



Dave Yost • Auditor of State



**BUCKEYE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
ASHTABULA COUNTY**

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# Dave Yost • Auditor of State

## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Buckeye Local School District  
Ashtabula County  
3436 Edgewood Drive  
Ashtabula, Ohio 44004

To the Board of Education:

### ***Report on the Financial Statements***

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Buckeye Local School District, Ashtabula County, Ohio (the District), as of and for the year ended June 30, 2017, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the District's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

### ***Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements***

Management is responsible for preparing and fairly presenting these financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; this includes designing, implementing, and maintaining internal control relevant to preparing and fairly presenting financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

### ***Auditor's Responsibility***

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

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

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

***Opinion***

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Buckeye Local School District, Ashtabula County, Ohio, as of June 30, 2017, and the respective changes in financial position thereof and the budgetary comparison for the General fund thereof for the year then ended in accordance with the accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

***Other Matters***

*Required Supplementary Information*

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require this presentation to include *Management's discussion and analysis*, and schedules of net pension liabilities and pension contributions listed in the table of contents, to supplement the basic financial statements. Although this information is not part of the basic financial statements, the Governmental Accounting Standards Board considers it essential for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, consisting of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, to the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not opine or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to opine or provide any other assurance.

*Supplementary and Other Information*

Our audit was conducted to opine on the District's basic financial statements taken as a whole.

The Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards presents 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 financial statements.

The Schedule is management's responsibility, and derives from and relate directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements. We subjected this information to the auditing procedures we applied to the basic financial statements. We also applied certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling this information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements or to the basic financial statements themselves in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, this information is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the basic financial statements taken as a whole.

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

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated January 16, 2018 on our consideration of the District's internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements and other matters. That report describes the scope of our internal control testing over financial reporting and compliance, and the results of that testing, and does not opine on internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the District's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dave Yost". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping "D" and "Y".

**Dave Yost**  
Auditor of State  
Columbus, Ohio

January 16, 2018

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**Buckeye Local School District**  
Ashtabula County, Ohio

*Management's Discussion and Analysis*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2017*  
*Unaudited*

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

**Financial Highlights**

Key financial highlights for fiscal year 2017 are as follows:

*Overall:*

- For governmental activities, net position increased \$1,056,005 from fiscal year 2016.
- General revenues accounted for \$16,743,311 in revenue or 83 percent of all governmental revenues. Program specific revenues in the form of charges for services and sales, grants and contributions accounted for \$3,507,859 or 17 percent of total governmental revenues of \$20,251,170.
- The District had \$19,195,165 in expenses related to governmental activities; only \$3,507,859 of these expenses were offset by program specific charges for services, grants or contributions. General revenues (primarily taxes) of \$16,743,311 coupled with the program revenues were adequate to provide for these programs this fiscal year.
- The general fund had \$18,362,838 in revenues and \$16,538,826 in expenditures on a modified accrual basis. The general fund's fund balance increased \$1,922,734 to \$7,632,926, from \$5,710,192 in fiscal year 2016, an increase of 34 percent.

**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 Buckeye Local School District as a financial whole, an entire operating entity. The statements then proceed to provide an increasingly detailed look at specific financial activities.

The *Statement of Net Position* and *Statement of Activities* provide information about the activities of the whole District, presenting both an aggregate view of the District's finances and a longer-term view of those finances. Fund financial statements provide the next level of detail. For governmental funds, these statements tell how services were financed in the short-term and what remains for future spending. The fund financial statements also look at the District's most significant funds with all other non-major funds presented in total in one column. In the case of Buckeye School District, the general fund by far is the most significant fund.

**Buckeye Local School District**  
Ashtabula County, Ohio

*Management's Discussion and Analysis*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2017*  
*Unaudited*

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**Reporting the District as a Whole**

*Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities*

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

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

In the Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities, the District has only one kind of activity:

- **Governmental Activities** - Most of the District's programs and services are reported here including instruction, support services, operation and maintenance of plant, pupil transportation and extracurricular activities. Due to the continuing subsidies that go to the lunchroom fund from the general fund, the lunchroom operation is also being considered as governmental activities.

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

*Fund Financial Statements*

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

**Governmental Funds** Most of the District's activities are reported in governmental funds, which focus on how money flows into and out of those funds and balances left at year-end available for spending in future periods. These funds are reported using an accounting method called *modified accrual*, which measures cash and all other *financial assets* that can readily be converted to cash. The governmental fund statements provide a detailed *short-term view* of the District's general governmental 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 difference) 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.

The District is the trustee, or fiduciary, for its scholarship programs. This activity is presented as a private-purpose trust fund. The District also acts in a trustee capacity as an agent for individuals or other entities. These activities are reported in agency funds. All of the District's fiduciary activities are reported in separate Statements of Fiduciary Net Position and Changes in Fiduciary Net Position. These activities are excluded from the District's other financial statements because the assets cannot be utilized by the District to finance its operations.

**Buckeye Local School District**  
Ashtabula County, Ohio

*Management's Discussion and Analysis*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2017*  
*Unaudited*

**The District as a Whole**

Table 1 shows net position for fiscal year 2017 as compared to fiscal year 2016

| <b>Net Position (Table 1)</b>              |                       |                       |                                |
|--|-----------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------|
| <b>Governmental Activities</b>             |                       |                       |                                |
|  | <u>2017</u>           | <u>2016</u>           | <u>Increase<br/>(Decrease)</u> |
| <b>Assets</b>                              |                       |                       |                                |
| Current and Other Assets                   | \$15,849,973          | \$14,487,762          | \$1,362,211                    |
| Capital Assets, Net                        | 3,351,494             | 3,159,045             | 192,449                        |
| <i>Total Assets</i>                        | <u>19,201,467</u>     | <u>17,646,807</u>     | <u>1,554,660</u>               |
| <b>Deferred Outflows of Resources</b>      |                       |                       |                                |
| Pension                                    | 5,055,644             | 2,300,546             | 2,755,098                      |
| <b>Liabilities</b>                         |                       |                       |                                |
| Current Liabilities                        | 2,152,754             | 2,121,069             | 31,685                         |
| Long-Term Liabilities                      |                       |                       |                                |
| Due within One Year                        | 49,913                | 68,161                | (18,248)                       |
| Due in More than One Year:                 |                       |                       |                                |
| Net Pension Liability                      | 28,527,867            | 23,852,073            | 4,675,794                      |
| Other Amounts                              | 1,229,811             | 1,023,049             | 206,762                        |
| <i>Total Liabilities</i>                   | <u>31,960,345</u>     | <u>27,064,352</u>     | <u>4,895,993</u>               |
| <b>Deferred Inflows of Resources</b>       |                       |                       |                                |
| Property Taxes                             | 5,261,749             | 5,690,580             | (428,831)                      |
| Pension                                    | 632,340               | 1,845,749             | (1,213,409)                    |
| <i>Total Deferred Inflows of Resources</i> | <u>5,894,089</u>      | <u>7,536,329</u>      | <u>(1,642,240)</u>             |
| <b>Net Position</b>                        |                       |                       |                                |
| Net Investment in Capital Assets           | 3,211,594             | 3,159,045             | 52,549                         |
| Restricted                                 | 534,102               | 712,948               | (178,846)                      |
| Unrestricted (Deficit)                     | (17,343,019)          | (18,525,321)          | 1,182,302                      |
| <i>Total Net Position</i>                  | <u>(\$13,597,323)</u> | <u>(\$14,653,328)</u> | <u>\$1,056,005</u>             |

The net pension liability (NPL) is the largest single liability reported by the District and is reported pursuant to GASB Statement No 68, "Accounting and Financial Reporting for Pensions—an Amendment of GASB Statement 27". For reasons discussed below, many end users of this financial statement will gain a clearer understanding of the District's actual financial condition by adding deferred inflows related to pension and the net pension liability to the reported net pension and subtracting deferred outflows related to pension.

Governmental Accounting Standards Board standards are national and apply to all governmental financial reports prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. When accounting for pension costs, GASB No. 27 focused on a funding approach. This approach limited pension costs to contributions manually required by law, which may or may not be sufficient to fully fund each plan's *net pension liability*. GASB No. 68 takes an earnings approach to pension accounting; however, the nature of Ohio's statewide pension systems and state law governing those systems requires additional explanation in order to properly understand the information presented in these statements.

**Buckeye Local School District**  
Ashtabula County, Ohio

*Management's Discussion and Analysis*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2017*  
*Unaudited*

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Under the standards required by GASB No. 68, the net pension liability equals the District's proportionate share of each plan's collective:

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

GASB notes that pension 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. GASB noted that the unfunded portion of this pension promise is a present obligation of the District, part of a bargained-for benefit to the employee, and should accordingly be reported by the District as a liability since they received the benefit of the exchange. However, the District is not responsible for certain key factors affecting the balance of this liability. 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 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 pension system. In Ohio, there is no legal means to enforce the unfunded liability of the pension system *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 pension system is responsible for the administration of the plan.

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. As explained above, changes in pension benefits, contribution rates, and return on investments affect the balance of the net pension liability, but are outside the control of the District. In the event that contributions, investment returns and other changes are insufficient to keep up with required pension 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 is satisfied, this liability is separately identified within the long-term liability section of the statement of net position.

In accordance with GASB No. 68, the District's statements prepared on an accrual basis of accounting include an annual pension expense for their proportionate share of each plan's *change* in net pension liability.

Total assets increased by \$1,554,660. This increase can be attributed to an increase in cash equivalents on hand at fiscal year-end and an increase in capital assets.

Total liabilities increased by \$4,895,993, due mostly to an increase in net pension liability from the prior year. The overall increase in liabilities is 18 percent.

Deferred inflows of resources for property taxes remained fairly consistent with the prior year, decreasing just over 7 percent.

By comparing assets, liabilities, deferred outflows and deferred inflows of resources, one can see the overall position of the District has increased as evidenced by the increase in net position of \$1,056,005.

**Buckeye Local School District**

Ashtabula County, Ohio

*Management's Discussion and Analysis  
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2017  
Unaudited***Table 2**  
Change in Net Position

|   | 2017                  | 2016                  | Increase<br>(Decrease) |
|---|-----------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|
| <b>Revenues</b>                         |                       |                       |                        |
| <b>Program Revenues</b>                 |                       |                       |                        |
| Charges for Services and Sales          | \$2,429,871           | \$2,406,283           | \$23,588               |
| Operating Grants and Contributions      | 1,026,663             | 1,013,216             | 13,447                 |
| Capital Grants and Contributions        | 51,325                | 0                     | 51,325                 |
| <i>Total Program Revenues</i>           | <u>3,507,859</u>      | <u>3,419,499</u>      | <u>88,360</u>          |
| <b>General Revenues</b>                 |                       |                       |                        |
| Property Taxes                          | 6,483,545             | 5,797,160             | 686,385                |
| Intergovernmental                       | 10,179,253            | 10,453,007            | (273,754)              |
| Investment Earnings                     | 60,082                | 25,236                | 34,846                 |
| Miscellaneous                           | 20,431                | 34,980                | (14,549)               |
| <i>Total General Revenues</i>           | <u>16,743,311</u>     | <u>16,310,383</u>     | <u>432,928</u>         |
| <i>Total Revenues</i>                   | <u>20,251,170</u>     | <u>19,729,882</u>     | <u>521,288</u>         |
| <b>Program Expenses</b>                 |                       |                       |                        |
| Current:                                |                       |                       |                        |
| Instruction:                            |                       |                       |                        |
| Regular                                 | 8,974,112             | 8,738,500             | 235,612                |
| Special                                 | 2,044,315             | 1,760,711             | 283,604                |
| Vocational                              | 105,782               | 78,934                | 26,848                 |
| Adult/Continuing                        | 2,300                 | 2,300                 | 0                      |
| Support Services:                       |                       |                       |                        |
| Pupil                                   | 1,126,872             | 1,109,534             | 17,338                 |
| Instructional Staff                     | 425,910               | 375,840               | 50,070                 |
| Board of Education                      | 27,721                | 29,682                | (1,961)                |
| Administration                          | 1,407,280             | 1,380,253             | 27,027                 |
| Fiscal                                  | 472,189               | 487,585               | (15,396)               |
| Business                                | 90,304                | 91,214                | (910)                  |
| Operation and Maintenance of Plant      | 1,971,134             | 1,833,037             | 138,097                |
| Pupil Transportation                    | 1,245,655             | 1,261,042             | (15,387)               |
| Central                                 | 57,371                | 54,300                | 3,071                  |
| Operation of Non-Instructional Services | 9,175                 | 1,489                 | 7,686                  |
| Operation of Food Services              | 668,249               | 693,291               | (25,042)               |
| Extracurricular Activities              | 559,712               | 534,407               | 25,305                 |
| Interest and Fiscal Charges             | 7,084                 | 0                     | 7,084                  |
| <i>Total Program Expenses</i>           | <u>19,195,165</u>     | <u>18,432,119</u>     | <u>763,046</u>         |
| <i>Change in Net Position</i>           | 1,056,005             | 1,297,763             | (241,758)              |
| Net Position Beginning of Year          | <u>(14,653,328)</u>   | <u>(15,951,091)</u>   | <u>1,297,763</u>       |
| <i>Net Position End of Year</i>         | <u>(\$13,597,323)</u> | <u>(\$14,653,328)</u> | <u>\$1,056,005</u>     |

**Buckeye Local School District**  
Ashtabula County, Ohio

*Management's Discussion and Analysis*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2017*  
*Unaudited*

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

Thus, school districts dependent upon property taxes are hampered by a lack of revenue growth and must regularly return to voters to maintain a constant level of service. Property taxes made up 32 percent of governmental activities revenue for Buckeye Local School District in fiscal year 2017, an increase of two percent from fiscal year 2016.

**Governmental Activities**

Total net position of the School District increased \$1,056,005 during fiscal year 2017. The governmental expenses of \$19,195,165 were offset by program revenues of \$3,507,859 and general revenues of \$16,743,311. Program revenues supported 18 percent of the total governmental activities expenses.

The primary sources of revenue for governmental activities are derived from property taxes and grants and entitlements. These two revenue sources represent 82 percent of total governmental revenue.

The Statement of Activities shows the cost of program services and the charges for services and grants offsetting those services. Table 3 shows, for governmental activities, the total cost of services and the net cost of services.

