

**TRUMBULL COUNTY  
EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER  
TRUMBULL COUNTY, OHIO**

**SINGLE AUDIT REPORT**

**FOR THE FISCAL YEAR  
ENDED JUNE 30, 2024**

***Zupka & Associates***  
**Certified Public Accountants**

**TRUMBULL COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER  
TRUMBULL COUNTY, OHIO  
SINGLE AUDIT REPORT  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024**

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## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Trumbull County Educational Service Center  
Trumbull County  
6000 Youngstown Warren Road  
Niles, OH 44446-4603

To the Members of the Governing Board:

### Report on the Financial Statements

#### ***Opinion***

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Trumbull County Educational Service Center, Trumbull County, Ohio, (the Center) as of and for the year ended June 30, 2024, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Center's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Trumbull County Educational Service Center as of June 30, 2024, and the changes in financial position for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

#### ***Basis for Opinion***

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 (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 Center, 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 opinion.

#### ***Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements***

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and 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 Center'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 opinion. 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 Center'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 Center'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.

***Required Supplementary Information***

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the Management's Discussion and Analysis and Schedules of Net Pension and Postemployment Benefit Liabilities and Pension and Postemployment Benefit Contributions, as listed in the table of contents, be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

***Supplementary Information***

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on the financial statements that collectively comprise the Center's basic financial statements. The Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards is presented for purposes of additional analysis as required by Title 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 200, Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards, and is not a required part of the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the 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 did not subject the Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance - Budget and Actual (Non-GAAP Budgetary Basis) - General Fund to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and, accordingly, we express no opinion or any other form of 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 December 13, 2024, on our consideration of the Center's internal control over financial reporting and on 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 Center'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 Center's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.



Zupka & Associates  
Certified Public Accountants

December 13, 2024

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**TRUMBULL COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER  
TRUMBULL COUNTY, OHIO**

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

The management's discussion and analysis of the Trumbull County Educational Service Center's (the Educational Service Center) financial performance provides an overall review of the Educational Service Center's financial activities for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024. The intent of this discussion and analysis is to look at the Educational Service Center's financial performance as a whole; readers should also review the basic financial statements and the notes to the basic financial statements to enhance their understanding of the Educational Service Center's financial performance.

**Financial Highlights**

Key financial highlights for fiscal year 2024 are as follows:

- In total, net position of governmental activities increased \$861,434 which represents a 6.38% increase from the 2023 net position.
- General revenues accounted for \$1,288,164 in revenue or 5.94% of all revenues. Program specific revenues in the form of charges for services and sales, grants and contributions accounted for \$21,697,289 or 94.06% of total revenues of \$22,985,453.
- The Educational Service Center had \$22,124,019 in expenses related to governmental activities; \$21,697,289 of these expenses were offset by program revenues, including program specific charges for services, grants or contributions. In addition, the Educational Service Center had general revenues supporting governmental activities (primarily unrestricted grants and entitlements) of \$1,288,164. In total, revenues were adequate to provide for these expenses.
- The Educational Service Center's only major governmental fund is the general fund. The general fund had \$23,381,342 in revenues and other financing sources and \$22,974,026 in expenditures. During fiscal year 2024, the general fund's fund balance increased \$407,316 from \$6,090,297 to \$6,497,613.

**Using these Basic Financial Statements**

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

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

**Reporting the Educational Service Center as a Whole**

***Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities***

While this document contains the large number of funds used by the Educational Service Center to provide programs and activities, the view of the Educational Service Center as a whole looks at all financial transactions and asks the question, "How did we do financially during 2024?" The statement of net position and the statement of activities answer this question. These statements include all assets, deferred outflows, liabilities, deferred inflows, revenues and expenses using the accrual basis of accounting similar to the accounting used by most private-sector companies. This basis of accounting will take into account all of the current year's revenues and expenses regardless of when cash is received or paid.

**TRUMBULL COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER  
TRUMBULL COUNTY, OHIO**

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

These two statements report the Educational Service Center's net position and changes in that position. This change in net position is important because it tells the reader that, for the Educational Service Center as a whole, the financial position of the Educational Service Center 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 Educational Service Center's facility conditions, required educational programs and other factors.

In the statement of net position and the statement of activities, the governmental activities include the Educational Service Center's programs and services, including instruction, support services, operations and maintenance and extracurricular activities.

**Reporting the Educational Service Center's Most Significant Funds**

***Fund Financial Statements***

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

***Governmental Funds***

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

***Reporting the Educational Service Center's Fiduciary Responsibilities***

The Educational Service Center acts in a trustee capacity as an agent for individuals. These activities are reported in a custodial fund. All of the Educational Service Center's fiduciary activities are reported in separate statements of fiduciary net position and changes in fiduciary net position. These activities are excluded from the Educational Service Center's other financial statements because the assets cannot be utilized by the Educational Service Center to finance its operations.

***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.

***Required Supplementary Information***

In addition to the basic financial statements and accompanying notes, this report also presents certain required supplementary information concerning the Educational Service Center's net pension liability and net OPEB liability/asset.

***Other Information***

In addition, this report also presents certain other information concerning the Educational Service Center's general fund budgetary information.



**TRUMBULL COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER  
TRUMBULL COUNTY, OHIO**

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

**The Educational Service Center as a Whole**

The table below provides a summary of the Educational Service Center's net position at June 30, 2024 and June 30, 2023.

	<b>Net Position</b>	
	Governmental Activities 2024	Governmental Activities 2023
<b><u>Assets</u></b>		
Current and other assets	\$ 12,778,632	\$ 12,472,504
Capital assets, net	<u>1,854,626</u>	<u>540,783</u>
Total assets	<u>14,633,258</u>	<u>13,013,287</u>
<b><u>Deferred Outflows of Resources</u></b>		
Pension	4,452,236	5,119,383
OPEB	<u>1,168,454</u>	<u>935,869</u>
Total deferred outflows of resources	<u>5,620,690</u>	<u>6,055,252</u>
<b><u>Liabilities</u></b>		
Current liabilities	3,294,723	3,038,667
Long-term liabilities:		
Due within one year	265,437	261,725
Due in more than one year:		
Net pension liability	20,674,806	21,195,535
Net OPEB liability	1,507,091	1,439,920
Other amounts	<u>2,536,735</u>	<u>1,203,036</u>
Total liabilities	<u>28,278,792</u>	<u>27,138,883</u>
<b><u>Deferred Inflows of Resources</u></b>		
Pension	1,820,217	2,079,269
OPEB	<u>2,794,107</u>	<u>3,350,989</u>
Total deferred inflows of resources	<u>4,614,324</u>	<u>5,430,258</u>
<b><u>Net Position</u></b>		
Net investment in capital assets	29,600	80,452
Restricted	1,640,024	228,371
Unrestricted (deficit)	<u>(14,308,792)</u>	<u>(13,809,425)</u>
Total net position (deficit)	<u><u>\$ (12,639,168)</u></u>	<u><u>\$ (13,500,602)</u></u>

The net pension liability (NPL) is the largest single liability reported by the Educational Service Center at June 30, 2024 and is reported pursuant to GASB Statement 68, "Accounting and Financial Reporting for Pensions—an Amendment of GASB Statement 27." The Educational Service Center has adopted GASB Statement 75, "Accounting and Financial Reporting for Postemployment Benefits Other Than Pensions," which significantly revises accounting for costs and liabilities related to other postemployment benefits (OPEB). For reasons discussed below, many end users of this financial statement will gain a clearer understanding of the Educational Service Center's actual financial condition by adding deferred inflows related to pension and OPEB, the net pension liability and the net OPEB liability/asset to the reported net position and subtracting deferred outflows related to pension and OPEB.

**TRUMBULL COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER**  
**TRUMBULL COUNTY, OHIO**

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

Governmental Accounting Standards Board standards are national and apply to all government financial reports prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. Prior accounting for pensions (GASB 27) and postemployment benefits (GASB 45) focused on a funding approach. This approach limited pension and OPEB costs to contributions annually required by law, which may or may not be sufficient to fully fund each plan's *net pension liability* or *net OPEB liability/asset*. GASB 68 and GASB 75 take an earnings approach to pension and OPEB accounting; however, the nature of Ohio's statewide pension/OPEB plans and state law governing those systems requires additional explanation in order to properly understand the information presented in these statements.

GASB 68 and GASB 75 require the net pension liability and the net OPEB liability/asset to equal the Educational Service Center's proportionate share of each plan's collective:

1. Present value of estimated future pension/OPEB benefits attributable to active and inactive employees' past service.
2. Minus plan assets available to pay these benefits.

GASB notes that pension and OPEB obligations, whether funded or unfunded, are part of the "employment exchange" – that is, the employee is trading his or her labor in exchange for wages, benefits, and the promise of a future pension and other postemployment benefits. GASB noted that the unfunded portion of this promise is a present obligation of the government, part of a bargained-for benefit to the employee, and should accordingly be reported by the government as a liability since they received the benefit of the exchange. However, the Educational Service Center is not responsible for certain key factors affecting the balance of these liabilities. In Ohio, the employee shares the obligation of funding pension benefits with the employer. Both employer and employee contribution rates are capped by State statute. A change in these caps requires action of both Houses of the General Assembly and approval of the Governor. Benefit provisions are also determined by State statute. The Ohio Revised Code permits, but does not require, the retirement systems to provide healthcare to eligible benefit recipients. The retirement systems may allocate a portion of the employer contributions to provide for these OPEB benefits.

The employee enters the employment exchange with the knowledge that the employer's promise is limited not by contract but by law. The employer enters the exchange also knowing that there is a specific, legal limit to its contribution to the retirement system. In Ohio, there is no legal means to enforce the unfunded liability of the pension/OPEB plan *as against the public employer*. State law operates to mitigate/lessen the moral obligation of the public employer to the employee, because all parties enter the employment exchange with notice as to the law. The retirement system is responsible for the administration of the pension and OPEB plans.

Most long-term liabilities have set repayment schedules or, in the case of compensated absences (i.e. sick and vacation leave), are satisfied through paid time-off or termination payments. There is no repayment schedule for the net pension liability or the net OPEB liability/asset. As explained above, changes in benefits, contribution rates, and return on investments affect the balance of these liabilities but are outside the control of the local government. In the event that contributions, investment returns, and other changes are insufficient to keep up with required payments, State statute does not assign/identify the responsible party for the unfunded portion. Due to the unique nature of how the net pension liability and the net OPEB liability/asset are satisfied, these liabilities are separately identified within the long-term liability section of the statement of net position.

In accordance with GASB 68 and GASB 75, the Educational Service Center's statements prepared on an accrual basis of accounting include an annual pension expense and an annual OPEB expense for their proportionate share of each plan's *change* in net pension liability and net OPEB liability/asset, respectively, not accounted for as deferred inflows/outflows.

Over time, net position can serve as a useful indicator of a government's financial position. At June 30, 2024, the Educational Service Center's liabilities and deferred inflows of resources exceeded assets and deferred outflows of resources by \$12,639,168.

At year-end, capital assets represented 12.67% of total assets. Capital assets include furniture, equipment and textbooks, vehicles, and intangible right to use assets. Net investment in capital assets at June 30, 2024, was \$29,600. These capital assets are used to provide services to the students and are not available for future spending. Although the Educational Service Center's investment in capital assets is reported net of related debt, it should be noted that the resources to repay the debt must be provided from other sources, since capital assets may not be used to liquidate these liabilities.

**TRUMBULL COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER  
TRUMBULL COUNTY, OHIO**

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

A portion of the Educational Service Center's net position, \$1,640,024 represents resources that are subject to external restriction on how they may be used. The remaining deficit balance of unrestricted net position is \$14,308,792.

Total assets of the Educational Service Center's governmental activities increased 12.45% primarily due to an increase in capital assets which is described on page 12.

Total liabilities remained stable with a slight increase of 4.20%. This increase is primarily due to an increase in long-term debt which is described on page 13.

The table below shows the change in net position for fiscal year 2024 and 2023.

	<b>Change in Net Position</b>	
	Governmental Activities <u>2024</u>	Governmental Activities <u>2023</u>
<b><u>Revenues</u></b>		
Program revenues:		
Charges for services and sales	\$ 20,658,213	\$ 19,062,863
Operating grants and contributions	1,039,076	1,292,707
General revenues:		
Grants and entitlements, unrestricted	915,206	977,795
Investment earnings	368,492	71,941
Other	<u>4,466</u>	<u>15,919</u>
Total revenues	<u>22,985,453</u>	<u>21,421,225</u>
<b><u>Expenses</u></b>		
Program expenses:		
Instruction:		
Regular	634,125	601,959
Special	9,692,218	9,725,180
Vocational	25,649	987
Support services:		
Pupil	5,604,934	5,353,688
Instructional staff	2,033,424	2,243,129
Board of education	353,868	295,042
Administration	2,405,670	2,320,346
Fiscal	542,616	509,005
Business	10,650	11,311
Operations and maintenance	52,084	24,335
Pupil transportation	13,578	14,250
Central	700,468	786,133
Interest and fiscal charges	<u>54,735</u>	<u>16,004</u>
Total expenses	<u>22,124,019</u>	<u>21,901,369</u>
Change in net position	861,434	(480,144)
Net position (deficit) at beginning of year	<u>(13,500,602)</u>	<u>(13,020,458)</u>
Net position (deficit) at end of year	<u><u>\$ (12,639,168)</u></u>	<u><u>\$ (13,500,602)</u></u>

**TRUMBULL COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER  
TRUMBULL COUNTY, OHIO**

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

**Governmental Activities**

Net position of the Educational Service Center's governmental activities increased \$861,434. Total governmental expenses of \$22,124,019 were offset by program revenues of \$21,697,289 and general revenues of \$1,288,164. Program revenues supported 98.07% of the total governmental expenses.

The Educational Service Center relies heavily upon contracts with various school districts to support its operations. The primary sources of revenue for governmental activities are derived from charges for services and sales. These revenue sources represent 89.88% of total governmental revenue. The Educational Service Center also actively solicits and receives additional grant and entitlement funds to offset operating costs.

Overall, revenues of the governmental activities increased \$1,564,228 or 7.30% during fiscal year 2024.

Overall, expenses of the governmental activities remained stable with a slight increase of \$222,650 or 1.01%.

The largest expenses of the Educational Service Center are for instruction and support services. Instructional services expenses totaled \$10,351,992 or 46.80% of total governmental expenses for fiscal year 2024. Support services expenses totaled \$11,717,292 or 52.96% of total governmental expenses for fiscal year 2024.

