. 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. The COLA is indexed to the percentage increase in the CPIW, not to exceed 2.5 percent and with a floor of 0 percent. A three-year COLA suspension was in effect for all benefit recipients for calendar years 2018, 2019, and 2020. SERS approved a 2.5 percent COLA for calendar year 2022.

Funding Policy – Plan members are required to contribute 10 percent of their annual covered salary and the School District is required to contribute 14 percent of annual covered payroll. The contribution requirements of plan members and employers are established and may be amended by the SERS’ Retirement Board up to statutory maximum amounts of 10 percent for plan members and 14 percent for employers. The Retirement Board, acting with the advice of the actuary, allocates the employer contribution rate among four of the System’s funds (Pension Trust Fund, Death Benefit Fund, Medicare B Fund, and Health Care Fund). For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2023, the allocation to pension, death benefits, and Medicare B was 14.0 percent. SERS did not allocate employer contributions to the Health Care Fund for fiscal year 2023.

The School District’s contractually required contribution to SERS was \$554,616 for fiscal year 2023.

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

Plan Description – School District licensed teachers and other faculty members participate in STRS Ohio, a cost-sharing multiple-employer public employee retirement system administered by STRS. STRS provides retirement and disability benefits to members and death and survivor benefits to beneficiaries. STRS issues a stand-alone financial report that includes financial statements, required supplementary information and detailed information about STRS’ fiduciary net position. That report can be obtained by writing to STRS, 275 E. Broad St., Columbus, OH 43215-3771, by calling (614) 227-4090, or by visiting the STRS Web site at [www.strsoh.org](http://www.strsoh.org).

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

The DB Plan offers an annual retirement allowance based on final average salary multiplied by a percentage that varies based on years of service. Effective August 1, 2015, the calculation is 2.2 percent of final average salary for the five highest years of earnings multiplied by all years of service. Effective August 1, 2017 – July 1, 2019, any member could retire with reduced benefits who had (1) five years of service credit and age 60; (2) 27 years of service credit and age 55; or (3) 30 years of service credit regardless of age. Effective August 1, 2019 – July 1, 2021, any member may retire with reduced benefits who has (1) five years of service credit and age 60; (2) 28 years of service credit and age 55; or (3) 30 years of service credit regardless of age. Eligibility changes will continue to be phased in until August 1, 2026, when retirement eligibility for unreduced benefits will be five years of service credit and age 65, or 35 years of service credit and at least age 60. Eligibility changes for actuarially reduced benefits will be phased in until August 1, 2026, when retirement eligibility will be five years of qualifying service credit and age 60, or 30 years of service credit at any age.

The DC Plan allows members to place all their member contributions and 9.53 percent of the 14 percent employer contributions into an investment account. Investment allocation decisions are determined by the member. The remaining 4.47 percent of the 14 percent employer rate is allocated to the defined benefit plan unfunded liability. A member is eligible to receive a monthly 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 percent of the 14 percent member rate is deposited into the member’s DC account and the remaining 2 percent 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 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.

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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 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 statutory employer rate is 14 percent and the statutory member rate is 14 percent of covered payroll. The School District was required to contribute 14 percent; the entire 14 percent was the portion used to fund pension obligations. The 2023 contribution rates were equal to the statutory maximum rates.

The School District's contractually required contribution to STRS was \$1,958,375 for fiscal year 2023.

***Pension Liabilities***

The net pension liability was measured as of June 30, 2022, and the total pension liability used to calculate the net pension liability was determined by an independent actuarial valuation as of that date. The School District's proportion of the net pension liability was based on the employer's share of employer contributions in the pension plan relative to the total employer contributions of all participating employers. Following is information related to the proportionate share:

	<u>SERS</u>	<u>STRS</u>	<u>Total</u>
Proportion of the Net Pension Liability:			
Current Measurement Date	0.0975540%	0.10771200%	
Prior Measurement Date	<u>0.1000960%</u>	<u>0.10877600%</u>	
Change in Proportionate Share	<u>-0.0025420%</u>	<u>-0.00106400%</u>	
Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability	\$ 5,276,457	\$ 23,944,442	\$ 29,220,899