**Table 3**  
Total and Net Cost of Program Services

|   | 2017                      |                         | 2016                      |                         |
|---|---------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|
|   | Total Cost<br>of Services | Net Cost<br>of Services | Total Cost<br>of Services | Net Cost<br>of Services |
| <b>Program Expenses</b>                 |                           |                         |                           |                         |
| Instruction                             | \$11,126,509              | \$8,670,468             | \$10,580,445              | \$8,132,102             |
| Support Services:                       |                           |                         |                           |                         |
| Pupil                                   | 1,126,872                 | 1,126,872               | 1,109,534                 | 1,109,534               |
| Instructional Staff                     | 425,910                   | 363,019                 | 375,840                   | 336,609                 |
| Board of Education                      | 27,721                    | 27,721                  | 29,682                    | 29,682                  |
| Administration                          | 1,407,280                 | 1,407,280               | 1,380,253                 | 1,380,253               |
| Fiscal                                  | 472,189                   | 472,189                 | 487,585                   | 487,585                 |
| Business                                | 90,304                    | 90,304                  | 91,214                    | 91,214                  |
| Operation and Maintenance of Plant      | 1,971,134                 | 1,942,133               | 1,833,037                 | 1,831,262               |
| Pupil Transportation                    | 1,245,655                 | 1,240,470               | 1,261,042                 | 1,252,932               |
| Central                                 | 57,371                    | 55,226                  | 54,300                    | 54,300                  |
| Operation of Non-Instructional Services | 9,175                     | 42                      | 1,489                     | (1,161)                 |
| Food Service Operation                  | 668,249                   | 8,214                   | 693,291                   | 8,881                   |
| Extracurricular Activities              | 559,712                   | 276,284                 | 534,407                   | 299,427                 |
| Interest and Fiscal Charges             | 7,084                     | 7,084                   | 0                         | 0                       |
| <i>Total Expenditures</i>               | <u>\$19,195,165</u>       | <u>\$15,687,306</u>     | <u>\$18,432,119</u>       | <u>\$15,012,620</u>     |

## **Buckeye Local School District**

Ashtabula County, Ohio

*Management's Discussion and Analysis  
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2017  
Unaudited*

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The dependence upon general tax revenues for governmental activities is apparent. Over 58 percent of instruction activities are supported through property taxes alone. For all governmental activities, general revenue and prior year cash balances support all expenses as shown in the above table. The community, as a whole, is by far the primary support for Buckeye Local School District students.

### ***The District's Funds***

Information regarding the School District's major funds begins on page 16. These funds are accounted for using the modified accrual basis of accounting. All governmental funds had total revenues of \$20,306,411 to offset expenditures of \$18,629,618. The net change in fund balance for the year was most significant in the general fund, which increased \$1,922,734. This increase in fund balance is due to revenues exceeding expenditures during the fiscal year. As one can see from the Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances - Governmental Funds, intergovernmental revenue and property taxes are the largest revenue sources, accounting for nearly 88 percent of total governmental revenue. Clearly, the community is the greatest source of financial support for the students of the Buckeye Local School District.

### ***General Fund Budgeting Highlights***

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

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

For the General Fund, actual revenue, including other financing sources, was \$18,071,356, which was \$5,693 more than the final budgeted revenue of \$18,065,663 and \$302,468 more than the original budget estimate of \$17,768,888. The District continues to use a conservative approach of estimating revenue and these variances are well within reason for an entire year of budgeting.

Total actual expenditures, including other financing uses, were \$16,866,339 which was \$1,372,719 less than final budgeted expenditures of \$18,239,058, and \$1,691,607 less than original budgeted expenditures of \$18,557,946. The variance from the original estimate is the result of a conservative, worst case scenario approach used by the District when planning out the original budget.

### **Capital Assets and Debt Administration**

#### ***Capital Assets***

At the end of fiscal year 2017, the School District had \$3,351,494 invested in land, land improvements, buildings and improvements, furniture, fixtures and equipment, vehicles and textbooks.

**Buckeye Local School District**  
Ashtabula County, Ohio

*Management's Discussion and Analysis*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2017*  
*Unaudited*

Table 4 shows fiscal year 2017 balances compared to fiscal year 2016:

**Table 4**  
Capital Assets at June 30 (Net of Depreciation)

|                                   | <u>2017</u>        | <u>2016</u>        |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Land                              | \$402,305          | \$402,305          |
| Land Improvements                 | 545,927            | 231,063            |
| Buildings and Improvements        | 1,574,450          | 1,634,276          |
| Furniture, Fixtures and Equipment | 348,869            | 385,409            |
| Vehicles                          | 446,499            | 453,346            |
| Textbooks                         | 33,444             | 52,646             |
| <i>Total</i>                      | <u>\$3,351,494</u> | <u>\$3,159,045</u> |

All capital assets, except land, are reported net of depreciation. As one can see, the School District had an overall increase in capital assets of \$192,449. The increase is due to current year additions of \$499,250 exceeding depreciation of \$306,049 and net deletions of \$752. For more information about the School District's capital assets, see Note 9 to the basic financial statements.

***Debt***

The School District issued a capital lease at the end of the fiscal year in the amount of \$139,900. The lease was issued at a rate of 4.95 percent and the first payment of \$18,174 is not due until fiscal year 2019. For more information about the School District's lease, see Note 20 to the basic financial statements.

**Current Financial Related Activities**

The challenge for Buckeye Local Schools to educate children on a stringent budget is getting even more difficult for our School District. Of the operating funds the School District received in fiscal year 2017, approximately 32 percent were from local property and public utility taxes, 39 percent from the State Foundation funding system, 16 percent from the State through the Homestead/Rollback and tangible personal property reimbursements and 13 percent from other local funds. Of the other local funds category, open enrollment accounted for 73 percent of those funds. Declining enrollment of our own student population has allowed the District to accept students from other Districts and receive payment through the State for those students, which is identified as open enrollment.

Despite the funding structure of public education in Ohio, Buckeye Local School District has maintained financial stability through difficult times. As the preceding information shows, the District depends on its property taxpayers as well as state funding, including the tangible personal property tax reimbursements, for its revenue sources. With the passage of a 6.5 mill continuous operating levy in 2005, the District has been able to continue its education programs. However, financially the future is not without its challenges. Recently passed legislation reduced the tangible personal property tax reimbursements from the State by \$220,000 in fiscal year 2017, and then an additional decline of \$143,000 each year until the funds are depleted. Additionally, the total tangible personal property tax reimbursement to the permanent improvement fund has been discontinued for fiscal year 2017 forward. This is a loss of \$76,000 each year, or 25% of that budget each year. This decline necessitates the use of general fund dollars to maintain buildings and/or purchase equipment. Buckeye will continue to keep a tight watch on funds and will do so with little revenue growth from year to year. Circumstances will



**Buckeye Local School District**

Ashtabula County, Ohio

*Management's Discussion and Analysis  
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2017  
Unaudited*

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necessitate continuing to manage our financial resources in a prudent and conservative manner coupled with a combination of cost reductions and the possibility of additional levies to create revenue growth.

State law fixes the amount of tax revenue, forcing it to remain constant except for increases in valuation due to new construction in the District. Thus management must diligently plan expenses, staying carefully within the District's five-year forecast.

In fiscal year 2017, discussions with the Board of Education will be needed to determine how to address any projected shortfalls. The District will continue to call upon all of its financial abilities to meet the challenges the future will bring. It is imperative the District's Board and management team continue to carefully and prudently plan in order to provide the resources required to meet the student's needs over the next several years.

**Contacting the District's Financial Management**

This financial report is designed to provide our citizen's, taxpayers, investors and creditors with a general overview of the District's finances and to show the District's accountability for the money it receives. If you have questions about this report or need additional financial information, contact Jamie Davis, Treasurer, at Buckeye Local School District, 3436 Edgewood Drive, Ashtabula, Ohio 44004.

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**Buckeye Local School District**

Ashtabula County, Ohio

*Statement of Net Position  
June 30, 2017*

|   | <u>Governmental<br/>Activities</u> |
|---|------------------------------------|
| <b>Assets</b>                               |                                    |
| Equity in Pooled Cash and Cash Equivalents  | \$8,952,873                        |
| Accrued Interest Receivable                 | 1,663                              |
| Accounts Receivable                         | 7,512                              |
| Intergovernmental Receivable                | 66,946                             |
| Property Taxes Receivable                   | 6,721,407                          |
| Inventory Held for Resale                   | 18,257                             |
| Materials and Supplies Inventory            | 81,315                             |
| Nondepreciable Capital Assets               | 402,305                            |
| Depreciable Capital Assets, Net             | 2,949,189                          |
| <i>Total Assets</i>                         | <u>19,201,467</u>                  |
| <b>Deferred Outflows of Resources</b>       |                                    |
| Pension:                                    |                                    |
| STRS  | 3,925,771                          |
| SERS  | 1,129,873                          |
| <i>Total Deferred Outflows of Resources</i> | <u>5,055,644</u>                   |
| <b>Liabilities</b>                          |                                    |
| Accounts Payable                            | 129,627                            |
| Accrued Wages and Benefits Payable          | 1,146,977                          |
| Intergovernmental Payable                   | 397,852                            |
| Matured Compensated Absences Payable        | 8,837                              |
| Accrued Interest Payable                    | 7,084                              |
| Claims Payable                              | 462,377                            |
| Long-Term Liabilities:                      |                                    |
| Due Within One Year                         | 49,913                             |
| Due In More Than One Year:                  |                                    |
| Net Pension Liability (See Note 12)         | 28,527,867                         |
| Other Amounts Due in More than One Year     | 1,229,811                          |
| <i>Total Liabilities</i>                    | <u>31,960,345</u>                  |
| <b>Deferred Inflows of Resources</b>        |                                    |
| Property Taxes                              | 5,261,749                          |
| Pension:                                    |                                    |
| STRS  | 530,193                            |
| SERS  | 102,147                            |
| <i>Total Deferred Inflows of Resources</i>  | <u>5,894,089</u>                   |
| <b>Net Position</b>                         |                                    |
| Net Investment in Capital Assets            | 3,211,594                          |
| Restricted for:                             |                                    |
| Capital Projects                            | 290,897                            |
| Other Purposes                              | 243,205                            |
| Unrestricted (Deficit)                      | (17,343,019)                       |
| <i>Total Net Position</i>                   | <u>(\$13,597,323)</u>              |

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements

**Buckeye Local School District**  
Ashtabula County, Ohio

*Statement of Activities*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2017*

|   | Program Revenues                     |  |                                     | Net (Expense)                             |                       |
|---|--------------------------------------|--|-------------------------------------|---|-----------------------|
|   | Charges<br>for Services<br>and Sales | Operating<br>Grants and<br>Contributions | Capital Grants<br>and Contributions | Revenue and<br>Changes in<br>Net Position |                       |
| Expenses                                |                                      |  |                                     | Governmental<br>Activities                |                       |
| <b>Governmental Activities</b>          |                                      |  |                                     |   |                       |
| Current:                                |                                      |  |                                     |   |                       |
| Instruction:                            |                                      |  |                                     |   |                       |
| Regular                                 | \$8,974,112                          | \$1,826,197                              | \$94,246                            | \$0                                       | (\$7,053,669)         |
| Special                                 | 2,044,315                            | 155,520                                  | 341,503                             | 0   | (1,547,292)           |
| Vocational                              | 105,782                              | 36,275                                   | 0                                   | 0   | (69,507)              |
| Adult/Continuing                        | 2,300                                | 0  | 2,300                               | 0   | 0                     |
| Support Services:                       |                                      |  |                                     |   |                       |
| Pupils                                  | 1,126,872                            | 0  | 0                                   | 0   | (1,126,872)           |
| Instructional Staff                     | 425,910                              | 0  | 62,891                              | 0   | (363,019)             |
| Board of Education                      | 27,721                               | 0  | 0                                   | 0   | (27,721)              |
| Administration                          | 1,407,280                            | 0  | 0                                   | 0   | (1,407,280)           |
| Fiscal                                  | 472,189                              | 0  | 0                                   | 0   | (472,189)             |
| Business                                | 90,304                               | 0  | 0                                   | 0   | (90,304)              |
| Operation and Maintenance of Plant      | 1,971,134                            | 0  | 29,001                              | 0   | (1,942,133)           |
| Pupil Transportation                    | 1,245,655                            | 5,185                                    | 0                                   | 0   | (1,240,470)           |
| Central                                 | 57,371                               | 0  | 2,145                               | 0   | (55,226)              |
| Operation of Non-Instructional Services | 9,175                                | 0  | 9,133                               | 0   | (42)                  |
| Operation of Food Services              | 668,249                              | 191,247                                  | 468,788                             | 0   | (8,214)               |
| Extracurricular Activities              | 559,712                              | 215,447                                  | 16,656                              | 51,325                                    | (276,284)             |
| Interest and Fiscal Charges             | 7,084                                | 0  | 0                                   | 0   | (7,084)               |
| <i>Total Governmental Activities</i>    | <u>\$19,195,165</u>                  | <u>\$2,429,871</u>                       | <u>\$1,026,663</u>                  | <u>\$51,325</u>                           | <u>(15,687,306)</u>   |
| <b>General Revenues</b>                 |                                      |  |                                     |   |                       |
| Property Taxes Levied for:              |                                      |  |                                     |   |                       |
|   |                                      |  |                                     |   | 6,075,446             |
|   |                                      |  |                                     |   | 408,099               |
| Grants and Entitlements not             |                                      |  |                                     |   |                       |
|   |                                      |  |                                     |   | 10,179,253            |
|   |                                      |  |                                     |   | 60,082                |
|   |                                      |  |                                     |   | 20,431                |
| <i>Total General Revenues</i>           |                                      |  |                                     |   | <u>16,743,311</u>     |
|   |                                      |  |                                     |   | 1,056,005             |
|   |                                      |  |                                     |   | (14,653,328)          |
|   |                                      |  |                                     |   | <u>(\$13,597,323)</u> |

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements

**Buckeye Local School District**

Ashtabula County, Ohio

*Balance Sheet  
Governmental Funds  
June 30, 2017*

|   | General             | Other<br>Governmental<br>Funds | Total<br>Governmental<br>Funds |
|---|---------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| <b>Assets</b>   |                     |                                |                                |
| Equity in Pooled Cash and Cash Equivalents                                    | \$8,337,039         | \$615,834                      | \$8,952,873                    |
| Accrued Interest Receivable   | 1,663               | 0                              | 1,663                          |
| Accounts Receivable   | 2,671               | 4,841                          | 7,512                          |
| Interfund Receivable  | 161,500             | 0                              | 161,500                        |
| Intergovernmental Receivable  | 0                   | 66,946                         | 66,946                         |
| Property Taxes Receivable   | 6,293,137           | 428,270                        | 6,721,407                      |
| Inventory Held for Resale   | 0                   | 18,257                         | 18,257                         |
| Materials and Supplies Inventory  | 77,744              | 3,571                          | 81,315                         |
| <i>Total Assets</i>   | <u>\$14,873,754</u> | <u>\$1,137,719</u>             | <u>\$16,011,473</u>            |
| <b>Liabilities</b>  |                     |                                |                                |
| Accounts Payable  | \$103,959           | \$25,668                       | \$129,627                      |
| Accrued Wages and Benefits Payable  | 1,097,768           | 49,209                         | 1,146,977                      |
| Intergovernmental Payable   | 371,805             | 26,047                         | 397,852                        |
| Matured Compensated Absences Payable  | 8,837               | 0                              | 8,837                          |
| Interfund Payable   | 0                   | 161,500                        | 161,500                        |
| Claims Payable  | 462,377             | 0                              | 462,377                        |
| <i>Total Liabilities</i>  | <u>2,044,746</u>    | <u>262,424</u>                 | <u>2,307,170</u>               |
| <b>Deferred Inflows of Resources</b>  |                     |                                |                                |
| Property Taxes  | 4,931,185           | 330,564                        | 5,261,749                      |
| Unavailable Revenue - Property Taxes  | 264,897             | 19,706                         | 284,603                        |
| Unavailable Revenue - Grants  | 0                   | 7,792                          | 7,792                          |
| <i>Total Deferred Inflows of Resources</i>                                    | <u>5,196,082</u>    | <u>358,062</u>                 | <u>5,554,144</u>               |
| <b>Fund Balances</b>  |                     |                                |                                |
| Nonspendable  | 77,744              | 3,571                          | 81,315                         |
| Restricted  | 0                   | 462,175                        | 462,175                        |
| Committed   | 462,377             | 77,372                         | 539,749                        |
| Assigned  | 265,085             | 0                              | 265,085                        |
| Unassigned  | 6,827,720           | (25,885)                       | 6,801,835                      |
| <i>Total Fund Balances</i>  | <u>7,632,926</u>    | <u>517,233</u>                 | <u>8,150,159</u>               |
| <i>Total Liabilities, Deferred Inflows of<br/>Resources and Fund Balances</i> | <u>\$14,873,754</u> | <u>\$1,137,719</u>             | <u>\$16,011,473</u>            |

