FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

JULY 1, 1998 – JUNE 30, 2000



88 East Broad Street P.O. Box 1140 Columbus, Ohio 43216-1140

Telephone 614-466-4514 800-282-0370

Facsimile 614-466-4490 www.auditor.state.oh.us

Board of Directors Northern Buckeye Education Council 22900 State Route 34 Archbold, OH 43502-9517

We have reviewed the independent auditor's report of the Northern Buckeye Education Council, Henry County, prepared by Weber Obrien Ltd., for the audit period July 1, 1998 through June 30, 2000. Based upon this review, we have accepted these reports in lieu of the audit required by Section 117.11, Revised Code. The Auditor of State did not audit the accompanying financial statements and, accordingly, we are unable to express, and do not express an opinion on them.

Our review was made in reference to the applicable sections of legislative criteria, as reflected by the Ohio Constitution, and the Revised Code, policies, procedures and guidelines of the Auditor of State, regulations and grant requirements. The Northern Buckeye Education Council is responsible for compliance with these laws and regulations.

JIM PETRO Auditor of State

April 12, 2001

NORTHERN BUCKEYE EDUCATION COUNCIL

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Independent Auditors' Report	1
Combined Statement of Cash Receipts, Cash Disbursements, and Changes in Fund Balances – All Governmental Fund Types and Similar Fiduciary Funds – For the Year Ended June 30, 2000	2
Combined Statement of Cash Receipts, Cash Disbursements, and Changes in Fund Cash Balances – All Proprietary Fund Types and Similar Fiduciary Funds – For the Year Ended June 30, 2000	3
Combined Statement of Cash Receipts, Cash Disbursements, and Changes in Fund Balances – All Governmental Fund Types and Similar Fiduciary Funds – For the Year Ended June 30, 1999	4
Combined Statement of Cash Receipts, Cash Disbursements, and Changes in Fund Cash Balances – All Proprietary Fund Types and Similar Fiduciary Funds – For the Year Ended June 30, 1999	5
Notes to Financial Statements	6 – 14
Independent Auditors' Report on Compliance and on Internal Control over Financial Reporting Based on an Audit of Financial Statements Performed in Accordance with Government Auditing Standards	15 – 16

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

Board of Directors Northern Buckeye Education Council Henry County 22900 State Route 34 Archbold, Ohio 43502-9517

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Northern Buckeye Education Council Henry County, Ohio (the Council), as of and for the years ended June 30, 2000 and 1999. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Council's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits.

We conducted our audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in Government Auditing Standards issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

As described in Note 1, the Council prepares its financial statements on the basis of accounting prescribed or permitted by the Auditor of State, which is a comprehensive basis of accounting other than generally accepted accounting principles.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the combined fund cash balances and reserves for encumbrances of the Northern Buckeye Education Council, Henry County, Ohio as of June 30, 2000 and 1999, and its combined cash receipts and disbursements for the years then ended on the basis of accounting described in Note 1.

In accordance with Government Auditing Standards, we have also issued our report dated December 20, 2000 on our consideration of the Northern Buckeye Education Council's internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grants. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with Government Auditing Standards and should be read in conjunction with this report in considering the results of our audit.

Northern Buckeye Education Council Henry County Independent Auditors' Report Page Two

This report is intended solely for the information of and use of the Board of Directors, management and others within the organization, and grantor agencies and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Webez'O'BATA.CO.

December 20, 2000

COMBINED STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES - ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES AND SIMILAR FIDUCIARY FUNDS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2000

			FIDUCIARY FUND TYPE	(Memorandum Only)		
	General	Special Revenue	Capital Projects	Expendable Trust	Total	
Cash Receipts:	•	0.147.700	A 1 000 000	^	0.147.700	
Intergovernmental	\$ -	\$ 2,147,703	\$ 1,000,000	\$ -	\$ 3,147,703	
Charges for Services Classroom Materials and Fees	10,000	1,265,558	87,294	-	1,352,852 10,000	
Earnings on Investments	3,380	_	_	9,508	12,888	
Miscellaneous	3,360			7,628	7,628	
Misceranicous				7,020	7,020	
Total Cash Receipts	13,380	3,413,261	1,087,294	17,136	4,531,071	
Cash Disbursements:						
Supporting Services:						
Administration	18,565	-	-	-	18,565	
Fiscal Services	853	-	-	-	853	
Central	-	2,600,064	1,264,041	8,302	3,872,407	
Operation of Non-Instructional Services: Enterprise Operations				102	102	
Total Cash Disbursements	19,418	2,600,064	1,264,041	8,404	3,891,927	
Total Receipts Over/(Under) Disbursements	(6,038)	813,197	(176,747)	8,732	639,144	
r						
Other Financing Receipts: Refund of Prior Year Expenditures Transfers-In	<u>-</u>		-	-	<u>-</u>	
Total Other Financing Receipts						
Excess of Cash Receipts and Other Financing Receipts Over/(Under) Cash Disbursements	(6,038)	813,197	(176,747)	8,732	639,144	
Fund Cash Balances, July 1, 1999	56,080	667,036	781,782	208,578	1,713,476	
Fund Cash Balances, June 30, 2000	\$ 50,042	\$ 1,480,233	\$ 605,035	\$ 217,310	\$ 2,352,620	
Reserve for Encumbrances, June 30, 2000	\$ 6,292	\$ 662,810	\$ 207,001	\$ 7,719	\$ 883,822	

