

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

*Management's Discussion and Analysis*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2021*  
*Unaudited*

---

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, 2021. 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 2021 are as follows:

*Overall:*

- In total, net position increased \$630,263 from fiscal year 2020.
- General revenues accounted for \$16,115,093 in revenue or 76 percent of all governmental revenues. Program specific revenues in the form of charges for services and sales, grants and contributions accounted for \$5,171,999 or 24 percent of total governmental revenues of \$21,287,092.
- The District had \$20,656,829 in expenses related to governmental activities; only \$5,171,999 of these expenses were offset by program specific charges for services, grants or contributions. General revenues (primarily taxes) coupled with the program revenues were adequate to provide for these programs this fiscal year.
- The general fund had \$18,364,444 in revenues and \$17,425,225 in expenditures on a modified accrual basis. The general fund's fund balance increased \$907,821 to \$14,629,067, from \$13,721,246 in fiscal year 2020, an increase of 7 percent.
- The District's total net pension liability increased to \$19,967,936 from \$18,629,062 and the OPEB liability decreased to \$319,506 from \$621,659 (net of the OPEB asset), a combined increase of \$1,036,721. For more information on this liability see Notes 12 and 13 to the basic financial statements.

**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, 2021*  
*Unaudited*

---

**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 2021?" 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 with the balance sheet. 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.

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

*Management's Discussion and Analysis*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2021*  
*Unaudited*

**The District as a Whole**

Table 1 shows net position for fiscal year 2021 as compared to fiscal year 2020.

<b>Net Position (Table 1) - Governmental Activities</b>			
	2021	(Restated) 2020	Increase (Decrease)
<b>Assets</b>			
Current and Other Assets	\$26,834,307	\$24,343,011	\$2,491,296
Capital Assets, Net	2,022,015	2,249,974	(227,959)
<i>Total Assets</i>	<u>28,856,322</u>	<u>26,592,985</u>	<u>2,263,337</u>
<b>Deferred Outflows of Resources</b>			
Pension	3,342,687	3,353,475	(10,788)
OPEB	460,928	320,953	139,975
<i>Total Deferred Outflows of Resources</i>	<u>3,803,615</u>	<u>3,674,428</u>	<u>129,187</u>
<b>Liabilities</b>			
Current Liabilities	2,563,861	2,160,104	403,757
Long-Term Liabilities			
Due within One Year	76,518	113,885	(37,367)
Due in More than One Year:			
Net Pension Liability	19,967,936	18,629,062	1,338,874
Net OPEB Liability	1,459,441	1,718,373	(258,932)
Other Amounts	1,230,545	1,192,581	37,964
<i>Total Liabilities</i>	<u>25,298,301</u>	<u>23,814,005</u>	<u>1,484,296</u>
<b>Deferred Inflows of Resources</b>			
Property Taxes	6,446,049	5,830,817	615,232
Pension	627,972	1,414,037	(786,065)
OPEB	2,135,491	1,839,919	295,572
<i>Total Deferred Inflows of Resources</i>	<u>9,209,512</u>	<u>9,084,773</u>	<u>124,739</u>
<b>Net Position</b>			
Net Investment in Capital Assets	1,929,958	2,145,056	(215,098)
Restricted	1,905,948	1,478,901	427,047
Unrestricted (Deficit)	(5,683,782)	(6,102,096)	418,314
<i>Total Net Position</i>	<u>(\$1,847,876)</u>	<u>(\$2,478,139)</u>	<u>\$630,263</u>

The net pension liability (NPL) is the largest single liability reported by the School District at June 30, 2021 and is reported pursuant to GASB Statement 68, "Accounting and Financial Reporting for Pensions—an Amendment of GASB Statement 27." The School District adopted GASB Statement 75, "Accounting and Financial Reporting for Postemployment Benefits Other Than Pensions," which significantly revises accounting for costs and liabilities related to other postemployment benefits (OPEB). For reasons discussed below, many end users of this financial statement will gain a clearer understanding of the School District's actual financial condition by adding deferred inflows related to pension and OPEB, the net pension liability and the net OPEB liability to the reported net position and subtracting deferred outflows related to pension and OPEB.

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

*Management's Discussion and Analysis*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2021*  
*Unaudited*

---

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

GASB 68 and GASB 75 require the net pension liability and the net OPEB liability to equal the School District's proportionate share of each plan's collective:

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

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

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

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

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

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

*Management's Discussion and Analysis*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2021*  
*Unaudited*

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 \$630,263.

**Table 2**  
Change in Net Position

	2021	(Restated) 2020	Increase (Decrease)
<b>Revenues</b>			
<b>Program Revenues</b>			
Charges for Services and Sales	\$2,658,353	\$2,897,888	(\$239,535)
Operating Grants and Contributions	2,513,646	1,404,933	1,108,713
<i>Total Program Revenues</i>	<u>5,171,999</u>	<u>4,302,821</u>	<u>869,178</u>
<b>General Revenues</b>			
Property Taxes	6,493,200	6,996,540	(503,340)
Intergovernmental	9,502,375	9,432,118	70,257
Investment Earnings	35,127	211,940	(176,813)
Miscellaneous	84,391	61,541	22,850
<i>Total General Revenues</i>	<u>16,115,093</u>	<u>16,702,139</u>	<u>(587,046)</u>
<i>Total Revenues</i>	<u>21,287,092</u>	<u>21,004,960</u>	<u>282,132</u>
<b>Program Expenses</b>			
Instruction	11,893,388	11,259,516	633,872
Support Services	7,515,384	6,629,017	886,367
Operation of Non-Instructional/Food Services	722,903	651,372	71,531
Extracurricular Activities	518,946	573,995	(55,049)
Interest and Fiscal Charges	6,208	5,312	896
<i>Total Program Expenses</i>	<u>20,656,829</u>	<u>19,119,212</u>	<u>1,537,617</u>
<i>Change in Net Position</i>	<u>630,263</u>	<u>1,885,748</u>	<u>(1,255,485)</u>
Net Position Beginning of Year	<u>(2,478,139)</u>	<u>(4,363,887)</u>	<u>1,885,748</u>
<i>Net Position End of Year</i>	<u>(\$1,847,876)</u>	<u>(\$2,478,139)</u>	<u>\$630,263</u>

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 31 percent of governmental activities revenue for Buckeye Local School District in fiscal year 2021, an increase of one percent from fiscal year 2020.

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

*Management's Discussion and Analysis*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2021*  
*Unaudited*

**Governmental Activities**

Total net position of the School District increased \$630,263 during fiscal year 2021. The governmental expenses of \$20,656,829 were offset by program revenues of \$5,171,999 and general revenues of \$16,115,093. Program revenues supported 25 percent of the total governmental activities expenses. The effects of GASB 68 and 75 distort this comparative analysis due to the significant impact changes made to cost of living adjustments enacted by the state pension board had on the District's share of the total pension/OPEB liability (asset).

The primary sources of revenue for governmental activities are derived from property taxes and grants and entitlements. These two revenue sources represent 75 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

	2021		2020	
	Total Cost of Services	Net Cost of Services	Total Cost of Services	Net Cost of Services
<b>Program Expenses</b>				
Instruction	\$11,893,388	\$8,762,701	\$11,259,516	\$8,339,301
Support Services	7,515,384	6,355,097	6,629,017	6,142,520
Operation of Non-Instructional/Food Service	722,903	(36,412)	651,372	(40,974)
Extracurricular Activities	518,946	397,236	573,995	370,232
Interest and Fiscal Charges	6,208	6,208	5,312	5,312
<i>Total Expenditures</i>	<u>\$20,656,829</u>	<u>\$15,484,830</u>	<u>\$19,119,212</u>	<u>\$14,816,391</u>

The table above reflects how the District funds its programs through program revenues. Instructional services, support services, co-curricular activities, and interest charges rely heavily on general revenues, while non-instructional and food services were completely funded by program revenues during the fiscal year. The large increase in instructional and support services is the byproduct of GASB 68 and 75 as previously discussed. To gain a better understanding of operations, please refer to the fund analysis on the next following pages.

The dependence upon general tax revenues for governmental activities is apparent. 62 percent of instruction activities are supported through property taxes alone this year. 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.

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

*Management's Discussion and Analysis*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2021*  
*Unaudited*

**The District's Funds**

The District's funds (as presented on the balance sheet) reported a combined fund balance of \$16,450,443, which is more than last year's restated total of \$14,999,265 by 10 percent. The schedule below indicates the fund balance and the total change in fund balance as of June 30, 2021 and 2020.

	Fund Balance	(Restated) Fund Balance	Increase
	June 30, 2021	June 30, 2020	(Decrease)
General	\$14,629,067	\$13,721,246	\$907,821
Other Governmental	1,821,376	1,278,019	543,357
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$16,450,443</b>	<b>\$14,999,265</b>	<b>\$1,451,178</b>

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 87 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 2021 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 \$18,644,113, which was \$1,432 higher than the final budgeted revenue of \$18,642,681 and \$119,651 less than the original budget estimate of \$18,763,764. 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, was \$17,487,719 which was \$1,693,971 less than the final budgeted expenditures of \$19,181,690. The variance from the original and final 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 2021, the School District had \$2,022,015 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, 2021*  
*Unaudited*

Table 4 shows fiscal year 2021 balances compared to fiscal year 2020:

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

	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
Land	\$402,305	\$402,305
Land Improvements	273,010	294,238
Buildings and Improvements	210,367	235,023
Furniture, Fixtures and Equipment	652,758	785,979
Vehicles	399,157	371,275
Textbooks	84,418	161,154
<i>Total</i>	<u>\$2,022,015</u>	<u>\$2,249,974</u>

All capital assets, except land, are reported net of depreciation. As one can see, the School District had an overall decrease in capital assets of \$227,959. The decrease is due to current year additions of \$197,043 being less than depreciation of \$425,002. For more information about the School District's capital assets, see Note 9 to the basic financial statements.