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements

**Buckeye Local School District**  
Ashtabula County, Ohio

*Reconciliation of Total Governmental Fund Balances to  
Net Position of Governmental Activities  
June 30, 2017*

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|   |                              |
|---|------------------------------|
| <b>Total Governmental Fund Balances</b>   | \$8,150,159                  |
| <br><b><i>Amounts reported for governmental activities in the<br/>statement of net position are different because</i></b>   |                              |
| Capital assets used in governmental activities are not financial resources and therefore are not reported in the funds.   | 3,351,494                    |
| Other long-term assets are not available to pay for current-period expenditures and therefore are reported as unavailable revenue in the funds:                                     |                              |
| Delinquent Property Taxes   | 284,603                      |
| Grants  | <u>7,792</u>                 |
| Total   | 292,395                      |
| Some liabilities, including net pension obligations, are not due and payable in the current period and, therefore, are not reported in the funds.                                   |                              |
| STRS  | (23,343,230)                 |
| SERS  | <u>(5,184,637)</u>           |
| Total   | (28,527,867)                 |
| Deferred outflows and inflows of resources related to pensions are applicable to future periods and, therefore, are not reported in the funds.                                      |                              |
| Deferred outflows of resources related to pensions:   |                              |
| STRS  | 3,925,771                    |
| SERS  | <u>1,129,873</u>             |
| Total   | 5,055,644                    |
| Deferred inflows of resources related to pensions:  |                              |
| STRS  | (530,193)                    |
| SERS  | <u>(102,147)</u>             |
| Total   | (632,340)                    |
| In the statement of activities, interest is accrued on outstanding general obligation bonds and notes, whereas in governmental funds, an interest expenditure is reported when due. | (7,084)                      |
| Long-term liabilities are not due and payable in the current period and therefore are not reported in the funds:  |                              |
| Compensated Absences  | (1,139,824)                  |
| Capital Leases  | <u>(139,900)</u>             |
| Total   | <u>(1,279,724)</u>           |
| <b><i>Net Position of Governmental Activities</i></b>   | <b><u>(\$13,597,323)</u></b> |

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements

**Buckeye Local School District**  
Ashtabula County, Ohio

*Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances*  
*Governmental Funds*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2017*

|   | General            | Other<br>Governmental<br>Funds | Total<br>Governmental<br>Funds |
|---|--------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| <b>Revenues</b>                                     |                    |                                |                                |
| Property Taxes                                      | \$6,031,966        | \$405,321                      | \$6,437,287                    |
| Tuition and Fees                                    | 2,024,809          | 0                              | 2,024,809                      |
| Interest  | 59,953             | 129                            | 60,082                         |
| Charges for Services                                | 0                  | 191,247                        | 191,247                        |
| Extracurricular Activities                          | 95,225             | 117,665                        | 212,890                        |
| Rentals   | 925                | 0                              | 925                            |
| Contributions and Donations                         | 8,334              | 62,781                         | 71,115                         |
| Intergovernmental                                   | 10,126,036         | 1,161,589                      | 11,287,625                     |
| Miscellaneous                                       | 15,590             | 4,841                          | 20,431                         |
| <i>Total Revenues</i>                               | <u>18,362,838</u>  | <u>1,943,573</u>               | <u>20,306,411</u>              |
| <b>Expenditures</b>                                 |                    |                                |                                |
| <b>Current:</b>                                     |                    |                                |                                |
| <b>Instruction:</b>                                 |                    |                                |                                |
| Regular   | 8,346,108          | 140,550                        | 8,486,658                      |
| Special   | 1,499,529          | 445,450                        | 1,944,979                      |
| Vocational  | 99,017             | 0                              | 99,017                         |
| Adult/Continuing                                    | 0                  | 2,300                          | 2,300                          |
| Other   | 26,114             | 0                              | 26,114                         |
| <b>Support Services:</b>                            |                    |                                |                                |
| Pupils  | 1,098,522          | 0                              | 1,098,522                      |
| Instructional Staff                                 | 341,497            | 79,791                         | 421,288                        |
| Board of Education                                  | 26,150             | 0                              | 26,150                         |
| Administration                                      | 1,330,673          | 0                              | 1,330,673                      |
| Fiscal  | 452,996            | 8,639                          | 461,635                        |
| Business  | 91,713             | 0                              | 91,713                         |
| Operation and Maintenance of Plant                  | 1,657,118          | 125,957                        | 1,783,075                      |
| Pupil Transportation                                | 998,291            | 56,517                         | 1,054,808                      |
| Central   | 54,540             | 1,276                          | 55,816                         |
| Operation of Non-Instructional Services             | 0                  | 9,175                          | 9,175                          |
| Operation of Food Services                          | 0                  | 652,081                        | 652,081                        |
| Extracurricular Activities                          | 399,277            | 125,854                        | 525,131                        |
| Capital Outlay                                      | 117,281            | 443,202                        | 560,483                        |
| <i>Total Expenditures</i>                           | <u>16,538,826</u>  | <u>2,090,792</u>               | <u>18,629,618</u>              |
| <i>Excess of Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures</i> | <u>1,824,012</u>   | <u>(147,219)</u>               | <u>1,676,793</u>               |
| <b>Other Financing Sources</b>                      |                    |                                |                                |
| Proceeds from Sale of Capital Assets                | 4,989              | 0                              | 4,989                          |
| Inception of Capital Lease                          | 93,733             | 46,167                         | 139,900                        |
| <i>Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)</i>         | <u>98,722</u>      | <u>46,167</u>                  | <u>144,889</u>                 |
| <i>Net Change in Fund Balances</i>                  | 1,922,734          | (101,052)                      | 1,821,682                      |
| <i>Fund Balance Beginning of Year</i>               | 5,710,192          | 618,285                        | 6,328,477                      |
| <i>Fund Balance End of Year</i>                     | <u>\$7,632,926</u> | <u>\$517,233</u>               | <u>\$8,150,159</u>             |

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements

**Buckeye Local School District**  
Ashtabula 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, 2017*

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**Net Change in Fund Balances - Total Governmental Funds** \$1,821,682

***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 expense. This is the amount by which capital outlay exceeded depreciation in the current period.

|                           |           |         |
|---------------------------|-----------|---------|
| Capital Outlay            | 499,250   |         |
| Current Year Depreciation | (306,049) |         |
|                           |           |         |
| Total                     |           | 193,201 |

The net effect of various transactions involving capital assets (i.e.; disposals and sales) is a decrease in net position.

|                                       |          |       |
|---------------------------------------|----------|-------|
| Assets Disposed                       | (15,911) |       |
| Accumulated Depreciation on Disposals | 15,159   |       |
|                                       |          |       |
| Total                                 |          | (752) |

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

|                          |           |          |
|--------------------------|-----------|----------|
| Property Taxes           | 46,258    |          |
| Intergovernmental Grants | (101,499) |          |
|                          |           |          |
| Total                    |           | (55,241) |

Other financing sources in the governmental funds increase long-term liabilities in the statement of net position.

|                            |  |           |
|----------------------------|--|-----------|
| Inception of Capital Lease |  | (139,900) |
|----------------------------|--|-----------|

Governmental funds report district pension contributions as expenditures.

However, in the statement of activities, the cost of pension benefits earned net of employee contributions is reported as pension expense.

|                              |           |           |
|------------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Direct pension contributions |           |           |
| STRS                         | 1,044,475 |           |
| SERS                         | 286,184   |           |
|                              |           |           |
| Total                        |           | 1,330,659 |

|   |             |             |
|---|-------------|-------------|
| Cost of benefits earned net of employee contributions |             |             |
| STRS  | (1,566,786) |             |
| SERS  | (471,160)   |             |
|   |             |             |
| Total   |             | (2,037,946) |

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

|                                    |  |         |
|------------------------------------|--|---------|
| Accrued Interest on Capital Leases |  | (7,084) |
|------------------------------------|--|---------|

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.

(48,614)

*Change in Net Position of Governmental Activities* \$1,056,005

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements



**Buckeye Local School District**  
Ashtabula County, Ohio

*Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes  
In Fund Balance - Budget (Non-GAAP Basis) and Actual  
General Fund  
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2017*

|   | Budgeted Amounts   |                    | Actual             | Variance with<br>Final Budget<br>Positive<br>(Negative) |
|---|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|---|
|   | Original           | Final              |                    |   |
| <b>Revenues</b>                                     |                    |                    |                    |   |
| Property & Other Local Taxes                        | \$6,074,547        | \$5,680,043        | \$5,680,043        | \$0   |
| Tuition and Fees                                    | 1,894,334          | 1,987,907          | 1,987,907          | 0   |
| Interest  | 58,652             | 61,549             | 61,549             | 0   |
| Extracurricular Activities                          | 89,609             | 94,035             | 94,035             | 0   |
| Rentals   | 505                | 530                | 530                | 0   |
| Contributions and Donations                         | 795                | 834                | 834                | 0   |
| Intergovernmental                                   | 9,649,393          | 10,126,036         | 10,126,036         | 0   |
| Miscellaneous                                       | 1,053              | 1,105              | 1,105              | 0   |
| <i>Total Revenues</i>                               | <u>17,768,888</u>  | <u>17,952,039</u>  | <u>17,952,039</u>  | <u>0</u>  |
| <b>Expenditures</b>                                 |                    |                    |                    |   |
| Current:  |                    |                    |                    |   |
| Instruction:  |                    |                    |                    |   |
| Regular   | 8,901,283          | 8,742,316          | 8,459,103          | 283,213   |
| Special   | 1,642,376          | 1,612,976          | 1,521,094          | 91,882  |
| Vocational  | 108,233            | 106,285            | 99,103             | 7,182   |
| Other   | 37,672             | 36,990             | 26,114             | 10,876  |
| Support Services:                                   |                    |                    |                    |   |
| Pupils  | 1,193,618          | 1,172,201          | 1,109,289          | 62,912  |
| Instructional Staff                                 | 364,498            | 357,979            | 355,124            | 2,855   |
| Board of Education                                  | 28,883             | 28,360             | 24,700             | 3,660   |
| Administration                                      | 1,452,250          | 1,426,381          | 1,368,172          | 58,209  |
| Fiscal  | 583,496            | 573,597            | 502,591            | 71,006  |
| Business  | 109,509            | 107,558            | 96,009             | 11,549  |
| Operation and Maintenance of Plant                  | 1,868,603          | 1,835,891          | 1,657,531          | 178,360   |
| Pupil Transportation                                | 1,129,291          | 1,109,408          | 1,015,136          | 94,272  |
| Central   | 56,501             | 55,484             | 55,345             | 139   |
| Extracurricular Activities                          | 431,750            | 424,122            | 392,399            | 31,723  |
| Capital Outlay                                      | 26,106             | 25,633             | 23,129             | 2,504   |
| <i>Total Expenditures</i>                           | <u>17,934,069</u>  | <u>17,615,181</u>  | <u>16,704,839</u>  | <u>910,342</u>  |
| <i>Excess of Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures</i> | <u>(165,181)</u>   | <u>336,858</u>     | <u>1,247,200</u>   | <u>910,342</u>  |
| <b>Other Financing Sources (Uses)</b>               |                    |                    |                    |   |
| Proceeds from Sale of Capital Assets                | 0                  | 164                | 4,989              | 4,825   |
| Refund of Prior Year Expenditure                    | 0                  | 860                | 1,728              | 868   |
| Advances In   | 0                  | 112,600            | 112,600            | 0   |
| Advances Out  | (161,500)          | (161,500)          | (161,500)          | 0   |
| Transfers Out                                       | (462,377)          | (462,377)          | 0                  | 462,377   |
| <i>Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)</i>         | <u>(623,877)</u>   | <u>(510,253)</u>   | <u>(42,183)</u>    | <u>468,070</u>  |
| <i>Net Change in Fund Balance</i>                   | <u>(789,058)</u>   | <u>(173,395)</u>   | <u>1,205,017</u>   | <u>1,378,412</u>  |
| <i>Fund Balance Beginning of Year</i>               | <u>6,392,707</u>   | <u>6,392,707</u>   | <u>6,392,707</u>   | <u>0</u>  |
| <i>Prior Year Encumbrances Appropriated</i>         | <u>326,681</u>     | <u>326,681</u>     | <u>326,681</u>     | <u>0</u>  |
| <i>Fund Balance End of Year</i>                     | <u>\$5,930,330</u> | <u>\$6,545,993</u> | <u>\$7,924,405</u> | <u>\$1,378,412</u>                                      |

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements

**Buckeye Local School District**

Ashtabula County, Ohio

*Statement of Net Position*

*Fiduciary Funds*

*June 30, 2017*

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|  | Private Purpose<br>Trust |                 |
|--|--------------------------|-----------------|
|  | Scholarship              | Agency          |
| <b>Assets</b>                              |                          |                 |
| Equity in Pooled Cash and Cash Equivalents | <u>\$107,354</u>         | <u>\$27,587</u> |
| <b>Liabilities</b>                         |                          |                 |
| Due to Students                            | <u>0</u>                 | <u>\$27,587</u> |
| <b>Net Position</b>                        |                          |                 |
| Held in Trust for Scholarships             | <u>\$107,354</u>         |                 |

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements

**Buckeye Local School District**  
Ashtabula County, Ohio

*Statement of Changes in Net Position*  
*Private Purpose Trust Fund*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2017*

|                                       | <u>Scholarship</u>      |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| <b>Additions</b>                      |                         |
| Interest                              | \$842                   |
| Contributions and Donations           | <u>2,000</u>            |
| <i>Total Additions</i>                | 2,842                   |
| <b>Deductions</b>                     |                         |
| Scholarships Awarded                  | <u>5,000</u>            |
| <i>Change in Net Position</i>         | (2,158)                 |
| <i>Net Position Beginning of Year</i> | <u>109,512</u>          |
| <i>Net Position End of Year</i>       | <u><u>\$107,354</u></u> |

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements

**Buckeye Local School District**  
Ashtabula County, Ohio

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

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**Note 1 – Description of the School District and Reporting Entity**

The District is a body politic and corporate established for the purpose of exercising the rights and privileges conveyed to it by the constitution and laws of the State of Ohio. The District is a local district as defined by Section 3311 of the Ohio Revised Code. The District operates under an elected Board of Education (5 members) and is responsible for the provision of public education to residents of the District.