***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 2132.

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

Key methods and assumptions used in calculating the total pension liability in the latest actuarial valuation, prepared as of June 30, 2022 and June 30, 2021, are presented below:

Actuarial Cost Method	Entry Age Normal (Level Percentage of Payroll, Closed)
Inflation	2.40 percent
Future Salary Increases, including inflation	3.25 percent to 13.58 percent
Investment Rate of Return	7.00 percent, net of investment expense, including inflation
COLA or Ad Hoc COLA	2.00 percent, on and after April 1, 2018, COLA's for future retirees will be delayed for three years following commencement

For 2022 and 2021, Mortality rates were based on the PUB-2010 General Employee Amount Weight Below Median Healthy Retiree mortality table projected to 2017 with ages set forward 1 year and adjusted 94.20 percent for males and set forward two years and adjusted 81.35 percent for females. Mortality among disabled members were based upon the PUB-2010 General Disabled Retiree mortality table projected to 2017 with ages set forward five years and adjusted 103.3 percent for males and set forward three years and adjusted 106.8 percent 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 investments has been determined by using a building-block approach and assumes a time horizon, as defined in SERS' *Statement of Investment Policy*. A forecasted rate of inflation serves as the baseline for the return expectation. Various real return premiums over the baseline inflation rate have been established for each asset class. The long-term expected nominal rate of return has been determined by calculating an arithmetic 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 in the following table:



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<u>Asset Class</u>	<u>Target Allocation</u>	<u>Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return</u>
Cash	2.00 %	(0.45) %
US Equity	24.75	5.37
Non-US Equity Developed	13.50	6.22
Non-US Equity Emerging	6.75	8.22
Fixed Income/Global Bonds	19.00	1.20
Private Equity	11.00	10.05
Real Estate/Real Assets	16.00	4.87
Multi-Asset Strategies	4.00	3.39
Private Debt/Private Credit	3.00	5.38
Total	<u>100.00 %</u>	

**Discount Rate** Total pension liability was calculated using the discount rate of 7.00 percent. The discount rate determination does 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 23-year amortization period of the unfunded actuarial accrued liability. Projected inflows from investment earnings were calculated using the long-term assumed investment rate of return (7.00 percent). Based on those assumptions, the plan's fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all future benefit payments of current plan members. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on 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 was negative 1.93 percent.

**Sensitivity of the School 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 School District's proportionate share of the net pension liability calculated using the discount rate of 7.00 percent, as well as what the School District's net pension liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is one percentage point lower (6.00 percent), or one percentage point higher (8.00 percent) than the current rate.

	<u>1% Decrease</u>	<u>Current Discount Rate</u>	<u>1% Increase</u>
School District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability	\$ 7,766,725	\$ 5,276,457	\$ 3,178,480

**Actuarial Assumptions - STRS**

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

Inflation	2.50 percent
Salary Increases	Varies by service from 2.50 percent to 8.50 percent
Payroll Increases	3.00 percent
Investment Rate of Return	7.00 percent, net of investment expenses, including inflation
Discount Rate of Return	7.00 percent
Cost-of-Living Adjustments (COLA)	0.00 percent

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Key methods and assumptions used in the latest actuarial valuation, reflecting experience study results used in the June 30, 2021, actuarial valuation, are presented below:

Inflation	2.50 percent
Actuarial Cost Method	Entry Age Normal (Level Percent of Payroll)
Projected Salary Increases	12.50 percent at age 20 to 2.50 percent at age 65
Investment Rate of Return	7.00 percent, net of investment expenses, including inflation
Payroll Increases	3.00 percent
Cost-of-Living Adjustments	0.00 percent

For 2022, post-retirement mortality rates for healthy retirees are based on the Pub-2010 Teachers Healthy Annuitant Mortality Table, adjusted 110 percent 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 percent for females, projected forward generationally using mortality improvement scale MP-2020. Post-retirement disabled mortality rates are based on Pub-2010 Teachers Disable Annuitant Table projected forward generationally using mortality improvement scale MP-2020.