**Debt**

The School District's made its scheduled capital lease principal payment of \$12,861 during fiscal year 2021. The remaining principal balance on the lease is \$92,057. 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 2021, approximately 35 percent were from local property and public utility taxes, 51 percent from the State Foundation funding system, the Homestead/Rollback and tangible personal property reimbursements, and from other local funds. Of the other local funds category, open enrollment accounted for the majority. 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. The total tangible personal property tax reimbursement to the permanent improvement fund has been discontinued. 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 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.



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

*Management's Discussion and Analysis*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2021*  
*Unaudited*

---

---

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 2021, 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 the Treasurer, at Buckeye Local School District, 3436 Edgewood Drive, Ashtabula, Ohio 44004.

**Buckeye Local School District**

Ashtabula County, Ohio

*Statement of Net Position**June 30, 2021*

	<u>Governmental Activities</u>
<b>Assets</b>	
Equity in Pooled Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$17,933,430
Accrued Interest Receivable	902
Accounts Receivable	395
Intergovernmental Receivable	110,773
Property Taxes Receivable	7,554,879
Inventory Held for Resale	23,532
Materials and Supplies Inventory	70,461
Net OPEB Asset	1,139,935
Nondepreciable Capital Assets	402,305
Depreciable Capital Assets, Net	1,619,710
<i>Total Assets</i>	<u>28,856,322</u>
<b>Deferred Outflows of Resources</b>	
Pension	3,342,687
Other Postemployment Benefits	460,928
<i>Total Deferred Outflows of Resources</i>	<u>3,803,615</u>
<b>Liabilities</b>	
Accounts Payable	189,517
Accrued Wages and Benefits Payable	1,443,537
Intergovernmental Payable	451,819
Matured Compensated Absences Payable	11,949
Accrued Interest Payable	4,662
Claims Payable	462,377
Long-Term Liabilities:	
Due Within One Year	76,518
Due In More Than One Year:	
Net Pension Liability	19,967,936
Other Postemployment Benefits Liability	1,459,441
Other Amounts Due in More than One Year	1,230,545
<i>Total Liabilities</i>	<u>25,298,301</u>
<b>Deferred Inflows of Resources</b>	
Property Taxes	6,446,049
Pension	627,972
Other Postemployment Benefits	2,135,491
<i>Total Deferred Inflows of Resources</i>	<u>9,209,512</u>
<b>Net Position</b>	
Net Investment in Capital Assets	1,929,958
Restricted for:	
Capital Projects	653,700
Other Purposes	1,252,248
Unrestricted (Deficit)	(5,683,782)
<i>Total Net Position</i>	<u>(\$1,847,876)</u>

See accountants' compilation report

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, 2021*

	Program Revenues			Net (Expense) Revenue and Changes in Net Position
	Expenses	Charges for Services and Sales	Operating Grants and Contributions	
<b>Governmental Activities:</b>				
Current:				
Instruction:				
Regular	\$9,722,682	\$2,320,042	\$193,873	(\$7,208,767)
Special	2,086,970	229,853	385,919	(1,471,198)
Vocational	16,219	0	0	(16,219)
Other	67,517	0	1,000	(66,517)
Support Services:				
Pupils	1,320,475	0	214,780	(1,105,695)
Instructional Staff	622,287	0	582,931	(39,356)
Board of Education	21,990	0	11,150	(10,840)
Administration	1,642,407	0	43,193	(1,599,214)
Fiscal	468,470	0	0	(468,470)
Business	116,468	0	10,033	(106,435)
Operation and Maintenance of Plant	2,005,459	5,400	31,623	(1,968,436)
Pupil Transportation	1,109,717	0	228,797	(880,920)
Central	208,111	0	32,380	(175,731)
Operation of Non-Instructional Services	722,903	6,742	752,573	36,412
Extracurricular Activities	518,946	96,316	25,394	(397,236)
Interest and Fiscal Charges	6,208	0	0	(6,208)
<i>Total Governmental Activities</i>	<u>\$20,656,829</u>	<u>\$2,658,353</u>	<u>\$2,513,646</u>	<u>(15,484,830)</u>
<b>General Revenues</b>				
Property Taxes Levied for:				
				6,105,682
				387,518
Grants and Entitlements not				
				9,502,375
				35,127
				84,391
<i>Total General Revenues</i>				<u>16,115,093</u>
				630,263
<i>Net Position Beginning</i>				
<i>of Year - Restated (See Note 3)</i>				(2,478,139)
<i>Net Position (Deficit) End of Year</i>				<u>(\$1,847,876)</u>

See accountants' compilation report  
See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements

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

*Balance Sheet*  
*Governmental Funds*  
*June 30, 2021*

	General	Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
<b>Assets</b>			
Equity in Pooled Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$15,937,294	\$1,996,136	\$17,933,430
Accrued Interest Receivable	902	0	902
Accounts Receivable	395	0	395
Interfund Receivable	133,042	0	133,042
Intergovernmental Receivable	0	110,773	110,773
Property Taxes Receivable	7,094,560	460,319	7,554,879
Inventory Held for Resale	0	23,532	23,532
Materials and Supplies Inventory	69,693	768	70,461
<i>Total Assets</i>	<u>\$23,235,886</u>	<u>\$2,591,528</u>	<u>\$25,827,414</u>
<b>Liabilities</b>			
Accounts Payable	\$60,020	\$129,497	\$189,517
Accrued Wages and Benefits Payable	1,366,906	76,631	1,443,537
Intergovernmental Payable	432,712	19,107	451,819
Matured Compensated Absences Payable	11,949	0	11,949
Interfund Payable	0	133,042	133,042
Claims Payable	462,377	0	462,377
<i>Total Liabilities</i>	<u>2,333,964</u>	<u>358,277</u>	<u>2,692,241</u>
<b>Deferred Inflows of Resources</b>			
Property Taxes	6,061,029	385,020	6,446,049
Unavailable Revenue - Property Taxes	211,826	15,937	227,763
Unavailable Revenue - Grants	0	10,918	10,918
<i>Total Deferred Inflows of Resources</i>	<u>6,272,855</u>	<u>411,875</u>	<u>6,684,730</u>
<b>Fund Balances</b>			
Nonspendable	69,693	768	70,461
Restricted	0	1,892,266	1,892,266
Committed	462,377	26,547	488,924
Assigned	125,102	0	125,102
Unassigned	13,971,895	(98,205)	13,873,690
<i>Total Fund Balances</i>	<u>14,629,067</u>	<u>1,821,376</u>	<u>16,450,443</u>
<i>Total Liabilities, Deferred Inflows of Resources and Fund Balances</i>	<u>\$23,235,886</u>	<u>\$2,591,528</u>	<u>\$25,827,414</u>

See accountants' compilation report  
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, 2021*

---

---

<b>Total Governmental Fund Balances</b>	<b>\$16,450,443</b>
---	---------------------

***Amounts reported for governmental activities in the  
statement of net position are different because***

Capital assets used in governmental activities are not financial resources and therefore are not reported in the funds.	2,022,015
---	-----------

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	227,763
Grants	<u>10,918</u>

Total	238,681
-------	---------

The net pension and OPEB liabilities are not due and payable in the current period and, therefore, are not reported in the funds.

Deferred Outflows - Pension	3,342,687
Deferred Inflows - Pension	(627,972)
Net Pension Liability	(19,967,936)
Deferred Outflows - OPEB	460,928
Deferred Inflows - OPEB	(2,135,491)
OPEB Asset	1,139,935
OPEB Liability	<u>(1,459,441)</u>

Total	(19,247,290)
-------	--------------

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.	(4,662)
---	---------

Long-term liabilities are not due and payable in the current period and therefore are not reported in the funds:

Compensated Absences	(92,057)
Capital Leases	<u>(1,215,006)</u>

Total	<u>(1,307,063)</u>
-------	--------------------

<i>Net Position of Governmental Activities</i>	<u><u>(\$1,847,876)</u></u>
--	-----------------------------

See accountants' compilation report  
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, 2021*

	General	Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
<b>Revenues</b>			
Property Taxes	\$6,161,485	\$391,416	\$6,552,901
Tuition and Fees	2,549,895	0	2,549,895
Interest	34,924	203	35,127
Charges for Services	0	6,742	6,742
Extracurricular Activities	63,300	33,016	96,316
Rentals	5,400	0	5,400
Contributions and Donations	12,605	8,417	21,022
Intergovernmental	9,452,444	2,658,823	12,111,267
Miscellaneous	84,391	0	84,391
<i>Total Revenues</i>	<u>18,364,444</u>	<u>3,098,617</u>	<u>21,463,061</u>
<b>Expenditures</b>			
<b>Current:</b>			
<b>Instruction:</b>			
Regular	8,999,552	176,178	9,175,730
Special	1,711,176	326,190	2,037,366
Vocational	12,511	0	12,511
Other	63,172	4,345	67,517
<b>Support Services:</b>			
Pupils	914,946	383,317	1,298,263
Instructional Staff	365,912	237,368	603,280
Board of Education	22,054	0	22,054
Administration	1,562,584	22,918	1,585,502
Fiscal	480,764	8,005	488,769
Business	107,065	9,475	116,540
Operation and Maintenance of Plant	1,701,544	277,012	1,978,556
Pupil Transportation	935,796	84,979	1,020,775
Central	177,118	31,475	208,593
Operation of Food Services	0	720,069	720,069
Extracurricular Activities	361,171	81,887	443,058
Capital Outlay	0	213,580	213,580
<b>Debt Service:</b>			
Principal Retirement	6,431	6,430	12,861
Interest and Fiscal Charges	3,429	3,430	6,859
<i>Total Expenditures</i>	<u>17,425,225</u>	<u>2,586,658</u>	<u>20,011,883</u>
<i>Excess of Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures</i>	<u>939,219</u>	<u>511,959</u>	<u>1,451,178</u>
<b>Other Financing Sources</b>			
Transfers In	0	49,679	49,679
Transfers Out	(31,398)	(18,281)	(49,679)
<i>Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)</i>	<u>(31,398)</u>	<u>31,398</u>	<u>0</u>
<i>Net Change in Fund Balances</i>	907,821	543,357	1,451,178
<i>Fund Balance Beginning of Year - Restated (See Note 3)</i>	13,721,246	1,278,019	14,999,265
<i>Fund Balance End of Year</i>	<u>\$14,629,067</u>	<u>\$1,821,376</u>	<u>\$16,450,443</u>

See accountants' compilation report  
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, 2021*

---

**Net Change in Fund Balances - Total Governmental Funds** \$1,451,178

***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	197,043
Current Year Depreciation	(425,002)

Total (227,959)

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

Property Taxes	(59,701)
Intergovernmental Grants	(116,268)

Total (175,969)

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

12,861

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

Pension	1,422,190
OPEB	44,720

Total 1,466,910

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

Pension	(1,985,782)
OPEB	101,831

Total (1,883,951)

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	651
------------------------------------	-----

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.