Average daily membership (ADM) as of July 1, 2017 was 1,560. The District employed 131 certified employees and 67 non-certificated employees. The District is supervised by the Ashtabula County Educational Service Center, a separate entity.

The District provides regular, vocational and special instruction. The District also provides support services for the pupils, instructional staff, general and school administration, business and fiscal services, facilities acquisition and construction services, operation and maintenance of plant, student transportation, food services, extracurricular activities and non-programmed services.

The accompanying basic financial statements comply with the provisions of Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 14, *The Financial Reporting Entity* as amended by GASB Statement No. 39, "Determining Whether Certain Organizations Are Component Units" and GASB Statement No. 61, "The Financial Reporting Entity: Omnibus an amendment of GASB Statements No. 14 and No. 34". The financial statements include all organizations, activities and functions for which the District is financially accountable. This report includes all activities considered by management to be part of the District by virtue of Section 2100 of the Codification of Governmental Accounting and Financial Reporting Standards.

Section 2100 indicates that the reporting entity consists of (a) the primary government, (b) organizations for which the primary government is financially accountable and (c) other organizations for which the nature and significance of their relationship with the primary government are such that exclusion would cause the reporting entity's financial statements to be misleading or incomplete.

The definition of the reporting entity is based primarily on the notion of financial accountability. A primary government is financially accountable for the organizations that make up its legal entity.

It is also financially accountable for legally separate organizations if its officials appoint a voting majority of an organization's governing body and either it is able to impose its will on that organization or there is a potential for the organization to provide specific financial benefits to, or to impose specific financial burdens on the primary government. A primary government may also be financially accountable for governmental organizations that are fiscally dependent on it.

A primary government has the ability to impose its will on an organization if it can significantly influence the programs, projects, or activities of, or the level of services performed or provided by, the organization.

A financial benefit or burden relationship exists if the primary government (a) is entitled to the organization's resources; (b) is legally obligated or has otherwise assumed the obligation to finance the deficits of, or provide financial support to, the organization; or (c) is obligated in some manner for the debt of the organization.

Management believes the financial statements included in this report represent all of the funds of the District over which the District is financially accountable.

**Buckeye Local School District**  
Ashtabula County, Ohio

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

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

The financial statements of the Buckeye Local School District (the District) have been prepared in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) as applied to government units. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) is the accepted standard-setting body for establishing governmental accounting and financial reporting principles. The more significant of the District's accounting policies are described below.

**A. Basis of Presentation**

The School District'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 statement of activities display information about the District as a whole. These statements include the financial activities of the primary government, except for fiduciary funds.

The statement of net position presents the financial condition of the governmental activities of the School District at fiscal year-end. The statement of activities presents a comparison between direct expenses and program revenues for each program or function of the School District's governmental activities. Direct expenses are those that are specifically associated with a service, program or department and therefore 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 School District, with certain limited exceptions. The comparison of direct expenses with program revenues identifies the extent to which each governmental function is self-financing or draws from the general revenues of the School District.

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

The private purpose trust fund is reported using the economic resources measurement focus.

**B. Fund Accounting**

The School District uses funds to maintain its financial records during the year. A fund is defined as a fiscal and accounting entity with a self balancing set of accounts. There are three categories of funds: governmental, proprietary and fiduciary. The School District has no proprietary funds.

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

**Buckeye Local School District**  
Ashtabula County, Ohio

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

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

The other governmental funds of the District account for grants and other resources, and capital projects of the District whose uses are restricted, committed or assigned to a particular purpose.

**Fiduciary Fund Types** Fiduciary funds reporting focuses on net position and changes in net position. The fiduciary fund category is split into four classifications: pension trust, investment trust, private-purpose trust and agency funds. Trust funds are used to account for assets held by the District under a trust agreement for individuals, private organizations, or other governments and are therefore not available to support the District's own programs. The District's only trust fund is a private-purpose trust fund which accounts for scholarship programs for students. Agency funds are custodial in nature (assets equal liabilities) and do not involve measurement of results of operations. The District's only agency fund is a student activities fund, which accounts for student activities for students.

**C. 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 District are included on the statement of net position. The statement of activities presents increases (e.g. revenues) and decreases (e.g. expenditures) 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.

**D. 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 for the fiduciary funds are prepared using the accrual basis of accounting. Governmental funds use the modified accrual basis of accounting. Fiduciary funds also use the accrual basis of accounting.

**Revenues - Exchange and Non-Exchange Transactions** Revenue resulting from exchange transactions, in which each party gives and receives essentially equal values, 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 School District, available means expected to be received within sixty days of fiscal year-end.

**Buckeye Local School District**  
Ashtabula County, Ohio

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

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Non-exchange transactions, in which the School District receives value without directly giving equal value in return, include property taxes, grants, entitlements and donations. On an accrual basis, revenue from property taxes is recognized in the fiscal year for which the taxes are levied (See Note 6). Revenue from grants, entitlements and donations is recognized in the fiscal year in which all eligibility requirements have been satisfied. Eligibility requirements include timing requirements, which specify the year when the resources are required to be used or the year when use is first permitted, matching requirements, in which the School District must provide local resources to be used for a specified purpose, and expenditure requirements, in which the resources are provided to the School District on a reimbursement basis. On a modified accrual basis, revenue from 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 fiscal year-end: property taxes available as an advance, interest, tuition, grants, fees and rentals.

***Deferred Outflows/Inflows of Resources*** In addition to assets, the statement of net position and balance sheets will sometimes report a separate section for deferred outflows of resources. Deferred outflows of resources, represents a consumption of net position that applies to a future period and will not be recognized as an outflow of resources (expense/expenditure) until then. For the District, deferred outflows of resources are reported on the government-wide statement of net position for pension. The deferred outflows of resources related to pension are explained in Note 12.

In addition to liabilities, the statements of net position and balance sheets report a separate section for deferred inflows of resources. Deferred inflows of resources represent an acquisition of net position that applies to a future period and will not be recognized as an inflow of resources (revenue) until that time. For the District, deferred inflows of resources include property taxes, pension and unavailable revenue. Property taxes represent amounts for which there is an enforceable legal claim as of June 30, 2017, but which were levied to finance fiscal year 2018 operations. These amounts have been recorded as a deferred inflow on both the government-wide statement of net position and the governmental fund financial statements. Unavailable revenue is reported only on the governmental funds balance sheet, and represents receivables which will not be collected within the available period. For the District unavailable revenue includes delinquent property taxes and intergovernmental grants. These amounts are deferred and recognized as an inflow of resources in the period the amounts become available. Deferred inflows of resources related to pension are reported on the government-wide statement of net position (see Note 12).

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

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.

***E. Budget and Budgetary Accounting***

All governmental fund types are subject to annual expenditure budgets. The Board follows the procedures outlined below in establishing the expenditure budget data reported in the basic financial statements:

**Buckeye Local School District**  
Ashtabula County, Ohio

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

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**Tax Budget** A tax budget of estimated cash receipts and disbursements is submitted to the County Auditor, as secretary of the County Budget Commission, by January 20th of each year, for the fiscal year commencing the following July 1st. The Board of Education normally adopts the Tax Budget at its regular board meeting in January. Public hearings are publicized and conducted to obtain taxpayers' comments. The express purpose of this budget document is to reflect the need for existing (or increased) tax rates.

**Estimated Resources** The County Budget Commission certifies its actions to the District by March 1st. As part of this certification, the District receives the Official Certificate of Estimated Resources, which states the projected receipts of each fund. During the month of July, this certificate is amended to include any unencumbered balances from the preceding fiscal year.

**Appropriations** An annual appropriation measure must be passed by the Board of Education by October 1st of each year for the period July 1st to June 30th. Unencumbered appropriations lapse at year-end and the encumbered balance is carried forward to the succeeding fiscal year and need not be re-appropriated. The Board of Education usually adopts temporary appropriations at its regular board meeting in June. The Annual Appropriation Resolution is usually adopted at the September regular board meeting. The appropriation measure may be amended or supplemented during the year as new information becomes available. Appropriations may not exceed estimated resources and expenditures may not exceed appropriations in any fund at the object level.

**Encumbrances** As part of formal budgetary control, purchase orders, contracts, and other commitments for the expenditure of funds are recorded as the equivalent of expenditures on the budgetary basis in order to reserve that portion of the applicable appropriation and to determine and maintain legal compliance.

**Lapsing of Appropriations** At the close of each year, the unencumbered balance of each appropriation reverts to the respective fund from which it was appropriated and becomes subject to future appropriation. Encumbered appropriations are carried forward to the succeeding fiscal year and are not re-appropriated.

**F. Cash and Investments**

Cash received by the District is pooled in a central bank account with individual fund balance integrity maintained throughout. Individual fund integrity is maintained through the District's records. Each fund's interest in the pool is presented as "Equity in Pooled Cash and Cash Equivalents." During the fiscal year, investments were limited to the State Treasury Asset Reserve of Ohio (STAR Ohio).

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 District measures their investment in STAR Ohio at the net asset value (NAV) per share provided by STAR Ohio. The NAV per share is calculated on an amortized cost basis that provides a NAV per share that approximates fair value.

For fiscal year 2017, there were no limitations or restrictions on any participant withdrawals due to redemption notice periods, liquidity fees, or redemption gates. However, notice must be given 24 hours in advance of all deposits and withdrawals exceeding \$25 million. STAR Ohio reserves the right to limit the transaction to \$50 million, requiring the excess amount to be transacted the following business days(s), but only to the \$50 million limit. All accounts of the participant will be combined for these purposes.



**Buckeye Local School District**  
Ashtabula County, Ohio

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

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Under existing Ohio statutes all investment earnings are assigned to the General Fund unless statutorily required to be credited to a specific fund. For the District, all investment earnings accrue to the General Fund, the Food Service special revenue fund, the Special Trust special revenue fund, the Capital Projects Reserve capital projects fund and the Private-Purpose Trust Fund, as authorized by board resolution. Interest revenue credited to the general fund during fiscal year 2017 amounted to \$59,953, which includes \$2,562 assigned from other District 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 District are presented on the financial statements as cash equivalents.

***G. Inventory***

Inventories are presented at cost on a first-in, first-out basis and are expensed/expensed when used. Inventories consist of materials and supplies held for consumption and donated and purchased food held for resale.

***H. Prepaid Items***

Payments made to vendors for services that will benefit periods beyond June 30, 2017, are recorded as prepaid items using the consumption method. A current asset for the prepaid amount is recorded at the time of the purchase and an expenditure/expense is reported in the year in which services are consumed.

***I. Capital Assets***

The School District's only capital assets are classified as general capital assets. These assets generally result from expenditures in the governmental funds. These assets are reported in the governmental activities column of the government-wide statement of net position but are not reported in the fund financial statements.

All capital assets are capitalized at cost (or estimated historical cost) and updated for additions and retirements during the year. The School District was able to estimate the historical cost for the initial reporting of assets by backtrending (i.e., estimating the current replacement cost of the asset to be capitalized and using an appropriate price-level index to deflate the cost to the acquisition year or estimated acquisition year.) Donated capital assets are recorded at their fair market values as of the date received. The School District's capitalization threshold is one thousand five hundred dollars for the current fiscal year. The School District does not possess any infrastructure. Improvements are capitalized; the costs of normal maintenance and repairs that do not add to the value of the asset or materially extend an asset's life are not.

**Buckeye Local School District**  
Ashtabula County, Ohio

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

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All reported capital assets, except land, are depreciated. Improvements are depreciated over the remaining useful lives of the related capital assets. Depreciation is computed using the straight-line method over the following useful lives:

| Description                | Estimated Lives |
|----------------------------|-----------------|
| Land Improvements          | 20 years        |
| Buildings and Improvements | 20 - 50 years   |
| Furniture                  | 20 years        |
| Equipment                  | 5 - 20 years    |
| Fixtures                   | 15 years        |
| Vehicles                   | 8 - 10 years    |
| Textbooks                  | 5 - 10 years    |

***J. Interfund Balances***

On the fund financial statements, receivables and payables resulting from short-term interfund loans are classified as “interfund receivables/payables.” These amounts are eliminated in the governmental columns of the statement of net position.

***K. Internal Activity***

Transfers between governmental activities are eliminated on the government-wide financial statements. Internal allocations of overhead expenses from one function to another or within the same function are eliminated on the Statement of Activities. Interfund payments for services provided and used are not eliminated.

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

***L. Compensated Absences***

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

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

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

**Buckeye Local School District**  
Ashtabula County, Ohio

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

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On the governmental fund financial statements, compensated absences are recognized as liabilities 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 "Matured Compensated Absences Payable" in the fund or funds from which the employees who have accumulated the leave are paid.

***M. 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 payment during the current fiscal year. Leases and other long-term obligations that will be paid from governmental funds are not recognized as a liability in the fund financial statements when due.

***N. Fund Balance***

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

***Nonspendable*** The nonspendable fund balance category includes amounts that cannot be spent because they are not in spendable form, or legally or contractually required to be maintained intact. The "not in spendable form" criterion includes items that are not expected to be converted to cash. It also includes the long-term amount of loans receivable, as well as property acquired for resale, unless the use of the proceeds from the collection of those receivables or from the sale of those properties is restricted, committed, or assigned.

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

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

***Assigned*** Amounts in the assigned fund balance classification are intended to be used by the District for specific purposes but do not meet the criteria to be classified as restricted or committed. In governmental funds other than the general fund, assigned fund balance represents the remaining amount that is not restricted or committed. In the general fund, assigned amounts represent intended uses established by the District Board of Education.

**Buckeye Local School District**  
Ashtabula County, Ohio

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

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

The District 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.

**O. 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, reduced by the outstanding balances of any borrowings used for the acquisition, construction or improvement of those assets. Net position is reported as restricted when there are limitations imposed on their use through external restrictions imposed by creditors, grantors or laws or regulations of other governments. Net position restricted for other purposes include operation of instructional services, food service operations and extracurricular activities.

The School District applies restricted resources first when an expense is incurred for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted net positions are available. The net position held in trust for scholarships signify the legal restrictions on the use of principal.

**P. Pensions**

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

**Q. Estimates**

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

**Note 3 – Change in Accounting Principle**

For fiscal year 2017, the District has implemented Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 73, “Accounting and Financial Reporting for Pensions and Related Assets that are Not Within the Scope of GASB Statement 68, and Amendments to Certain Provisions of GASB 67 and 68”, Statement No. 74, “Financial Reporting for Postemployment Benefit Plans Other than Pension Plans”, Statement No. 77, “Tax Abatement Disclosures”, Statement No. 78, “Pension Provided through Certain Multiple-Employer Defined Benefit Pension Plans”, Statement No. 80, “Blending Requirements for Certain Component Units an Amendment of GASB Statement No. 14”, and GASB Statement No. 82, “Pension Issues an Amendment of GASB Statements No. 67, No. 68 and No. 73”.

**Buckeye Local School District**  
Ashtabula County, Ohio

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

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GASB Statement No. 73 establishes requirements for defined benefit pensions that are not within the scope of GASB Statement No. 68 as well as for assets accumulated for purposes of providing those pensions. In addition, it establishes requirements for defined contribution pensions that are not within the scope of Statement No. 68. The implementation of GASB Statement No. 73 did not have an effect on the financial statements of the District.