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

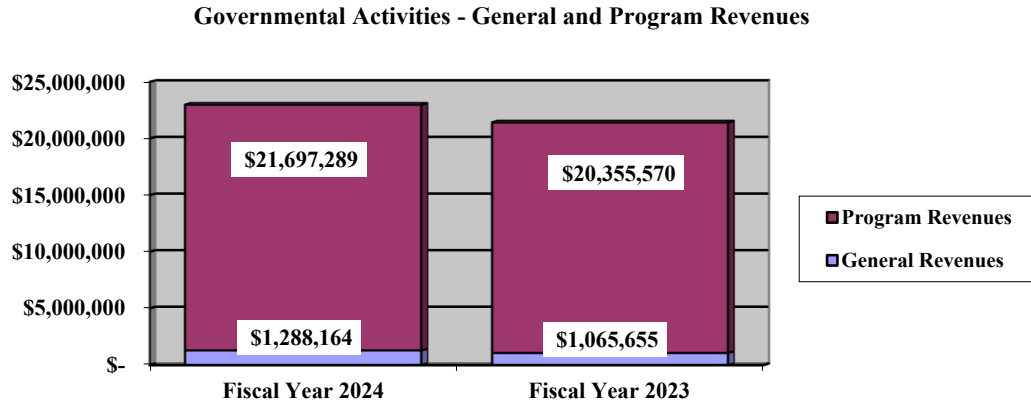
	<b>Governmental Activities</b>			
	Total Cost of Services 2024	Net Cost of Services 2024	Total Cost of Services 2023	Net Cost of Services 2023
<b>Program expenses</b>				
Instruction:				
Regular	\$ 634,125	\$ 249	\$ 601,959	\$ 30,000
Special	9,692,218	152,829	9,725,180	671,736
Vocational	25,649	366	987	55
Support services:				
Pupil	5,604,934	20,822	5,353,688	394,888
Instructional staff	2,033,424	41,599	2,243,129	(9,420)
Board of education	353,868	155,091	295,042	154,694
Administration	2,405,670	(14,326)	2,320,346	147,988
Fiscal	542,616	(3,008)	509,005	36,534
Business	10,650	90	11,311	650
Operations and maintenance	52,084	3,266	24,335	1,320
Pupil transportation	13,578	471	14,250	773
Central	700,468	14,546	786,133	100,577
Interest and fiscal charges	54,735	54,735	16,004	16,004
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>\$ 22,124,019</b>	<b>\$ 426,730</b>	<b>\$ 21,901,369</b>	<b>\$ 1,545,799</b>

Program revenues supported 98.07% of all governmental expenses. The primary support of the Educational Service Center is program revenues, charges for services, from Districts to which the Educational Service Center provides services.

**TRUMBULL COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER  
TRUMBULL COUNTY, OHIO**

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

The graph below presents the Educational Service Center's governmental activities revenue for fiscal year 2024 and 2023.



**The Educational Service Center's Funds**

The Educational Service Center's governmental funds reported a combined fund balance of \$6,725,457, which is \$510,865 more than last year's fund balance of \$6,214,592. The schedule below indicates the fund balance and the total change in fund balance as of June 30, 2024 and 2023.

	Fund Balance June 30, 2024	Fund Balance June 30, 2023	Change	Change
General	\$ 6,497,613	\$ 6,090,297	\$ 407,316	6.69 %
Other Governmental	227,844	124,295	103,549	83.31 %
Total	<u>\$ 6,725,457</u>	<u>\$ 6,214,592</u>	<u>\$ 510,865</u>	8.22 %

**General Fund**

The Educational Service Center's general fund balance increased by \$407,316.

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

	2024 Amount	2023 Amount	Change	Percentage Change
<b>Revenues</b>				
Tuition and fees	\$ 20,563,250	\$ 19,179,732	\$ 1,383,518	7.21 %
Charges for services	21,369	22,013	(644)	(2.93) %
Investment earnings	363,798	73,205	290,593	396.96 %
Intergovernmental	920,796	980,304	(59,508)	(6.07) %
Other revenues	33,966	44,419	(10,453)	(23.53) %
Total	<u>\$ 21,903,179</u>	<u>\$ 20,299,673</u>	<u>\$ 1,603,506</u>	7.90 %

**TRUMBULL COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER  
TRUMBULL COUNTY, OHIO**

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

Overall, the Educational Service Center's general fund revenues increased \$1,603,506 or 7.91% compared to the prior fiscal year. Tuition increased \$1,383,518 or 7.21% primarily due to an increase in tuition receipts for special education during the current fiscal year. Charges for services decreased \$644 or 2.93% due to a decrease in services provided to other entities in the current fiscal year. Earnings on investments increased \$290,593 or 396.96% in the current fiscal year due to higher interest rates in fiscal year 2024. Intergovernmental revenues decreased \$59,508 or 6.07% due to changes in the state foundation funding model. Other revenues decreased \$10,453 or 23.53% due to a decrease in contributions and donations and miscellaneous revenue received during the fiscal year.

	<u>2024</u> <u>Amount</u>	<u>2023</u> <u>Amount</u>	<u>Change</u>	<u>Percentage</u> <u>Change</u>
<b><u>Expenditures</u></b>				
Instruction	\$ 10,191,053	\$ 9,637,174	\$ 553,879	5.75 %
Support services	11,139,686	10,342,600	797,086	7.71 %
Capital outlay	1,478,163	-	1,478,163	100.00 %
Debt service	<u>165,124</u>	<u>203,056</u>	<u>(37,932)</u>	(18.68) %
Total	<u>\$ 22,974,026</u>	<u>\$ 20,182,830</u>	<u>\$ 2,791,196</u>	13.83 %

Overall, the Educational Service Center's general fund expenditures increased \$2,791,196 or 13.83% compared to the prior fiscal year. Capital outlay increased due to the inception of a new lease during the fiscal year. All other expenditures remained comparable to the prior fiscal year.

**Capital Assets and Debt Administration**

***Capital Assets***

At the end of fiscal year 2024, the Educational Service Center had \$1,854,626 invested in furniture, equipment and textbooks, vehicles, and intangible right to use assets, net of accumulated depreciation/amortization. This entire amount is reported in governmental activities.

The following table shows fiscal year 2024 balances compared to 2023:

**Capital Assets at June 30  
(Net of Depreciation/Amortization)**

	<u>Governmental Activities</u>	
	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
Furniture, equipment and textbooks	\$ 84,161	\$ 100,943
Vehicles	-	-
Intangible right to use - leased equipment	-	-
Intangible right to use - leased buildings	<u>1,770,465</u>	<u>439,840</u>
Total	<u>\$ 1,854,626</u>	<u>\$ 540,783</u>

The overall increase in capital assets of \$1,313,843 is due to capital asset additions of \$1,478,163 exceeding depreciation/amortization expense of \$164,320. The Educational Service Center entered into an additional lease agreement for their building during the fiscal year.

See Note 8 to the basic financial statements for additional information on the Educational Service Center's capital assets.

**TRUMBULL COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER  
TRUMBULL COUNTY, OHIO**

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

***Debt Administration***

At June 30, 2024 the Educational Service Center had \$1,825,026 in lease obligations outstanding. Of this total, \$104,349 is due within one year and \$1,720,677 is due within greater than one year. The following table summarizes the lease obligations outstanding.

**Outstanding Debt, at Year End**

	Governmental Activities <u>2024</u>	Governmental Activities <u>2023</u>
Lease obligations	\$ 1,825,026	\$ 460,331

See Note 9 to the basic financial statements for additional information on the Educational Service Center's debt administration.

**Current Financial Related Activities**

The Educational Service Center continues to be financially stable and is able to continue to offer the programs needed to enrich and service the various school districts. As the preceding analysis demonstrates, the Educational Service Center relies heavily on contracts with local, city and exempted village school districts in Trumbull County, State foundation revenue and operating grants. During 2024, the overall financial impact of contracts for services provided to Trumbull County districts remained consistent with the prior year. Opportunities for new contracts and the Educational Service Center's available cash balance will provide the Educational Service Center with the necessary funds to meet its operating needs going forward. Under HB153, which was effective for fiscal year 2014, local, city and exempted village school districts were given the option to choose any ESC for services; all of the school districts in Trumbull County have signed contracts with the Trumbull County Educational Service Center.

One challenge facing the Educational Service Center is the decline in enrollment in Trumbull County over the past several years and the projected decline in the future. The Educational Service Center receives funding based on the Average Daily Membership (ADM) of the Trumbull County school districts. The continued decline in ADM will directly impact per-pupil funding from the State of Ohio.

Another challenge facing the Educational Service Center is the need to provide additional contract services to Trumbull County school districts to offset declining State support. The Educational Service Center constantly strives to provide more services in the most cost efficient manner.

The Educational Service Center's systems of budgeting and internal controls are well regarded. All of the Educational Service Center's financial abilities will be necessary to meet the financial challenges of the future.

**Contacting the Educational Service Center's Financial Management**

This financial report is designed to provide our citizens, taxpayers, and investors and creditors with a general overview of the Educational Service Center's finances and to show the Educational Service Center's accountability for the money it receives. If you have questions about this report or need additional financial information contact Stacy Foster, Treasurer at the Educational Service Center, 6000 Youngstown-Warren Road, Niles, Ohio 44446.

BASIC  
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS



**TRUMBULL COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER  
TRUMBULL COUNTY, OHIO**

STATEMENT OF NET POSITION  
JUNE 30, 2024

	<b>Governmental Activities</b>
<b>Assets:</b>	
Equity in pooled cash and cash equivalents	\$ 9,812,701
Receivables:	
Accounts	70
Accrued interest	32,477
Intergovernmental	1,437,254
Prepayments	72,841
Net OPEB asset	1,423,289
Capital assets being depreciated/amortized, net	1,854,626
Total assets	<u>14,633,258</u>
<b>Deferred outflows of resources:</b>	
Pension	4,452,236
OPEB	1,168,454
Total deferred outflows of resources	<u>5,620,690</u>
<b>Liabilities:</b>	
Accounts payable	36,234
Accrued wages and benefits payable	2,401,418
Intergovernmental payable	466,976
Pension obligation payable	376,572
Accrued interest payable	4,563
Unearned revenue	8,960
Long-term liabilities:	
Due within one year	265,437
Due in more than one year:	
Net pension liability	20,674,806
Net OPEB liability	1,507,091
Other amounts due in more than one year	2,536,735
Total liabilities	<u>28,278,792</u>
<b>Deferred inflows of resources:</b>	
Pension	1,820,217
OPEB	2,794,107
Total deferred inflows of resources	<u>4,614,324</u>
<b>Net position:</b>	
Net investment in capital assets	29,600
Restricted for:	
OPEB	1,423,289
Federally funded programs	12,962
Other purposes	203,773
Unrestricted (deficit)	(14,308,792)
Total net position (deficit)	<u><u>\$ (12,639,168)</u></u>

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**TRUMBULL COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER  
TRUMBULL COUNTY, OHIO**

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

		Program Revenues		Net (Expense) Revenue and Changes in Net Position
	Expenses	Charges for Services and Sales	Operating Grants and Contributions	Governmental Activities
<b>Governmental activities:</b>				
Instruction:				
Regular	\$ 634,125	\$ 343,553	\$ 290,323	\$ (249)
Special	9,692,218	9,468,460	70,929	(152,829)
Vocational	25,649	25,283	-	(366)
Support services:				
Pupil	5,604,934	5,454,760	129,352	(20,822)
Instructional staff	2,033,424	1,738,551	253,274	(41,599)
Board of education	353,868	198,777	-	(155,091)
Administration	2,405,670	2,126,796	293,200	14,326
Fiscal	542,616	545,624	-	3,008
Business	10,650	10,560	-	(90)
Operations and maintenance	52,084	48,818	-	(3,266)
Pupil transportation	13,578	13,107	-	(471)
Central	700,468	683,924	1,998	(14,546)
Interest and fiscal charges	54,735	-	-	(54,735)
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$ 22,124,019</b>	<b>\$ 20,658,213</b>	<b>\$ 1,039,076</b>	<b>(426,730)</b>
<b>General revenues:</b>				
Grants and entitlements not restricted to specific programs				915,206
Investment earnings				368,492
Miscellaneous				4,466
Total general revenues				<u>1,288,164</u>
Change in net position				861,434
<b>Net position (deficit) at beginning of year</b>				<u>(13,500,602)</u>
<b>Net position (deficit) at end of year</b>				<u><u>\$ (12,639,168)</u></u>

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**TRUMBULL COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER  
TRUMBULL COUNTY, OHIO**

BALANCE SHEET  
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS  
JUNE 30, 2024

	<b>General</b>	<b>Nonmajor Governmental Funds</b>	<b>Total Governmental Funds</b>
<b>Assets:</b>			
Equity in pooled cash and cash equivalents	\$ 9,636,561	\$ 176,140	\$ 9,812,701
Receivables:			
Accounts	70	-	70
Accrued interest	32,477	-	32,477
Intergovernmental	1,357,744	79,510	1,437,254
Prepayments	54,010	18,831	72,841
Total assets	<u>\$ 11,080,862</u>	<u>\$ 274,481</u>	<u>\$ 11,355,343</u>
<b>Liabilities:</b>			
Accounts payable	\$ 30,285	\$ 5,949	\$ 36,234
Accrued wages and benefits payable	2,365,401	36,017	2,401,418
Compensated absences payable	96,928	-	96,928
Intergovernmental payable	466,532	444	466,976
Pension obligation payable	372,345	4,227	376,572
Unearned revenue	8,960	-	8,960
Total liabilities	<u>3,340,451</u>	<u>46,637</u>	<u>3,387,088</u>
<b>Deferred inflows of resources:</b>			
Intergovernmental revenue not available	1,234,209	-	1,234,209
Accrued interest not available	8,589	-	8,589
Total deferred inflows of resources	<u>1,242,798</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,242,798</u>
<b>Fund balances:</b>			
Nonspendable:			
Prepays	54,010	18,831	72,841
Restricted:			
Other purposes	-	203,569	203,569
Committed:			
Other purposes	-	10,083	10,083
Assigned:			
Student instruction	17,351	-	17,351
Student and staff support	104,104	-	104,104
Other purposes	2,659	-	2,659
Unassigned (deficit)	<u>6,319,489</u>	<u>(4,639)</u>	<u>6,314,850</u>
Total fund balances	<u>6,497,613</u>	<u>227,844</u>	<u>6,725,457</u>
Total liabilities, deferred inflows and fund balances	<u>\$ 11,080,862</u>	<u>\$ 274,481</u>	<u>\$ 11,355,343</u>

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**TRUMBULL COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER  
TRUMBULL COUNTY, OHIO**

RECONCILIATION OF TOTAL GOVERNMENTAL FUND BALANCES TO  
NET POSITION OF GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES  
JUNE 30, 2024

<b>Total governmental fund balances</b>		\$ 6,725,457
<i>Amounts reported for governmental activities on the statement of net position are different because:</i>		
Capital assets used in governmental activities are not financial resources and therefore are not reported in the funds.		1,854,626
Other long-term assets are not available to pay for current-period expenditures and therefore are deferred inflows in the funds.		
Accrued interest receivable	\$ 8,589	
Intergovernmental receivable	<u>1,234,209</u>	
Total		1,242,798
Accrued interest payable is not due and payable in the current period and therefore is not reported in the funds.		(4,563)
The net pension/OPEB assets & liabilities are not due and payable in the current period; therefore, the assets, liabilities and related deferred inflows/outflows are not reported in governmental funds.		
Deferred outflows - pension	4,452,236	
Deferred inflows - pension	(1,820,217)	
Net pension liability	(20,674,806)	
Deferred outflows - OPEB	1,168,454	
Deferred inflows - OPEB	(2,794,107)	
Net OPEB asset	1,423,289	
Net OPEB liability	<u>(1,507,091)</u>	
Total		(19,752,242)
Long-term liabilities are not due and payable in the current period and therefore are not reported in the funds.		
Leases payable	(1,825,026)	
Compensated absences	<u>(880,218)</u>	
Total		<u>(2,705,244)</u>
<b>Net position of governmental activities</b>		<u><u>\$ (12,639,168)</u></u>