(13,458)

*Change in Net Position of Governmental Activities*

\$630,263

See accountants' compilation report  
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, 2021*

	Budgeted Amounts		Actual	Variance with Final Budget Positive (Negative)
	Original	Final		
<b>Revenues</b>				
Property & Other Local Taxes	\$6,532,412	\$6,483,368	\$6,483,368	\$0
Tuition and Fees	2,544,429	2,525,326	2,525,326	0
Interest	34,683	34,423	35,855	1,432
Extracurricular Activities	63,769	63,290	63,290	0
Rentals	5,441	5,400	5,400	0
Contributions and Donations	2,015	2,000	2,000	0
Intergovernmental	9,515,927	9,444,483	9,444,483	0
Miscellaneous	65,088	84,391	84,391	0
<i>Total Revenues</i>	18,763,764	18,642,681	18,644,113	1,432
<b>Expenditures</b>				
Current:				
Instruction:				
Regular	8,867,015	9,038,629	8,858,857	179,772
Special	1,982,436	2,249,021	1,678,890	570,131
Vocational	25,962	26,100	20,888	5,212
Other	62,838	63,172	63,172	0
Support Services:				
Pupils	1,078,421	1,131,832	918,727	213,105
Instructional Staff	374,362	419,941	366,470	53,471
Board of Education	25,252	25,386	21,748	3,638
Administration	1,603,980	1,637,284	1,543,219	94,065
Fiscal	562,710	658,316	501,992	156,324
Business	112,734	114,673	109,405	5,268
Operation and Maintenance of Plant	1,885,592	2,009,874	1,743,797	266,077
Pupil Transportation	960,372	1,024,260	944,777	79,483
Central	190,779	213,192	173,574	39,618
Extracurricular Activities	374,164	376,513	356,403	20,110
Capital Outlay	21,274	21,387	21,360	27
<i>Total Expenditures</i>	18,127,891	19,009,580	17,323,279	1,686,301
<i>Excess of Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures</i>	635,873	(366,899)	1,320,834	1,687,733
<b>Other Financing Sources (Uses)</b>				
Advances Out	(140,712)	(140,712)	(133,042)	7,670
Transfers Out	(31,398)	(31,398)	(31,398)	0
<i>Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)</i>	(172,110)	(172,110)	(164,440)	7,670
<i>Net Change in Fund Balance</i>	463,763	(539,009)	1,156,394	1,695,403
<i>Fund Balance Beginning of Year</i>	13,748,493	13,748,493	13,748,493	0
<i>Prior Year Encumbrances Appropriated</i>	785,234	785,234	785,234	0
<i>Fund Balance End of Year</i>	\$14,997,490	\$13,994,718	\$15,690,121	\$1,695,403

See accountants' compilation report  
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, 2021*

---

---

**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, 2021 was 1,803. The District employed 132 certified employees and 63 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, 2021*

---

**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.

**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 or fiduciary 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, 2021*

---

**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 fund reporting focuses on net position and changes in net position. The fiduciary fund category is split into the following four classifications: pension (and other employee benefit) trust funds, investment trust funds, private-purpose trust funds and custodial funds. Trust funds are distinguished from custodial funds by the existence of a trust agreement or equivalent arrangements that has certain characteristics. The School District has no private purpose trust funds. Custodial funds are used to report fiduciary activities that are not required to be reported in a trust fund. The School District has no custodial funds.

**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 are prepared using the accrual basis of accounting. Governmental funds use the modified 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, 2021*

---

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 and OPEB. The deferred outflows of resources related to pension and OPEB are explained in Notes 12 and 13.

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, OPEB and unavailable revenue. Property taxes represent amounts for which there is an enforceable legal claim as of June 30, 2021, but which were levied to finance fiscal year 2022 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 and OPEB are reported on the government-wide statement of net position (see Notes 12 and 13).

***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, 2021*

---

**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**

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

During fiscal year 2021, the School District invested in STAR Ohio. STAR Ohio (the State Treasury Asset Reserve of Ohio) is an investment pool managed by the State Treasurer's Office which allows governments within the State to pool their funds for investment purposes. STAR Ohio is not registered with the SEC as an investment company, but has adopted Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB), Statement No. 79, "Certain External Investment Pools and Pool Participants." The School District measures their investment in STAR Ohio at the net asset value (NAV) per share provided by STAR Ohio. The NAV per share is calculated on an amortized cost basis that provides a NAV per share that approximates fair value.

For the fiscal year 2021, there were no limitations or restrictions on any participant withdrawals due to redemption notice periods, liquidity fees, or redemption gates. However, twenty-four hours advance notice is appreciated for deposits and withdrawals of \$100 million or more. STAR Ohio reserves the right to limit the transactions to \$100 million per day, requiring the excess amount to be transacted the

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

*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2021*

---

---

following business day(s), but only to the \$100 million limit. All accounts of the participant will be combined for these purposes.

Following Ohio statutes, the Board of Education has, by resolution, specified the funds to receive an allocation of interest earnings. Interest revenue credited to the general fund during fiscal year 2021 amounted to \$34,924 which includes \$845 assigned from other funds.

Investments of the cash management pool and investments with an original maturity of three months or less at the time they are purchased by the School 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, 2021, 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.

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:

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

*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2021*

---

---

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.

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

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

*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2021*

---

---

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. Net pension/OPEB liability should be recognized in the governmental funds to the extent that benefit payments are due and payable and the pension/OPEB plan’s fiduciary net position is not sufficient for payment of those benefits.

***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.

***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.



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

*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2021*

---

---

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.

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

For purposes of measuring the net pension/OPEB liability (asset), deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions, and pension expense, information about the fiduciary net position of the pension/OPEB plans and additions to/deductions from their fiduciary net position have been determined on the same basis as they are reported by the pension/OPEB 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/OPEB 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 Principles & Restatement of Prior Year Fund Balance/Net Position**

For fiscal year 2021, the School District has implemented Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 83, “Certain Asset Retirement Obligations”, Statement No. 84, “Fiduciary Activities” and related guidance from (GASB) Implementation Guide No. 2019-2, Fiduciary Activities, and Statement No. 88, “Certain Disclosures Related to Debt, including Direct Borrowings and Direct Placements”.

GASB Statement No. 83, Certain Asset Retirement Obligations, addresses accounting and financial reporting for certain asset retirement obligations (AROs). An ARO is a legally enforceable liability associated with the retirement of a tangible capital asset. A government that has legal obligations to perform future asset retirement activities related to its tangible capital assets should recognize a liability based on the guidance in this Statement. The implementation of this Statement had no effect on the beginning fund balance/net position of the School District.

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

*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2021*

GASB Statement No. 84 established specific criteria for identifying activities that should be reported as fiduciary activities and clarifies whether and how business type activities should report their fiduciary activities. Due to the implementation of GASB Statement No. 84, the School District will no longer be reporting agency funds. The School District reviewed its private purpose trust fund and its agency funds and none of them will be reported in the new fiduciary fund classification of custodial funds and have been reclassified as governmental funds. GASB Statement 84 was incorporated into the School District's fiscal year 2021 financial statements and had the following effect on the beginning fund balance/net position as presented below.

GASB Statement No. 88, Certain Disclosures Related to Debt, including Direct Borrowings and Direct Placements, aims to improve the information that is disclosed in notes to financial statements related to debt, including direct borrowings and direct placements. It also clarifies which liabilities governments should include when disclosing information related to debt. This Statement also requires that additional essential information related to debt be disclosed in notes to financial statements, including unused lines of credit; assets pledged as collateral for the debt; and terms specified in debt agreements related to significant events of default with finance-related consequences, significant termination events with finance-related consequences, and significant subjective acceleration clauses. The implementation of this Statement had no effect on the note disclosure of the School District.

***Restatement of Fund Balances and Net Position***

The implementation of GASB Statement No. 84 had the following effect on fund balances as of June 30, 2020:

	General	Nonmajor Governmental	Total
Fund Balances at June 30, 2020	\$13,721,246	\$1,124,793	\$14,846,039
Adjustment due to GASB 84	0	153,226	153,226
<i>Restated Fund Balances</i>			
<i>at June 30, 2020</i>	\$13,721,246	\$1,278,019	\$14,999,265

The implementation of GASB Statement No. 84 had the following effect on governmental and fiduciary net position as of June 30, 2020:

	Governmental Activities	Private Purpose	Agency
Net Position at June 30, 2020	(\$2,631,365)	\$109,972	\$0
Adjustments:			
GASB Statement 84	153,226	(109,972)	0
Assets	0	0	(43,254)
Liabilities	0	0	43,254
<i>Restated Net Position</i>			
<i>at June 30, 2020</i>	(\$2,478,139)	\$0	\$0

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

*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2021*

---

---

**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).
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. Budgetary revenues and expenditures of the uniform school supplies fund and public school support fund are reclassified to the general fund for GAAP reporting.