GASB Statement No. 74 aims to improve the usefulness of information about other postemployment benefits (OPEB) other than pensions, included in general purpose external financial reports of state and local government benefit plans, for making decisions and assessing accountability. GASB Statement No. 75 establishes standards for governmental employer recognition, measurement and presentation of information about OPEB and is closely related to Statement No. 74, but will not be implemented until next fiscal year for the District. The implementation of GASB Statement No. 74 did not have an effect on the financial statements of the District.

GASB Statement No. 77 gives users of financial statements essential information that is not consistently or comprehensively reported to the public at present. Disclosure of information about the nature of tax abatements will make these transactions more transparent to financial statement users. These changes were incorporated in the District's fiscal year 2017 financial statements (see Note 23).

GASB Statement No. 78 amends the scope and applicability of GASB Statement No. 68 to exclude pensions provided to employees of State or local governmental employers through a cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan that (1) is not a state or local government pension plan, (2) is used to provide defined benefit pensions both to employees of state or local government employers and to employees of employers that are not state or local governmental employers, and (3) has no predominant state or local governmental employer. The implementation of GASB Statement No. 78 did not have an effect on the financial statements of the District.

GASB Statement No. 80 aims to improve financial reporting by clarifying the financial statement presentation requirements for component units that are organized as non-for-profit corporations in which the primary government is the sole corporate member. The implementation of GASB Statement No. 80 did not have an effect on the financial statements of the District.

GASB Statement No. 82 improves consistency in the application of pension accounting. These changes were incorporated in the District's fiscal year 2017 financial statements; however, there was no effect on beginning net position.

**Note 4 – Budgetary Basis of Accounting**

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

1. Revenues are recorded when received in cash (budget basis) as opposed to when susceptible to accrual (GAAP basis).
2. Expenditures/expenses are recorded when paid in cash (budget basis) as opposed to when the liability is incurred (GAAP basis).

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3. Encumbrances are treated as expenditures (budget basis) rather than restricted, committed or assigned fund balances (GAAP basis).
  4. Advances-In and Advances-Out are operating transactions (budget basis) as opposed to balance sheet transactions (GAAP basis).
  5. \*Certain funds have legally separate adopted budgets (budget basis) but are included in the General Fund (GAAP basis).

\*As part of Governmental Accounting Standards Board No. 54 "Fund Balance Reporting", certain funds that are legally budgeted in separate special revenue funds are considered part of the General fund on a GAAP basis. This includes the uniform school supplies and public school support special revenue funds.

The following tables summarize the adjustments necessary to reconcile the GAAP basis statements to the budgetary basis statements for the general fund:

| Net Change in Fund Balance                           |                           |
|--|---------------------------|
| GAAP Basis   | \$1,922,734               |
| Net Adjustment for Revenue Accruals                  | (503,563)                 |
| Advances In  | 112,600                   |
| Net Adjustment for Expenditure Accruals              | 164,584                   |
| Net Adjustment for Funds Budgeted as Special Revenue | 759                       |
| Advances Out   | (161,500)                 |
| Adjustment for Encumbrances                          | <u>(330,597)</u>          |
| Budget Basis   | <u><u>\$1,205,017</u></u> |

**Note 5 – Deposits and Investments**

Monies held by the School District are classified by State statute into three categories. Active deposits are public deposits determined to be necessary to meet current demands upon the School District treasury. Active monies must be maintained either as cash in the School District Treasury, in commercial accounts payable or withdrawals on demand, including negotiable order of withdrawal (NOW) accounts, or in money market deposit accounts.

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

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

Interim monies held by the School District can be deposited or invested in the following securities:

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1. United States Treasury Notes, Bills, Bonds, or any other obligation or security issued by the United States Treasury or any other obligation guaranteed as to principal and interest by the United States;
2. Bonds, notes, debentures, or any other obligations or securities issued by any federal government agency or instrumentality, including but not limited to, the Federal National Mortgage Association, Federal Home Loan Bank, Federal Farm Credit Bank, Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation, Government National Mortgage Association, and Student Loan Marketing Association. All federal agency securities shall be direct issuances of federal government agencies or instrumentalities;
3. Written repurchase agreements in the securities listed above;
4. Bonds and other obligations of the State of Ohio or Ohio local government;
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;
7. The State Treasurer's investment pool (STAROhio);
8. Commercial paper and bankers acceptances if training requirements have been met.

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. Investments may only be made through specified dealers and institutions.

**Deposits**

**Custodial Credit Risk** Custodial credit risk for deposits is the risk that in the event of bank failure, the School District will not be able to recover deposits or collateral securities that are in possession of an outside party. At June 30<sup>th</sup>, the carrying amount of all School District deposits was \$5,023,652, while \$2,286,947 of the School District's bank balance of \$5,068,650 was uninsured and uncollateralized. Although the securities were held by the pledging financial institutions' trust department and all statutory requirements for the investment of money had been followed, noncompliance with Federal requirements could potentially subject the School District to a successful claim by the FDIC.

The School District has no deposit policy for custodial risk beyond the requirement of State statute. Ohio law requires that deposits be either insured or be protected by eligible securities pledged to and deposited either with the School District or a qualified trustee by the financial institution as security for repayment, or by a collateral pool of eligible securities deposited with a qualified trustee and pledged to secure the repayment of all public monies deposited in the financial institution whose market value at all times shall be at least one hundred give percent of the deposited being secured.

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**Investments**

As of June 30, 2017, the School District had STAR Ohio as the only investment with an amount of \$4,064,162 and an average maturity less than six months. STAR Ohio is measured at net asset value per share.

*Interest Rate Risk* The School District has no investment policy that addresses the interest rate risk. State statute requires that an investment mature within five years from the date of purchase, unless matched to a specific obligation or debt of the School District, and that an investment must be purchased with the expectation that it will be held to maturity.

*Credit Risk* STAR Ohio carries a rating of AAAM by Standard & Pool's. Ohio law requires that STAR Ohio maintain the highest rating provided by at least one nationally recognized standard rating service. The School District has no investment policy that addresses credit risk.

*Custodial Credit Risk* For an investment, custodial credit risk is the risk that, in the event of the failure of the counterparty, the School District will not be able to recover the value of its investments or collateral securities that are in the possession of an outside party. The School District 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 School District places no limit on the amount it may invest in any one issuer. At June 30, 2017, STAR Ohio represented 100 percent of all District investments.

**Reconciliation of Cash and Cash Equivalents to the Statement of Net Position**

The following is a reconciliation of cash and cash equivalents as reported in the footnote above to cash and cash equivalents as reported on the statement of net position as of June 30, 2017:

| <u>Cash and Cash Equivalents per Note Disclosure:</u> |                           | <u>Cash and Cash Equivalents per Statement of Net Position:</u> |                           |
|---|---------------------------|---|---------------------------|
| Carrying amount of deposits                           | \$5,023,652               | Governmental Activities   | \$8,952,873               |
| Investments   | 4,064,162                 | Private-purpose trust funds                                     | 107,354                   |
|   |                           | Agency funds  | 27,587                    |
| Total   | <u><u>\$9,087,814</u></u> | Total   | <u><u>\$9,087,814</u></u> |

**Note 6 – Property Taxes**

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

Property taxes include amounts levied against all real property and public utility property located in the School District. Real property tax revenue received in calendar year 2017 represent collections of calendar year 2016 taxes. Real property taxes received in calendar year 2017 were levied after April 1, 2016, on the assessed value listed as of January 1, 2016, the lien date. Assessed values for real property taxes are established by State law at thirty-five percent of appraised market value. Real property taxes are payable annually or semi-annually. If paid annually, payment is due December 31; if paid semi-annually, the first payment is due December 31 with the remainder payable by June 20. Under certain circumstances, State statute permits alternate payment dates to be established.



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Public utility property tax revenue received in calendar year 2017 represents collections of calendar year 2016 taxes. Public utility real and tangible personal property taxes received in calendar year 2016 became a lien December 31, 2015, were levied after April 1, 2016 and are collected in 2017 with real property taxes. Public utility real property is assessed at thirty-five percent of true value; public utility tangible personal property currently is assessed at varying percentages of true value.

The School District receives property taxes from Ashtabula County. The County Auditor periodically advances to the School District its portion of the taxes collected. Second-half real property tax payments collected by the County by June 30, 2017, are available to finance fiscal year 2017 operations. The amount available to be advanced can vary based on the date the tax bills are sent.

Accrued property taxes receivable includes real property and public utility property taxes which are measurable as of June 30, 2017 and for which there is an enforceable legal claim. Although total property tax collections for the next fiscal year are measurable, only the amount of real property taxes available as an advance at June 30 was levied to finance current fiscal year operations and is reported as revenue at fiscal year-end. The portion of the receivable not levied to finance current fiscal year operations is offset by a credit to deferred inflows of resources – property taxes.

The amount available as an advance at June 30, 2017 was \$1,097,055 in the general fund and \$78,000 in the permanent improvement capital projects fund. The amount available as an advance at June 30, 2016, was \$745,132 in the general fund and \$49,531 in the permanent improvement capital projects fund.

On a full accrual basis, collectible delinquent property taxes have been recorded as a receivable and revenue, while on a modified accrual basis the revenue has been reported as deferred inflows of resources – unavailable revenue.

The assessed values upon which the fiscal year 2017 taxes were collected are:

|  | 2016 Second<br>Half Collections |          | 2017 First<br>Half Collections |          |
|--|---------------------------------|----------|--------------------------------|----------|
|  | Amount                          | Percent  | Amount                         | Percent  |
| Real Estate                                | \$206,085,830                   | 90.6%    | \$206,246,040                  | 91.1%    |
| Public Utility Personal                    | 21,446,800                      | 9.4%     | 20,105,250                     | 8.9%     |
|  | \$227,532,630                   | 100.0%   | \$226,351,290                  | 100.0%   |
| Tax Rate per \$1,000 of assessed valuation |                                 | \$ 45.31 |                                | \$ 45.31 |

**Note 7 – Receivables**

Receivables at June 30, 2017 consisted of accrued interest, accounts, taxes and intergovernmental grants and entitlements. All receivables are considered collectible in full due to the ability to foreclose for the nonpayment of taxes, the stable condition of State programs, and the current guarantee of Federal funds.

Total intergovernmental receivables of \$66,946 included grants for Title I, Improving Teacher Quality and Miscellaneous Federal in the amount of \$40,413, \$18,741 and \$7,792, respectively.

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**Note 8 – Fund Balances**

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

| Fund Balances                      | General            | Nonmajor<br>Governmental | Total              |
|------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------------|--------------------|
| <b><i>Nonspendable</i></b>         |                    |                          |                    |
| Inventory                          | \$77,744           | \$3,571                  | \$81,315           |
| <b><i>Restricted for</i></b>       |                    |                          |                    |
| Food Service Operations            | 0                  | 149,802                  | 149,802            |
| College Scholarships               | 0                  | 19,233                   | 19,233             |
| Extracurricular Activities         | 0                  | 92,198                   | 92,198             |
| Classroom Size Reduction           | 0                  | 4,792                    | 4,792              |
| Capital Improvements               | 0                  | 193,819                  | 193,819            |
| Other Purposes                     | 0                  | 2,331                    | 2,331              |
| <i>Total Restricted</i>            | 0                  | 462,175                  | 462,175            |
| <b><i>Committed to</i></b>         |                    |                          |                    |
| Capital Improvements               | 0                  | 77,372                   | 77,372             |
| Tax Escrow Refunds                 | 462,377            | 0                        | 462,377            |
| <i>Total Committed</i>             | 462,377            | 77,372                   | 539,749            |
| <b><i>Assigned to</i></b>          |                    |                          |                    |
| Other Purposes                     | 34,279             | 0                        | 34,279             |
| Encumbrances                       | 230,806            | 0                        | 230,806            |
| <i>Total Assigned</i>              | 265,085            | 0                        | 265,085            |
| <b><i>Unassigned (Deficit)</i></b> |                    |                          |                    |
|                                    | 6,827,720          | (25,885)                 | 6,801,835          |
| <b><i>Total Fund Balances</i></b>  | <b>\$7,632,926</b> | <b>\$517,233</b>         | <b>\$8,150,159</b> |

**Buckeye Local School District**  
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**Note 9 – Capital Assets**

Capital asset activity for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2017, was as follows:

|  | Balance<br>6/30/2016 | Additions        | Deletions       | Balance<br>6/30/2017 |
|--|----------------------|------------------|-----------------|----------------------|
| <b>Governmental Activities</b>                     |                      |                  |                 |                      |
| <b>Capital Assets, not being depreciated:</b>      |                      |                  |                 |                      |
| Land   | \$402,305            | \$0              | \$0             | \$402,305            |
| <b>Capital Assets, being depreciated:</b>          |                      |                  |                 |                      |
| Land Improvements                                  | 648,677              | 338,775          | 0               | 987,452              |
| Buildings and Improvements                         | 6,780,821            | 0                | 0               | 6,780,821            |
| Furniture, Equipment and Fixtures                  | 1,769,819            | 40,882           | (15,911)        | 1,794,790            |
| Vehicles   | 1,776,717            | 119,593          | 0               | 1,896,310            |
| Textbooks  | 1,189,461            | 0                | 0               | 1,189,461            |
| <b>Total Capital Assets, being depreciated</b>     | <b>12,165,495</b>    | <b>499,250</b>   | <b>(15,911)</b> | <b>12,648,834</b>    |
| <b>Less Accumulated Depreciation:</b>              |                      |                  |                 |                      |
| Land Improvements                                  | (417,614)            | (23,911)         | 0               | (441,525)            |
| Building and Improvements                          | (5,146,545)          | (59,826)         | 0               | (5,206,371)          |
| Furniture, Equipment and Fixtures                  | (1,384,410)          | (76,670)         | 15,159          | (1,445,921)          |
| Vehicles   | (1,323,371)          | (126,440)        | 0               | (1,449,811)          |
| Textbooks  | (1,136,815)          | (19,202)         | 0               | (1,156,017)          |
| <b>Total Accumulated Depreciation</b>              | <b>(9,408,755)</b>   | <b>(306,049)</b> | <b>15,159</b>   | <b>(9,699,645)</b>   |
| <b>Total Capital Assets being depreciated, net</b> | <b>2,756,740</b>     | <b>193,201</b>   | <b>(752)</b>    | <b>2,949,189</b>     |
| <b>Governmental Activities Capital Assets, Net</b> | <b>\$3,159,045</b>   | <b>\$193,201</b> | <b>(\$752)</b>  | <b>\$3,351,494</b>   |

Depreciation expense was charged to governmental functions as follows:

|                                    |                  |
|------------------------------------|------------------|
| Instruction:                       |                  |
| Regular                            | \$69,491         |
| Vocational                         | 913              |
| Support Services:                  |                  |
| Instructional Staff                | 606              |
| Administration                     | 419              |
| Operation and Maintenance of Plant | 91,207           |
| Pupil Transportation               | 132,248          |
| Central                            | 1,555            |
| Operation of Food Services         | 4,154            |
| Extracurricular Activities         | 5,456            |
| <b>Total Depreciation Expense</b>  | <b>\$306,049</b> |

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**Note 10 – Interfund Receivable/Payable**

The interfund receivable/payable consisted of the following at June 30, 2017, as reported on the fund financial statements:

|                               | Interfund<br>Receivable | Interfund<br>Payable |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|
| Major Governmental Fund:      |                         |                      |
| General                       | \$161,500               | \$0                  |
| Non-major Governmental Funds: |                         |                      |
| Other Grants Fund             | 0                       | 2,500                |
| Title I                       | 0                       | 130,000              |
| Improving Teacher Quality     | 0                       | 19,000               |
| Miscellaneous Federal Grants  | 0                       | 10,000               |
| Total                         | \$161,500               | \$161,500            |

The primary purpose of the interfund balances is to cover costs in specific funds where revenues were not received by June 30. These interfund balances will be repaid once the anticipated revenues are received, which is expected to be within one year.