"SEE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT"

COMBINED STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS, AND CHANGES IN FUND CASH BALANCES - ALL PROPRIETARY FUND TYPES AND SIMILAR FIDUCIARY FUNDS FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2000

	PROPRIETARY	Y FUND TYPES	FIDUCIARY FUND TYPE	Totals
		Internal		(Memorandum
Omenations Cook Benefits	Enterprise	Service	Agency	Only)
Operating Cash Receipts: Charges for Services	\$ 15,772,900	\$ 1,843,969	\$ 2,405,240	\$ 20,022,109
Miscellaneous	24,500	3 1,043,909	5 2,403,240	24,500
Total Operating Cash Receipts	15,797,400	1,843,969	2,405,240	20,046,609
Operating Cash Disbursements:				
Personal Services	-	1,928,915	202,289	2,131,204
Employees' Retirement and Insurance	338,992	513,358	52,514	904,864
Purchased Services	1,327,945	971,525	502,138	2,801,608
Supplies and Materials	9,442	197,224	1,721,594	1,928,260
Capital Outlay		619,470	7,924	627,394
Other Objects	15,740,658	32,002	1,615	15,774,275
Total Operating Cash Disbursements	17,417,037	4,262,494	2,488,074	24,167,605
Operating Income/(Loss)	(1,619,637)	(2,418,525)	(82,834)	(4,120,996)
Non-operating Cash Receipts:				
Intergovernmental Revenues	_	2,974,901	_	2,974,901
Earnings on Investments	444,136	125,695	125,941	695,772
Refund of Prior Year Expenditures	932,361	71,812	-	1,004,173
Sale and Loss of Assets		4,850		4,850
Total Non-operating Cash Receipts	1,376,497	3,177,258	125,941	4,679,696
Excess of Receipts Over/(Under) Disbursements Before Interfund Transfers	(243,140)	758,733	43,107	558,700
Transfers-Out				
Net Receipts Over/(Under) Disbursements	(243,140)	758,733	43,107	558,700
Fund Cash Balances, July 1, 1999	9,455,741	1,664,256	1,257,824	12,377,821
Fund Cash Balances, June 30, 2000	\$ 9,212,601	\$ 2,422,989	\$ 1,300,931	\$ 12,936,521
Reserve for Encumbrances, June 30, 2000	\$ 27,462	\$ 745,860	\$ 564,788	\$ 1,338,110

"SEE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT"

COMBINED STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES - ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES AND SIMILAR FIDUCIARY FUNDS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 1999

			FIDUCIARY	(Memorandum	
	GOVER	NMENTAL FUND		FUND TYPE	Only)
	General	Special	Capital	Expendable Trust	Total
	General	Revenue	Projects	Trust	Total
Cash Receipts:					
Intergovernmental	\$ -	\$ 1,343,775	\$ -	S -	\$ 1,343,775
Charges for Services	-	573,433	729,500	-	1,302,933
Classroom Materials and Fees	10,000	-	-	-	10,000
Earnings on Investments	4,104	-	-	11,906	16,010
Miscellaneous	-	-	-	6,721	6,721
T. IC I D	14 104	1.017.000	700 500	10.007	0.070.400
Total Cash Receipts	14,104	1,917,208	729,500	18,627	2,679,439
Cash Disbursements:					
Supporting Services:					
Administration	17,400	-	-	-	17,400
Fiscal Services	929	-	-	-	929
Central	-	2,242,053	251,606	6,336	2,499,995
Operation of Non-Instructional Services: Enterprise Operations	-			9,477	9,477
Total Cash Disbursements	18,329	2,242,053	251,606	15,813	2,527,801
70ta	10,020	2,212,000	201,000	10,010	2,021,001
Total Receipts Over/(Under) Disbursements	(4,225)	(324,845)	477,894	2,814	151,638
Other Financing Receipts:					
Refund of Prior Year Expenditures	-	213	-	-	213
Transfers-In					
Total Other Financing Receipts		213			213
Excess of Cash Receipts and Other Financing					
Receipts Over/(Under) Cash Disbursements	(4,225)	(324,632)	477,894	2,814	151,851
Fund Cash Balances, July 1, 1998	60,305	991,668	303,888	205,764	1,561,625
Fund Cash Balances, June 30, 1999	\$ 56,080	\$ 667,036	\$ 781,782	\$ 208,578	\$ 1,713,476
Reserve for Encumbrances, June 30, 1999	\$ 2,825	\$ 409,712	\$ 133,499	\$ 7,252	\$ 553,288