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

Net Change in Fund Balance	
GAAP Basis	\$907,821
Net Adjustment for Revenue Accruals	273,852
Advances Out	(133,042)
Net Adjustment for Expenditure Accruals	245,769
Net Adjustment for Funds Budgeted as Special Revenue	5,817
Adjustment for Encumbrances	<u>(143,823)</u>
Budget Basis	<u><u>\$1,156,394</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.

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

*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2021*

---

---

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:

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

Investments in stripped principal or interest obligations reverse repurchase agreements and derivatives are prohibited. The issuance of taxable notes for the purpose of arbitrage, the use of leverage and short selling are also prohibited. An investment must mature within five years from the date of purchase, unless matched to a specific obligation or debt of the School District and must be purchased with the expectation that it will be held to maturity.

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

*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2021*

---

---

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

**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 30th, the carrying amount of all School District deposits was \$2,762,864, while \$2,336,510 of the School District's bank balance of \$2,470,247 was insured and collateralized. The School District's financial institution participates in the Ohio Pooled Collateral System (OPCS) and was approved for a reduced collateral floor of 50 percent resulting in the uninsured and uncollateralized balance.

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

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

Participation in the Ohio Pooled Collateral System (OPCS), a collateral pool of eligible securities deposited with a qualified trustee and pledged to the Treasurer of State to secure the repayment of all public monies deposited in the financial institution. OPCS requires the total market value of the securities pledged to be 102 percent of the deposits being secured or a rate set by the Treasurer of State.

**Investments**

As of June 30, 2021, the School District had STAR Ohio as the only investment with an amount of \$15,170,566 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.

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

*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2021*

---

*Concentration of Credit Risk* The School District places no limit on the account it may invest in any one issuer. At June 30, 2021, 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, 2021:

<u>Cash and Cash Equivalents per Note Disclosure:</u>		<u>Cash and Cash Equivalents per Statement of Net Position:</u>	
Carrying amount of deposits	\$2,762,864	Governmental Activities	\$17,933,430
Investments	15,170,566	Private-purpose trust funds	0
		Custodial funds	0
Total	<u>\$17,933,430</u>	Total	<u>\$17,933,430</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 2021 represent collections of calendar year 2020 taxes. Real property taxes received in calendar year 2021 were levied after April 1, 2020, on the assessed value listed as of January 1, 2020, 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.

Public utility property tax revenue received in calendar year 2021 represents collections of calendar year 2020 taxes. Public utility real and tangible personal property taxes received in calendar year 2020 became a lien December 31, 2019, were levied after April 1, 2020 and are collected in 2021 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, 2021, are available to finance fiscal year 2021 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, 2021 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, 2021 was \$821,705 in the general fund and \$59,362 in the permanent improvement capital projects fund. The amount available as an advance at June 30, 2020, was \$1,143,588 in the general fund and \$81,227 in the permanent improvement capital projects fund.

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

*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2021*

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 2021 taxes were collected are:

	2020 Second Half Collections		2021 First Half Collections	
	Amount	Percent	Amount	Percent
Real Estate	\$217,901,300	87.1%	\$229,903,830	86.3%
Public Utility Personal	32,397,130	12.9%	36,444,010	13.7%
	\$250,298,430	100.0%	\$266,347,840	100.0%
Tax Rate per \$1,000 of assessed valuation		\$ 45.31		\$ 45.31

**Note 7 – Receivables**

Receivables at June 30, 2021 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.

A summary of intergovernmental receivables follows:

ESSER Grant	\$39,038
Title I Supplemental Grant	9,075
Title I Grant	33,282
Class Sized Reduction Grant	27,645
Miscellaneous Federal Grant	1,733
Total Intergovernmental Receivable	\$110,773

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

*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2021*

**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 Governmental	Total
<b><i>Nonspendable</i></b>			
Inventory	\$69,693	\$768	\$70,461
<b><i>Restricted for</i></b>			
Food Service Operations	0	323,572	323,572
College Scholarships	0	128,388	128,388
Student Activities	0	39,665	39,665
Extracurricular Activities	0	33,900	33,900
Student Wellness	0	689,235	689,235
Capital Improvements	0	613,547	613,547
Other Purposes	0	63,959	63,959
<i>Total Restricted</i>	<u>0</u>	<u>1,892,266</u>	<u>1,892,266</u>
<b><i>Committed to</i></b>			
Capital Improvements	0	26,547	26,547
Tax Escrow Refunds	462,377	0	462,377
<i>Total Committed</i>	<u>462,377</u>	<u>26,547</u>	<u>488,924</u>
<b><i>Assigned to</i></b>			
Other Purposes	41,299	0	41,299
Encumbrances	83,803	0	83,803
<i>Total Assigned</i>	<u>125,102</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>125,102</u>
<b><i>Unassigned (Deficit)</i></b>	<u>13,971,895</u>	<u>(98,205)</u>	<u>13,873,690</u>
<b><i>Total Fund Balances</i></b>	<u><u>\$14,629,067</u></u>	<u><u>\$1,821,376</u></u>	<u><u>\$16,450,443</u></u>



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

*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2021*

**Note 9 – Capital Assets**

Capital asset activity for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2021, was as follows:

	Balance 6/30/2020	Additions	Deletions	Balance 6/30/2021
<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	1,492,354	0	0	1,492,354
Buildings and Improvements	6,456,512	0	0	6,456,512
Furniture, Equipment and Fixtures	5,304,337	78,792	0	5,383,129
Vehicles	1,994,400	118,251	0	2,112,651
Textbooks	986,389	0	0	986,389
<b>Total Capital Assets, being depreciated</b>	<b>16,233,992</b>	<b>197,043</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>16,431,035</b>
Less Accumulated Depreciation:				
Land Improvements	(1,198,116)	(21,228)	0	(1,219,344)
Building and Improvements	(6,221,489)	(24,656)	0	(6,246,145)
Furniture, Equipment and Fixtures	(4,518,358)	(212,013)	0	(4,730,371)
Vehicles	(1,623,125)	(90,369)	0	(1,713,494)
Textbooks	(825,235)	(76,736)	0	(901,971)
<b>Total Accumulated Depreciation</b>	<b>(14,386,323)</b>	<b>(425,002)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(14,811,325)</b>
<b>Total Capital Assets being depreciated, net</b>	<b>1,847,669</b>	<b>(227,959)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1,619,710</b>
<b>Governmental Activities Capital Assets, Net</b>	<b>\$2,249,974</b>	<b>(\$227,959)</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$2,022,015</b>

Depreciation expense was charged to governmental functions as follows:

Instruction:	
Regular	\$230,940
Vocational	3,708
Support Services:	
Instructional Staff	3,044
Administration	4,182
Operation and Maintenance of Plant	17,556
Pupil Transportation	87,575
Operation of Non-Instructional Services	6,108
Extracurricular Activities	71,889
<b>Total Depreciation Expense</b>	<b>\$425,002</b>

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

*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2021*

**Note 10 – Interfund Receivable/Payable**

The interfund receivable/payable consisted of the following at June 30, 2021, as reported on the fund financial statements:

	Interfund Receivable	Interfund Payable
Major Governmental Fund:		
General	\$133,042	\$0
Non-major Governmental Funds:		
ESSER	0	82,996
Title I Supplemental	0	9,075
Title I	0	13,326
Improving Teacher Quality	0	27,645
Total	\$133,042	\$133,042

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.

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

*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2021*

---

**Note 12 – Defined Benefit Pension Plans**

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

***A. Net Pension Liability/Net OPEB Liability***

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

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

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

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

The proportionate share of each plan’s unfunded benefits is presented as a *net OPEB asset* or long-term *net pension/OPEB liability* on the accrual basis of accounting. Any liability for the contractually-required pension/OPEB contribution outstanding at the end of the year is included in *intergovernmental payable* on both the accrual and modified accrual bases of accounting. The remainder of this note includes the required pension disclosures. See Note 13 for the required OPEB disclosures.

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

Plan Description - District non-teaching employees participate in SERS, a cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan administered by SERS. Established in 1937, SERS provides retirement, disability, and survivor benefits to non-teaching employees of Ohio’s public K-12 school districts. Authority to establish and amend benefits is provided by Ohio Revised Code Chapter 3309. SERS issues

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

*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements  
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2021*

a publicly available, stand-alone financial report that includes financial statements, required supplementary information and detailed information about SERS' fiduciary net position. That report can be obtained by visiting the SERS website at [www.ohsers.org](http://www.ohsers.org) under Employers/Audit Resources.

Age and service requirements for retirement are as follows:

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

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

Annual retirement benefits are calculated based on final average salary multiplied by a percentage that varies based on years 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.

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

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 the fiscal year ended June 30, 2021, the allocation to pension, death benefits, and Medicare B was 14.0 percent. For fiscal year 2021, the Retirement Board did not allocate any employer contribution to the Health Care Fund.

The District's contractually required contribution to SERS was \$319,925 for fiscal year 2021. Of this amount \$165,204 is reported as an intergovernmental payable.

**C. State Teachers Retirement System**

Plan Description - District licensed teachers and other faculty members participate in STRS Ohio, a cost-sharing multiple employer public employee 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).

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

*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2021*

---

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

The DB plan offers an annual retirement allowance based on final average salary multiplied by a percentage that varies based on years of service. Effective August 1, 2015, the calculation is 2.2 percent of final average salary for the five highest years of earnings multiplied by all years of service. Eligibility changes will be phased in until August 1, 2026, when retirement eligibility for unreduced benefits will be five years of service credit and age 65, or 35 years of service credit and at least age 60.