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**TRUMBULL COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER  
TRUMBULL COUNTY, OHIO**

STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES  
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

	<b>General</b>	<b>Nonmajor Governmental Funds</b>	<b>Total Governmental Funds</b>
<b>Revenues:</b>			
Intergovernmental	\$ 920,796	\$ 1,042,978	\$ 1,963,774
Investment earnings	363,798	-	363,798
Tuition and fees	20,563,250	127,547	20,690,797
Extracurricular	2,000	-	2,000
Charges for services	21,369	-	21,369
Contributions and donations	27,500	24,000	51,500
Miscellaneous	4,466	-	4,466
Total revenues	<u>21,903,179</u>	<u>1,194,525</u>	<u>23,097,704</u>
<b>Expenditures:</b>			
Current:			
Instruction:			
Regular	355,907	290,297	646,204
Special	9,808,952	69,948	9,878,900
Vocational	26,194	-	26,194
Support services:			
Pupil	5,650,918	110,101	5,761,019
Instructional staff	1,730,085	348,293	2,078,378
Board of education	206,551	-	206,551
Administration	2,203,278	270,339	2,473,617
Fiscal	565,245	-	565,245
Business	10,939	-	10,939
Operations and maintenance	50,573	-	50,573
Pupil transportation	13,578	-	13,578
Central	708,519	1,998	710,517
Capital outlay	1,478,163	-	1,478,163
Debt service:			
Principal retirement	113,468	-	113,468
Interest and fiscal charges	51,656	-	51,656
Total expenditures	<u>22,974,026</u>	<u>1,090,976</u>	<u>24,065,002</u>
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over (under) expenditures	<u>(1,070,847)</u>	<u>103,549</u>	<u>(967,298)</u>
<b>Other financing sources:</b>			
Lease transaction	1,478,163	-	1,478,163
Total other financing sources	<u>1,478,163</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,478,163</u>
Net change in fund balances	407,316	103,549	510,865
<b>Fund balances at beginning of year</b>	<u>6,090,297</u>	<u>124,295</u>	<u>6,214,592</u>
<b>Fund balances at end of year</b>	<u><u>\$ 6,497,613</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 227,844</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 6,725,457</u></u>

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**TRUMBULL COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER  
TRUMBULL COUNTY, OHIO**

RECONCILIATION OF THE STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES  
AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES OF GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS  
TO THE STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

<b>Net change in fund balances - total governmental funds</b>	\$	510,865
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*Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of activities are different because:*

Governmental funds report capital outlays as expenditures. However, in the statement of activities, the cost of those assets is allocated over their estimated useful lives as depreciation/amortization expense.

Capital asset additions	\$ 1,478,163	
Current year depreciation/amortization	(164,320)	
Total		1,313,843

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

Tuition	(55,568)	
Earnings on investments	4,694	
Charges for service	(385)	
Intergovernmental	(60,992)	
Total		(112,251)

Repayment of lease principal is an expenditure in the governmental funds, but the repayment reduces long-term liabilities on the statement of net position.

113,468

Issuance of leases are recorded as other financing sources in the funds; however, in the statement of activities, they are not reported as other financing sources as they increase liabilities on the statement of net position.

(1,478,163)

In the statement of activities, interest is accrued on outstanding leases, whereas in governmental funds, an interest expenditure is reported when due.

(3,079)

Contractually required contributions are reported as expenditures in governmental funds; however, the statement of net position reports these amounts as deferred outflows.

Pension	1,949,216	
OPEB	84,558	
Total		2,033,774

Except for amounts reported as deferred inflows/outflows, changes in the net pension/OPEB liability/asset are reported as pension/OPEB expense in the statement of activities.

Pension	(1,836,582)	
OPEB	226,477	
Total		(1,610,105)

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

93,082

<b>Change in net position of governmental activities</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>861,434</b>
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SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**TRUMBULL COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER  
TRUMBULL COUNTY, OHIO**

STATEMENT OF FIDUCIARY NET POSITION  
FIDUCIARY FUNDS  
JUNE 30, 2024

	<u>Custodial</u>
<b>Assets:</b>	
Equity in pooled cash and cash equivalents	\$ 743,057
Cash and cash equivalents in segregated accounts	2,664,630
Due from other governments	17,398
Total assets	<u>3,425,085</u>
<b>Liabilities:</b>	
Due to other governments	18,602
Claims payable	2,097,573
Total liabilities	<u>2,116,175</u>
<b>Net position:</b>	
Restricted for pool participants	567,057
Restricted for individuals, organizations and other governments	741,853
Total net position	<u>\$ 1,308,910</u>

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**TRUMBULL COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER  
TRUMBULL COUNTY, OHIO**

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN FIDUCIARY NET POSITION  
FIDUCIARY FUNDS  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

	<u>Custodial</u>
<b>Additions:</b>	
Amounts received as fiscal agent	\$ 42,163,149
<b>Deductions:</b>	
Distributions as fiscal agent	<u>42,403,410</u>
Change in net position	(240,261)
<b>Net position at beginning of year</b>	<u>1,549,171</u>
<b>Net position at end of year</b>	<u><u>\$ 1,308,910</u></u>

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS



**TRUMBULL COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER  
TRUMBULL COUNTY, OHIO**

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

**NOTE 1 - DESCRIPTION OF THE ENTITY**

The Trumbull County Educational Service Center (the “Educational Service Center”) is the successor to the former Trumbull County Board of Education. County boards of education were formed in Ohio as a result of the passage of Senate Bill 9 in 1914. In 1995, Am Sub. H.B. 117 authorized the creation of Educational Service Centers and abolished county school Educational Service Centers. That legislation also changed the “Board of Education” to the “Governing Board.”

The Educational Service Center operates under a locally-elected five-member Governing Board form of government and provides educational services as mandated by State or federal agencies to fifteen local, three city, and two exempted village school Educational Service Centers in Trumbull County. The Board controls the Educational Service Center’s staff who provide services to 24,048 students and other community members in Trumbull County.

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

The basic financial statements of the Educational Service Center have been prepared in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP) as applied to governmental units. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) is the accepted standard-setting body for establishing governmental accounting and financial reporting principles. The Educational Service Center’s significant accounting policies are described below.

**A. Reporting Entity**

A reporting entity is comprised of the primary government, component units and other organizations that are included to ensure that the financial statements are not misleading. The primary government of the Educational Service Center consists of all funds, departments, boards and agencies that are not legally separate from the Educational Service Center. For the Educational Service Center, this includes the agencies and departments that provide the following services: general operations and related special education, supervisory, administrative and fiscal activities of the Educational Service Center.

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

The following organizations are described due to their relationship to the Educational Service Center:

***JOINTLY GOVERNED ORGANIZATIONS***

**Northeast Ohio Management Information Network (NEOMIN)**

Effective July 1, 2022, NEOMIN reorganized as a regional council of governments (COG). The Educational Service Center no longer serves as the fiscal agent for NEOMIN. The Educational Service Center paid \$15,664 to NEOMIN during fiscal year 2024.

**TRUMBULL COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER  
TRUMBULL COUNTY, OHIO**

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

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

*SHARED RISK POOL*

Trumbull County Schools Employee Insurance Benefit Consortium

The Educational Service Center participates in the Trumbull County Schools Employee Insurance Benefit Consortium. This is a shared risk pool comprised of seventeen Trumbull County school Educational Service Centers. The Consortium is governed by an assembly which consists of one representative from each participating school Educational Service Center (usually the superintendent or designee). The assembly elects officers for one year terms to serve as the Board of Directors. The assembly exercises control over the operation of the Consortium. Consortium revenues are generated from charges for services. The Educational Service Center serves as the Consortium's fiscal agent and the Treasurer of the Consortium is the Treasurer of the fiscal agent. Financial information is available from the Educational Service Center, 6000 Youngstown Warren Road, Niles, Ohio 44446.

**B. Basis of Presentation**

The Educational Service Center's basic financial statements consist of government-wide 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.

***Government-wide Financial Statements*** - The statement of net position and the statement of activities display information about the Educational Service Center as a whole. These statements include the financial activities of the primary government, except for fiduciary funds. These statements usually distinguish between those activities that are governmental and those that are considered business-type. The Educational Service Center, however, has only governmental activities.

The statement of net position presents the financial condition of the governmental activities of the Educational Service Center at fiscal year-end. The statement of activities presents a comparison between direct expenses and program revenues for each program or function of the Educational Service Center's governmental activities. Direct expenses are those that are specifically associated with a service, program or department and therefore are clearly identifiable to a particular function. Program revenues include charges paid by the recipient of the goods or services offered by the program, grants and contributions that are restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular program and interest earned on grants that is required to be used to support a particular program. Revenues which are not classified as program revenues are presented as general revenues of the Educational Service Center, with certain limited exceptions. The comparison of direct expenses with program revenues identifies the extent to which each governmental activity is self-financing or draws from the general revenues of the Educational Service Center.

***Fund Financial Statements*** - During the fiscal year, the Educational Service Center segregates transactions related to certain Educational Service Center 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 Educational Service Center 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. Nonmajor funds are aggregated and presented in a single column. Fiduciary funds are reported by type.

**C. Fund Accounting**

The Educational Service Center 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 Educational Service Center are divided into two categories: governmental and fiduciary.

**TRUMBULL COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER  
TRUMBULL COUNTY, OHIO**

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

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

***Governmental Funds*** - Governmental funds are those through which most governmental functions of the Educational Service Center typically are financed. Governmental fund reporting focuses on the sources, uses and balances of current financial resources. Expendable assets are assigned to the various governmental funds according to the purposes for which they may or must be used. Current liabilities are assigned to the fund from which they will be paid. The difference between governmental fund assets and liabilities and deferred inflows of resources is reported as fund balance. The Educational Service Center has the following major governmental fund:

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

Other governmental funds of the Educational Service Center are used to account for:

***Nonmajor special revenue funds*** - Special revenue funds are used to account for and report the proceeds of specific revenue sources that are restricted or committed to expenditure for specified purposes.

***Fiduciary Fund Type*** - Fiduciary fund reporting focuses on net position and changes in net position. The fiduciary fund category is split into the following four classifications: pension (and other employee benefit) 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 Educational Service Center's fiduciary funds are custodial funds. Custodial funds are used to account for assets held by the Educational Service Center as fiscal agent for Trumbull County Schools Employee Insurance Benefit Consortium and the Trumbull County Transportation Consortium.

**D. Measurement Focus**

***Government-wide Financial Statements*** - The government-wide financial statements are prepared using the economic resources measurement focus. All assets and deferred outflows of resources and all liabilities and deferred inflows of resources associated with the operation of the Educational Service Center are included on the statement of net position. The statement of activities presents increases (i.e., revenues) and decreases (i.e., expenses) in total net position.

***Fund Financial Statements*** - All governmental funds are accounted for using a flow of current financial resources measurement focus. With this measurement focus, only current assets and deferred outflows of resources and current liabilities and deferred inflows of resources generally are included on the balance sheet. The statement of revenues, expenditures and changes in fund balances reports on the sources (i.e., revenues and other financing sources) and uses (i.e., expenditures and other financing uses) of current financial resources. This approach differs from the manner in which the governmental activities of the government-wide financial statements are prepared. Governmental fund financial statements therefore include reconciliations with brief explanations to better identify the relationship between the government-wide statements and the statements for governmental funds.

Like the government-wide statements, all fiduciary funds are accounted for on a flow of economic resources measurement focus. All assets and deferred outflows of resources and all liabilities and deferred inflows of resources associated with the operation of these funds are included on the statement of fund net position. In fiduciary funds, a liability to the beneficiaries of fiduciary activity is recognized when an event has occurred that compels the government to disburse fiduciary resources. Fiduciary fund liabilities other than those to beneficiaries are recognized using the economic resources measurement focus.

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

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

Fiduciary funds present a statement of changes in fiduciary net position which reports additions to and deductions from the custodial funds.

**E. Basis of Accounting**

Basis of accounting determines when transactions are recorded in the financial records and reported on the financial statements. Government-wide financial statements and the statements presented for fiduciary funds are prepared using the accrual basis of accounting. Governmental funds use the modified accrual basis of accounting. Differences in the accrual and modified accrual basis of accounting arise in the recognition of revenue, in the recording of deferred outflows/inflows of resources, and in the presentation of expenses versus expenditures.

***Revenues - Exchange and Non-Exchange Transactions*** - Revenue resulting from exchange transactions, in which each party gives and receives essentially equal value, is recorded on the accrual basis when the exchange takes place. On a modified accrual basis, revenue is recorded in the fiscal year in which the resources are measurable and become available. Available means that the resources will be collected within the current fiscal year or are expected to be collected soon enough thereafter to be used to pay liabilities of the current fiscal year. For the Educational Service Center, available means expected to be received within sixty days of fiscal year end.

Nonexchange transactions, in which the Educational Service Center receives value without directly giving equal value in return, include grants, entitlements and donations. On an accrual basis, revenue from grants, entitlements and donations is recognized in the fiscal year in which all eligibility requirements have been satisfied. Eligibility requirements include timing requirements, which specify the fiscal year when the resources are required to be used or the fiscal year when use is first permitted, matching requirements, in which the Educational Service Center must provide local resources to be used for a specified purpose, and expenditure requirements, in which the resources are provided to the Educational Service Center on a reimbursement basis. On a modified accrual basis, revenue from nonexchange transactions must also be available before it can be recognized.

Under the modified accrual basis, the following revenue sources are considered to be both measurable and available at year-end: interest, tuition, grants, fees, customer services and charges for services.

***Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources*** - In addition to assets, the government-wide statement of net position will report a separate section for deferred outflows of resources. Deferred outflows of resources represent a consumption of net assets that applies to a future period and will not be recognized as an outflow of resources (expense/expenditure) until then. See Notes 10 and 11 for deferred outflows of resources related to net pension liability/asset and net OPEB liability/asset, respectively.

In addition to liabilities, both the government-wide statement of net position and the governmental fund financial statements report a separate section for deferred inflows of resources. Deferred inflows of resources represent an acquisition of net assets that applies to a future period and will not be recognized as an inflow of resources (revenue) until that time. Deferred inflows of resources include unavailable revenue. Unavailable revenue is reported only on the governmental funds balance sheet, and represents receivables which will not be collected within the available period. Unavailable revenue includes, but is not limited to, delinquent property taxes and intergovernmental grants. These amounts are deferred and recognized as an inflow of resources in the period the amounts become available.

See Notes 10 and 11 for deferred inflows of resources related to net pension liability/asset and net OPEB liability/asset, respectively. These deferred inflows of resources are only reported on the government-wide statement of net position.

***Expenses/Expenditures*** - On the accrual basis of accounting, expenses are recognized at the time they are incurred.

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**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
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**NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES - (Continued)**

The measurement focus of governmental fund accounting is on decreases in net financial resources (expenditures) rather than expenses. Expenditures are generally recognized in the accounting period in which the related fund liability is incurred, if measurable. Allocations of cost, such as depreciation and amortization, are not recognized in governmental funds.