"SEE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT"

COMBINED STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS, AND CHANGES IN FUND CASH BALANCES - ALL PROPRIETARY FUND TYPES AND SIMILAR FIDUCIARY FUNDS FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 1999

	PROPRIETARY	Y FUND TYPES	FIDUCIARY FUND TYPE	Totals
		Internal		(Memorandum
	Enterprise	Service	Agency	Only)
Operating Cash Receipts:				
Charges for Services	\$ 14,374,288	\$ 1,327,379	\$ 2,966,710	\$ 18,668,377
Miscellaneous	23,500	-	-	23,500
Total Operating Cash Receipts	14,397,788	1,327,379	2,966,710	18,691,877
Operating Cash Disbursements:				
Personal Services		1,602,755	96,567	1,699,322
Employees' Retirement and Insurance	248,680	406,915	24,265	679,860
Purchased Services	1,371,992	685,067	331,084	2,388,143
Supplies and Materials	19,008	189,386	2,228,818	2,437,212
Capital Outlay	5,254	1,060,753	11,878	1,077,885
Other Objects	14,345,312	40,072	1,683	14,387,067
Total Operating Cash Disbursements	15,990,246	3,984,948	2,694,295	22,669,489
Operating Income/(Loss)	(1,592,458)	(2,657,569)	272,415	(3,977,612)
Non-operating Cash Receipts:				
Intergovernmental Revenues	_	2,455,848	_	2,455,848
Earnings on Investments	603.925	122,421	128.716	855,062
Refund of Prior Year Expenditures	765,611	39,222	(71)	804,762
Total Non-operating Cash Receipts	1,369,536	2,617,491	128,645	4,115,672
Excess of Receipts Over/(Under) Disbursements Before Interfund Transfers	(222,922)	(40,078)	401,060	138,060
Transfers-Out				
Net Receipts Over/(Under) Disbursements	(222,922)	(40,078)	401,060	138,060
Fund Cash Balances, July 1, 1998	9,678,663	1,704,334	856,764	12,239,761
Fund Cash Balances, June 30, 1999	\$ 9,455,741	S 1,664,256	\$ 1,257,824	\$ 12,377,821
Reserve for Encumbrances, June 30, 1999	\$ 53,373	\$ 889,004	\$ 218,646	\$ 1,161,023

"SEE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT"

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Description of the Entity

The Northern Buckeye Education Council (the Council) is a body corporate and politic established to exercise the rights and privileges conveyed to it by the constitution and laws of the State of Ohio. The Council is a 40 entity consortium organized under Chapter 167 of the Ohio Revised Code as a not-for-profit Council of Governments and is directed by a ten member Board of Directors. The purpose of the Council is to provide educational entities in grater northwestern Ohio access to a variety of cooperative administrative services thereby reducing the cost of obtaining these services. Currently the Council manages life, dental and health insurance benefit programs, provides data processing services through its Northwest Ohio Computer Association (NWOCA) subsidiary; offers a Workers' Compensation Group Rating Program; assists in the preparation of financial reports and offers in-service training sessions to employees of its member entities.

The Council's management believes these financial statements present all activities for which the Council is financially accountable.

Basis of Accounting

These financial statements follow the basis of accounting prescribed or permitted by the Auditor of State, which is similar to the cash basis of accounting. Receipts are recognized when received in cash rather than when earned, and disbursements are recognized when paid rather than when a liability is incurred. Budgetary presentations report budgetary expenditures when a commitment is made (i.e., when an encumbrance is approved.)

These statements include adequate disclosure of material matters, as prescribed or permitted by the Auditor of State.

Fund Accounting

The Council uses fund accounting to segregate cash and investments that are restricted as to use. The Council classifies its funds into the following types:

General Fund– The General Fund is the general operating fund. It is used to account for all financial resources except those required by law or contract to be restricted.