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

The DC Plan allows members to place all their member contributions and 9.53 percent of the 14 percent employer contributions into an investment account. The member determines how to allocate the member and employer money among various investment choices offered by STRS. The remaining 4.47 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 CO Plan offers features of both the DB Plan and the DC Plan. In the CO Plan, 12 percent of the 14 percent member rate is deposited into the member's DC account and the remaining 2 percent is applied to the DB Plan. Member contributions to the DC Plan are allocated among investment choices by the member, and contributions to the DB Plan from the employer and the member are used to fund the defined benefit payment at a reduced level from the regular DB Plan. The defined benefit portion of the CO Plan payment is payable to a member on or after age 60 with five years of service. The defined contribution portion of the account may be taken as a lump sum payment or converted to a lifetime monthly annuity at age fifty and after termination of employment.

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

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

Funding Policy – Employer and member contribution rates are established by the State Teachers Retirement Board and limited by Chapter 3307 of the Ohio Revised Code. The fiscal year 2021 employer and employee contribution rate of 14 percent was equal to the statutory maximum rates. For fiscal year 2021, the full employer contribution was allocated to pension.

The District's contractually required contribution to STRS was \$1,102,265 for fiscal year 2021. Of this amount \$199,548 is reported as an intergovernmental payable.

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

*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2021*

***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, 2020, 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 and pension expense:

	SERS	STRS	Total
Proportion of the Net Pension Liability Prior Measurement Date	0.06661270%	0.06621707%	
Proportion of the Net Pension Liability Current Measurement Date	<u>0.06461570%</u>	<u>0.06486126%</u>	
Change in Proportionate Share	<u>-0.00199700%</u>	<u>-0.00135581%</u>	
Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability	\$4,273,819	\$15,694,117	\$19,967,936
Pension Expense	\$386,644	\$1,599,138	\$1,985,782

At June 30, 2021, 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 actual experience	\$8,301	\$35,214	\$43,515
Net difference between projected and actual earnings on pension plan investments	271,302	763,209	1,034,511
Change of Assumptions	0	842,471	842,471
District contributions subsequent to the measurement date	<u>319,925</u>	<u>1,102,265</u>	<u>1,422,190</u>
Total Deferred Outflows of Resources	<u>\$599,528</u>	<u>\$2,743,159</u>	<u>\$3,342,687</u>
<b>Deferred Inflows of Resources</b>			
Differences between expected and actual experience	\$0	\$100,355	\$100,355
Change in Proportionate Share	<u>73,403</u>	<u>454,214</u>	<u>527,617</u>
Total Deferred Inflows of Resources	<u>\$73,403</u>	<u>\$554,569</u>	<u>\$627,972</u>

\$1,422,190 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, 2021. Other amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pension will be recognized in pension expense as follows:

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

*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2021*

	SERS	STRS	Total
<b>Fiscal Year Ending June 30:</b>			
2022	(\$46,814)	\$276,099	\$229,285
2023	54,990	156,095	211,085
2024	113,083	363,167	476,250
2025	84,941	290,964	375,905
Total	\$206,200	\$1,086,325	\$1,292,525

**Actuarial Assumptions - SERS**

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

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

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

Key methods and assumptions used in calculating the total pension liability in the latest actuarial valuation, prepared as of June 30, 2020, are presented below:

Actuarial Cost Method	Entry Age Normal (Level Percent of Payroll)
Investment Rate of Return	7.50 Percent Net of Investment Expense, Including Inflation
COLA or Ad hoc COLA	2.50 Percent
Future Salary Increases, Including Inflation	3.50 Percent to 18.20 Percent
Wage Inflation	3.00 Percent

Mortality rates were based on the RP-2014 Blue Collar Mortality Table with fully generational projection and a five-year age set-back for both males and females. Mortality among service retired members, and beneficiaries were based upon the RP-2014 Blue Collar Mortality Table with fully generational projection with Scale BB, 120 percent of male rates, and 110 percent of female rates. Mortality among disabled members were based upon the 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.

The most recent experience study was completed for the five-year period ended June 30, 2015.

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

*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2021*

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

<u>Asset Class</u>	<u>Target Allocation</u>	<u>Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return</u>
Cash	2.00 %	1.85 %
U.S. Stocks	22.50	5.75
Non-U.S. Stocks	22.50	6.50
Fixed Income	19.00	2.85
Private Equity	12.00	7.60
Real Assets	17.00	6.60
Multi-Asset Strategies	5.00	6.65
Total	100.00 %	

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

**Sensitivity of the 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 (6.50%)	Current Discount Rate (7.50%)	1% Increase (8.50%)
District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability	\$5,854,610	\$4,273,819	\$2,947,505

**Actuarial Assumptions - STRS**

The total pension liability in the June 30, 2020, actuarial valuation was determined using the following actuarial assumptions, applied to all periods included in the measurement:



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

*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2021*

Inflation	2.50 Percent
Projected Salary Increases	12.50 Percent at Age 20 to 2.50 Percent at Age 65
Investment Rate of Return	7.45 Percent, Net of Investment Expenses, Including Inflation
Discount Rate of Return	7.45 Percent
Payroll Increases	3.00 Percent
Cost of Living Adjustments (COLA)	0 Percent

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

Actuarial assumptions used in the June 30, 2020 valuation are based on the results of the latest available actuarial experience study which is for the period July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2016.

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

Asset Class	Target Allocation	Long-Term Expected Rate of Return*
Domestic Equity	28.00 %	7.35 %
International Equity	23.00	7.55
Fixed Income	21.00	3.00
Alternatives	17.00	7.09
Real Estate	10.00	6.00
Liquidity Reserves	1.00	2.25
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.00 %</b>	<b>7.45 %</b>

\*10-Year annualized geometric nominal returns, which include the real rate of return and inflation of 2.25 percent and does not include investment expenses. Over a 30-year period, STRS Ohio's investment consultant indicates that the above target allocations should generate a return above the actuarial rate of return, without net value added by management.

**Discount Rate** The discount rate used to measure the total pension liability was 7.45 percent as of June 30, 2020. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumes that member and employer contributions will be made at the statutory contribution rates in accordance with 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. Based on those assumptions, STRS' fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments to current plan members as of June 30, 2020. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments of 7.45 percent was applied to all periods of projected benefit payment to determine the total pension liability as of June 30, 2020.

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

*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2021*

**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 7.45 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 (6.45 percent) or one-percentage-point higher (8.45 percent) than the current rate:

	1% Decrease (6.45%)	Current Discount Rate (7.45%)	1% Increase (8.45%)
District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability	\$22,345,690	\$15,694,117	\$10,057,463

**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 of Ohio have an option to choose Social Security or the School Employees Retirement System/State Teachers Retirement System of Ohio. As of June 30, 2021, certain members of the Board of Education have elected Social Security. The District's liability is 6.2 percent of wages paid.

**Note 13 – Defined Benefit Other Postemployment Benefit (OPEB) Plans**

See note 12 for a description of the net OPEB liability (asset).

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

Health Care Plan Description - The District contributes to the SERS Health Care Fund, administered by SERS for non-certificated retirees and their beneficiaries. For GASB 75 purposes, this plan is considered a cost-sharing other postemployment benefit (OPEB) plan. SERS' Health Care Plan provides healthcare benefits to eligible individuals receiving retirement, disability, and survivor benefits, and to their eligible dependents. Members who retire after June 1, 1986, need 10 years of service credit, exclusive of most types of purchased credit, to qualify to participate in SERS' health care coverage. In addition to age and service retirees, disability benefit recipients and beneficiaries who are receiving monthly benefits due to the death of a member or retiree, are eligible for SERS' health care coverage. Most retirees and dependents choosing SERS' health care coverage are over the age of 65 and therefore enrolled in a fully insured Medicare Advantage plan; however, SERS maintains a traditional, self-insured preferred provider organization for its non-Medicare retiree population. For both groups, SERS offers a self-insured prescription drug program. Health care is a benefit that is permitted, not mandated, by statute. The financial report of the Plan is included in the SERS Comprehensive Annual Financial Report which can be obtained on SERS' website at [www.ohsers.org](http://www.ohsers.org) under Employers/Audit Resources.

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

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

*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2021*

---

Funding Policy - State statute permits SERS to fund the health care benefits through employer contributions. Each year, after the allocation for statutorily required pensions and benefits, the Retirement Board may allocate the remainder of the employer contribution of 14 percent of covered payroll to the Health Care Fund in accordance with the funding policy. For fiscal year 2021, no allocation was made to health care. An additional health care surcharge on employers is collected for employees earning less than an actuarially determined minimum compensation amount, pro-rated if less than a full year of service credit was earned. For fiscal year 2021, this amount was \$19,600. Statutes provide that 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 2021, the District's surcharge obligation was \$44,720.

The surcharge added to the allocated portion of the 14 percent employer contribution rate is the total amount assigned to the Health Care Fund. The District's contractually required contribution to SERS was \$44,720 for fiscal year 2021, all of which was reported as an intergovernmental payable.

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

Plan Description – The State Teachers Retirement System of Ohio (STRS) administers a cost-sharing Health Plan administered for eligible retirees who participated in the defined benefit or combined pension plans offered by STRS. Ohio law authorizes STRS to offer this plan. Benefits include hospitalization, physicians' fees, prescription drugs and partial reimbursement of monthly Medicare Part B premiums. Medicare Part B premium reimbursements will be discontinued effective January 1, 2021. The Plan is included in the report of STRS which can be obtained by visiting [www.strsoh.org](http://www.strsoh.org) or by calling (888) 227-7877.