**F. Pensions/Other Postemployment Benefits (OPEB)**

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

**G. Cash and Cash Equivalents**

To improve cash management, cash received by the Educational Service Center is pooled. Monies for all funds are maintained in this pool. Individual fund integrity is maintained through Educational Service Center records. Interest in the pool is presented as "equity in pooled cash and cash equivalents."

During fiscal year 2024, the investments were limited to the State Treasury Asset Reserve of Ohio (STAR Ohio), federal agency securities, U.S. Treasury notes, and a U.S. money market fund. Except for STAR Ohio, investments are reported at fair value which is based on quoted market prices.

STAR 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 Educational Service Center 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 fiscal year 2024, there were no limitations or restrictions on any participant withdrawals due to redemption notice periods, liquidity fees, or redemption gates. However, 24 hours notice in advance of all deposits and withdrawals exceeding \$100 million is encouraged. STAR Ohio reserves the right to limit the transaction to \$250 million, requiring the excess amount to be transacted the following business day(s), but only to the \$250 million limit. All accounts of the participant will be combined for these purposes.

Following Ohio statutes, the Board has, by resolution, identified the funds to receive an allocation of interest earnings. Interest revenue credited to the general fund during fiscal year 2024 amounts to \$363,798 which includes \$6,687 assigned from other funds.

Investments of the cash management pool and investments with an original maturity of three months or less at the time they are purchased by the Educational Service Center are presented on the financial statements as cash equivalents. Investments with an initial maturity of more than three months not purchased from the pool are reported as investments.

**H. Capital Assets**

The only capital assets of the Educational Service Center are general capital assets. General capital assets are capital assets which are associated with and generally arise from governmental activities. They generally result from expenditures in the governmental funds. General capital assets are reported in the governmental activities column of the governmental-wide statement of net position but are not reported in the fund financial statements.

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

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

All capital assets are capitalized at cost (or estimated historical cost) and updated for additions and retirements during the year. Donated capital assets are recorded at their acquisition values as of the date received. The Educational Service Center maintains a capitalization threshold of \$5,000. The Educational Service Center does not possess any infrastructure. Improvements are capitalized; the costs of normal maintenance and repairs that do not add to the value of the asset or materially extend an asset's life are not.

All capital assets are depreciated/amortized. Improvements are depreciated/amortized over the remaining useful lives of the related capital assets. Depreciation/amortization is computed using the straight-line method over the following useful lives:

<u>Description</u>	<u>Estimated Lives</u>
Furniture, Equipment and Textbooks	3 - 20 years
Intangible leased assets	5 - 10 years
Vehicles	6 - 10 years

The Educational Service Center is reporting intangible right to use assets related to leased equipment and buildings. The intangible assets are being amortized in a systematic and rational manner of the shorter of the lease term or the useful life of the underlying asset.

**I. Compensated Absences**

Vacation benefits are accrued as a liability as the benefits are earned if the employees' rights to receive compensation are attributable to services already rendered and it is probable that the Educational Service Center will compensate the employees for the benefits through paid time off or some other means. The Educational Service Center records a liability for accumulated unused vacation time when earned for all employees with more than one year of service.

Sick leave benefits are accrued as a liability using the vesting method. The liability includes the employees who are currently eligible to receive termination benefits and those the Educational Service Center has identified as probable of receiving payment in the future. The amount is based on accumulated sick leave and employees' wage rates at fiscal year end, taking into consideration any limits specified in the Educational Service Center's termination policy. The Educational Service Center records a liability for accumulated unused sick leave for classified, certified and administrative employees at least fifty years of age with at least 10 years of service and any age with at least 20 years of service.

The entire compensated absence liability is reported on the government-wide financial statements.

On the financial statements, compensated absences are recognized as a liability and expenditures to the extent payments come due each period upon the occurrence of employee resignations and retirements. These amounts are recorded in the account "Compensated Absences Payable" in the fund from which the employee who has accumulated unpaid leave will be paid.

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**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
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**NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES - (Continued)**

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

All payables, accrued liabilities and long-term obligations are reported in the government-wide financial statements. In general, governmental fund payables and accrued liabilities that, once incurred, are paid in a timely manner and in full from current financial resources, are reported as obligations of the funds. However, compensated absences that will be paid from governmental funds are reported as a liability in the fund financial statements only to the extent that they are due for the payment during the current fiscal year. Leases are recognized as a liability on the governmental fund financial statements when due. Net pension/OPEB liability should be recognized in the governmental funds to the extent that benefit payments are due and payable and the pension/OPEB plan's fiduciary net position is not sufficient for payment of those benefits.

**K. Net Position**

Net position represents the difference between all other elements in a statement of financial position. Net investment in capital assets consists of capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation/amortization, reduced by the outstanding balances of any borrowing used for the acquisition, construction or improvement of those assets. Net position is reported as restricted when there are limitations imposed on its use through external restrictions imposed by creditors, grantors or laws or regulations of other governments. Net position restricted for other purposes includes the Title II-A Consortium program.

The Educational Service Center applies restricted resources first when an expense is incurred for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted net position are available.

**L. Fund Balance**

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

***Nonspendable*** - The nonspendable fund balance category includes amounts that cannot be spent because they are not in spendable form or are legally or contractually required to be maintained intact. The "not in spendable form" criterion includes items that are not expected to be converted to cash.

***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 are imposed by law through constitutional provisions.

***Committed*** - The committed fund balance classification includes amounts that can be used only for the specific purposes imposed by the highest level formal action (resolution) of the Educational Service Center Governing Board. Those committed amounts cannot be used for any other purpose unless the Educational Service Center Governing Board 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.

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

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

**Assigned** - Amounts in the assigned fund balance classification are intended to be used by the Educational Service Center 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 policies and authorized purchase commitments by the Educational Service Center Governing Board or Educational Service Center official delegated that authority by resolution or by State Statute. State statute authorizes the Treasurer to assign fund balance for purchases on order provided such amounts have been lawfully appropriated. The Governing Board assigned fund balance for the positive education programs.

**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.

The Educational Service Center applies restricted resources first when expenditures are 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 expenditures are incurred for purposes for which amounts in any of the unrestricted fund balance classifications could be used.

**M. Prepaids**

Payments made to vendors for services that will benefit periods beyond June 30, 2024, are recorded as prepaids using the consumption method by recording a current asset for the prepaid amount at the time of the purchase and reflecting the expenditure/expense in the year in which the services are consumed.

**N. Estimates**

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported in the financial statements and accompanying notes. Actual results may differ from those estimates.

**NOTE 3 - ACCOUNTABILITY AND COMPLIANCE**

**A. Change in Accounting Principles**

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

GASB Implementation Guide 2021-1 provides clarification on issues related to previously established GASB guidance. The implementation of GASB Implementation Guide 2021-1 did not have an effect on balances previously reported by the Educational Service Center.

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



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

**NOTE 3 - ACCOUNTABILITY AND COMPLIANCE – (Continued)**

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

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

**B. Deficit Fund Balances**

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

<u>Nonmajor governmental fund</u>	<u>Deficit</u>
Miscellaneous Federal Grants	\$ 4,639

The general fund is liable for any deficit in this fund and provides transfers when cash is required, not when accruals occur. The deficit fund balance resulted from adjustments for accrued liabilities.

**NOTE 4 - DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS**

Monies held by the Educational Service Center are classified by State statute into three categories.

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

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

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

Interim monies held by the Educational Service Center can be deposited or invested in the following securities:

1. United States Treasury bills, bonds, notes, 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, Federal National Mortgage Association, Federal Home Loan Bank, Federal Farm Credit Bank, Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation and Government National Mortgage Association. All federal agency securities shall be direct issuances of federal government agencies or instrumentalities;

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

**NOTE 4 - DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS - (Continued)**

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

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 Educational Service Center, and must be purchased with the expectation that it will be held to maturity.

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

**A. Deposits with Financial Institutions**

At June 30, 2024, the carrying amount of all Educational Service Center deposits was \$3,269,338 and the bank balance of all Educational Service Center deposits was \$3,315,477. Of the bank balance, \$3,065,477 was exposed to custodial risk as discussed below and \$250,000 was covered by the FDIC.

Custodial credit risk is the risk that, in the event of bank failure, the Educational Service Center will not be able to recover deposits or collateral securities that are in the possession of an outside party. The Educational Service Center has no deposit policy for custodial credit risk beyond the requirements of State statute. Ohio law requires that deposits either be insured or protected by (1) eligible securities pledged to the Educational Service Centers and deposited with a qualified trustee by the financial institution as security for repayment whose fair value at all times shall be at least 105 percent of the deposits being secured, or (2) participation in the Ohio Pooled Collateral System (OPCS), a collateral pool of eligible securities deposited with a qualified trustee and pledged to the Treasurer of State to secure the repayment of all public monies deposited in the financial institution. OPCS requires the total fair value of the securities pledged to be 102 percent of the deposits being secured or a rate set by the Treasurer of State. For 2024, the Educational Service Center's financial institutions were approved for a reduced collateral rate of 50 percent through the OPCS. Although all statutory requirements for the deposit of money had been followed, noncompliance with Federal requirements could potentially subject the Educational Service Center to a successful claim by the FDIC.

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**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
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**NOTE 4 - DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS - (Continued)**

**B. Cash and Cash Equivalents in Segregated Accounts**

The Educational Service Center is a fiscal agent for the Trumbull County Schools Employee Insurance Benefit Consortium (See Note 2.A). At June 30, 2024, \$2,664,630 was held in custodial funds on behalf of the Consortium. The deposits and investments of the Consortium are held separate from the Educational Service Center internal cash management pool. The data regarding insurance and collateralization of the Consortium deposits and investments can be obtained from the entity's separate financial statements for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024.

**C. Investments**

As of June 30, 2024, the Educational Service Center had the following investments. All investments are in an internal investment pool.

Measurement/ <u>Investment type</u>	Measurement <u>Value</u>	<u>Investment Maturities</u>				
		6 months or less	7 to 12 months	13 to 18 months	19 to 24 months	Greater than 24 months
<i>Fair Value:</i>						
U.S. Money Market	\$ 637,949	\$ 637,949	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
FNMA	716,503	244,943	-	471,560	-	-
FHLMC	488,476	-	488,476	-	-	-
FFCB	235,155	-	235,155	-	-	-
FHLB	932,647	-	240,047	-	692,600	-
U.S. Treasury Notes	4,210,413	643,907	-	471,465	629,420	2,465,621
<i>Amortized Cost:</i>						
STAR Ohio	<u>65,277</u>	<u>65,277</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Total	<u>\$ 7,286,420</u>	<u>\$ 1,592,076</u>	<u>\$ 963,678</u>	<u>\$ 943,025</u>	<u>\$ 1,322,020</u>	<u>\$ 2,465,621</u>

The weighted average maturity of investments is 1.73 years.

The Educational Service Center categorizes its fair value measurements within the fair value hierarchy established by generally accepted accounting principles. The hierarchy is based on the valuation inputs used to measure the fair value of the asset. Level 1 inputs are quoted prices in active markets for identical assets. Level 2 inputs are significant other observable inputs; Level 3 inputs are significant unobservable inputs. The above chart identifies the Educational Service Center's recurring fair value measurements as of June 30, 2024. The Educational Service Center's investments measured at fair value are valued using methodologies that incorporate market inputs such as benchmark yields, reported trades, broker/dealer quotes, issuer spreads, two-sided markets, benchmark securities, bids, offers and reference data including market research publications. Market indicators and industry and economic events are also monitored, which could require the need to acquire further market data (Level 2 inputs).

*Interest Rate Risk:* The Educational Service Center 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 Educational Service Center, and that an investment must be purchased with the expectation that it will be held to maturity.

*Credit Risk:* Standard & Poor's has assigned STAR Ohio an AAAM money market rating. Ohio law requires that STAR Ohio maintain the highest rating provided by at least one nationally recognized standard rating service. The other investments are rated AA+ by Standard & Poor's. The Educational Service Center has no investment policy that would further limit its investment choices.

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**NOTE 4 - DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS - (Continued)**

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

*Concentration of Credit Risk:* The Educational Service Center places no limit on the amount it may invest in any one issuer. The following table includes the percentage of each investment type held by the Educational Service Center at June 30, 2024:

Measurement/ Investment type	Measurement Value	Percentage Total %
<i>Fair Value:</i>		
U.S. Money Market	\$ 637,949	8.76
FNMA	716,503	9.83
FHLMC	488,476	6.70
FFCB	235,155	3.23
FHLB	932,647	12.80
U.S. Treasury Notes	4,210,413	57.78
<i>Amortized Cost:</i>		
STAR Ohio	65,277	0.90
Total	<u>\$ 7,286,420</u>	<u>100.00</u>

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

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

<u>Cash and investments per note</u>	
Carrying amount of deposits	\$ 3,269,338
Investments	7,286,420
Cash in segregated accounts	<u>2,664,630</u>
Total	<u>\$ 13,220,388</u>

<u>Cash and investments per statement of net position</u>	
Governmental activities	\$ 9,812,701
Custodial funds	<u>3,407,687</u>
Total	<u>\$ 13,220,388</u>

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

**NOTE 5 - RECEIVABLES**

Receivables at June 30, 2024, consisted of accounts (tuition and fees), accrued interest and intergovernmental grants and reimbursements from other governments. All receivables are considered collectible in full within one year.

A summary of the principal items of intergovernmental receivables follows:

<u>Governmental Activities</u>	<u>Amounts</u>
Customer Services	\$ 1,395,292
Public School Preschool	28,383
Elementary & Secondary School Emergency Relief	<u>13,579</u>
Total	<u>\$ 1,437,254</u>

**NOTE 6 - STATE FUNDING**

The Educational Service Center, under State law, provides supervisory services to local school Educational Service Centers within its territory. Each city, local and exempted village school Educational Service Center that entered into an agreement with the Educational Service Center is considered to be provided supervisory services. The cost of the supervisory services is determined by the Educational Service Center and that amount is deducted from their State Foundation Program settlements based on a contract with the Educational Service Center. The Department of Education remits the amount to the Educational Service Center. The Educational Service Center may provide additional supervisory services if the majority of local and client school Educational Service Centers agree to the services and the apportionment of the costs to all of the client school Educational Service Centers.

The Educational Service Center also receives funding from the State Department of Education in the amount of \$26 times the average daily membership of the Educational Service Center. Average daily membership includes the total student counts of all local school Educational Service Centers within the Educational Service Center's territory and all of the Educational Service Center's client school Educational Service Centers. This amount is paid from State resources. The State Department of Education also deducts from the State Foundation Program settlement of each of the Educational Service Center's local and client school Educational Service Centers an amount equal to \$8.50 times the school Educational Service Center's total student count and remits this amount to the Educational Service Center.

The Educational Service Center may contract with city, exempted village, local, joint vocational or cooperative education school Educational Service Centers to provide special education and related services or career-technical education services. The individual boards of education pay the costs for these services directly to the Educational Service Center.