**Note 11 – Compensated Absences**

The criteria for determining vested vacation and sick leave components are derived from negotiated agreements and State laws. Only administrative and support personnel who are under a full year contract (11 and 12 month) are eligible for vacation time. The number of days granted are determined by an employees' length of service with the District.

Classified employees earn ten to twenty days of vacation per year, depending upon length of service. Any vacation time which is unused as of the employee's anniversary date is expired and not available for use in a subsequent year unless approved by the superintendent. Accumulated, unused vacation time is paid to classified employees and administrators upon termination of employment. The classified personnel accumulate vacation based on the following schedule:

| Years of Service | Vacation Weeks |
|------------------|----------------|
| 1-8              | 2              |
| 9-13             | 3              |
| 14-beyond        | 4              |

Each employee earns sick leave at the rate of one and one-fourth days per month. Sick leave shall accumulate during active employment on a continuous year-to-year basis; certified employees, 295 days and classified employees, 285 days.

For all employees, retirement severance is paid to each employee retiring from the District at a per diem rate of the annual salary at the time of retirement if the employee has been employed by the District for a minimum of ten consecutive years at the time of retirement for certified personnel and a minimum of five consecutive years for classified personnel. Any employee receiving retirement severance pay shall be entitled to a dollar amount equivalent to one-fourth of all accumulated sick leave credited to that employee up to 75 days for classified employees and for certified employees there is no max.

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**Note 12 – Defined Benefit Pension Plans**

***A. Net Pension Liability***

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

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

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

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

GASB 68 assumes the liability is solely the obligation of employer, because (1) they benefit from employee services; and (2) State statute requires all funding to come from these employers. All contributions to date have come solely from these employers (which also includes costs paid in the form of withholdings from employees). State statute requires the pension plans to amortize unfunded liabilities within 30 years. If the amortization period exceeds 30 years, each pension plan's board must propose corrective action to the State legislature. Any resulting legislative change to benefits or funding could significantly affect the net pension liability. Resulting adjustments to the net pension liability would be effective when the changes are legally enforceable.

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

***B. School Employees Retirement System***

Plan Description - District non-teaching employees participate in the School Employees Retirement System (SERS), a cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan administered by SERS. SERS provides retirement, disability, survivor benefits, annual cost-of-living adjustments, and death benefits to plan members and beneficiaries. Authority to establish and amend benefits is provided by Chapter 3309 of the Ohio Revised Code. 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 on SERS' website at [www.ohsers.org](http://www.ohsers.org), under *Employers/Audit Resources*.

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Age and service requirements for retirement are as follows:

|                              | Eligible to<br>Retire on or Before<br>August 1, 2017*                           | Eligible to<br>Retire on or After<br>August 1, 2017*                                 |
|------------------------------|---|--|
| Full Benefits                | Any age with 30 years of service credit   | Age 67 with 10 years of service credit; or<br>Age 57 with 30 years of service credit |
| Actuarially Reduced Benefits | Age 60 with 5 years of service credit<br>Age 55 with 25 years of service credit | Age 62 with 10 years of service credit; or<br>Age 60 with 25 years of service credit |

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

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

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

**Funding Policy** - Plan members are required to contribute 10 percent of their annual covered salary and the District is required to contribute 14 percent of annual covered payroll. The contribution requirements of plan members and employers are established and may be amended by the SERS' Retirement Board up to statutory maximum amounts of 10 percent for plan members and 14 percent for employers. The Retirement Board acting with the advice of the actuary, allocates the employer contribution rate among four of the System's funds (Pension Trust Fund, Death Benefit Fund, Medicare B Fund, and Health Care Fund). For fiscal year ending June 30, 2017, the allocation to pension, death benefits, and Medicare B was 14.0 percent. None of the 14 percent employer contribution was allocated to the Health Care Fund. The District's contractually required contribution to SERS was \$286,184 for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2017. Of this amount \$139,184 was reported as an intergovernmental payable.

**C. State Teachers Retirement System**

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

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

The DB plan offers an annual retirement allowance based on final average salary multiplied by a percentage that varies based on years of service. Effective August 1, 2015, the calculation was 2.2 percent of final average salary for the five highest years of earnings multiplied by all years of service. Members are eligible to retire at age 60 with five year of qualifying service credit, or age 55 with 26 years of service, or 31 years of service regardless of age. Eligibility changes will be phased in until

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August 1, 2026, when retirement eligibility for unreduced benefits will be five years of service credit and age 65, or 35 years of service credit and at least age 60.

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

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

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 Ohio 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 Ohio bearing the risk of investment gain or loss on the account. STRS Ohio therefore has included all three plan options in the GASB 68 schedules of employer allocations and pension amounts by employer.

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

Funding Policy – Employer and member contribution rates are established by the State Teachers Retirement Board and limited by Chapter 3307 of the Ohio Revised Code. For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2017 and subsequent years, the employer rate was 14 percent and the member rate was 14 percent of covered payroll.

The District's contractually required contribution to STRS was \$1,044,475 for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2017. Of this amount \$154,267 was reported as an intergovernmental payable.

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

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

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|   | SERS               | STRS                | Total        |
|---|--------------------|---------------------|--------------|
| Proportion of the Net Pension Liability<br>Prior Measurement Date   | 0.07074520%        | 0.07169819%         |              |
| Proportion of the Net Pension Liability<br>Current Measurement Date | <u>0.07083730%</u> | <u>0.06973746%</u>  |              |
| Change in Proportionate Share                                       | <u>0.00009210%</u> | <u>-0.00196073%</u> |              |
| Proportionate Share of the Net<br>Pension Liability                 | \$5,184,637        | \$23,343,230        | \$28,527,867 |
| Pension Expense   | \$772,915          | \$2,280,777         | \$3,053,692  |

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

|   | SERS               | STRS               | Total              |
|---|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| <b>Deferred Outflows of Resources</b>   |                    |                    |                    |
| Differences between expected and<br>actual experience                               | \$69,929           | \$943,180          | \$1,013,109        |
| Net difference between projected and<br>actual earnings on pension plan investments | 427,657            | 1,938,116          | 2,365,773          |
| Change of Assumptions   | 346,103            | 0                  | 346,103            |
| District contributions subsequent to<br>the measurement date                        | <u>286,184</u>     | <u>1,044,475</u>   | <u>1,330,659</u>   |
| Total Deferred Outflows of Resources  | <u>\$1,129,873</u> | <u>\$3,925,771</u> | <u>\$5,055,644</u> |
| <b>Deferred Inflows of Resources</b>  |                    |                    |                    |
| Change in Proportionate Share   | <u>\$102,147</u>   | <u>\$530,193</u>   | <u>\$632,340</u>   |

\$1,330,659 reported as deferred outflows of resources related to pension resulting from District contributions subsequent to the measurement date will be recognized as a reduction of the net pension liability in the year ending June 30, 2017. Other amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pension will be recognized in pension expense as follows:

|                                    | SERS             | STRS               | Total              |
|------------------------------------|------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| <b>Fiscal Year Ending June 30:</b> |                  |                    |                    |
| 2018                               | \$165,098        | \$314,657          | \$479,755          |
| 2019                               | 164,790          | 314,659            | 479,449            |
| 2020                               | 288,721          | 1,058,366          | 1,347,087          |
| 2021                               | <u>122,933</u>   | <u>663,421</u>     | <u>786,354</u>     |
| Total                              | <u>\$741,542</u> | <u>\$2,351,103</u> | <u>\$3,092,645</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,



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disabilities, retirements, employment termination). Actuarially determined amounts are subject to continual review and potential modifications, as actual results are compared with past expectations and new estimates are made about the future.

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

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

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

|  |   |
|--|---|
| Wage Inflation                               | 3.0 Percent   |
| Future Salary Increases, Including Inflation | 3.50 Percent to 18.20 Percent                               |
| COLA or Ad hoc COLA                          | 3 Percent   |
| Investment Rate of Return                    | 7.50 Percent Net of Investment Expense, Including Inflation |
| Actuarial Cost Method                        | Entry Age Normal (Level Percent of Payroll)                 |

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

The most recent experience study was completed June 30, 2015.

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

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

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**Discount Rate** The total pension liability was calculated using the discount rate of 7.50 percent. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed the contributions from employers and from the members would be computed based on contribution requirements as stipulated by State statute. Projected inflows from investment earning were calculated using the long-term assumed investment rate of return (7.50 percent). Based on those assumptions, the plan's fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all future benefit payments of current plan members. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments was applied to all periods of projected benefits to determine the total pension liability.

**Sensitivity of the District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate** Net pension liability is sensitive to changes in the discount rate, and to illustrate the potential impact the following table presents the net pension liability calculated using the discount rate of 7.50 percent, as well as what each plan's net pension liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is one percentage point lower (6.50 percent), or one percentage point higher (8.50 percent) than the current rate.

|  | 1% Decrease<br>(6.50%) | Current<br>Discount Rate<br>(7.50%) | 1% Increase<br>(8.50%) |
|--|------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------|
| District's Proportionate Share of the<br>Net Pension Liability | \$6,864,136            | \$5,184,637                         | \$3,778,826            |

**Actuarial Assumptions - STRS**

The total pension liability in the June 30, 2016, actuarial valuation was determined using the following actuarial assumptions, applied to all periods included in the measurement:

|                                   |   |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| Inflation                         | 2.75 Percent  |
| Projected Salary Increases        | 2.75 Percent at Age 70 to 12.25 Percent at Age 20   |
| Investment Rate of Return         | 7.75 Percent, Net of Investment Expenses, Including Inflation   |
| Cost of Living Adjustments (COLA) | 2% Simple Applied as Follows: For Members Retiring Before August 1, 2013, 2% per Year, For Members Retiring August 1, 2013, or later, 2% COLA paid on Fifth Anniversary of Retirement Date. |

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

Actuarial assumptions used in the June 30, 2016, valuation are based on the results of an actuarial experience study, effective July 1, 2012.

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

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| <u>Asset Class</u>   | <u>Target Allocation</u> | <u>*Long-Term Expected Rate of Return</u> |
|----------------------|--------------------------|---|
| Domestic Equity      | 31.00 %                  | 8.00 %                                    |
| International Equity | 26.00                    | 7.85                                      |
| Fixed Income         | 18.00                    | 3.75                                      |
| Alternatives         | 14.00                    | 8.00                                      |
| Real Estate          | 10.00                    | 6.75                                      |
| Liquidity Reserves   | 1.00                     | 3.00                                      |
| <b>Total</b>         | <b>100.00 %</b>          | <b>7.61 %</b>                             |

\* 10 Year annualized geometric nominal returns include the real rate of return and inflation of 2.50 percent and does not include investment expenses.

**Discount Rate** The discount rate used to measure the total pension liability was 7.75 percent as of June 30, 2016. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumes member and employer contributions will be made at the statutory contribution rates in accordance with rate increases described above. For this purpose, only employer contributions that are intended to fund benefits of current plan members and their beneficiaries are included. Projected employer contributions that are intended to fund the service costs of future plan members and their beneficiaries, as well as projected contributions from future plan members, are not included. Based on those assumptions, STRS Ohio's fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments to current plan members as of June 30, 2016. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments of 7.75 percent was applied to all periods of projected benefit payment to determine the total pension liability as of June 30, 2016.

**Changes Between Measurement Date and Report Date** In March 2017, the STRS Board adopted certain assumption changes which will impact their annual actuarial valuation prepared as of June 30, 2017. The most significant change is a reduction in the discount rate from 7.75 percent to 7.45 percent. In April 2017, the STRS Board voted to suspend cost of living adjustments granted on or after July 1, 2017. Although the exact amount of these changes is not known, the overall decrease to District's Net Pension Liability is expected to be significant.

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

| <u></u>   | <u>1% Decrease<br/>(6.75%)</u> | <u>Current<br/>Discount Rate<br/>(7.75%)</u> | <u>1% Increase<br/>(8.75%)</u> |
|---|--------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|
| District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability | \$31,021,258                   | \$23,343,230                                 | \$16,866,363                   |

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***E. Social Security System***

Effective July 1, 1991, all employees not otherwise covered by the School Employees Retirement System or the State Teachers Retirement System have an option to choose Social Security or the School Employees Retirement System/State Teachers Retirement System. As of June 30, 2017, four board members of the Board of Education have elected Social Security. The Board's liability is 6.2 percent of wages paid.

**Note 13 – Postemployment Benefits**

***A. School Employees Retirement System***

Postemployment Benefits - In addition to a cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan the School Employees Retirement System of Ohio (SERS) administers a postemployment benefit plan.

Health Care Plan Description - Sections 3309.375 and 3309.69 of the Ohio Revised Code permit SERS to offer health care benefits to eligible retirees and beneficiaries. SERS' Retirement Board reserves the right to change or discontinue any health plan or program. SERS offers several types of health plans from various vendors, including HMOs, PPOs, Medicare Advantage and traditional indemnity plans. A prescription drug program is also available to those who elect health coverage. SERS employs two third-party administrators and a pharmacy benefit manager to manage the self-insurance and prescription drug plans, respectively.

The Ohio Revised Code provides the statutory authority to fund SERS' postemployment benefits through employer contributions. Active members do not make contributions to the postemployment benefit plan.

The Health Care Fund was established under, and is administered in accordance with Internal Revenue Code 105(e). Each year after the allocation for statutorily required pensions and benefits, the Retirement Board may allocate the remainder of the employer 14 percent contribution to the Health Care Fund in accordance with the funding policy. For the year ended June 30, 2017, the health care allocation is 0 percent. An additional health care surcharge on employers is collected for employees earning less than an actuarially determined minimum compensation amount, pro-rated if less than a full year of service credit was earned. By statute no employer shall pay a health care surcharge greater than 2 percent of that employer's SERS-covered payroll; nor may SERS collect in aggregate more than 1.5 percent of the total statewide SERS-covered payroll for the health care surcharge. For fiscal year 2017, the minimum compensation level was established at \$23,500. The surcharge, added to the unallocated portion of the 14 percent employer contribution rate is the total amount assigned to the Health Care Fund. District contributions assigned to health care for the years ended June 30, 2017, 2016, and 2015 were \$37,605, \$34,779, and \$16,198, respectively.

The SERS Retirement Board establishes the rules for the premiums paid by the retirees for health care coverage for themselves and their dependents or for their surviving beneficiaries. Premiums vary depending on the plan selected, qualified years of service, Medicare eligibility, and retirement status.