For 2021, post-retirement mortality rates for healthy retirees are based on the RP-2014 Annuitant Mortality Table with 50 percent of rates through age 69, 70 percent of rates between ages 70 and 79, 90 percent of rates between ages 80 and 84, and 100 percent of rates thereafter, projected forward generationally using mortality improvement scale MP-2016. Pre-retirement mortality rates are based on RP-2014 Employee Mortality Tables, projected forward generationally using mortality improvement scale MP-2016. Post-retirement disabled mortality rates are based on the RP-2014 Disabled Mortality Table with 90 percent of rates for males and 100 percent of rates for females, projected forward generationally using mortality improvement scale MP-2016.

The actuarial assumptions used in the June 30, 2022 valuation, were based on the results of the latest available actuarial experience study, which is 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:

Asset Class	Target Allocation*	Long-Term Expected 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 %	

\*Target allocation percentage is effective as of July 1, 2022. Target weights were phased in over a 3-month period concluding on October 1, 2022.

\*\*10-Year annualized geometric nominal returns, which include the real rate of return and inflation of



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2.25 percent 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 percent as of June 30, 2022. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumes that employer and member contributions will be made at statutory contribution rates of 14 percent each. 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, 2022. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on investments of 7.00 percent was applied to all periods of projected benefit payments to determine the total pension liability as of June 30, 2022.

**Sensitivity of the School District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate** The following table represents the County's proportionate share of the net pension liability as of June 30, 2022, calculated using the current period discount rate assumption of 7.00 percent, as well as what the County's proportionate share of the net pension liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is one percentage point lower (6.00 percent) or one percentage point higher (8.00 percent) than the current assumption:

	1% Decrease	Current Discount Rate	1% Increase
School District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability	\$ 36,171,443	\$ 23,944,442	\$ 13,604,317

**Assumption and Benefit Changes Since the Prior Measurement Date** The discount rate was adjusted to 7.00 percent for the June 30, 2022 valuation.

Demographic assumptions were changed based on the actuarial experience study for the period July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2021.

**Assumption and Benefit Changes Since the Prior Measurement Date** STRS approved a one-time 1.00% cost-of-living adjustment to eligible benefit recipients effective July 1, 2023. It is unknown what effect this change will have on the net pension liability.

**NOTE 10 – DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS**

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

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

Health Care Plan Description - The School 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 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.

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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](http://www.ohsers.org) under Employers/Audit Resources.

Access to health care for retirees and beneficiaries is permitted in accordance with Section 3309 of the Ohio Revised Code. The Health Care Fund was established and is administered in accordance with Internal Revenue Code Section 105(e). SERS' Retirement Board reserves the right to change or discontinue any health plan or program. 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 percent of covered payroll to the Health Care Fund in accordance with the funding policy. For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2023, SERS did not allocate any employer contributions to 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 2023, this amount was \$25,000. Statutes provide that no employer shall pay a health care surcharge greater than 2.0 percent of that employer's SERS-covered payroll; nor may SERS collect in aggregate more than 1.5 percent of the total statewide SERS-covered payroll for the health care surcharge. For fiscal year 2023, the School District's surcharge obligation was \$53,824.

***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. Medicare Part B partial premium reimbursements will be continued indefinitely. The Plan is included in the report of STRS which can be obtained by visiting [www.strsoh.org](http://www.strsoh.org) or by calling (614) 227-4090.

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 health care may be deducted from employer contributions, currently 14 percent of covered payroll. For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2023, STRS did not allocate any employer contributions to post-employment health care.

***OPEB Liability (Asset)***

The net OPEB liability (asset) was measured as of June 30, 2022, and the total OPEB liability used to calculate the net OPEB liability (asset) was determined by an actuarial valuation as of that date. The School District's proportion of the net OPEB liability (asset) was based on the School District's share of

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contributions to the respective retirement systems relative to the contributions of all participating entities. Following is information related to the proportionate share:

	SERS	STRS
Proportion of the Net OPEB Liability (Asset):		
Current Measurement Date	0.100031%	0.107712%
Prior Measurement Date	0.103397%	0.108776%
Change in Proportionate Share	-0.003366%	-0.001064%
Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability (Asset)	\$ 1,404,448	\$ (2,789,022)