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

**NOTE 7 - RISK MANAGEMENT**

**A. Property and Liability**

The Educational Service Center is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; injuries to employees and natural disasters. During fiscal year 2024, the Educational Service Center contracted with the Liberty Mutual Insurance Company for the following insurance:

<u>Type</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Property Liability	
Blanket Building and Personal Property	\$ 1,634,025
Deductible	2,500
Inland Marine:	
Laptop Computers	50,000
Umbrella Coverage:	
Each Occurrence	4,000,000
Cyber Liability:	
Aggregate Limit	1,000,000
General Liability:	
Each Occurrence	1,000,000
Aggregate Limit	3,000,000
Employees Benefits:	
Per Employee	1,000,000
Aggregate	2,000,000
Sexual Misconduct and Molestation Liability:	
Each Occurrence	1,000,000
Aggregate	2,000,000
Educators Legal Liability:	
Injury Limit	1,000,000
Aggregate Limit	3,000,000
Auto Liability:	
Single Occurrence Limitation	1,000,000
Auto Medical Payments	5,000
Auto Physical Damage Deductible	1,000
Counseling Professional Liability:	
Per Claim	1,000,000
Aggregate	2,000,000
Crisis Management:	
Per Event	300,000
Employment Practices:	
Per Claim	1,000,000
Aggregate	3,000,000

Settled claims have not exceeded this commercial coverage in any of the past three years and there have been no significant reductions in insurance coverage from last year.

**B. Workers' Compensation**

The Educational Service Center pays a premium based on a rate per \$100 of salaries. This rate is calculated based on accident history and administrative costs. The firm of Sheakley UniServices, Inc. provides administrative, cost control and actuarial services to the Educational Service Center.

**TRUMBULL COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER  
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**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
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**NOTE 7 - RISK MANAGEMENT - (Continued)**

**C. Employee Health Benefits**

The Educational Service Center has contracted with Trumbull County Schools Employee Insurance Benefit Consortium (the Consortium) to provide employee medical/surgical and dental benefits (See Note 2.A). The Consortium is a shared risk pool comprised of seventeen Trumbull County school Educational Service Centers and the Educational Service Center. The Educational Service Center is the fiscal agent for the Consortium. Rates are set through an annual calculation process. The Educational Service Center pays a monthly contribution, which is placed in a common fund from which claim payments are made for all participating school Educational Service Centers. Claims are paid for all participants regardless of claims flow. The Executive Committee of the Consortium has the right to return monies to an existing school Educational Service Center subsequent to the settlements of all expenses and claims.

The Educational Service Center pays 90 percent of medical premiums for classified and certified employees enrolled in PPO 2023 Plan. For any employee enrolled in the H.S.A. 2016 Plan, the Educational Service Center pays 100 percent of the cost of premiums. The Educational Service Center pays 100 percent of dental and life premiums for both classified and certified employees. For administrative employees, the Educational Service Center pays 90 percent and administrators pay 10 percent of the cost of premiums.

Effective June 1, 2023, the Consortium rates are as shown below:

<u>Premiums By Plan Type</u>	<u>Employee</u>	<u>Family</u>	<u>Employee Plus Children</u>	<u>Employee Plus Spouse</u>
Anthem PPO 2023	\$ 755.00	\$ 2,114.00	\$ 1,283.00	\$ 1,585.00
Anthem H S A 2016	676.00	1,893.00	1,150.00	1,420.00
Dental	26.08	81.65		
Life (\$50,000 coverage)	5.75			

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NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
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**NOTE 8 - CAPITAL ASSETS**

Capital asset activity for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024, was as follows:

	Balance <u>06/30/23</u>	<u>Additions</u>	<u>Deductions</u>	Balance <u>06/30/24</u>
<b>Governmental activities:</b>				
<i>Capital assets, being depreciated/amortized:</i>				
Furniture, Equipment and Textbooks	\$ 348,968	\$ -	\$ (90,074)	\$ 258,894
Vehicles	22,783	-	-	22,783
Intangible right to use:				
Leased equipment	239,490	-	(239,490)	-
Leased building	733,068	1,478,163	-	2,211,231
Total capital assets, being depreciated/amortized	<u>1,344,309</u>	<u>1,478,163</u>	<u>(329,564)</u>	<u>2,492,908</u>
<i>Less: accumulated depreciation/amortization:</i>				
Furniture, Equipment and Textbooks	(248,025)	(16,782)	90,074	(174,733)
Vehicles	(22,783)	-	-	(22,783)
Intangible right to use:				
Leased equipment	(239,490)	-	239,490	-
Leased building	(293,228)	(147,538)	-	(440,766)
Total accumulated depreciation/amortization	<u>(803,526)</u>	<u>(164,320)</u>	<u>329,564</u>	<u>(638,282)</u>
Governmental activities capital assets, net	<u>\$ 540,783</u>	<u>\$ 1,313,843</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 1,854,626</u>

Depreciation/amortization expense was charged to governmental functions as follows:

Instruction:

Regular	\$ 3,225
Special	4,375

Support services:

Pupil	939
Board of education	147,538
Administration	4,642
Operations and maintenance	1,511
Central	2,090

Total depreciation/amortization expense	<u>\$ 164,320</u>
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NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

**NOTE 9 - LONG-TERM OBLIGATIONS**

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

	Balance			Balance	Amounts
	June 30, 2023	Increases	Decreases	June 30, 2024	Due Within
					One Year
<b>Governmental Activities:</b>					
Leases payable	\$ 460,331	\$ 1,478,163	\$ (113,468)	\$ 1,825,026	\$ 104,349
Compensated Absences	1,004,430	141,728	(169,012)	977,146	161,088
Net pension liability	21,195,535	9,586	(530,315)	20,674,806	-
Net OPEB liability	1,439,920	67,171	-	1,507,091	-
Total governmental activities	<u>\$ 24,100,216</u>	<u>\$ 1,696,648</u>	<u>\$ (812,795)</u>	<u>\$ 24,984,069</u>	<u>\$ 265,437</u>

Net Pension Liability

The Educational Service Center's net pension liability is described in Note 10. The Educational Service Center pays obligations related to employee compensation from the fund benefitting from their service, which is primarily the general fund.

Net OPEB Liability

The Educational Service Center's net OPEB liability is described in Note 11. The Educational Service Center pays obligations related to employee compensation from the fund benefitting from their service, which is primarily the general fund.

Compensated Absences

Compensated absences will be paid from the fund from which the employee is paid which, for the Educational Service Center, is primarily the general fund, public school preschool fund (a nonmajor governmental fund), and the elementary and secondary school emergency relief fund (a nonmajor governmental fund).

Leases payable

During a prior and current fiscal year, the Educational Service Center entered into lease agreements for the right to use computer equipment and building space. The lease payments are made from the general fund.

The following is a schedule of future lease payments under the lease agreements:

Fiscal Year	<u>Leases Payable</u>		
Ending June 30,	<u>Principal</u>	<u>Interest</u>	<u>Total</u>
2025	\$ 104,349	\$ 53,324	\$ 157,673
2026	107,523	50,150	157,673
2027	134,233	46,559	180,792
2028	138,316	42,476	180,792
2029	142,523	38,269	180,792
2030 - 2034	821,871	121,834	943,705
2035 - 2039	376,211	11,869	388,080
Total	<u>\$ 1,825,026</u>	<u>\$ 364,481</u>	<u>\$ 2,189,507</u>

**TRUMBULL COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER  
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**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024**

**NOTE 10 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS**

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

***Net Pension Liability/Net OPEB Liability/Asset***

The net pension liability and the net OPEB liability/asset reported on the statement of net position represents a liability or asset to employees for pensions and OPEB, respectively.

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

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

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

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

The remainder of this note includes the required pension disclosures. See Note 11 for the required OPEB disclosures.

The proportionate share of each plan's unfunded benefits is presented as a long-term *net pension/OPEB liability (asset)* on the accrual basis of accounting. Any liability for the contractually required pension contribution outstanding at the end of the year is included in pension obligation payable on both the accrual and modified accrual basis of accounting.

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

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

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

**NOTE 10 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS - (Continued)**

Age and service requirements for retirement are as follows:

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

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

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

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

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

The Educational Service Center's contractually required contribution to SERS was \$515,188 for fiscal year 2024. Of this amount, \$70,083 is reported as pension obligation payable.

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

Plan Description - Licensed teachers participate in STRS, a cost-sharing multiple-employer public employee retirement system administered by STRS. STRS provides retirement and disability benefits to members and death and survivor benefits to beneficiaries. STRS issues a stand-alone financial report that includes financial statements, required supplementary information and detailed information about STRS' fiduciary net position. That report can be obtained by writing to STRS, 275 E. Broad St., Columbus, OH 43215-3771, by calling (888) 227-7877, or by visiting the STRS website at [www.strsoh.org](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 (CO) Plan. Benefits are established by Ohio Revised Code Chapter 3307.

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

The DB plan offers an annual retirement allowance based on final average salary multiplied by a percentage that varies based on years of service. Effective August 1, 2015, the calculation is 2.20% of final average salary for the five highest years of earnings multiplied by all years of service. Eligibility changes will be phased in until August 1, 2023, when retirement eligibility for unreduced benefits will be five years of service credit and age 65, or 35 years of service credit and at least age 60.

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

The DC Plan allows members to place all of their member contributions and 9.53% of the 14% employer contributions into an investment account. The member determines how to allocate the member and employer money among various investment choices offered by STRS. The remaining 4.47% of the 14% employer rate is allocated to the defined benefit unfunded liability. A member is eligible to receive a retirement benefit at age 50 and termination of employment. The member may elect to receive a lifetime monthly annuity or a lump sum withdrawal.

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

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

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

Eligible survivors of members who die before service retirement may qualify for monthly benefits. If a member of the DC Plan dies before retirement benefits begin, the member's designated beneficiary is entitled to receive the member's account balance.

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

The Educational Service Center's contractually required contribution to STRS was \$1,434,028 for fiscal year 2024. Of this amount, \$219,436 is reported as pension obligation payable.

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

**NOTE 10 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS - (Continued)**

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

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

Following is information related to the proportionate share and pension expense:

	<u>SERS</u>	<u>STRS</u>	<u>Total</u>
Proportion of the net pension liability prior measurement date	0.100677522%	0.070850300%	
Proportion of the net pension liability current measurement date	<u>0.088952913%</u>	<u>0.073182000%</u>	
Change in proportionate share	<u>-0.011724609%</u>	<u>0.002331700%</u>	
Proportionate share of the net pension liability	\$ 4,915,108	\$ 15,759,698	\$ 20,674,806
Pension expense	\$ 523,164	\$ 1,313,418	\$ 1,836,582

At June 30, 2024, the Educational Service Center reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions from the following sources:

	<u>SERS</u>	<u>STRS</u>	<u>Total</u>
<b>Deferred outflows of resources</b>			
Differences between expected and actual experience	\$ 211,261	\$ 574,566	\$ 785,827
Changes of assumptions	34,818	1,297,897	1,332,715
Difference between employer contributions and proportionate share of contributions/ change in proportionate share	-	384,478	384,478
Contributions subsequent to the measurement date	<u>515,188</u>	<u>1,434,028</u>	<u>1,949,216</u>
Total deferred outflows of resources	<u>\$ 761,267</u>	<u>\$ 3,690,969</u>	<u>\$ 4,452,236</u>
	<u>SERS</u>	<u>STRS</u>	<u>Total</u>
<b>Deferred inflows of resources</b>			
Differences between expected and actual experience	\$ -	\$ 34,970	\$ 34,970
Net difference between projected and actual earnings on pension plan investments	69,088	47,232	116,320
Changes of assumptions	-	976,942	976,942
Difference between employer contributions and proportionate share of contributions/ change in proportionate share	<u>456,334</u>	<u>235,651</u>	<u>691,985</u>
Total deferred inflows of resources	<u>\$ 525,422</u>	<u>\$ 1,294,795</u>	<u>\$ 1,820,217</u>

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

\$1,949,216 reported as deferred outflows of resources related to pension resulting from Educational Service Center contributions subsequent to the measurement date will be recognized as a reduction of the net pension liability in the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025.

Other amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pension will be recognized in pension expense as follows:

	<u>SERS</u>	<u>STRS</u>	<u>Total</u>
Fiscal Year Ending June 30:			
2025	\$ (134,120)	\$ (137,851)	\$ (271,971)
2026	(351,103)	(558,367)	(909,470)
2027	202,217	1,654,123	1,856,340
2028	<u>3,663</u>	<u>4,241</u>	<u>7,904</u>
Total	<u>\$ (279,343)</u>	<u>\$ 962,146</u>	<u>\$ 682,803</u>

***Actuarial Assumptions - SERS***

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

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

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

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

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

Wage inflation:	
Current measurement date	2.40%
Prior measurement date	2.40%
Future salary increases, including inflation:	
Current measurement date	3.25% to 13.58%
Prior measurement date	3.25% to 13.58%
COLA or ad hoc COLA:	
Current measurement date	2.00%
Prior measurement date	2.00%
Investment rate of return:	
Current measurement date	7.00% net of system expenses
Prior measurement date	7.00% net of system expenses
Discount rate:	
Current measurement date	7.00%
Prior measurement date	7.00%
Actuarial cost method	Entry age normal (level percent of payroll)

In 2023, mortality rates were based on the PUB-2010 General Employee Amount Weighted Below Median Healthy Retiree mortality table projected to 2017 with ages set forward 1 year and adjusted 94.20% for males and set forward 2 years and adjusted 81.35% for females. Mortality among disabled members were based upon the PUB-2010 General Disabled Retiree mortality table projected to 2017 with ages set forward 5 years and adjusted 103.3% for males and set forward 3 years and adjusted 106.8% for females. Future improvement in mortality rates is reflected by applying the MP-2020 projection scale generationally.

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

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

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

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

**NOTE 10 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS - (Continued)**

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

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

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

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

	1% Decrease	Current Discount Rate	1% Increase
Educational Service Center's proportionate share of the net pension liability	\$ 7,254,446	\$ 4,915,108	\$ 2,944,659



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

**NOTE 10 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS - (Continued)**

***Actuarial Assumptions - STRS***

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

	June 30, 2023	June 30, 2022
Inflation	2.50%	2.50%
Projected salary increases	Varies by service from 2.50% to 8.50%	Varies by service from 2.50% to 8.50%
Investment rate of return	7.00%, net of investment expenses, including inflation	7.00%, net of investment expenses, including inflation
Discount rate of return	7.00%	7.00%
Payroll increases	3.00%	3.00%
Cost-of-living adjustments (COLA)	0.00%	0.00%

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

For the prior measurement date, post-retirement mortality rates are based on the Pub-2010 Teachers Healthy Annuitant Mortality Table, adjusted 110% for males, projected forward generationally using mortality improvement scale MP-2020. Pre-retirement mortality rates are based on Pub-2010 Teachers Employee Table adjusted 95% for females, projected forward generationally using mortality improvement scale MP-2020. Post-retirement disabled mortality rates are based on Pub-2010 Teachers Disable Annuitant Table projected forward generationally using mortality improvement scale MP-2020.

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

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

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

\* Final target weights reflected at October 1, 2022.

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**NOTE 10 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS - (Continued)**

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

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

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

	1% Decrease	Current Discount Rate	1% Increase
Educational Service Center's proportionate share of the net pension liability	\$ 24,234,928	\$ 15,759,698	\$ 8,591,973

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

**NOTE 11 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS**

**Net OPEB Liability/Asset**

See Note 10 for a description of the net OPEB liability (asset).