Funding Policy – Ohio Revised Code Chapter 3307 authorizes STRS to offer the Plan and gives the Retirement Board discretionary authority over how much, if any, of the health care costs will be absorbed by STRS. Active employee members do not contribute to the Health Care Plan. Nearly all health care plan enrollees, for the most recent year, pay a portion of the health care costs in the form of a monthly premium. Under Ohio law, funding for post-employment health care may be deducted from employer contributions, currently 14 percent of covered payroll. For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2021, STRS did not allocate any employer contributions to post-employment health care.

***OPEB Liabilities/(Asset), OPEB Expense, and Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to OPEB***

The net OPEB liability/(asset) was measured as of June 30, 2020, and the total OPEB liability/(asset) used to calculate the net OPEB liability/(asset) was determined by an actuarial valuation as of that date. The District's proportion of the net OPEB liability/(asset) was based on the District's share of contributions to the respective retirement systems relative to the contributions of all participating entities. Following is information related to the proportionate share and OPEB expense:

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

*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2021*

	SERS	STRS	Total
Proportion of the Net OPEB Liability (Asset)			
Prior Measurement Date	0.06833070%	0.06621707%	
Proportion of the Net OPEB Liability (Asset)			
Current Measurement Date	0.06715240%	0.06486126%	
Change in Proportionate Share	<u>-0.00117830%</u>	<u>-0.00135581%</u>	
Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability (Asset)	\$1,459,441	(\$1,139,935)	\$319,506
OPEB Expense	(\$29,968)	(\$71,863)	(\$101,831)

At June 30, 2021, the District reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB from the following sources:

	SERS	STRS	Total
<b>Deferred Outflows of Resources</b>			
Differences between expected and actual experience	\$19,169	\$73,044	\$92,213
Net difference between projected and actual earnings on OPEB plan investments	16,444	39,949	56,393
Change of Assumptions	248,784	18,818	267,602
District contributions subsequent to the measurement date	44,720	0	44,720
Total Deferred Outflows of Resources	<u>\$329,117</u>	<u>\$131,811</u>	<u>\$460,928</u>
<b>Deferred Inflows of Resources</b>			
Differences between expected and actual experience	\$742,228	\$227,059	\$969,287
Change of Assumptions	36,760	1,082,749	1,119,509
Change in Proportionate Share	28,803	17,892	46,695
Total Deferred Inflows of Resources	<u>\$807,791</u>	<u>\$1,327,700</u>	<u>\$2,135,491</u>

\$44,720 reported as deferred outflows of resources related to OPEB resulting from District contributions subsequent to the measurement date will be recognized as a reduction of the net OPEB liability in the year ending June 30, 2021. Other amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB will be recognized in OPEB expense as follows:

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

*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2021*

	SERS	STRS	Total
<b>Fiscal Year Ending June 30:</b>			
2022	(\$105,706)	(\$298,457)	(\$404,163)
2023	(96,635)	(271,414)	(368,049)
2024	(121,401)	(262,573)	(383,974)
2025	(98,600)	(256,367)	(354,967)
2026	(74,595)	(51,993)	(126,588)
Thereafter	(26,457)	(55,085)	(81,542)
Total	(\$523,394)	(\$1,195,889)	(\$1,719,283)

**Actuarial Assumptions - SERS**

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

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

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

Key methods and assumptions used in calculating the total OPEB liability in the latest actuarial valuation date of June 30, 2020, are presented below:

Wage Inflation	3.00 percent
Future Salary Increases, including inflation	3.50 percent to 18.20 percent
Investment Rate of Return	7.50 percent net of investment expense, including inflation
Municipal Bond Index Rate:	
Measurement Date	2.45 percent
Prior Measurement Date	3.13 percent
Single Equivalent Interest Rate, net of plan investment expense, including price inflation	
Measurement Date	2.63 percent
Prior Measurement Date	3.22 percent
Medical Trend Assumption	
Medicare	5.25 to 4.75 percent
Pre-Medicare	7.00 to 4.75 percent

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

*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2021*

---

---

Mortality rates were based on the RP-2014 Blue Collar Mortality Table with fully generational projection and Scale BB, 120 percent of male rates and 110 percent of female rates. RP-2000 Disabled Mortality Table with 90 percent for male rates and 100 percent for female rates set back five years.

The most recent experience study was completed for the five year period ended June 30, 2015.

The long-term expected rate of return on plan assets is reviewed as part of the actuarial five-year experience study. The most recent study covers fiscal years 2010 through 2015 and was adopted by the Board on April 21, 2016. Several factors are considered in evaluating the long-term rate of return assumption including long-term historical data, estimates inherent in current market data, and a log-normal distribution analysis in which best-estimate ranges of expected future real rates of return were developed by the investment consultant for each major asset class. These ranges were combined to produce the long-term expected rate of return, 7.50 percent, by weighting the expected future real rates of return by the target asset allocation percentage and then adding expected inflation. The capital market assumptions developed by the investment consultant are intended for use over a 10-year horizon and may not be useful in setting the long-term rate of return for funding pension plans which covers a longer timeframe. The assumption is intended to be a long-term assumption and is not expected to change absent a significant change in the asset allocation, a change in the inflation assumption, or a fundamental change in the market that alters expected returns in future years.

The SERS health care plan follows the same asset allocation and long-term expected real rate of return for each major asset class as the pension plan, see Note 12 for details.

**Discount Rate** The discount rate used to measure the total OPEB liability at June 30, 2020 was 2.63 percent. The discount rate used to measure total OPEB liability prior to June 30, 2019 was 3.22 percent. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed that contributions will be made from members and the System at the state statute contribution rate of 2.00 percent of projected covered employee payroll each year, which includes a 1.50 percent payroll surcharge and 0.50 percent of contributions from the basic pension benefits plan. Based on these assumptions, the OPEB plan's fiduciary net position was projected to become insufficient to make future benefit payments during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on OPEB plan assets was used to present value the projected benefit payments through the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024 and the Fidelity General Obligation 20-year Municipal Bond Index rate of 2.45 percent, as of June 30, 2020 (i.e., municipal bond rate), was used to present value the projected benefit payments for the remaining years in the projection. The total present value of projected benefit payments from all years was then used as the discount rate. The projection of future benefit payments for all current plan members was until the benefit payments ran out.

**Sensitivity of the District's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate and Changes in the Health Care Cost Trend Rates** The net OPEB liability is sensitive to changes in the discount rate and the health care cost trend rate. The following table presents the net OPEB liability of SERS, what SERS' net OPEB liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1 percentage point lower (1.63%) and higher (3.63%) than the current discount rate (2.63%). Also shown is what SERS' net OPEB liability would be based on health care cost trend rates that are 1 percentage point lower (6.0% decreasing to 3.75%) and higher (8.0% decreasing to 5.75%) than the current rate.

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

*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements  
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2021*

	1% Decrease (1.63%)	Current Discount Rate (2.63%)	1% Increase (3.63%)
District's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability (asset)	\$1,786,320	\$1,459,441	\$1,199,573
	1% Decrease (6.0 % decreasing to 3.75 %)	Current Trend Rate (7.0% decreasing to 4.75 %)	1% Increase (8.0 % decreasing to 5.75 %)
District's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability (asset)	\$1,149,199	\$1,459,441	\$1,874,315

**Actuarial Assumptions - STRS**

Key methods and assumptions used in the latest actuarial valuation, reflecting experience study results used in the June 30, 2020, actuarial valuation are presented below:

Projected salary increases	12.50 percent at age 20 to 2.50 percent at age 65
Investment Rate of Return	7.45 percent, net of investment expenses, including inflation
Payroll Increases	3 percent
Discount Rate of Return - Current Year	7.45 percent
Health Care Cost Trends:	
<i>Medical</i>	
Pre-Medicare	5.00 percent initial, 4 percent ultimate
Medicare	(6.69) percent initial, 4 percent ultimate
<i>Prescription Drug</i>	
Pre-Medicare	6.50 percent initial, 4 percent ultimate
Medicare	11.87 percent initial, 4 percent ultimate

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

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

Actuarial assumptions used in the June 30, 2020, valuation are based on the results of an actuarial experience study for the period July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2016.

Since the prior measurement date, there was no change to the claims costs process. Claim curves were trended to the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020 to reflect the current price renewals. The non-Medicare subsidy percentage was increased effective January 1, 2020 from 1.944 percent to 1.984 percent per year of service. The non-Medicare frozen subsidy base premium was increased effective January 1, 2020. The

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

*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2021*

Medicare subsidy percentages were adjusted effective January 1, 2021 to 2.1 percent for the Medicare plan. The Medicare Part B monthly reimbursement elimination date was postponed to January 1, 2021.

The STRS health care plan follows the same asset allocation and long-term expected real rate of return for each major asset class as the pension plan, see Note 12.

**Discount Rate** The discount rate used to measure the total OPEB liability was 7.45 percent as of June 30, 2020. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumes STRS continues to allocate no employer contributions to the health care fund. Based on these assumptions, the OPEB plan's fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments to current plan members as of June 30, 2020. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on health care plan investments of 7.45 percent was applied to all periods of projected health care costs to determine the total OPEB liability as of June 30, 2020.

**Sensitivity of the School District's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Asset to Changes in the Discount and Health Care Cost Trend Rate** The following table represents the net OPEB asset as of June 30, 2020, calculated using the current period discount rate assumption of 7.45 percent, as well as what the net OPEB asset would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is one percentage point lower (6.45 percent) or one percentage point higher (8.45 percent) than the current assumption. Also shown is the net OPEB asset as if it were calculated using health care cost trend rates that are one percentage point lower or one percentage point higher than the current health care cost trend rates.