***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.

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

Inflation	2.40 percent
Salary Increases, including inflation	3.25 percent to 13.58 percent
Investment Rate of Return	7.00 percent net of investment expense, including inflation
Municipal Bond Index Rate	
Measurement Date	1.92 percent
Prior Measurement Date	3.69 percent
Single Equivalent Interest Rate	
Measurement Date	2.27 percent, net of plan investment expense, including price inflation
Prior Measurement Date	4.08 percent, net of plan investment expense, including price inflation
Health Care Cost Trend Rate	
Medicare	7.00 percent - 4.40 percent

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Key methods and assumptions used in calculating the total OPEB liability in the latest actuarial valuation date of June 30, 2021, are presented below:

Inflation	2.40 percent
Salary Increases, including inflation	3.25 percent to 13.58 percent
Investment Rate of Return	7.00 percent net of investment expense, including inflation
Municipal Bond Index Rate	
Measurement Date	1.92 percent
Prior Measurement Date	2.45 percent
Single Equivalent Interest Rate	
Measurement Date	2.27 percent, net of plan investment expense, including price inflation
Prior Measurement Date	2.63 percent, net of plan investment expense, including price inflation
Health Care Cost Trend Rate	
Pre-Medicare	6.750 percent - 4.40 percent
Medicare	5.125 percent - 4.40 percent

For 2022 and 2021, mortality rates were based on the PUB-2010 General Employee Amount Weight Below Median Healthy Retiree mortality table projected to 2017 with ages set forward 1 year and adjusted 94.20 percent for males and set forward two years and adjusted 81.35 percent for females. Mortality among disabled members were based upon the PUB-2010 General Disabled Retiree mortality table projected to 2017 with ages set forward five years and adjusted 103.3 percent for males and set forward three years and adjusted 106.8 percent 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 expected rate of return on plan assets is reviewed as part of the actuarial five-year experience study. The most recent study covers 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 log-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 percent, by weighting the expected future real rates of return by the target asset allocation percentage and then adding expected inflation. The capital market assumptions developed by the investment consultant are intended for use over a 10-year horizon and may not be useful in setting the long-term rate of return for funding pension plans which covers a longer time frame. 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 target asset allocation and best estimates of arithmetic real rates of return for each major asset class, as used in the June 30, 2020 five-year experience study, are summarized as follows:

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<u>Asset Class</u>	<u>Target Allocation</u>	<u>Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return</u>
Cash	2.00 %	(0.45) %
US Equity	24.75	5.37
Non-US Equity Developed	13.50	6.22
Non-US Equity Emerging	6.75	8.22
Fixed Income/Global Bonds	19.00	1.20
Private Equity	11.00	10.05
Real Estate/Real Assets	16.00	4.87
Multi-Asset Strategies	4.00	3.39
Private Debt/Private Credit	3.00	5.38
Total	<u>100.00 %</u>	

**Discount Rate** The discount rate used to measure the total OPEB liability at June 30, 2022, was 4.08 percent. The discount rate used to measure total OPEB liability prior to June 30, 2022 was 2.27 percent. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed that contributions will be made from members and the plan at the contribution rate of 1.50 percent of projected covered payroll each year, which includes a 1.50 percent payroll surcharge and no contributions from the basic benefits plan. Based on these assumptions, the OPEB plan's fiduciary net position was projected to become insufficient to make all projected future benefit payments of current System members by SERS actuaries. The Municipal Bond Index Rate is used in the determination of the SEIR for both the June 30, 2022 and the June 30, 2021 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 is 3.69 percent at June 30, 2022 and 1.92 percent at June 30, 2021.

**Sensitivity of the School 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 and what the net OPEB liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is one percentage point lower (3.08 percent) and higher (5.08 percent) than the current discount rate (4.08 percent). Also shown is what the net OPEB liability would be based on health care cost trend rates that are one percentage point lower (6.00 percent decreasing to 3.40 percent) and higher (8.00 percent decreasing to 5.40 percent) than the current rate (7.00 percent decreasing to 4.40 percent).