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

**Health Care Plan Description** - The Educational Service Center 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. 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.

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**NOTE 11 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS - (Continued)**

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

Funding Policy - State statute permits SERS to fund the health care benefits through employer contributions. Each year, after the allocation for statutorily required pensions and benefits, the Retirement Board may allocate the remainder of the employer contribution of 14% of covered payroll to the Health Care Fund in accordance with the funding policy. For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024, SERS did not allocate any employer contributions to post-employment health care. An additional health care surcharge on employers is collected for employees earning less than an actuarially determined minimum compensation amount, pro-rated if less than a full year of service credit was earned. For fiscal year 2024, this amount was \$30,000. Statutes provide that no employer shall pay a health care surcharge greater than 2% of that employer's SERS-covered payroll; nor may SERS collect in aggregate more than 1.5% of the total statewide SERS-covered payroll for the health care surcharge. For fiscal year 2024, the Educational Service Center's surcharge obligation was \$84,558.

The surcharge added to the allocated portion of the 14% employer contribution rate is the total amount assigned to the Health Care Fund. The Educational Service Center's contractually required contribution to SERS was \$84,558 for fiscal year 2024. Of this amount, \$84,558 is reported as pension obligation payable.

***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. The Medicare Part B monthly reimbursement elimination date was postponed 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 (888) 227-7877.

Funding Policy - Ohio Revised Code Chapter 3307 authorizes STRS to offer the Plan and gives the Retirement Board discretionary authority over how much, if any, of the health care costs will be absorbed by STRS. Active employee members do not contribute to the Health Care Plan. Nearly all health care plan enrollees, for the most recent year, pay a portion of the health care costs in the form of a monthly premium. Under Ohio law, funding for post-employment health care may be deducted from employer contributions, currently 14% of covered payroll. For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024, STRS did not allocate any employer contributions to post-employment health care.

***Net OPEB Liabilities/Assets, OPEB Expense, and Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to OPEB***

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

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**NOTE 11 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS - (Continued)**

Following is information related to the proportionate share and OPEB expense:

	<u>SERS</u>	<u>STRS</u>	<u>Total</u>
Proportion of the net OPEB liability/asset prior measurement date	0.102557610%	0.070850300%	
Proportion of the net OPEB liability/asset current measurement date	<u>0.091480536%</u>	<u>0.073182000%</u>	
Change in proportionate share	<u>-0.011077074%</u>	<u>0.002331700%</u>	
Proportionate share of the net OPEB liability	\$ 1,507,091	\$ -	\$ 1,507,091
Proportionate share of the net OPEB asset	\$ -	\$ (1,423,289)	\$ (1,423,289)
OPEB expense	\$ (149,462)	\$ (77,015)	\$ (226,477)

At June 30, 2024, the Educational Service Center reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB from the following sources:

	<u>SERS</u>	<u>STRS</u>	<u>Total</u>
<b>Deferred outflows of resources</b>			
Differences between expected and actual experience	\$ 3,137	\$ 2,219	\$ 5,356
Net difference between projected and actual earnings on OPEB plan investments	11,680	2,541	14,221
Changes of assumptions	509,593	209,671	719,264
Difference between employer contributions and proportionate share of contributions/ change in proportionate share	341,091	3,964	345,055
Contributions subsequent to the measurement date	<u>84,558</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>84,558</u>
Total deferred outflows of resources	<u>\$ 950,059</u>	<u>\$ 218,395</u>	<u>\$ 1,168,454</u>
	<u>SERS</u>	<u>STRS</u>	<u>Total</u>
<b>Deferred inflows of resources</b>			
Differences between expected and actual experience	\$ 777,262	\$ 217,090	\$ 994,352
Changes of assumptions	428,031	939,064	1,367,095
Difference between employer contributions and proportionate share of contributions/ change in proportionate share	<u>424,149</u>	<u>8,511</u>	<u>432,660</u>
Total deferred inflows of resources	<u>\$ 1,629,442</u>	<u>\$ 1,164,665</u>	<u>\$ 2,794,107</u>

\$84,558 reported as deferred outflows of resources related to OPEB resulting from Educational Service Center contributions subsequent to the measurement date will be recognized as a reduction of the net OPEB liability/asset in the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025.

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**NOTE 11 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS - (Continued)**

Other amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB will be recognized in OPEB expense as follows:

	SERS	STRS	Total
Fiscal Year Ending June 30:			
2025	\$ (198,936)	\$ (414,836)	\$ (613,772)
2026	(175,052)	(192,819)	(367,871)
2027	(96,591)	(74,390)	(170,981)
2028	(74,970)	(100,526)	(175,496)
2029	(97,615)	(91,966)	(189,581)
Thereafter	(120,777)	(71,733)	(192,510)
Total	<u>\$ (763,941)</u>	<u>\$ (946,270)</u>	<u>\$ (1,710,211)</u>

***Actuarial Assumptions - SERS***

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

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

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

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**NOTE 11 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS - (Continued)**

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

Wage inflation:	
Current measurement date	2.40%
Prior measurement date	2.40%
Future salary increases, including inflation:	
Current measurement date	3.25% to 13.58%
Prior measurement date	3.25% to 13.58%
Investment rate of return:	
Current measurement date	7.00% net of investment expense, including inflation
Prior measurement date	7.00% net of investment expense, including inflation
Municipal bond index rate:	
Current measurement date	3.86%
Prior measurement date	3.69%
Single equivalent interest rate, net of plan investment expense, including price inflation:	
Current measurement date	4.27%
Prior measurement date	4.08%
Medical trend assumption:	
Current measurement date	6.75 to 4.40%
Prior measurement date	7.00 to 4.40%

In 2023, the following mortality assumptions were used:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
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**NOTE 11 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS - (Continued)**

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

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

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

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

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

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**NOTE 11 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS - (Continued)**

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

	1% Decrease	Current Discount Rate	1% Increase
Educational Service Center's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability	\$ 1,926,494	\$ 1,507,091	\$ 1,176,376
	1% Decrease	Current Trend Rate	1% Increase
Educational Service Center's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability	\$ 1,107,208	\$ 1,507,091	\$ 2,036,992

***Actuarial Assumptions - STRS***

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

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

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



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**NOTE 11 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS - (Continued)**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

\* Final target weights reflected at October 1, 2022.

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

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

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

**NOTE 11 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS - (Continued)**

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

	<u>1% Decrease</u>	<u>Current Discount Rate</u>	<u>1% Increase</u>
Educational Service Center's proportionate share of the net OPEB asset	\$ 1,204,628	\$ 1,423,289	\$ 1,613,719
	<u>1% Decrease</u>	<u>Current Trend Rate</u>	<u>1% Increase</u>
Educational Service Center's proportionate share of the net OPEB asset	\$ 1,622,556	\$ 1,423,289	\$ 1,183,275

**NOTE 12 - OTHER EMPLOYEE BENEFITS**

**A. Compensated Absences**

The criteria for determining vacation, personal and sick leave benefits are derived from negotiated agreements and State laws. Classified employees earn ten to twenty days of vacation per fiscal year, depending upon length of service. Vacation is paid upon separation. All employees earn sick leave at a rate of one and one-fourth days per month.

Upon retirement, certified and classified employees who meet the retirement provisions set by STRS and SERS and have ten or more years of service with the State and five or more years with the Educational Service Center are paid twenty five percent of their accumulated sick days up to a maximum accumulation of 70 days.

**B. Life Insurance**

The Educational Service Center provides life insurance in the amount of \$50,000 to all full-time employees.

**NOTE 13 - COMMITMENTS**

Encumbrances are commitments related to unperformed contracts for goods or services. Encumbrance accounting is utilized to the extent necessary to assure effective budgetary control and accountability and to facilitate effective cash planning and control. At fiscal year end the amount of encumbrances expected to be honored upon performance by the vendor in the next fiscal year were as follows:

	<u>Year End Encumbrances</u>
General	\$ 121,455
Nonmajor governmental funds	824
	<u>\$ 122,279</u>

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**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
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**NOTE 14 - CONTINGENCIES**

**A. Grants**

The Educational Service Center 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. There have been no disallowed grant expenditures identified for fiscal year 2024.

**B. Litigation**

The Educational Service Center is not a party to legal proceedings.

**C. Foundation Funding**

Foundation funding is based on the annualized full-time equivalent (FTE) enrollment of each student. Educational service centers must comply with minimum hours of instruction, instead of a minimum number of school days each year. The funding formula Ohio Department of Education and Workforce (ODEW) is legislatively required to follow will continue to adjust as enrollment information is updated by the Educational Service Center, which can extend past the fiscal year-end. As of the date of this report, ODEW has not finalized the impact of enrollment adjustments to the June 30, 2024 Foundation funding for the Educational Service Center; therefore, the financial statement impact is not determinable at this time. ODEW and management believe this will result in either a receivable to or liability of the Educational Service Center.

## REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

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TRUMBULL COUNTY, OHIO**

SCHEDULES OF THE REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

SCHEDULE OF THE EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER'S PROPORTIONATE SHARE OF  
THE NET PENSION LIABILITY AND  
EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER PENSION CONTRIBUTIONS  
SCHOOL EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM (SERS) OF OHIO

LAST TEN FISCAL YEARS

<b>Fiscal Year (1)</b>	<b>Educational Service Center's Proportion of the Net Pension Liability</b>	<b>Educational Service Center's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability</b>	<b>Educational Service Center's Covered Payroll</b>	<b>Educational Service Center's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability as a Percentage of its Covered Payroll</b>	<b>Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total Pension Liability</b>
2024	0.088952910%	\$ 4,915,108	\$ 3,624,514	135.61%	76.06%
2023	0.100677520%	5,445,423	5,935,329	91.75%	75.82%
2022	0.106444210%	3,927,483	3,189,479	123.14%	82.86%
2021	0.088882500%	5,878,877	2,973,236	197.73%	68.55%
2020	0.087180460%	5,216,162	3,102,926	168.10%	70.85%
2019	0.081017240%	4,640,008	2,722,504	170.43%	71.36%
2018	0.086149550%	5,147,246	2,913,029	176.70%	69.50%
2017	0.088848820%	6,502,914	2,782,679	233.69%	62.98%
2016	0.086344240%	4,926,887	2,677,064	184.04%	69.16%
2015	0.090168640%	4,563,383	3,161,542	144.34%	71.70%

<b>Fiscal Year</b>	<b>Contractually Required Contributions</b>	<b>Contributions in Relation to the Contractually Required Contributions</b>	<b>Contribution Deficiency (Excess)</b>	<b>Educational Service Center's Covered Payroll</b>	<b>Contributions as a Percentage of Covered Payroll</b>
2024	\$ 515,188	\$ (515,188)	\$ -	\$ 3,679,914	14.00%
2023	507,432	(507,432)	-	3,624,514	14.00%
2022	830,946	(830,946)	-	5,935,329	14.00%
2021	446,527	(446,527)	-	3,189,479	14.00%
2020	416,253	(416,253)	-	2,973,236	14.00%
2019	418,895	(418,895)	-	3,102,926	13.50%
2018	367,538	(367,538)	-	2,722,504	13.50%
2017	407,824	(407,824)	-	2,913,029	14.00%
2016	389,575	(389,575)	-	2,782,679	14.00%
2015	352,837	(352,837)	-	2,677,064	13.18%

(1) Amounts presented for each fiscal year were determined as of the Educational Service Center's measurement date which is the prior year-end.

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

**TRUMBULL COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER  
TRUMBULL COUNTY, OHIO**

SCHEDULES OF THE REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

SCHEDULE OF THE EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER'S PROPORTIONATE SHARE OF  
THE NET PENSION LIABILITY AND  
EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER PENSION CONTRIBUTIONS  
STATE TEACHERS RETIREMENT SYSTEM (STRS) OF OHIO

LAST TEN FISCAL YEARS

<b>Fiscal Year (1)</b>	<b>Educational Service Center's Proportion of the Net Pension Liability</b>	<b>Educational Service Center's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability</b>	<b>Educational Service Center's Covered Payroll</b>	<b>Educational Service Center's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability as a Percentage of its Covered Payroll</b>	<b>Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total Pension Liability</b>
2024	0.073182000%	\$ 15,759,698	\$ 10,089,643	156.20%	80.02%
2023	0.070850300%	15,750,112	9,153,000	172.08%	78.88%
2022	0.070473453%	9,010,664	8,761,700	102.84%	87.78%
2021	0.072899330%	17,639,044	8,807,136	200.28%	75.48%
2020	0.071986090%	15,919,291	8,486,443	187.58%	77.40%
2019	0.071989140%	15,828,796	8,234,729	192.22%	77.31%
2018	0.071477600%	16,963,066	7,901,464	214.68%	75.30%
2017	0.071562390%	23,954,088	7,644,121	313.37%	66.80%
2016	0.070841350%	19,578,477	7,445,921	262.94%	72.10%
2015	0.072510160%	17,603,189	7,394,346	238.06%	74.70%

<b>Fiscal Year</b>	<b>Contractually Required Contributions</b>	<b>Contributions in Relation to the Contractually Required Contributions</b>	<b>Contribution Deficiency (Excess)</b>	<b>Educational Service Center's Covered Payroll</b>	<b>Contributions as a Percentage of Covered Payroll</b>
2024	\$ 1,434,028	\$ (1,434,028)	\$ -	\$ 10,243,057	14.00%
2023	1,412,550	(1,412,550)	-	10,089,643	14.00%
2022	1,281,420	(1,281,420)	-	9,153,000	14.00%
2021	1,226,638	(1,226,638)	-	8,761,700	14.00%
2020	1,232,999	(1,232,999)	-	8,807,136	14.00%
2019	1,188,102	(1,188,102)	-	8,486,443	14.00%
2018	1,152,862	(1,152,862)	-	8,234,729	14.00%
2017	1,106,205	(1,106,205)	-	7,901,464	14.00%
2016	1,070,177	(1,070,177)	-	7,644,121	14.00%
2015	1,042,429	(1,042,429)	-	7,445,921	14.00%

(1) Amounts presented for each fiscal year were determined as of the Educational Service Center's measurement date which is the prior year-end.