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

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***B. State Teachers Retirement System of Ohio***

Plan Description – STRS administers a pension plan that is comprised of: a Defined Benefit Plan, a self-directed Defined Contribution Plan, and a Combined Plan that is a hybrid of the Defined Benefit Plan and the Defined Contribution Plan.

Ohio law authorizes STRS to offer a cost-sharing, multiple employer health care plan. STRS Ohio provides access to health care coverage to eligible retirees who participated in the Defined Benefit or Combined Plans. Coverage under the program includes hospitalization, physicians' fees, prescription drugs and partial reimbursement of monthly Medicare Part B premiums.

Pursuant to Chapter 3307 of the Revised Code, the Retirement Board has discretionary authority over how much, if any, of the associated health care costs will be absorbed by STRS Ohio. 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.

STRS Ohio issues a stand-alone financial report. Interested parties can view the most recent Comprehensive Annual Financial Report by visiting [www.strsoh.org](http://www.strsoh.org) or by requesting a copy by calling toll-free 1-888-227-7877.

Funding Policy – Under Ohio law, funding for post-employment health care may be deducted from employer contributions. Of the 14 percent employer contribution rate, 0 percent of covered payroll was allocated to post-employment health care for the years ended June 30, 2017, 2016 and 2015. The 14 percent employer contribution rate is the maximum rate established under Ohio law. The District did not make any contractually required health care contributions to STRS for fiscal years 2017, 2016 or 2015.

**Note 14 – Risk Management**

***A. Property and Liability***

The School District is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts, theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets, errors and omissions, injuries to employees and natural disasters. The School District has addressed these various types of risk by purchasing a comprehensive insurance policy through various commercial carriers.

Professional liability insurance is maintained in the amount of \$1,000,000 for single occurrence and \$3,000,000 in the aggregate.

The School District maintains fleet insurance in the amount of \$10,000,000 for any one accident or loss and \$10,000,000 in the aggregate and an additional \$1,000,000 in uninsured motorists' coverage. The School District maintains replacement cost insurance on buildings and contents in the amount of \$61,756,786.

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 the prior year.

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***B. Employee Medical Benefits***

The School District has contracted with the Ashtabula County Schools Council of Governments to provide employee medical/surgical, prescription drug, dental and vision benefits. The Ashtabula County Schools Council of Governments is organized under Chapter 167 of the Ohio Revised Code and is comprised of seven Ashtabula County school districts. Rates are set by the Ashtabula County Schools Council of Governments board of directors. The School District pays a monthly contribution, which is placed in a common fund from which claim payments are made for all participating school districts. Claims are paid for all participants regardless of claims flow. Ashtabula County Schools Council of Governments is a separate and independent entity governed by its own set of by-laws and constitution. All assets and liabilities are the responsibility of the Council of Governments. The program is operated as a full indemnity program with no financial liability (other than monthly premiums) or risk to the School District. The School District is not liable nor receives a cash balance of past claims upon departure from the pool.

***C. Workers' Compensation***

The District participates in the Ohio Association of School Business Officials Workers' Compensation Group Rating Program (GRP), and insurance purchasing pool, which was established under Section 4123.29 of the Ohio Revised Code. The Ohio Association of School business Officials Workers' Compensation Group Rating Program (the Program) was established through the Ohio Association of School Business Officials (OASBO) as a group purchasing pool. The Executive Director of the OASBO, or his designee, serves as coordinator of the Program. Each year, the participating school districts pay an enrollment fee to the Program to cover the costs of administering the Program.

The intent of the GRP is to achieve the benefit of a reduced premium for the District by virtue of its grouping and representation with other participants in the GRP. The workers' compensation experience of the participating school districts is calculated as one experience and a common premium rate is applied to all school districts in the GRP. Each participant pays its workers' compensation premium to the State based on the rate for the GRP rather than its individual rate. Total savings are then calculated and each participant's individual performance is compared to the overall savings percentage of the GRP. A participant will then either receive money from or be required to contribute to the "Equity Pooling Fund." This "equity pooling" arrangement insures that each participant shares equally in the overall performance of the GRP. Participation in the GRP is limited to school districts that can meet the GRP's selection criteria. The firm of Comp Management Inc., provides administrative, cost control and actuarial services to the GRP.

**Note 15 – Millennium Inorganic Corporation Tax Refund Escrow Fund**

In anticipation of a pollution control equipment tax refund to the Millennium Inorganic Corporation, the District has set aside, within the general fund, the estimated tax refund of \$462,377. The Corporation has paid these taxes since 1993; figures used in the calculation of the refund were provided by Millennium Inorganic Corporation. The District has refunded \$688,508 in previous fiscal years.

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**Note 16 – Long-Term Obligations**

A summary of changes in long-term obligations for the year ended June 30, 2017, are as follows:

|                                | Outstanding<br>6/30/2016 | Additions          | Reductions           | Outstanding<br>6/30/2017 | Amounts<br>Due in<br>One Year |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
| <b>Governmental Activities</b> |                          |                    |                      |                          |                               |
| Capital Lease                  | \$0                      | \$139,900          | \$0                  | \$139,900                | \$0                           |
| Compensated Absences           | 1,091,210                | 116,775            | (68,161)             | 1,139,824                | 49,913                        |
| Net Pension Liability:         |                          |                    |                      |                          |                               |
| STRS                           | 19,815,283               | 4,583,491          | (1,055,544)          | 23,343,230               | 0                             |
| SERS                           | 4,036,790                | 1,424,627          | (276,780)            | 5,184,637                | 0                             |
| Total Net Pension Liability    | <u>23,852,073</u>        | <u>6,008,118</u>   | <u>(1,332,324)</u>   | <u>28,527,867</u>        | <u>0</u>                      |
| Total Long-Term Liabilities    | <u>\$23,852,073</u>      | <u>\$6,148,018</u> | <u>(\$1,332,324)</u> | <u>\$28,667,767</u>      | <u>\$0</u>                    |

See Note 20 for information related to the capital lease obligation.

Compensated absences will be paid from the general fund and the food service and Title I special revenue funds. The District pays obligations related to employee compensation from the fund benefitting from their service.

The School District's overall legal debt margin was \$20,371,616 with an unvoted debt margin of \$226,351 at June 30, 2017.

**Note 17 – Jointly Governed Organizations and Related Organizations**

**Northeast Ohio Management Information Network (NEOMIN)** NEOMIN is a jointly governed organization among various school districts in Trumbull and Ashtabula Counties. The jointly governed organization was formed for the purpose of applying modern technology with the aid of computers and other electronic equipment to administrative and instructional functions among member districts. Each of the districts support NEOMIN based upon a per pupil charge.

Superintendents of the participating school districts are eligible to be voting members of the Governing Board which consists of ten voting members: the Trumbull and Ashtabula County superintendents (permanent members), three superintendents from Ashtabula County school districts, three superintendents from Trumbull County school districts, and one treasurer from each of the aforementioned counties (non-voting members who must be employed by a participating school district, the fiscal agent, or NEOMIN). The degree of control exercised by any participating school district is limited to its representation on the Governing Board. A copy of NEOMIN's financial statements may be obtained from the Trumbull County Education Service Center, 6000 Youngstown-Warren Road, Niles, Ohio 44446.

**Kingsville Public Library** The Kingsville Public Library (the Library) is a distinct political subdivision of the State of Ohio created under Chapter 3375 of the Ohio Revised Code. The Library is governed by a Board of Trustees appointed by the Board of Education. The Board of Trustees possesses its own contracting and budgeting authority, hires and fires personnel and does not depend on the District for operational subsidies. Although the District does serve as the taxing authority and may issue tax related debt on the behalf of the Library, its role is limited to a ministerial function. The determination to request

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approval of tax, the rate and the purpose are discretionary decisions made solely by the Board of Trustees. Financial information can be obtained from the Kingsville Public Library, Christine Stevens, Fiscal Officer, at 6006 Academy Street, Kingsville, Ohio 44048.

**State Support Team (SST) – Region 5** The District participates in the State Support Team (SST), an Educational Regional Service System (ERSS). The mission of the SST is to provide regional districts with leadership, technical assistance and high quality professional development in the service areas of school improvement, literacy, early learning and school readiness and special education compliance. The 16 State Support Teams are responsible for the regional delivery of school improvement, literacy, special education compliance, and early learning and school readiness services to districts using a differentiated technical assistance structure of support based upon need. The teams work through the Office of Exceptional Children, Office of Literacy, Office of Early Learning and School Readiness and the Office of Field Relations by providing technical assistance and professional development. The SSTs include staff and services formerly provided by the Special Education Regional Resource Centers (SERRCs) and the Regional School Improvement Teams (RSITs).

House Bill 115 (HB 115) establishes the Educational Regional Service System (ERSS) and requires the creation of a coordinated, integrated and aligned system to support state and school districts efforts to improve school effectiveness and student achievement. It is the intent of the general assembly that the educational regional service system would reduce the unnecessary duplication of programs and services and provide for a more streamlined and efficient delivery of education services without reducing the availability of the services needed by school districts and schools. Financial information can be obtained by contacting the Treasurer at the Mahoning County Educational Service Center, 100 DeBartolo Place, Suite 220, Youngstown, Ohio 44512.

**Ashtabula County Technical & Career Center** The Ashtabula County Career & Technical Center (A-Tech) is a distinct political subdivision of the State of Ohio which provides vocational education to students. The A-Tech is operated under the direction of a Board consisting of one representative from each of the participating School Districts' elected boards. The degree of control exercised by the School District is limited to its representation on the Board. The Board is its own budgeting and taxing authority. The School District did not make any contributions in fiscal year 2017. Financial information can be obtained from Lindsey Elly, Treasurer at Ashtabula County Technical & Career Center, 1565 State Route 167, Jefferson, Ohio 44047.

**Note 18 – Contingencies**

**A. Grants**

The District receives significant financial assistance from numerous federal, State and local agencies in the form of grants. The disbursement of funds received under these programs generally requires compliance with terms and conditions specified in the grant agreements and are subject to audit by the grantor agencies. Any disallowed claims resulting from such audits could become a liability of the District. However, in the opinion of management, any such disallowed claims will not have a material effect on the financial position of the District.

**B. Litigation**

The District is not party to any legal proceedings seeking damages or injunctive relief generally incidental to its operations and pending at June 30, 2017.



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**C. School District Foundation**

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

**Note 19 – Set Asides**

The District is required by State statute to annually set aside in the general fund an amount based on a statutory formula for the acquisition and construction of capital improvements. Amounts not spent by year-end or offset by similarly restricted resources received during the year must be held in cash at year-end and carried forward to be used for the same purposes in future years.

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

|   | Capital<br>Improvements  |
|---|--------------------------|
| Set-Aside Restricted Balance as of June 30, 2016            | \$0                      |
| Current Year Set-Aside Requirement                          | 316,619                  |
| Qualifying Disbursements                                    | (357,150)                |
| Current Year Offsets  | <u>0</u>                 |
| Total   | <u><u>(\$40,531)</u></u> |
| Set-Aside Balance Carried Forward to<br>Future Fiscal Years | <u><u>\$0</u></u>        |
| Cash balance as of June 30, 2017                            | <u><u>\$0</u></u>        |

Although the District had qualifying disbursements and offsets during the fiscal year that reduced the set-aside amount to below zero for the capital acquisition set-aside, this amount may not be used to reduce the set-aside requirement for future years. This negative balance is therefore not presented as being carried forward to future years.

**Note 20 – Capital Leases**

In a prior fiscal year, the School District entered into a lease agreement for the purchase of school busses. During the current fiscal year, the District entered into a lease agreement for a lighting system. These lease obligations meet the criteria of a capital lease as defined by Financial Accounting Standards Board Statement Number 13, "Accounting for Leases," and amended by Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement Number 62, "Codification of Accounting and Financial Reporting Guidance Contained in Pre-November 30, 1989 FASB and AICPA announcements," and has been recorded on the government-wide statements. The vehicles and lighting system have been capitalized in the amounts of

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\$284,372 and \$139,900, respectively, the present value of the minimum lease payments at the inception of the leases.

The assets acquired through capital leases are as follows:

| <i>Asset:</i>                        | <u>Governmental<br/>Activities</u> |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Vehicles                             | \$284,372                          |
| Building Improvements                | <u>139,900</u>                     |
| Historical Cost                      | 424,272                            |
| Less: Accumulated Depreciation       | <u>(226,180)</u>                   |
| Total Book Value as of June 30, 2017 | <u><u>\$198,092</u></u>            |

**Note 21 – Public Entity Risk Pools**

***A. Ohio Association of School Business Officials Workers’ Compensation Group Rating Program***

The District participates in a group-rating program for workers’ compensation as established under Section 4123.29 of the Ohio Revised Code. The Ohio Association of School Business Officials Workers’ Compensation Group Rating Program (the Program) was established through the Ohio Association of School Business Officials (OASBO) as a group purchasing pool. The Executive Director of the OASBO, or his designee, serves as coordinator of the Program. Each year, the participating school districts pay an enrollment fee to the Program to cover the costs of administering the Program.

***B. Ashtabula County Schools Council of Governments***

The District has contracted with the Ashtabula County Schools Council of Governments (“the Council”) to provide employee medical/surgical, prescription drug, dental and vision benefits. The Council is organized under Chapter 167 of the Ohio Revised Code and is comprised of seven Ashtabula County School districts. Rates are set by the Council’s board of directors. The District pays a monthly contribution, which is placed in a common fund from which claim payments are made for all participating districts. Claims are paid for all participants regardless of claims flow. The Council is a separate and independent entity governed by its own set of by-laws and constitution. All assets and liabilities are the responsibility of the Council. The program is operated as a full indemnity program with no financial liability (other than monthly premiums) or risk to the District. The Council shall pay the run out claims for a withdrawing member. Any member which withdraws from the Council pursuant to the Council Agreement shall have no claim to the Council’s assets.

**Note 22 – Accountability**

Fund balances at June 30, 2017 included the following individual fund deficits:

| <u>Nonmajor Governmental Funds:</u> | <u>Deficit</u> |
|-------------------------------------|----------------|
| Title I Fund                        | \$18,093       |
| Miscellaneous Federal Grants Fund   | 7,792          |

**Buckeye Local School District**  
Ashtabula County, Ohio

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

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The deficit fund balances in these funds are the result of adjustments for accrued liabilities. The general fund is liable for any deficits in these funds and provides transfers when cash is required, not when accruals occur.

**Note 23 – Tax Abatements**

As of June 30, 2017, the District provides tax abatements through an Enterprise Zone (Ezone). This program relates to the abatement of property taxes.