	<u>1% Decrease</u>	<u>Current Discount Rate</u>	<u>1% Increase</u>
	School District's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability	\$ 1,744,343	\$ 1,404,448
	<u>1% Decrease</u>	<u>Current Trend Rate</u>	<u>1% Increase</u>
	School District's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability	\$ 1,083,080	\$ 1,404,448

**Actuarial Assumptions – STRS**

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

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Salary Increases	Varies by service from 2.50 percent to 8.50 percent	
Payroll Increases	3.00 percent	
Investment Rate of Return	7.00 percent, net of investment expenses, including inflation	
Discount Rate of Return	7.00 percent	
Health Care Cost Trend Rates		
Medical	<u>Initial</u>	<u>Ultimate</u>
Pre-Medicare	7.50 percent	3.94 percent
Medicare	-68.78 percent	3.94 percent
Prescription Drug		
Pre-Medicare	9.00 percent	3.94 percent
Medicare	-5.47 percent	3.94 percent

Key methods and assumptions used in the latest actuarial valuation, reflecting experience study results used in the June 30, 2021, actuarial valuation are presented below:

Inflation	2.50 percent	
Projected Salary Increases	12.50 percent at age 20 to 2.50 percent at age 65	
Payroll Increases	3.00 percent	
Investment Rate of Return	7.00 percent, net of investment expenses, including inflation	
Discount Rate of Return	7.00 percent	
Health Care Cost Trend Rates		
Medical	<u>Initial</u>	<u>Ultimate</u>
Pre-Medicare	5.00 percent	4.00 percent
Medicare	-16.18 percent	4.00 percent
Prescription Drug		
Pre-Medicare	6.50 percent	4.00 percent
Medicare	29.98 percent	4.00 percent

In 2022, for healthy retirees the post-retirement mortality rates are based on the Pub-2010 Teachers Healthy Annuitant Mortality Table, adjusted 110 percent 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 percent for females, projected forward generationally using mortality improvement scale MP-2020. For disabled retirees, mortality rates are based on Pub-2010 Teachers Disabled Annuitant Table projected forward generationally using mortality improvement scale MP-2020.

In 2021, for healthy retirees the mortality rates are based on the RP-2014 Annuitant Mortality Table with 50 percent of rates through age 69, 70 percent of rates between ages 70 and 79, 90 percent of rates between ages 80 and 84, and 100 percent of rates thereafter, projected forward generationally using mortality improvement scale MP-2016. For disabled retirees, mortality rates are based on the RP-2014 Disabled Mortality Table with 90 percent of rates for males and 100 percent of rates for females, projected forward generationally using mortality improvement scale MP-2016.

The actuarial assumptions used in the June 30, 2022 valuation were adopted by the board from the results of an actuarial experience study for July 1, 2015, through June 30, 2021. An actuarial experience study is done on a quinquennial basis.



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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:

<u>Asset Class</u>	<u>Target Allocation*</u>	<u>Long-Term Expected Rate of Return**</u>
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>	

\*Target allocation percentage is effective as of July 1, 2022. Target weights were phased in over a 3-month period concluding on October 1, 2022.

\*\*Ten year annualized geometric nominal returns, which include the real rate of return and inflation of 2.25 percent 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 percent as of June 30, 2022. 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. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on health care plan investments of 7.00 percent was applied to all periods of projected benefit payments to determine the total OPEB liability as of June 30, 2022.

**Sensitivity of the School District's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Asset to Changes in the Discount Rate and Health Care Cost Trend Rate** The following table represents the net OPEB asset as of June 30, 2022, calculated using the current period discount rate assumption of 7.00 percent, 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 percent) or one percentage point higher (8.00 percent) than the current assumption. Also shown is the net OPEB asset as of June 30, 2022, calculated using health care cost trend rates that are one percentage point lower and one percentage point higher than the current health care cost trend rates.

	<u>1% Decrease</u>	<u>Current Discount Rate</u>	<u>1% Increase</u>
School District's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability (Asset)	\$ (2,578,378)	\$ (2,789,022)	\$ (2,969,457)
	<u>1% Decrease</u>	<u>Current Trend Rate</u>	<u>1% Increase</u>
School District's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability (Asset)	\$ (2,892,894)	\$ (2,789,022)	\$ (2,657,909)

**Assumption Changes Since the Prior Measurement Date** The discount rate remained unchanged at 7.00 percent for the June 30, 2022 valuation.

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***Benefit Term Changes Since the Prior Measurement Date*** Salary increase rates were updated based on the actuarial experience study for the period of July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2021 and were changed from age based to service based.