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

**TRUMBULL COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER  
TRUMBULL COUNTY, OHIO**

SCHEDULES OF THE REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

SCHEDULE OF THE EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER'S PROPORTIONATE SHARE OF  
THE NET OPEB LIABILITY AND  
EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER OPEB CONTRIBUTIONS  
SCHOOL EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM (SERS) OF OHIO

LAST EIGHT AND TEN FISCAL YEARS

<b>Fiscal Year (1) (2)</b>	<b>Educational Service Center's Proportion of the Net OPEB Liability</b>	<b>Educational Service Center's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability</b>	<b>Educational Service Center's Covered Payroll</b>	<b>Educational Service Center's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability as a Percentage of its Covered Payroll</b>	<b>Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total OPEB Liability</b>
2024	0.091480536%	\$ 1,507,091	\$ 3,624,514	41.58%	30.02%
2023	0.102557610%	1,439,920	5,935,329	24.26%	30.34%
2022	0.108871670%	2,060,486	3,189,479	64.60%	24.08%
2021	0.089000040%	1,934,263	2,973,236	65.06%	18.17%
2020	0.093285490%	2,345,933	3,102,926	75.60%	15.57%
2019	0.086892370%	2,410,629	2,722,504	88.54%	13.57%
2018	0.090340260%	2,424,494	2,913,029	83.23%	12.46%
2017	0.093109150%	2,653,955	2,782,679	95.37%	11.49%

<b>Fiscal Year</b>	<b>Contractually Required Contributions</b>	<b>Contributions in Relation to the Contractually Required Contributions</b>	<b>Contribution Deficiency (Excess)</b>	<b>Educational Service Center's Covered Payroll</b>	<b>Contributions as a Percentage of Covered Payroll</b>
2024	\$ 84,558	\$ (84,558)	\$ -	\$ 3,679,914	2.00%
2023	89,020	(89,020)	-	3,624,514	2.46%
2022	104,841	(104,841)	-	5,935,329	1.77%
2021	54,807	(54,807)	-	3,189,479	1.72%
2020	41,594	(41,594)	-	2,973,236	1.40%
2019	87,857	(87,857)	-	3,102,926	2.83%
2018	78,419	(78,419)	-	2,722,504	2.88%
2017	62,106	(62,106)	-	2,913,029	2.13%
2016	59,979	(59,979)	-	2,782,679	2.16%
2015	78,898	(78,898)	-	2,677,064	2.95%

(1) Amounts presented for each fiscal year were determined as of the Educational Service Center's measurement date which is the prior year-end.

(2) Information prior to 2017 is not available. Schedule is intended to show information for 10 years.  
Additional years will be displayed as they become available.

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

**TRUMBULL COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER  
TRUMBULL COUNTY, OHIO**

SCHEDULES OF THE REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

SCHEDULE OF THE EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER'S PROPORTIONATE SHARE OF  
THE NET OPEB LIABILITY/(ASSET) AND  
EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER OPEB CONTRIBUTIONS  
STATE TEACHERS RETIREMENT SYSTEM (STRS) OF OHIO

LAST EIGHT AND TEN FISCAL YEARS

<b>Fiscal Year (1) (2)</b>	<b>Educational Service Center's Proportion of the Net OPEB Liability/(Asset)</b>	<b>Educational Service Center's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability/(Asset)</b>	<b>Educational Service Center's Covered Payroll</b>	<b>Educational Service Center's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability/(Asset) as a Percentage of its Covered Payroll</b>	<b>Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total OPEB Liability/(Asset)</b>
2024	0.073182000%	\$ (1,423,289)	\$ 10,089,643	14.11%	168.52%
2023	0.070850300%	(1,834,550)	9,153,000	20.04%	230.73%
2022	0.070473453%	(1,485,875)	8,761,700	16.96%	174.73%
2021	0.072899330%	(1,281,205)	8,807,136	14.55%	182.10%
2020	0.071986090%	(1,192,262)	8,486,443	14.05%	174.74%
2019	0.071989140%	(1,156,790)	8,234,729	14.05%	176.00%
2018	0.071407760%	2,786,067	7,901,464	35.26%	47.10%
2017	0.071562390%	3,827,175	7,644,121	50.07%	37.30%

<b>Fiscal Year</b>	<b>Contractually Required Contributions</b>	<b>Contributions in Relation to the Contractually Required Contributions</b>	<b>Contribution Deficiency (Excess)</b>	<b>Educational Service Center's Covered Payroll</b>	<b>Contributions as a Percentage of Covered Payroll</b>
2024	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 10,243,057	0.00%
2023	-	-	-	10,089,643	0.00%
2022	-	-	-	9,153,000	0.00%
2021	-	-	-	8,761,700	0.00%
2020	-	-	-	8,807,136	0.00%
2019	-	-	-	8,486,443	0.00%
2018	-	-	-	8,234,729	0.00%
2017	-	-	-	7,901,464	0.00%
2016	-	-	-	7,644,121	0.00%
2015	-	-	-	7,445,921	0.00%

(1) Amounts presented for each fiscal year were determined as of the Educational Service Center's measurement date which is the prior year-end.

(2) Information prior to 2017 is not available. Schedule is intended to show information for 10 years.  
Additional years will be displayed as they become available.

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION



**TRUMBULL COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER  
TRUMBULL COUNTY, OHIO**

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

**NOTE 1 - PENSIONS & OTHER POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS (OPEB)**

**PENSION**

*SCHOOL EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM (SERS) OF OHIO*

*Change in benefit terms:*

- There were no changes in benefit terms from the amounts reported for fiscal year 2015.
- There were no changes in benefit terms from the amounts reported for fiscal year 2016.
- There were no changes in benefit terms from the amounts reported for fiscal year 2017.
- For fiscal year 2018, SERS changed from a fixed 3% annual increase to a Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) based on the changes in the Consumer Price Index (CPI-W), with a cap of 2.5% and a floor of 0%.
- For fiscal year 2019, with the authority granted the Board under Senate Bill 8, the Board has enacted a three year COLA delay for future benefit recipients commencing benefits on or after April 1, 2018.
- There were no changes in benefit terms from the amounts previously reported for fiscal year 2020.
- There were no changes in benefit terms from the amounts previously reported for fiscal year 2021.
- For fiscal year 2022, SERS changed from a Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) of 2.5% to 2.0%.
- There were no changes in benefit terms from the amounts reported for fiscal year 2023.
- There were no changes in benefit terms from the amounts reported for fiscal year 2024.

*Change in assumptions:*

- There were no changes in methods and assumptions used in the calculation of actuarial determined contributions for fiscal year 2015.
- There were no changes in methods and assumptions used in the calculation of actuarial determined contributions for fiscal year 2016.
- For fiscal year 2017, the following changes of assumptions affected the total pension liability since the prior measurement date: (a) the assumed rate of inflation was reduced from 3.25% to 3.00%, (b) payroll growth assumption was reduced from 4.00% to 3.50%, (c) assumed real wage growth was reduced from 0.75% to 0.50%, (d) rates of withdrawal, retirement and disability were updated to reflect recent experience, (e) mortality among active members was updated to RP-2014 Blue Collar Mortality Table with fully generational projection and a five year age set-back for both males and females, (f) mortality among service retired members and beneficiaries was updated to the following RP-2014 Blue Collar Mortality Table with fully generational projection with Scale BB, 120% of male rates and 110% of female rates, (g) mortality among disabled members was updated to RP-2000 Disabled Mortality Table, 90% for male rates and 100% for female rates, set back five years is used for the period after disability retirement and (h) the discount rate was reduced from 7.75% to 7.50%.
- There were no changes in methods and assumptions used in the calculation of actuarial determined contributions for fiscal year 2018.
- There were no changes in methods and assumptions used in the calculation of actuarial determined contributions for fiscal year 2019.
- There were no changes in methods and assumptions used in the calculation of actuarial determined contributions for fiscal year 2020.
- There were no changes in methods and assumptions used in the calculation of actuarial determined contributions for fiscal year 2021.
- For fiscal year 2022, the following changes of assumptions affected the total pension liability since the prior measurement date: (a) wage inflation decreased from 3.00% to 2.40%, (b) future salary increases changed from 3.50%-18.20% to 3.25%-13.58%, (c) investment rate of return decreased from 7.50% to 7.00%, (d) discount rate decreased from 7.50% to 7.00% and (e) mortality tables changed from the RP-2014 Blue Collar mortality table to the PUB-2010 General Employee Amount Weighted Below Median Healthy Retiree mortality table.

**TRUMBULL COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER  
TRUMBULL COUNTY, OHIO**

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

**NOTE 1 - PENSIONS & OTHER POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS (OPEB) - (Continued)**

- There were no changes in methods and assumptions used in the calculation of actuarial determined contributions for fiscal year 2023.
- There were no changes in methods and assumptions used in the calculation of actuarial determined contributions for fiscal year 2024.

*STATE TEACHERS RETIREMENT SYSTEM (STRS) OF OHIO*

*Change in benefit terms:*

- There were no changes in benefit terms from the amounts reported for fiscal year 2015.
- There were no changes in benefit terms from the amounts reported for fiscal year 2016.
- There were no changes in benefit terms from the amounts reported for fiscal year 2017.
- For fiscal year 2018, STRS decreased the Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) to zero.
- There were no changes in benefit terms from amounts previously reported for fiscal year 2019.
- There were no changes in benefit terms from amounts previously reported for fiscal year 2020.
- There were no changes in benefit terms from amounts previously reported for fiscal year 2021.
- There were no changes in benefit terms from amounts previously reported for fiscal year 2022.
- There were no changes in benefit terms from amounts previously reported for fiscal year 2023.
- There were no changes in benefit terms from amounts previously reported for fiscal year 2024.

*Changes in assumptions:*

- There were no changes in methods and assumptions used in the calculation of actuarial determined contributions for fiscal year 2015.
- There were no changes in methods and assumptions used in the calculation of actuarial determined contributions for fiscal year 2016.
- There were no changes in methods and assumptions used in the calculation of actuarial determined contributions for fiscal year 2017.
- For fiscal year 2018, the following changes of assumption affected the total pension liability since the prior measurement date: (a) the long-term expected rate of return was reduced from 7.75% to 7.45%, (b) the inflation assumption was lowered from 2.75% to 2.50%, (c) the payroll growth assumption was lowered to 3.00%, (d) total salary increases rate was lowered by decreasing the merit component of the individual salary increases, in addition to a decrease of 0.25% due to lower inflation, (e) the healthy and disabled mortality assumptions were updated to the RP-2014 mortality tables with generational improvement scale MP-2016 and (f) rates of retirement, termination and disability were modified to better reflect anticipated future experience.
- There were no changes in methods and assumptions used in the calculation of actuarial determined contributions for fiscal year 2019.
- There were no changes in methods and assumptions used in the calculation of actuarial determined contributions for fiscal year 2020.
- There were no changes in methods and assumptions used in the calculation of actuarial determined contributions for fiscal year 2021.
- For fiscal year 2022, the following changes of assumption affected the total pension liability since the prior measurement date: (a) the long-term expected rate of return was reduced from 7.45% to 7.00% and (b) the discount rate of return was reduced from 7.45% to 7.00%.
- For fiscal year 2023, the following changes of assumption affected the total pension liability since the prior measurement date: the projected salary increases went from 12.50% at age 20 to 2.50% at age 65 to varies by service from 2.50% to 8.50%.
- There were no changes in methods and assumptions used in the calculation of actuarial determined contributions for fiscal year 2024.

**TRUMBULL COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER  
TRUMBULL COUNTY, OHIO**

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

**NOTE 1 - PENSIONS & OTHER POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS (OPEB) - (Continued)**

**OTHER POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS (OPEB)**

*SCHOOL EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM (SERS) OF OHIO*

*Change in benefit terms:*

- There were no changes in benefit terms from the amounts reported for fiscal year 2017.
- There were no changes in benefit terms from the amounts reported for fiscal year 2018.
- There were no changes in benefit terms from the amounts reported for fiscal year 2019.
- There were no changes in benefit terms from the amounts reported for fiscal year 2020.
- There were no changes in benefit terms from the amounts reported for fiscal year 2021.
- There were no changes in benefit terms from the amounts reported for fiscal year 2022.
- There were no changes in benefit terms from the amounts reported for fiscal year 2023.
- There were no changes in benefit terms from the amounts reported for fiscal year 2024.

*Change in assumptions:*

- There were no changes in methods and assumptions used in the calculation of actuarial determined contributions for fiscal year 2017.
- For fiscal year 2018, the following changes of assumptions affected the total OPEB liability since the prior measurement date: (a) assumed rate of inflation was reduced from 3.25% to 3.00%, (b) payroll growth assumption was reduced from 4.00% to 3.50%, (c) assumed real wage growth was reduced from 0.75% to 0.50%, (d) rates of withdrawal, retirement, and disability were updated to reflect recent experience, (e) mortality among active members was updated to the following: RP-2014 Blue Collar Mortality Table with fully generational projection and a five-year age set-back for both males and females, (f) mortality among service retired members and beneficiaries was updated to the following: RP-2014 Blue Collar Mortality Table with fully generational projection with Scale BB, 120% of male rates, and 110% of female rates, (g) mortality among disabled members was updated to the following: RP-2000 Disabled Mortality Table, 90% for male rates and 100% for female rates, set back five years is used for the period after disability retirement, (h) the municipal bond index rate increased from 2.92% to 3.56% and (i) the single equivalent interest rate, net of plan investment expense, including price inflation increased from 2.98% to 3.63%.
- For fiscal year 2019, the following changes of assumptions affected the total OPEB liability since the prior measurement date: (a) the discount rate increased from 3.63% to 3.70%, (b) the health care cost trend rates for Medicare were changed from a range of 5.50%-5.00% to a range of 5.375%-4.75% and Pre-Medicare were changed from a range of 7.50%-5.00% to a range of 7.25%-4.75%, (c) the municipal bond index rate increased from 3.56% to 3.62% and (d) the single equivalent interest rate, net of plan investment expense, including price inflation increased from 3.63% to 3.70%.
- For fiscal year 2020, the following changes of assumptions affected the total OPEB liability since the prior measurement date: (a) the discount rate decreased from 3.70% to 3.22%, (b) the health care cost trend rates for Medicare were changed from a range of 5.375%-4.75% to a range of 5.25%-4.75% and Pre-Medicare were changed from a range of 7.25%-4.75% to a range of 7.00%-4.75%, (c) the municipal bond index rate decreased from 3.62% to 3.13% and (d) the single equivalent interest rate, net of plan investment expense, including price inflation decreased from 3.70% to 3.22%.
- For fiscal year 2021, the following changes of assumptions affected the total OPEB liability since the prior measurement date: (a) the discount rate decreased from 3.22% to 2.63% and (b) the municipal bond index rate decreased from 3.13% to 2.45%, and (c) the single equivalent interest rate, net of plan investment expense, including price inflation decreased from 3.22% to 2.63%.

**TRUMBULL COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER  
TRUMBULL COUNTY, OHIO**

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

**NOTE 1 - PENSIONS & OTHER POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS (OPEB) - (Continued)**

- For fiscal year 2022, the following changes of assumptions affected the total OPEB liability since the prior measurement date: (a) wage inflation decreased from 3.00% to 2.40%, (b) future salary increases changed from 3.50%-18.20% to 3.25%-13.58%, (c) investment rate of return decreased from 7.50% to 7.00%, (d) discount rate decreased from 7.50% to 7.00% and (e) mortality tables changed from the RP-2014 Blue Collar mortality table to the PUB-2010 General Employee Amount Weighted Below Median Healthy Retiree mortality table.
- For fiscal year 2023, the following changes of assumptions affected the total OPEB liability since the prior measurement date: (a) municipal bond index rate went from 1.92% to 3.69%, (b) single equivalent interest rate when from 2.27% to 4.08% and (c) medical trend assumptions went from 5.125% to 4.40% Medicare and 6.75% to 4.40% Pre-Medicare to 7.00% to 4.40%.
- For fiscal year 2024, the following changes of assumptions affect the total OPEB liability since the prior measurement date: (a) municipal bond index rate went from 3.69% to 3.86%, (b) single equivalent interest rate when from 4.08% to 4.27% and (c) medical trend assumptions went from 7.00% to 4.40% to 6.75% to 4.40%.