	1% Decrease (6.45%)	Current Discount Rate (7.45%)	1% Increase (8.45%)
District's proportionate share of the net OPEB asset	(\$991,818)	(\$1,139,935)	(\$1,265,608)
	1% Decrease	Current Trend Rate	1% Increase
District's proportionate share of the net OPEB asset	(\$1,257,807)	(\$1,139,935)	(\$996,351)

**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.



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

*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2021*

---

The School District maintains fleet insurance in the amount of \$1,000,000 for bodily injury and/or property damage liability for any one accident or loss with no aggregate limit plus an additional \$10,000,000 excess liability per occurrence and aggregate limit. In addition, the fleet policy includes \$1,000,000 in uninsured and underinsured motorists' coverage per occurrence. The School District maintains replacement cost insurance on buildings and contents in the amount of \$61,896,686.

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.

***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.

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

*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2021*

**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.

**Note 16 – Long-Term Obligations**

A summary of changes in long-term obligations for the year ended June 30, 2021, are as follows:

	Outstanding 6/30/2020	Additions	Reductions	Outstanding 6/30/2021	Amounts Due in One Year
<b>Governmental Activities</b>					
Capital Lease	\$104,918	\$0	(\$12,861)	\$92,057	\$13,512
Compensated Absences	1,201,548	114,482	(101,024)	1,215,006	63,006
<i>Total Before Net Pension &amp; OPEB Liability</i>	<u>1,306,466</u>	<u>114,482</u>	<u>(113,885)</u>	<u>1,307,063</u>	<u>76,518</u>
Net Pension Liability:					
STRS	14,643,507	1,050,610	0	15,694,117	0
SERS	3,985,555	288,264	0	4,273,819	0
<i>Total Net Pension Liability</i>	<u>18,629,062</u>	<u>1,338,874</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>19,967,936</u>	<u>0</u>
Net OPEB Liability:					
SERS	1,718,373	0	(258,932)	1,459,441	0
<b>Total Long-Term Liabilities</b>	<u><u>\$21,653,901</u></u>	<u><u>\$1,453,356</u></u>	<u><u>(\$372,817)</u></u>	<u><u>\$22,734,440</u></u>	<u><u>\$76,518</u></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.

There is no repayment schedule for the net pension liability or the net OPEB liability; however, employer pension and OPEB contributions are made from the General Fund. For additional information related to the net pension liability and net OPEB liability see Note 12 and 13.

The School District's overall legal debt margin was \$23,971,306 with an unvoted debt margin of \$266,348 at June 30, 2021.

**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.

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

*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2021*

---

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 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 2021. Financial information can be obtained from Lindsey Elly, Treasurer at Ashtabula County Technical & Career Center, 1565 State Route 167, Jefferson, Ohio 44047.

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

*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2021*

---

---

**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, 2021.

***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 2021 are not finalized. As a result, the impact of future FTE adjustments on the fiscal year 2021 financial statements is not determinable, at this time. Management believes this may result in either an additional receivable to, or a liability of, the School District.

**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 Improvements
Set-Aside Restricted Balance as of June 30, 2020	\$0
Current Year Set-Aside Requirement	325,412
Qualifying Disbursements	0
Current Year Offsets	(463,212)
Total	<u>(\$137,800)</u>
Set-Aside Balance Carried Forward to Future Fiscal Years	<u>\$0</u>
Cash balance as of June 30, 2021	<u>\$0</u>

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

*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2021*

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 prior fiscal years, the School District entered into lease agreements for the purchase of school busses and 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 \$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 Activities</u>
Vehicles	\$284,372
Building Improvements	139,900
Historical Cost	424,272
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	(367,049)
Total Book Value as of June 30, 2021	<u><u>\$57,223</u></u>

The following is a schedule of the future minimum lease payments required under the capital lease obligations and the present value of the future minimum lease payments as of June 30, 2021:

Fiscal Year Ending June 30,	
2022	\$18,174
2023	18,174
2024	18,174
2025	18,174
2026	18,174
2027 - 2028	18,174
Total Minimum Lease Payments	109,044
Less: Amount Representing Interest	(16,987)
Present Value of Minimum Lease	<u><u>\$92,057</u></u>

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

*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2021*

---

---

**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, 2021 included the following individual fund deficits:

<u>Nonmajor Governmental Funds:</u>	<u>Deficit</u>
ESSER Fund	\$94,871
Title I Fund	1,134
Improving Teacher Quality	2,200

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, 2021, 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 investments. 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

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

*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2021*

---

---

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 and was not material for fiscal year 2021.

**Note 24 – COVID-19**

The United States and the State of Ohio declared a state of emergency in March of 2020 due to the COVID- 19 pandemic. The financial impact of COVID-19 and the continuing emergency measures will impact subsequent periods of the District. The District's investment portfolio and the investments of the pension and other employee benefit plans in which the District participates fluctuate with market conditions, and due to market volatility, the amount of gains or losses that will be recognized in subsequent periods, if any, cannot be determined. In addition, the impact on the District's future operating costs, revenues, and additional recovery from emergency funding, either Federal or State, cannot be estimated.

**Note 25 – Subsequent Event**

For fiscal year 2022, School District foundation funding received from the state of Ohio will be funded using a direct funding model. Under this new model, community school, STEM school, scholarship, and open enrollment funding will be directly funded by the State of Ohio to the respective educating schools. For fiscal year 2021 and prior, the amounts related to students who were residents of the School District were funded to the School District who, in turn, made the payment to the educating school. For fiscal year 2021, the School District reported revenue and expenditures related to these programs. This new funding system calculates a unique base cost and a unique "per-pupil local capacity amount" for each School District. The School District's state core foundation funding is then calculated. Any change in funding will be subject to a phase in percentage of 16.67 percent for fiscal year 2022 and 33.33 percent for fiscal year 2023.

**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 Eight Fiscal Years (1)*

	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014
School District's Proportion of the Net Pension Liability	0.06461870%	0.06661270%	0.06664880%	0.06702170%	0.07083730%	0.07074520%	0.07395900%	0.07395900%
School District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability	\$4,273,819	\$3,985,555	\$3,817,101	\$4,004,399	\$5,184,637	\$4,036,790	\$3,743,022	\$4,398,104
School District's Employee Payroll	\$2,265,286	\$2,263,207	\$2,067,714	\$2,044,172	\$1,977,000	\$3,254,484	\$2,161,299	\$2,035,686
School District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability as a Percentage of its Employee Payroll	188.67%	176.10%	184.60%	195.89%	262.25%	124.04%	173.18%	216.05%
Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total Pension Liability	68.55%	70.85%	71.36%	69.50%	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.

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the required supplementary information.



**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 Eight Fiscal Years (1)*

	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014
School District's Proportion of the Net Pension Liability	0.06486126%	0.06621707%	0.06655323%	0.06715882%	0.06973746%	0.07169819%	0.07246155%	0.07246155%
School District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability	\$15,694,117	\$14,643,507	\$14,633,561	\$15,953,722	\$23,343,230	\$19,815,283	\$17,625,157	\$20,994,971
School District's Employee Payroll	\$7,827,743	\$7,774,164	\$7,583,479	\$7,460,535	\$7,539,600	\$7,860,079	\$8,408,000	\$7,170,131
School District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability as a Percentage of its Employee Payroll	200.49%	188.36%	192.97%	213.84%	309.61%	252.10%	209.62%	292.81%
Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total Pension Liability	75.48%	77.40%	77.30%	75.30%	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.

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the required supplementary information.

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

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

	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013
Contractually Required Pension Contribution	\$319,925	\$317,140	\$305,533	\$289,480	\$286,184	\$276,780	\$428,941	\$299,556	\$281,739
Pension Contributions in Relation to the Contractually Required Contribution	(\$319,925)	(\$317,140)	(\$305,533)	(\$289,480)	(\$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>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>
School District Employee Payroll	\$2,285,179	\$2,265,286	\$2,263,207	\$2,067,714	\$2,044,172	\$1,977,000	\$3,254,484	\$2,161,299	\$2,035,686
Contributions as a Percentage of Employee Payroll	14.00%	14.00%	13.50%	13.50%	14.00%	14.00%	13.18%	13.86%	13.84%

(1) Information prior to 2013 available upon request.

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the required supplementary information.

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

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

	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013
Contractually Required Pension Contribution	\$1,102,265	\$1,095,884	\$1,088,383	\$1,061,687	\$1,044,475	\$1,055,544	\$1,100,411	\$1,093,040	\$932,117
Pension Contributions in Relation to the Contractually Required Contribution	(\$1,102,265)	(\$1,095,884)	(\$1,088,383)	(\$1,061,687)	(\$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>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>
School District Employee Payroll	\$7,873,321	\$7,827,743	\$7,774,164	\$7,583,479	\$7,460,535	\$7,539,600	\$7,860,079	\$8,408,000	\$7,170,131
Contributions as a Percentage of Employee Payroll	14.00%	14.00%	14.00%	14.00%	14.00%	14.00%	14.00%	13.00%	13.00%

(1) Information prior to 2013 available upon request.

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the required supplementary information.

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

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

	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017
School District's Proportion of the Net OPEB Liability	0.06715240%	0.06833070%	0.06762960%	0.06811540%	0.06811540%
School District's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability	\$1,459,441	\$1,718,373	\$1,876,228	\$1,828,038	\$1,941,541
School District's Employee Payroll	\$2,265,286	\$2,263,207	\$2,067,714	\$2,044,172	\$1,977,000
School District's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability as a Percentage of its Employee Payroll	64.43%	75.93%	90.74%	89.43%	98.21%
Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total OPEB Liability	18.17%	15.57%	13.57%	12.46%	11.49%

(1) Information prior to 2017 is not available.

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

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the required supplementary information.