Healthcare trends were updated to reflect emerging claims and recoveries experience.

**NOTE 11 - LONG - TERM OBLIGATIONS**

The changes in the School District's long-term obligations during the fiscal year consist of the following:

	Balance 6/30/2022	Additions	Reductions	Balance 6/30/2023	Amounts Due in One Year
<b>Governmental Activities:</b>					
2015 Refunding Bonds	\$ 3,855,000	\$ -	\$ 920,000	\$ 2,935,000	\$ 950,000
<i>Total Governmental Activities</i>	<u>\$ 3,855,000</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 920,000</u>	<u>\$ 2,935,000</u>	<u>\$ 950,000</u>

*2015 Unlimited Tax Refunding Bonds*

On September 3, 2015, the School District issued \$8,390,000 of general obligation serial bonds at 1.25 – 3.0 percent. The bonds refunded \$8,445,000 of outstanding 2006 Refunding Bonds. The bonds were issued for a ten-year period with final maturity at December 1, 2025.

At the date of refunding, \$8,613,993 (including premium and after underwriting fees, and other issuance costs) was deposited in an irrevocable trust to provide for all future debt service payments on the refunded 2006 Refunding Bonds.

General obligation bonds will be paid from the bond retirement fund.

Principal and interest requirements to retire general obligation bonds outstanding at June 30, 2023 are as follows:

Fiscal Year Ending June 30,	Serial Bonds	
	Principal	Interest
2024	\$ 950,000	\$ 68,874
2025	985,000	42,312
2026	1,000,000	15,000
Total	<u>\$ 2,935,000</u>	<u>\$ 126,186</u>



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**NOTE 12 – CONTINGENCIES**

***A. Grants***

The School District received financial assistance from federal and State agencies in the form of grants. The expenditure of funds received under these programs generally requires compliance with terms and conditions specified in the grant agreements and is subject to audit by the grantor agencies. Any disallowed claims resulting from such audits could become a liability of the general fund or other applicable funds. However, the effect of any such disallowed claims on the overall financial position of the School District at June 30, 2023, if applicable, cannot be determined at this time.

***B. Litigation***

The School District is not party to any claims or lawsuits that would, in the School District’s opinion, have a material effect of the basic financial statements.

***C. School District Funding***

School District foundation funding is based on the annualized full-time equivalent (FTE) enrollment of each student. The Ohio Department of Education and Workforce (DEW) is legislatively required to adjust/reconcile funding as enrollment information is updated by schools throughout the State, which can extend past the fiscal year end. As of the date of this report, additional DEW adjustments for fiscal year 2023 are finalized. As a result, there is an immaterial receivable due to the School District.

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**NOTE 13 – FUND BALANCE**

Fund balance can be classified as non-spendable, restricted, committed, assigned and/or unassigned based primarily on the extent to which the School District is bound to observe constraints imposed upon the use of the resources in governmental funds.

The constraints placed on fund balance for the major governmental funds and all other governmental funds are presented as follows:

	General	Bond Retirement	Other Governmental Funds	Total
Nonspendable for:				
Unclaimed Funds	\$ 440	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 440
Restricted for:				
Debt Service	-	1,646,890	-	1,646,890
Capital Outlay	-	-	1,265,015	1,265,015
Food Service	-	-	386,054	386,054
Community Services	-	-	200,768	200,768
Extracurricular Activities	-	-	234,167	234,167
Local Grants	-	-	32,156	32,156
Federal and State Programs	-	-	1,442,133	1,442,133
Total Restricted	-	1,646,890	3,560,293	5,207,183
Committed for:				
Wellness Fund	2,604	-	-	2,604
Severance Benefits	332,586	-	-	332,586
Total Committed	335,190	-	-	335,190
Assigned for:				
Encumbrances:				
Instruction	51,650	-	-	51,650
Support Services	120,941	-	-	120,941
Community Service	2,000	-	-	2,000
Extracurricular Activities	3,274	-	-	3,274
Public School Support	60,539	-	-	60,539
Subsequent Year Appropriations	2,875,116	-	-	2,875,116
Total Assigned	3,113,520	-	-	3,113,520
Unassigned	2,893,498	-	-	2,893,498
<i>Total Fund Balance</i>	<u>\$ 6,342,648</u>	<u>\$ 1,646,890</u>	<u>\$ 3,560,293</u>	<u>\$ 11,549,831</u>

**Norwalk City School District**  
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**NOTE 14 - INTERFUND**

In fiscal year 2023, the School District had no interfund activity.