**STATE TEACHERS RETIREMENT SYSTEM (STRS) OF OHIO**

*Change in benefit terms:*

- There were no changes in benefit terms from the amounts previously reported for fiscal year 2017.
- For fiscal year 2018, STRS reduced the subsidy multiplier for non-Medicare benefit recipients from 2.1% to 1.9% per year of service. Medicare Part B premium reimbursements were discontinued for certain survivors and beneficiaries and all remaining Medicare Part B premium reimbursements will be discontinued beginning January 2019.
- For fiscal year 2019, STRS increased the subsidy multiplier for non-Medicare benefit recipients from 1.9% to 1.944% per year of service effective January 1, 2019. The non-Medicare frozen subsidy base premium was increased January 1, 2019 and all remaining Medicare Part B premium reimbursements will be discontinued beginning January 1, 2020.
- For fiscal year 2020, STRS increased the subsidy percentage from 1.944% to 1.984% effective January 1, 2020. The Medicare subsidy percentages were adjusted effective January 1, 2021 to 2.1% for the Medicare plan. The Medicare Part B monthly reimbursement elimination date was postponed to January 1, 2021.
- For fiscal year 2021, the non-Medicare subsidy percentage was increased effective January 1, 2021 from 1.984% to 2.055% per year of service. The non-Medicare frozen subsidy base premium was increased effective January 1, 2021. The Medicare subsidy percentages were adjusted effective January 1, 2021 to 2.1% for the AMA Medicare plan. The Medicare Part B monthly reimbursement elimination date was postponed indefinitely.
- For fiscal year 2022, the non-Medicare subsidy percentage was increased effective January 1, 2022 from 2.055% to 2.100%. The non-Medicare frozen subsidy base premium was increased effective January 1, 2022. The Medicare Part D subsidy was updated to reflect it is expected to be negative in CY2022. The Part B monthly reimbursement elimination date was postponed indefinitely.
- There were no changes in benefit terms from the amounts previously reported for fiscal year 2023.
- There were no changes in benefit terms from the amounts previously reported for fiscal year 2024.

**TRUMBULL COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER  
TRUMBULL COUNTY, OHIO**

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

**NOTE 1 - PENSIONS & OTHER POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS (OPEB) - (Continued)**

*Change in assumptions:*

- There were no changes in methods and assumptions used in the calculation of actuarial determined contributions for fiscal year 2017.
- For fiscal year 2018, the following changes of assumptions affected the total OPEB liability since the prior measurement date: (a) the discount rate was increased from 3.26% to 4.13% based on the methodology defined under GASB Statement No. 74, Financial Reporting for Postemployment Benefit Plans Other Than Pension Plans (OPEB), (b) the long term expected rate of return was reduced from 7.75% to 7.45%, (c) valuation year per capita health care costs were updated, and the salary scale was modified, (d) the percentage of future retirees electing each option was updated based on current data and the percentage of future disabled retirees and terminated vested participants electing health coverage were decreased and (e) the assumed mortality, disability, retirement, withdrawal and future health care cost trend rates were modified along with the portion of rebated prescription drug costs.
- For fiscal year 2019, the following changes of assumptions affected the total OPEB liability/asset since the prior measurement date: (a) the discount rate was increased from the blended rate of 4.13% to the long-term expected rate of return of 7.45% based on the methodology defined under GASB Statement No. 74, Financial Reporting for Postemployment Benefit Plans Other Than Pension Plans (OPEB) and (b) decrease in health care cost trend rates from 6.00%-11.00% initial; 4.50% ultimate down to Medical Pre-Medicare 6.00% and Medicare 5.00% initial; 4.00% ultimate and Prescription Drug Pre-Medicare 8.00% and Medicare (5.23%) initial; 4.00% ultimate.
- For fiscal year 2020, health care cost trend rates were changed to the following: medical pre-Medicare from 6.00% initial - 4.00% ultimate down to 5.87% initial - 4.00% ultimate; medical Medicare from 5.00% initial - 4.00% ultimate down to 4.93% initial - 4.00% ultimate; prescription drug pre-Medicare from 8.00% initial - 4.00% ultimate down to 7.73% initial - 4.00% ultimate and (5.23%) initial - 4.00% ultimate up to 9.62% initial - 4.00% ultimate.
- For fiscal year 2021, health care cost trend rates were changed to the following: medical pre-Medicare from 5.87% initial - 4.00% ultimate down to 5.00% initial - 4.00% ultimate; medical Medicare from 4.93% initial - 4.00% ultimate down to -6.69% initial - 4.00% ultimate; prescription drug pre-Medicare from 7.73% initial - 4.00% ultimate down to 6.50% initial - 4.00% ultimate; prescription drug Medicare from 9.62% initial - 4.00% ultimate up to 11.87% initial - 4.00% ultimate.
- For fiscal year 2022, the following changes of assumption affected the total OPEB liability since the prior measurement date: (a) the long-term expected rate of return was reduced from 7.45% to 7.00%, (b) the discount rate of return was reduced from 7.45% to 7.00% and (c) health care cost trend rates were changed to the following: medical Medicare from -6.69% initial - 4.00% ultimate down to -16.18% initial - 4.00% ultimate; prescription drug Medicare from 11.87% initial - 4.00% ultimate up to 29.98% initial - 4.00% ultimate.
- For fiscal year 2023, the following changes of assumption affected the total OPEB liability since the prior measurement date: (a) projected salary increase went from 12.50% at age 20 to 2.50% at age 65 to varies by services from 2.50% to 8.50% and (b) health care cost trend rates were changed to the following: Pre-Medicare from 5.00% initial - 4.00% ultimate to 7.50% initial - 3.94% ultimate; medical Medicare from -16.18% initial - 4.00% ultimate to -68.78% initial - 3.94% ultimate; prescription drug Pre-Medicare from 6.50% initial - 4.00% ultimate to 9.00% initial - 3.94% ultimate; Medicare from 29.98% initial - 4.00% ultimate to -5.47% initial - 3.94% ultimate.
- For fiscal year 2024, the following changes of assumption affected the total OPEB liability since the prior measurement date: (a) health care cost trend rates were changed to the following: Pre-Medicare from 7.50% initial - 3.94% ultimate to 7.50% initial - 4.14% ultimate; medical Medicare from -68.78% initial - 3.94% ultimate to -10.94% initial - 4.14% ultimate; prescription drug Pre-Medicare from 9.00% initial - 3.94% ultimate to -11.95% initial - 4.14% ultimate; Medicare from -5.47% initial - 3.94% ultimate to 1.33% initial - 4.14% ultimate.

## OTHER INFORMATION

**TRUMBULL COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER  
TRUMBULL COUNTY, OHIO**

SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN  
FUND BALANCE - BUDGET AND ACTUAL (NON-GAAP BUDGETARY BASIS)  
GENERAL FUND  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

	<u>Budgeted Amounts</u>		<u>Actual Amounts</u>	<u>Variance with</u>
	<u>Original</u>	<u>Final</u>	<u>Budgetary</u>	<u>Final Budget -</u>
			<u>Basis</u>	<u>over (under)</u>
				<u>Actual Amounts</u>
Budgetary revenues and other financing sources	\$ 19,490,053	\$ 22,222,008	\$ 22,248,038	\$ 26,030
Budgetary expenditures and other financing uses	24,428,348	24,559,000	21,639,722	(2,919,278)
Net change in fund balance	(4,938,295)	(2,336,992)	608,316	2,945,308
<b>Budgetary fund balance at beginning of year</b>	9,074,962	9,074,962	9,074,962	-
<b>Prior year encumbrances appropriated</b>	41,918	41,918	41,918	-
<b>Budgetary fund balance at end of year</b>	<u>\$ 4,178,585</u>	<u>\$ 6,779,888</u>	<u>\$ 9,725,196</u>	<u>\$ 2,945,308</u>

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE OTHER INFORMATION

**TRUMBULL COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER  
TRUMBULL COUNTY, OHIO**

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

**NOTE 1 - BUDGETARY BASIS OF ACCOUNTING**

**A. Budgetary Process**

The Educational Service Center is not required under State statute to file budgetary information with the State Department of Education. However, the Educational Service Center Board does follow the budgetary process for control purposes.

The Educational Service Center adopts its budget for all funds on or before the start of the new fiscal year. This is done by adopting estimated receipts and an annual appropriation resolution which is the Board's authorization to spend resources. The resolution sets annual limits on expenditures plus encumbrances at the level of control selected by the Board. The level of control has been established by the Board at the fund level for all funds. The amounts reported as the original budgeted amounts reflect the first estimated resources and appropriation for that fund that covered the entire fiscal year, including amounts automatically carried over from prior fiscal years. The amounts reported as the final budgeted amounts represent the final estimated resources and appropriation amounts passed by the Board during the fiscal year.

**B. Budgetary Basis of Accounting**

While reporting financial position, results of operations, and changes in fund balance on the basis of generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP), the budgetary basis as provided by law is based upon accounting for certain transactions on a basis of cash receipts and disbursements.

The statement of revenue, expenditures and changes in fund balance - budget and actual (non-GAAP budgetary 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 GAAP basis are that:

- (a) Revenues and other financing sources are recorded when received in cash (budget basis) as opposed to when susceptible to accrual (GAAP basis);
- (b) Expenditures and other financing uses are recorded when paid in cash (budget basis) as opposed to when the liability is incurred (GAAP basis);
- (c) 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 an expenditure, as opposed to assigned or committed fund balance for that portion of outstanding encumbrances not already recognized as an account payable (GAAP basis); and
- (d) Some funds are included in the general fund (GAAP 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 GAAP basis is as follows:



**TRUMBULL COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER  
TRUMBULL COUNTY, OHIO**

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

**NOTE 1 - BUDGETARY BASIS OF ACCOUNTING – (Continued)**

**Net Change in Fund Balance**

	<u>General fund</u>
Budget basis	\$ 608,316
Net adjustment for revenue and other financing sources accruals	1,133,304
Net adjustment for expenditure and other financing uses accruals	(1,462,025)
Adjustments for encumbrances	<u>127,721</u>
GAAP Basis	<u><u>\$ 407,316</u></u>

As part of Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement No. 54, "Fund Balance Reporting", certain funds that are legally budgeted in separate special revenue funds are considered part of the general fund. This includes the rotary fund.

**TRUMBULL COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER  
TRUMBULL COUNTY, OHIO  
SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024**

Federal Grantor/ Pass-Through Grantor/ Program or Cluster Title	Assistance Listing Number	Total Federal Expenditures
<b><u>U.S. Department of Education</u></b>		
<i>Direct Award</i>		
Innovative Approach to Literacy; Promise Neighborhoods; Full-Service Community Schools; and Congressionally Directed Spending for for Elementary and Secondary Community Projects	84.215K	\$ 253,640
<i>Passed through Ohio Department of Education</i>		
English Language Acquisition State Grants	84.365	31,604
<i>Education Stabilization Fund -</i>		
COVID-19 Governor's Emergency Education Relief Fund (GEER)	84.425C	62,730
COVID-19 - ESSER	84.425D	2,715
COVID-19 - ARP ESSER	84.425U	474,461
COVID-19 - ESSER - ARP Homeless	84.425W	36,060
<i>Total ALN #84.425</i>		575,966
<b>Total U.S. Department of Education</b>		861,210
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS</b>		\$ 861,210

See accompanying notes to the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards.

**TRUMBULL COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER**  
**TRUMBULL COUNTY, OHIO**  
**NOTES TO THE SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS**  
**FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024**

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**NOTE 1: BASIS OF PRESENTATION**

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

**NOTE 2: 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 the Uniform Guidance, wherein certain types of expenditures are not allowable or are limited as to reimbursement.

**NOTE 3: INDIRECT COST RATE**

The Trumbull County Educational Service Center has elected not to use the 10 percent de minimis indirect cost rate allowed under the Uniform Guidance.

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

Trumbull County Educational Service Center  
Trumbull County  
6000 Youngstown Warren Road  
Niles, OH 44446-4603

To the Members of the Governing Board:

We have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Trumbull County Educational Service Center, Trumbull County, Ohio, (the Center) as of and for the year ended June 30, 2024, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Center's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated December 13, 2024.

**Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting**

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

### **Report on Compliance and Other Matters**

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Center's financial statements are free from material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit, and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under Government Auditing Standards.

### **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 Center'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 Center's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.



Zupka & Associates  
Certified Public Accountants

December 13, 2024

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

Trumbull County Educational Service Center  
Trumbull County  
6000 Youngstown Warren Road  
Niles, OH 44446-4603

To the Members of the Governing Board:

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

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

We have audited the Trumbull County Educational Service Center, Trumbull County, Ohio's (the Center) compliance with the types of compliance requirements identified as subject to audit in the OMB *Compliance Supplement* that could have a direct and material effect on the Center's major federal program for the year ended June 30, 2024. The Center's major federal program is identified in the summary of auditor's results section of the accompanying Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs.

In our opinion, the Trumbull County Educational Service Center complied, in all material respects, with the types of compliance requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on its major federal program for the year ended June 30, 2024.

***Basis for Opinion on Each Major Federal Program***

We conducted an 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 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 Trumbull County Educational Service Center, 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 Trumbull County Educational Service Center's compliance with the compliance requirements referred to above.

***Responsibilities of Management for Compliance***

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 to the Trumbull County Educational Service Center'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 Trumbull County Educational Service Center'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 Trumbull County Educational Service Center'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 Trumbull County Educational Service Center'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 Trumbull County Educational Service Center'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 Trumbull County Educational Service Center'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 that testing based on the requirements of the Uniform Guidance. Accordingly, this report is not suitable for any other purpose.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Zupka & Associates".

Zupka & Associates  
Certified Public Accountants

December 13, 2024



**TRUMBULL COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER  
TRUMBULL COUNTY, OHIO  
SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS  
UNIFORM GUIDANCE  
JUNE 30, 2024**

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

2024(i)	Type of Financial Statement Opinion	Unmodified
2024(ii)	Were there any material control weaknesses reported at the financial statement level (GAGAS)?	No
2024(ii)	Were there any significant deficiencies in internal control reported at the financial statement level (GAGAS)?	No
2024(iii)	Was there any reported material noncompliance at the financial statement level (GAGAS)?	No
2024(iv)	Were there any material internal control weaknesses reported for major federal programs?	No
2024(iv)	Were there any significant deficiencies in internal control reported for major federal programs?	No
2024(v)	Type of Major Programs' Compliance Opinions	Unmodified
2024(vi)	Are there any reportable findings under 2 CFR 200.516(a)?	No
2024(vii)	Major Programs (list):  Education Stabilization Fund: COVID-19 - Governor's Emergency Education Relief Fund (GEER) - ALN #84.425C COVID-19 - ESSER - ALN #84.425D COVID-19 - ARP ESSER - ALN #84.425U COVID-19 - ESSER - ARP Homeless - ALN #84.425W	
2024(viii)	Dollar Threshold: A/B Program	Type A: \$750,000 Type B: All Others less than \$750,000
2024(ix)	Low Risk Auditee?	No

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

None.

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

None.

**TRUMBULL COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER  
TRUMBULL COUNTY, OHIO  
SCHEDULE OF PRIOR AUDIT FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024**

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The audit report for the prior year ended June 30, 2023, contained no findings or citations.