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

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

	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017
School District's Proportion of the Net OPEB Liability (Asset)	0.06486126%	0.06621707%	0.06655323%	0.06715882%	0.06973746%
School District's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability (Asset)	(\$1,139,935)	(\$1,096,714)	(\$1,069,443)	\$2,620,289	\$3,591,671
School District's Employee Payroll	\$7,827,743	\$7,774,164	\$7,583,479	\$7,460,535	\$7,539,600
School District's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability (Asset) as a Percentage of its Employee Payroll	-14.56%	-14.11%	-14.10%	35.12%	47.64%
Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total OPEB Liability (Asset)	182.13%	174.74%	176.00%	47.10%	37.30%

(1) Information prior to 2017 is not available.

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

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the required supplementary information.

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

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

	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>
Contractually Required Contribution	\$44,720	\$43,617	\$53,131	\$36,600	\$37,605	\$34,779	\$36,399	\$47,951	\$56,983
Contributions in Relation to the Contractually Required Contribution	(\$44,720)	(\$43,617)	(\$53,131)	(\$36,600)	(\$37,605)	(\$34,779)	(\$36,399)	(\$47,951)	(\$56,983)
Contribution Deficiency (Excess)	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>
School District Employee Payroll	\$2,285,179	\$2,265,286	\$2,263,207	\$2,067,714	\$2,044,172	\$1,977,000	\$3,254,484	\$2,161,299	\$2,035,686
Contributions as a Percentage of Employee Payroll	1.96%	1.93%	2.35%	1.77%	1.84%	1.76%	1.12%	2.22%	2.80%

(1) Information prior to 2013 available upon request.

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the required supplementary information.

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

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

	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013
Contractually Required Contribution	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$84,080	\$71,701
Contributions in Relation to the Contractually Required Contribution	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	(\$84,080)	(\$71,701)
Contribution Deficiency (Excess)	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>
School District Covered-Employee Payroll	\$7,873,321	\$7,827,743	\$7,774,164	\$7,583,479	\$7,460,535	\$7,539,600	\$7,860,079	\$8,408,000	\$7,170,131
Contributions as a Percentage of Covered-Employee Payroll	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	1.00%	1.00%

(1) Information prior to 2013 available upon request.

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the required supplementary information.

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

*Notes to the Required Supplementary Information  
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2021*

---

**Net Pension Liability**

**Changes in Assumptions – SERS**

Beginning in fiscal year 2018, an assumption of 2.5 percent was used for COLA or Ad Hoc Cola. Prior to 2018, an assumption of 3 percent was used.

Beginning with fiscal year 2017, amounts reported incorporate changes in assumptions used by SERS in calculating the total pension liability in the latest actuarial valuation. These assumptions compared with those used in fiscal year 2016 and prior are presented below:

	<u>Fiscal Year 2017</u>	<u>Fiscal Year 2016 &amp; Prior</u>
Wage Inflation	3.00 Percent	3.25 Percent
Future Salary Increases, Including Inflation	3.50 Percent to 18.20 Percent	4.00 Percent to 22.00 Percent
Investment Rate of Return	7.50 Percent Net of Investment Expense, Including Inflation	7.75 Percent Net of Investment Expense, Including Inflation

Beginning with fiscal year 2017, mortality assumptions use mortality rates that are based on the RP-2014 Blue Collar Mortality Table with fully generational projection and a five year age set-back for both males and females. Amounts reported for fiscal year 2016 and prior, use mortality assumptions that are based on the 1994 Group Annuity Mortality Table set back one year for both men and women. Special mortality tables were used for the period after disability retirement.

**Changes of Benefit and Funding Terms – SERS**

In fiscal year 2019, post-retirement increases in benefits included the following changes:

\*Members, or their survivors, retiring prior to January 1, 2018, receive a COLA increase of 3 percent of their base benefit on the anniversary of their initial date of retirement.

\*Members, or their survivors, retiring on and after January 1, 2018, receive a COLA increase on each anniversary of their initial date of retirement equal to the annual rate of increase in the CPI-W measured as of the June preceding the beginning of the applicable calendar year. The annual rate of increase shall not be less than 0 percent, nor greater than 2.5 percent. COLAs are suspended for calendar years 2018, 2019, and 2020.

\*Members, or their survivors, retiring on and after April 1, 2018, will have their COLA delayed for three years following their initial date of retirement.



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

*Notes to the Required Supplementary Information*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2021*

---

**Changes in Assumptions - STRS**

Beginning with fiscal year 2018, amounts reported incorporate changes in assumptions and changes in benefit terms used by STRS in calculating the total pension liability in the latest actuarial valuation. These new assumptions compared with those used in fiscal year 2017 and prior are presented below:

	<u>Fiscal Year 2018</u>
Inflation	2.50 Percent
Projected Salary Increases	12.50 Percent at Age 20 to 2.50 Percent at Age 65
Investment Rate of Return	7.45 Percent, Net of Expenses, Including Inflation
Payroll Increases	3.00 Percent
Cost of Living Adjustments (COLA)	0 Percent, Effective July 1, 2017

  

	<u>Fiscal Year 2017 &amp; Prior</u>
Inflation	2.75 Percent
Projected Salary Increases	12.25 Percent at Age 20 to 2.75 Percent at Age 70
Investment Rate of Return	7.75 Percent, Net of Expenses, Including Inflation
Payroll Increases	3.50 Percent
Cost of Living Adjustments (COLA)	2 Percent Simple applied as follows: For Members Retiring Before August 1, 2013 3 percent per year. For Members retiring August 1, 2013 or later, 2 percent COLA commences on 5th anniversary date

Beginning with fiscal year 2018, post-retirement mortality rates for healthy retirees are based on the RP-2014 Annuitant Mortality Table with 50 percent of rates through age 69, 70 percent of rates between ages 70 and 79, 90 percent of rates between ages 80 and 84, and 100 percent of rates thereafter, projected forward generationally using mortality improvement scale MP-2016. Post-retirement disabled mortality rates are based on the RP-2014 Disabled Mortality Table with 90 percent of rates for males and 100 percent of rates for females, projected forward generationally using mortality improvement scale MP-2016. Pre-retirement mortality rates are based on RP-2014 Employee Mortality Table, projected forward generationally using mortality improvement scale MP-2016.

For fiscal year 2017 and prior actuarial valuation, 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 no set back from age 90 and above.

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

*Notes to the Required Supplementary Information*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2021*

---

**Net OPEB Liability**

**Changes in Assumptions – SERS**

Amounts reported incorporate changes in key methods and assumptions used in calculating the total OPEB liability as presented below:

Municipal Bond Index Rate:

Fiscal year 2021	2.45 percent
Fiscal year 2020	3.13 percent
Fiscal year 2019	3.62 percent
Fiscal year 2018	3.56 percent
Fiscal year 2017	2.92 percent

Single Equivalent Interest Rate, net of plan investment expense, including price inflation

Fiscal year 2021	2.63 percent
Fiscal year 2020	3.22 percent
Fiscal year 2019	3.70 percent
Fiscal year 2018	3.63 percent
Fiscal year 2017	2.98 percent

**Changes of Benefit and Funding Terms – SERS**

In fiscal year 2019, SERS' funding policy allowed a 2.0 percent health care contribution rate to be allocated to the Health Care fund. The 2.0 percent is a combination of 0.5 percent employer contributions and 1.5 percent surcharge.

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

*Notes to the Required Supplementary Information*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2021*

---

**Changes in Assumptions – STRS OPEB**

For fiscal year 2018, the discount rate was increased from 3.26 percent to 4.13 percent based on the methodology defined under GASB Statement No. 74, *Financial Reporting for Postemployment Benefit Plans Other Than Pension Plans (OPEB)* and the long term expected rate of return was reduced from 7.75 percent to 7.45 percent. Valuation year per capita health care costs were updated, and the salary scale was modified. The percentage of future retirees electing each option was updated based on current data and the percentage of future disabled retirees and terminated vested participants electing health coverage were decreased. The assumed mortality, disability, retirement, withdrawal and future health care cost trend rates were modified along with the portion of rebated prescription drug costs.

For fiscal year 2019, the discount rate was increased from the blended rate of 4.13 percent to the long-term expected rate of return of 7.45.

**Changes in Benefit Terms – STRS OPEB**

For fiscal year 2018, the subsidy multiplier for non-Medicare benefit recipients was reduced from 2.1 percent to 1.9 percent per year of service. Medicare Part B premium reimbursements were discontinued for certain survivors and beneficiaries and all remaining Medicare Part B premium reimbursements will be discontinued beginning January 2020.

For fiscal year 2019, the subsidy multiplier for non-Medicare benefit recipients was increased from 1.9 percent to 1.944 percent per year of service effective January 1, 2019. The non-Medicare frozen subsidy base premium was increased effective January 1, 2019 and all remaining Medicare Part B premium reimbursements will be discontinued beginning January 1, 2020.

For fiscal year 2020, there was no change to the claims costs process. Claim curves were trended to the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020 to reflect the current price renewals. The non-Medicare subsidy percentage was increased effective January 1, 2020 from 1.944 percent to 1.984 percent per year of service. The non-Medicare frozen subsidy base premium was increased effective January 1, 2020. The Medicare subsidy percentages were adjusted effective January 1, 2021 to 2.1 percent for the Medicare plan. The Medicare Part B monthly reimbursement elimination date was postponed to January 1, 2021.

For fiscal year 2021, there was no change to the claims costs process. Claim curves were trended to the fiscal year ending June 30, 2021 to reflect the current price renewals. The non-Medicare subsidy percentage was increased effective January 1, 2021 from 1.984 percent to 2.055 percent per year of service. The non-Medicare frozen subsidy base premium was increased effective January 1, 2021. The Medicare subsidy percentages were adjusted effective January 1, 2021 to 2.1 percent for the AMA Medicare plan. The Medicare Part B monthly reimbursement elimination date was postponed indefinitely.