Special Revenue Funds- These funds are used to account for proceeds from specific sources (other than from trusts or for capital projects) that are restricted to expenditure for specific purposes. The Council had the following significant special revenue fund:

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, CONTINUED

NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES, Continued

<u>MCOECN-INFOhio Fund</u> – Accounts for the financial activity of the INFOhio Project of the Management Council of the Ohio Educational Computer Network (MCOECN). The Northern Buckeye Education Council acts as fiscal agent for this project.

Capital Project Funds These funds are used to account for receipts that are restricted for the acquisition or construction of major capital projects (except those financed through enterprise or trust funds). The Council had the following significant capital project funds:

<u>SchoolNet Grant Fund</u> – Accounts for the activity of providing internet access to the classroom.

<u>Telecommunity Grant Fund</u> – Accounts for the activity of providing distance learning, hardware acquisition, and program development for the integration of technology into the classroom.

Enterprise Funds – These funds account for operations that are similar to private business enterprises where management intends that the significant costs of providing certain goods or services will be recovered through user charges. The Council had the following significant enterprise fund:

<u>Partially Self-Funded Health Insurance Fund</u> – Accounts for the activity of providing medical insurance benefits to employees of member entities.

Internal Service Funds The Internal Service Funds account for financing of goods or services provided by the Council to member entities. The council had the following significant internal service fund:

<u>Northwest Ohio Computer Association (NWOCA)</u> – Accounts for the activity of providing data processing services to member entities.

Fiduciary Funds (Trust and Agency Fund) Trust funds are used to account for resources restricted by legally binding trust agreements. If the agreement requires the Council to maintain the corpus of the trust, the fund is classified as a nonexpendable trust fund. Other trust funds are classified as expendable. Funds for which the Council is acting in an agency capacity are classified as agency funds. The Council had the following significant fiduciary funds:

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, CONTINUED

NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES, Continued

<u>MCOECN Fund</u> – Accounts for the financial activity of the Management Council of the Ohio Education Computer Network (MCOECN). The Northern Buckeye Education Council acts as fiscal agent for this organization.

<u>Project Discovery Fund</u> – Accounts for a state grant received by an eighteen (18) county region to promote inquiry-based education in math and science. The Council acts as fiscal agent for the Northwest Region Project Discovery program.

<u>NBEC Member Medical Expense Reimbursement Fund</u> – Accounts for the activity of a supplemental health insurance program used to reimburse certain employees affected by a change in the health insurance plan.

Cash and Investments

Certificates of deposit, repurchase agreements and U.S. Treasury Notes are valued at cost. The investment in STAROhio (the State Treasurer's investment pool) is valued at amounts reported by the State Treasurer.

Budgetary Process

The Council is not required by law to budget its funds. The Council does, however, use the following procedures to control the expenditure of Council monies:

Appropriations– Budgetary expenditures (that is, disbursements and encumbrances) may not exceed appropriations at the fund, function or object level of control, and appropriations may not exceed estimated resources. The Council annually approves appropriation measures and subsequent amendments. Unencumbered appropriations lapse at year end.

Estimated Resources– Estimated resources include estimates of cash to be received (budgeted receipts) plus unencumbered cash as of July 1.

Encumbrances– The Council reserves (encumbers) appropriations when commitments are made. Encumbrances outstanding at year end are carried over, and need not be reappropriated.

A summary of 2000 and 1999 budgetary activity appears in Note 3.

Property, Plant and Equipment

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

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, CONTINUED

NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES, Continued

Unpaid Vacation and Sick Leave

Employees are entitled to cash payments for unused vacation and sick leave in certain circumstances, such as upon leaving employment. Unpaid vacation and sick leave are not reflected as liabilities under the basis of accounting prescribed or permitted by the Auditor of State used by the Council.

Total Columns on Financial Statements

Total columns on the financial statements are captioned "Memorandum Only" to indicate that they are presented only to facilitate financial analysis. This data is not comparable to a consolidation. Interfund-type eliminations have not been made in the aggregation of this data.