**NOTE 15 - SET-ASIDES**

Substitute House Bill 412, as amended, required the School District to “set aside” certain percentages of defined revenues for capital improvement and maintenance expenditures. As of April 10, 2001, any money on hand in a School District’s budget reserve set-aside account may at the discretion of the Board be returned to the School District’s general fund or may be left in the account and used by the Board to offset any budget deficit the School District may experience in future years. The amendment places special conditions on any refunds or rebates from the Bureau of Workers’ Compensation. These monies are to be used to offset a budget deficit for school facility construction, renovation or repair, for the textbooks or instructional materials; for purchase of school buses; or for teachers’ professional development.

During the fiscal year ended June 30, 2023, the reserve activity (cash basis) was as follows:

	<u>Budget Stabilization</u>	<u>Capital Improvement</u>
Set Aside Balance as of June 30, 2023	\$ 642,743	\$ -
Current Year Set-Aside Requirement	-	566,859
Current Year Qualifying Disbursements	-	(254,865)
Current Year Offsets	-	(311,994)
Total	<u>\$ 642,743</u>	<u>\$ -</u>
 Balance Carried Forward to FY 2024	 <u>\$ 642,743</u>	 <u>\$ -</u>

The School District had qualifying disbursements and offsets during the fiscal year that reduced the set-aside amount for the capital acquisition set-aside. The School District has prior year bond proceeds in connection with a school facilities project that may be carried forward to offset future set-aside requirements. The remaining balance of these bond proceeds as of June 30, 2023 is \$14,495,885.

**NOTE 16 – SIGNIFICANT COMMITMENTS**

***Encumbrance Commitments***

Outstanding encumbrances for governmental funds include \$177,865 for the general fund and \$445,032 in nonmajor governmental funds.

**NORWALK CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
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**SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023**

<b>FEDERAL GRANTOR</b> <i>Pass Through Grantor</i> <b>Program / Cluster Title</b>	<b>Federal AL Number</b>	<b>Total Federal Expenditures</b>
<b>U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE</b>		
<i>Passed Through Ohio Department of Education and Workforce</i>		
<u>Child Nutrition Cluster:</u>		
School Breakfast Program	10.553	\$ 129,855
National School Lunch Program	10.555	836,875
COVID-19 National School Lunch Program	10.555	68,814
Non-Cash Assistance (Food Distribution)	10.555	99,558
Total National School Lunch Program		<u>1,005,247</u>
Total Child Nutrition Cluster		<u>1,135,102</u>
COVID-19 Pandemic EBT Administrative Costs	10.649	<u>3,135</u>
<b>Total U.S. Department of Agriculture</b>		<b><u>1,138,237</u></b>
<b>U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION</b>		
<i>Passed Through Ohio Department of Education and Workforce</i>		
<u>Special Education Cluster (IDEA):</u>		
Special Education - Grants to States	84.027A	694,402
COVID-19 American Rescue Plan Act Special Education - Grants to States	84.027X	117,017
Special Education - Preschool Grants	84.173A	22,971
COVID-19 American Rescue Plan Act Special Education - Preschool Grants	84.173X	3,840
Total Special Education Cluster (IDEA)		<u>838,230</u>
Title I Grants to Local Educational Agencies	84.010A	609,061
English Language Acquisition State Grants	84.365A	16,902
Supporting Effective Instruction State Grants	84.367A	73,549
Student Support and Academic Enrichment Program	84.424A	50,389
<u>Education Stabilization Fund:</u>		
COVID-19 Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER II) Fund	84.425D	611,481
COVID-19 American Rescue Plan Act Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ARP ESSER)	84.425U	2,038,125
COVID-19 Emergency Relief - Homeless Children and Youth	84.425W	1,875
Total Education Stabilization Fund		<u>2,651,481</u>
<b>Total U.S. Department of Education</b>		<b><u>4,239,612</u></b>
<b>Total Expenditures of Federal Awards</b>		<b><u>\$ 5,377,849</u></b>