Ezone - Under the authority of ORC Sections 5709.62 and 5709.63, the Ezone program is an economic development tool administered by municipal and county governments that provides real and personal property tax exemptions to businesses making investments in Ohio. An Ezone is a designated area of land in which businesses can receive tax incentives in the form of tax exemptions on qualifying new investment. An Ezone's geographic area is identified by the local government involved in the creation of the zone. Once the zone is defined, the local legislative authority participating in the creation must petition the OSDA. The OSDA must then certify the area for it to become an active Enterprise Zone. The local legislative authority negotiates the terms of the Enterprise Zone Agreement (the "Agreement") with the business, which may include tax sharing with the City. Legislation must then be passed to approve the Agreement. All Agreements must be finalized before the project begins and may contain provisions for the recoupment of taxes should the individual or entity fail to perform. The amount of the abatement is deducted from the business's property tax bill.

| <u>Tax Abatement Program</u> | <u>Taxes Abated</u> |
|------------------------------|---------------------|
| Enterprise Zone              | \$879               |

**Buckeye Local School District**  
Ashtabula County, Ohio

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

|  | 2017        | 2016        | 2015        | 2014        |
|--|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| School District's Proportion of the Net Pension Liability  | 0.07083730% | 0.07074520% | 0.07395900% | 0.07395900% |
| School District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability   | \$5,184,637 | \$4,036,790 | \$3,743,022 | \$4,398,104 |
| School District's Covered-Employee Payroll   | \$2,044,172 | \$3,254,484 | \$2,161,299 | \$2,035,686 |
| School District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability as a Percentage of its Covered-Employee Payroll | 253.63%     | 124.04%     | 173.18%     | 216.05%     |
| Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total Pension Liability   | 62.98%      | 69.16%      | 71.70%      | 65.52%      |

(1) Information prior to 2014 is not available.

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

**Buckeye Local School District**  
Ashtabula County, Ohio

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

|  | 2017         | 2016         | 2015         | 2014         |
|--|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| School District's Proportion of the Net Pension Liability  | 0.069737460% | 0.071698190% | 0.072461550% | 0.072461550% |
| School District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability   | \$23,343,230 | \$19,815,283 | \$17,625,157 | \$20,994,971 |
| School District's Covered-Employee Payroll   | \$7,460,535  | \$7,860,079  | \$8,408,000  | \$7,170,131  |
| School District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability as a Percentage of its Covered-Employee Payroll | 312.89%      | 252.10%      | 209.62%      | 292.81%      |
| Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total Pension Liability   | 66.80%       | 72.10%       | 74.70%       | 69.30%       |

(1) Information prior to 2014 is not available.

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

**Buckeye Local School District**  
Ashtabula County, Ohio

*Required Supplementary Information*  
*Schedule of School District Contributions*  
*School Employees Retirement System of Ohio (SERS)*  
*Last Five Fiscal Years (1)*

|   | <u>2017</u> | <u>2016</u> | <u>2015</u> | <u>2014</u> | <u>2013</u> |
|---|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Contractually Required Contribution                                     | \$286,184   | \$276,780   | \$428,941   | \$299,556   | \$281,739   |
| Contributions in Relation to the<br>Contractually Required Contribution | (\$286,184) | (\$276,780) | (\$428,941) | (\$299,556) | (\$281,739) |
| Contribution Deficiency (Excess)  | <u>\$0</u>  | <u>\$0</u>  | <u>\$0</u>  | <u>\$0</u>  | <u>\$0</u>  |
| School District Covered-Employee Payroll                                | \$2,044,172 | \$1,977,000 | \$3,254,484 | \$2,161,299 | \$2,035,686 |
| Contributions as a Percentage of<br>Covered-Employee Payroll            | 14.00%      | 14.00%      | 13.18%      | 13.86%      | 13.84%      |

(1) Information prior to 2013 available upon request.

**Buckeye Local School District**  
Ashtabula County, Ohio

*Required Supplementary Information  
Schedule of School District Contributions  
State Teachers Retirement System of Ohio (STRS)  
Last Five Fiscal Years (1)*

|   | <u>2017</u>   | <u>2016</u>   | <u>2015</u>   | <u>2014</u>   | <u>2013</u> |
|---|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|-------------|
| Contractually Required Contribution                                     | \$1,044,475   | \$1,055,544   | \$1,100,411   | \$1,093,040   | \$932,117   |
| Contributions in Relation to the<br>Contractually Required Contribution | (\$1,044,475) | (\$1,055,544) | (\$1,100,411) | (\$1,093,040) | (\$932,117) |
| Contribution Deficiency (Excess)  | <u>\$0</u>    | <u>\$0</u>    | <u>\$0</u>    | <u>\$0</u>    | <u>\$0</u>  |
| School District Covered-Employee Payroll                                | \$7,460,535   | \$7,539,600   | \$7,860,079   | \$8,408,000   | \$7,170,131 |
| Contributions as a Percentage of<br>Covered-Employee Payroll            | 14.00%        | 14.00%        | 14.00%        | 13.00%        | 13.00%      |

(1) Information prior to 2013 available upon request.

**Buckeye Local School District**  
Ashtabula County, Ohio

*Notes to Required Supplementary Information  
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2017*

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*SCHOOL EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM (SERS) OF OHIO*

*Changes in benefit terms:* There were no changes in benefit terms from the amounts reported for fiscal years 2014 through 2017.

*Changes in assumptions:* There were no changes in methods and assumptions used in the calculation of actuarial determined contributions for fiscal years 2014 through 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 percent to 3.00 percent, (b) payroll growth assumption was reduced from 4.00 percent to 3.50 percent, (c) assumed real wage growth was reduced from 0.75 percent to 0.50 percent, (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 percent of male rates, and 110 percent of female rates and (g) mortality among disable member was updated to RP-2000 Disabled Mortality Table, 90 percent for male rates and 100 percent for female rates, set back five years is used for the period after disability retirement.

*STATE TEACHERS RETIREMENT SYSTEM (STRS) OF OHIO*

*Changes in benefit terms:* There were no changes in benefit terms from the amounts reported for fiscal years 2014 through 2017.

*Changes in assumptions:* There were no changes in methods and assumptions used in the calculation of actuarial determined contributions for fiscal years 2014 through 2017. See the notes to the basic financial statements for the methods and assumptions in this calculation.



BUCKEYE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
ASHTABULA COUNTY  
SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2017

| FEDERAL GRANTOR<br><i>Pass Through Grantor</i><br>Program / Cluster Title | Federal<br>CFDA<br>Number | Pass Through<br>Entity Identifying<br>Number | Passed<br>Through to<br>Subrecipients | Total<br>Federal<br>Expenditures |
|---|---------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| <b><u>U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE</u></b>                              |                           |  |                                       |                                  |
| <i>Passed Through Ohio Department of Education:</i>                       |                           |  |                                       |                                  |
| Child Nutrition Cluster:  |                           |  |                                       |                                  |
| School Breakfast Program  | 10.553                    | 2017   |                                       | 94,960                           |
| National School Lunch Program   | 10.555                    | 2017   |                                       | 318,815                          |
| Non-Cash Food Commodities   | 10.555                    | 2017   |                                       | 49,827                           |
| <b>Sub-Total - Nutrition Cluster</b>                                      |                           |  |                                       | <b>463,602</b>                   |
| <b>Total U.S. Department of Agriculture</b>                               |                           |  |                                       | <b>463,602</b>                   |
| <b><u>U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION</u></b>                                |                           |  |                                       |                                  |
| <i>Passed Through Ohio Department of Education:</i>                       |                           |  |                                       |                                  |
| Grants to Local Educational Agencies                                      | 84.010                    | 2016   |                                       | 33,868                           |
| Title I School Subsidy  |                           | 2017   |                                       | 477,300                          |
| <b>Sub-Total Title I</b>  |                           |  |                                       | <b>511,168</b>                   |
| Title VI-B - Rural Education  | 84.358                    | 2017   |                                       | 40,073                           |
| <b>Sub-Total - Title VI-B - Rural Education</b>                           |                           |  |                                       |                                  |
| Title II, Part A - Improving Teacher Quality                              | 84.367                    | 2016   |                                       | 14,189                           |
|   |                           | 2017   |                                       | 79,663                           |
| <b>Sub-Total - Title II</b>   |                           |  |                                       | <b>93,852</b>                    |
| <b>Total U.S Department of Education</b>                                  |                           |  |                                       | <b>645,093</b>                   |
| <b>BUCKEYE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT</b>                                      |                           |  |                                       |                                  |
| <b>Total</b>  |                           |  |                                       | <b>1,108,695</b>                 |

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

**BUCKEYE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
ASHTABULA COUNTY**

**NOTE TO THE SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS  
2 CFR 200.510(b)(6)  
FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2017**

**NOTE A – BASIS OF PRESENTATION**

The accompanying Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards (the Schedule) includes the federal award activity of the Buckeye Local School District, Ashtabula County (the District) under programs of the federal government for the year ended June 30, 2017. The information on this Schedule is prepared in accordance with the requirements of Title 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (Uniform Guidance). Because the Schedule presents only a selected portion of the operations of the District, it is not intended to and does not present the financial position of the District.

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

Expenditures reported on the accompanying Schedule are reported on the cash basis of accounting. The District has elected not to use the 10-percent de minimis indirect cost rate as allowed under the Uniform Guidance.

**NOTE C - CHILD NUTRITION CLUSTER**

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

**NOTE D – FOOD DONATION PROGRAM**

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

**NOTE E – FISCAL AGENT SPECIAL EDUCATION GRANTS**

The District is part of a consortium with three other Local School Districts and the Ashtabula County Educational Service Center (Service Center) which serves as the Fiscal Agent to provide IDEA-B, Early Childhood Special Education and Title I-D grant services to eligible students of their Districts. The Grant awards for each District are determined by the Ohio Department of Education and are used to fund the consortium. Expenditures are limited to the amount awarded each District. The Service Center expended \$339,318 for the Special Education Cluster and \$63,056 for Title I-D grant services for eligible students of the Buckeye Local School District for the year ended June 30, 2017.



# Dave Yost • Auditor of State

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

Buckeye Local School District  
Ashtabula County  
3436 Edgewood Drive  
Ashtabula, Ohio 44004

To the Board of Education:

We have audited, in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States and the Comptroller General of the United States' *Government Auditing Standards*, the financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Buckeye Local School District, Ashtabula County, (the District) as of and for the year ended June 30, 2017, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the District's basic financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated January 16, 2018.

### ***Internal Control Over Financial Reporting***

As part of our financial statement audit, we considered the District's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) to determine the audit procedures appropriate in the circumstances to the extent necessary to support our opinions on the financial statements, but not to the extent necessary to opine on the effectiveness of the District's internal control. Accordingly, we have not opined on it.

A *deficiency in internal control* exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, when performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and timely correct misstatements. A *material weakness* is a deficiency, or combination of internal control deficiencies resulting in a reasonable possibility that internal control will not prevent or detect and timely correct a material misstatement of the District's financial statements. 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 internal control deficiencies that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. Given these limitations, we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider material weaknesses. However, unidentified material weaknesses may exist.

***Compliance and Other Matters***

As part of reasonably assuring whether the District's financial statements are free of material misstatement, we tested its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could directly and materially affect the determination of financial statement amounts. However, opining on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit and accordingly, we do not express an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters we must report under *Government Auditing Standards*.

***Purpose of this Report***

This report only describes the scope of our internal control and compliance testing and our testing results, and does not opine on the effectiveness of the District's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed under *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the District's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this report is not suitable for any other purpose.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dave Yost". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping "D" and "Y".

**Dave Yost**  
Auditor of State  
Columbus, Ohio

January 16, 2018



# Dave Yost • Auditor of State

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

Buckeye Local School District  
Ashtabula County  
3436 Edgewood Drive  
Ashtabula, Ohio 44004

To the Board of Education:

### ***Report on Compliance for the Major Federal Program***

We have audited the Buckeye Local School District's (the District) compliance with the applicable requirements described in the U.S. Office of Management and Budget (OMB) *Compliance Supplement* that could directly and materially affect the Buckeye Local School District's major federal program for the year ended June 30, 2017. The *Summary of Auditor's Results* in the accompanying schedule of findings identifies the District's major federal program.

### ***Management's Responsibility***

The District's Management is responsible for complying with federal statutes, regulations, and the terms and conditions of its federal awards applicable to its federal program.

### ***Auditor's Responsibility***

Our responsibility is to opine on the District's compliance of the District's major federal program based on our audit of the applicable compliance requirements referred to above. Our compliance audit followed auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America; the standards for financial audits included in the Comptroller General of the United States' *Government Auditing Standards*; and the audit requirements of Title 2 U.S. *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (Uniform Guidance). These standards and the Uniform Guidance require us to plan and perform the audit to reasonably assure whether noncompliance with the applicable compliance requirements referred to above that could directly and materially affect a major federal program occurred. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence about the District's compliance with those requirements and performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances.

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

***Opinion on the Major Federal Program***

In our opinion, the Buckeye Local School District complied, in all material respects with the compliance requirements referred to above that could directly and materially affect its major federal program for the year ended June 30, 2017.

***Report on Internal Control Over Compliance***

The District's management is responsible for establishing and maintaining effective internal control over compliance with the applicable compliance requirements referred to above. In planning and performing our compliance audit, we considered the District's internal control over compliance with the applicable requirements that could directly and materially affect a major federal program, to determine our auditing procedures appropriate for opining on each major federal program's compliance and to test and report on internal control over compliance in accordance with the Uniform Guidance, but not to the extent needed to opine on the effectiveness of internal control over compliance. Accordingly, we have not opined on the effectiveness of the District's internal control over compliance.

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

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

This report only describes the scope of our internal control over compliance tests and the results of this testing based on Uniform Guidance requirements. Accordingly, this report is not suitable for any other purpose.



**Dave Yost**  
Auditor of State  
Columbus, Ohio

January 16, 2018

**BUCKEYE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
ASHTABULA COUNTY**

**SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS  
2 CFR § 200.515  
JUNE 30, 2017**

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

|                     |  |  |
|---------------------|--|--|
| <i>(d)(1)(i)</i>    | Type of Financial Statement Opinion  | Unmodified                                 |
| <i>(d)(1)(ii)</i>   | Were there any material weaknesses in internal control reported at the financial statement level (GAGAS)?      | No   |
| <i>(d)(1)(ii)</i>   | Were there any significant deficiencies in internal control reported at the financial statement level (GAGAS)? | No   |
| <i>(d)(1)(iii)</i>  | Was there any reported material noncompliance at the financial statement level (GAGAS)?                        | No   |
| <i>(d)(1)(iv)</i>   | Were there any material weaknesses in internal control reported for major federal programs?                    | No   |
| <i>(d)(1)(iv)</i>   | Were there any significant deficiencies in internal control reported for major federal programs?               | No   |
| <i>(d)(1)(v)</i>    | Type of Major Programs' Compliance Opinion   | Unmodified                                 |
| <i>(d)(1)(vi)</i>   | Are there any reportable findings under 2 CFR § 200.516(a)?  | No   |
| <i>(d)(1)(vii)</i>  | Major Programs (list):   | Title I<br>CFDA #84.010                    |
| <i>(d)(1)(viii)</i> | Dollar Threshold: Type A/B Programs  | Type A: > \$ 750,000<br>Type B: all others |
| <i>(d)(1)(ix)</i>   | Low Risk Auditee under 2 CFR §200.520?   | Yes  |

**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

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# Dave Yost • Auditor of State

**BUCKEYE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**ASHTABULA COUNTY**

**CLERK'S CERTIFICATION**

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

*Susan Babbitt*

**CLERK OF THE BUREAU**

**CERTIFIED  
FEBRUARY 6, 2018**