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

**NORWALK CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HURON COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS  
2 CFR 200.510(b)(6)  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023**

**NOTE A - BASIS OF PRESENTATION**

The accompanying Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards (the Schedule) includes the federal award activity of Norwalk City School District, Huron County, Ohio (the District) under programs of the federal government for the year ended June 30, 2023. 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 program 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 consent, schools can transfer unobligated amounts to the subsequent fiscal year's program. The District transferred the following amounts from 2023 to 2024 programs:

<u>Program Title</u>	<u>AL Number</u>	<u>Amt. Transferred</u>
American Rescue Plan Act Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ARP ESSER)	84.425U	\$ 3,081,143
Emergency Relief - Homeless Children and Youth	84.425W	\$ 15,653
Title I Grants to Local Education Agencies	84.010A	\$ 6,723
Supporting Effective Instruction State Grants	84.367A	\$ 39,438
English Language Acquisition State Grants	84.365A	\$ 405
Student Support and Academic Enrichment Program	84.424A	\$ 13,408
Special Education - Grants to States	84.027A	\$ 14,188
Special Education - Preschool Grants	84.173A	\$ 6,956

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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**

Norwalk City School District  
Huron County  
134 Benedict Avenue  
Norwalk, Ohio 44857

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 the 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, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Norwalk City School District, Huron County, Ohio (the District) as of and for the year ended June 30, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the District’s basic financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated March 19, 2024, 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 of 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 2023-001.

***District's Response to Finding***

*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 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  
Auditor of State  
Columbus, Ohio

March 19, 2024



# 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

Norwalk City School District  
Huron County  
134 Benedict Avenue  
Norwalk, Ohio 44857

To the Board of Education:

### Report on Compliance for Each Major Federal Program

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

We have audited Norwalk City School District, Huron County, Ohio's (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 Norwalk City School District's major federal programs for the year ended June 30, 2023. Norwalk City 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, Norwalk City 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 year ended June 30, 2023.

#### *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.

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  
Auditor of State  
Columbus, Ohio

March 19, 2024

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**NORWALK CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HURON COUNTY**

**SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS  
2 CFR § 200.515  
JUNE 30, 2023**

**1. SUMMARY OF AUDITOR'S RESULTS**

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

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

**FINDING NUMBER 2023-001**

**Noncompliance Citation**

**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.

**Ohio Admin. Code 117-2-03(B)**, which further clarifies the requirements of Ohio Rev. Code § 117.38, 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 annual financial statements according to generally accepted accounting principles.

**Officials' Response:**

See Corrective Action Plan

**3. FINDINGS FOR FEDERAL AWARDS**

None



# Norwalk City School District

134 Benedict Avenue  
 Norwalk, Ohio 44857  
 Phone: 419-668-2779  
 Fax: 419-663-3302

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## SUMMARY SCHEDULE OF PRIOR AUDIT FINDINGS 2 CFR 200.511(b) JUNE 30, 2023

Finding Number	Finding Summary	Status	Additional Information
2022-001	Finding was first reported during the audit of the 2015 financial statements. Ohio Rev. Code § 117.38 and Ohio Admin. Code 117-2-03(B) for reporting on a basis other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.	Not corrected and reissued as Finding 2023-001 in this report.	This issue is due to the District choosing to file on a cash-basis of accounting due to the additional costs of preparing the financial statements according to Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP).



# Norwalk City School District

134 Benedict Avenue  
Norwalk, Ohio 44857  
Phone: 419-668-2779  
Fax: 419-663-3302

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## **CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN 2 CFR § 200.511(c) JUNE 30, 2023**

<b>Finding Number:</b>	2023-001
<b>Planned Corrective Action:</b>	Management believes reporting on a basis of accounting other than generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) is more cost efficient.
<b>Anticipated Completion Date:</b>	N/A
<b>Responsible Contact Person:</b>	Joyce Dupont, Treasurer



# OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE KEITH FABER



**NORWALK CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**HURON 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 3/28/2024**

88 East Broad 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](http://www.ohioauditor.gov)