NOTE 2 – EQUITY IN POOLED CASH AND INVESTMENTS

The Council maintains a cash and investments pool used by all funds. The Ohio Revised Code prescribes allowable deposits and investments. The carrying amount of cash and investments at June 30 was as follows:

	<u>2000</u>	<u>1999</u>
Demand Deposits Certificates of Deposit	(\$ 527,605) 2,868,763	(\$ 476,821) 2,218,021
Total Deposits	2,341,158	1,741,200
Treasury Notes STAROhio Repurchase Agreements	$11,486,527 \\ 1,457,851 \\ \phantom{00000000000000000000000000000000000$	8,058,996 989,677 <u>3,301,425</u>
Total Investments	12,947,981	12,350,098
Total Deposits and Investments	\$ <u>15,289,139</u>	\$ <u>14,091,296</u>

Deposits

At June 30, 2000 the carrying amount of the Council's deposits was \$2,341,000 and the bank balance was \$3,260,000. At June 30, 1999 the carrying amount of the Council's deposits was \$1,741,000 and the bank balance was \$2,570,000. Deposits are either (1) insured by the Federal Depository Insurance Corporation, (2) collateralized by securities specifically pledged by the financial institution to the Council, or (3) collateralized by the financial institution's public entity deposit pool. Of the bank balances \$300,000 and \$200,000 was covered by federal and depository insurance and the uninsured bank balance was secured by collateralized pools securing all public funds on deposit with specific financial institutions as of June 30, 2000 and 1999, respectively.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, CONTINUED

NOTE 2 – EQUITY IN POOLED CASH AND INVESTMENTS, Continued

Investments

The Council's investments are categorized to give an indication of the level of risk assumed by the Council at year end. Category 1 includes investments that are insured or registered or for which the securities are held by the Council or its agent in the Council's name. Category 2 includes uninsured and unregistered investments which are held by the counterparty's trust department or agent in the Council's name. Category 3 includes uninsured and unregistered investments for which the securities are held by the counterparty, or by its trust department or agent but not in the Council's name. STAROhio is an unclassified investment since it is not evidenced by securities that exist in physical or book entry form.

		Carrying	Fair
Investments- June 30, 2000	<u>Category 3</u>	Amount	<u>Value</u>
STAROhio		\$1,457,853	\$1,457,853
Treasury Notes	\$11,486,527	11,486,527	11,698,431
Repurchase Agreements	3,603	3,603	3,603
-	\$ <u>11,490,130</u>	\$ <u>12,947,983</u>	\$ <u>13,159,887</u>
		Carrying	Fair
Investments- June 30, 1999	<u>Category 3</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Value</u>
STAROhio		\$989,677	\$989,677
Treasury Notes	\$8,058,996	8,058,996	8,128,650
Repurchase Agreements	3,301,425	3,301,425	3,301,425
-	\$ <u>11,360,421</u>	\$12,350,098	\$12,419,752

NOTE 3 – BUDGETARY ACTIVITY

Budgetary activity for the years ending June 30, 2000 and June 30, 1999 was as follows:

0000	D al acada al	A -41	D
2000	Budgeted	vs. Actual	Receibts

	Budgeted	Actual		
Fund Type	Receipts	Receipts		Variance
General	\$ 11,800	\$ 13,380	\$	1,580
Special Revenue	3,222,152	3,413,261		191,109
Capital Projects	1,030,000	1,087,294		57,294
Enterprise	16,146,850	17,173,897		1,027,047
Internal Service	4,668,415	5,021,227		352,812
Fiduciary	 2,893,743	2,548,317	_	(345,426)
Total	\$ 27,972,960	\$ 29,257,376	\$	1,284,416

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, CONTINUED

NOTE 3 - BUDGETARY ACTIVITY, Continued

2000 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures

	Appropriation	Budgetary	
Fund Type	Authority	Expenditures	Variance
General	\$ 25,825	\$ 25,710	\$ 115
Special Revenue	4,055,150	3,262,874	792,276
Capital Projects	1,940,999	1,471,042	469,957
Enterprise	17,645,674	17,444,500	201,174
Internal Service	6,410,888	5,008,354	1,402,534
Fiduciary	3,715,728	3,068,985	646,743
Total	\$ 33,794,264	\$ 30,281,465	\$ 3,512,799

1999 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts

	Budgeted	Actual	
Fund Type	Receipts	Receipts	Variance
General	\$ 13,000	\$ 14,104	\$ 1,104
Special Revenue	1,881,656	1,917,421	35,765
Capital Projects	655,000	729,500	74,500
Enterprise	13,905,740	15,767,324	1,861,584
Internal Service	3,578,150	3,944,870	366,720
Fiduciary	4,041,864	3,113,982	(927,882)
Total	\$ 24,075,410	\$ 25,487,201	\$ 1,411,791

1999 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures

		Appropriation Budg		Budgetary	
Fund Type		Authority		Expenditures	Variance
General	\$	26,160	\$	21,155	\$ 5,005
Special Revenue		3,156,560		2,658,697	497,863
Capital Projects		956,626		385,105	571,521
Enterprise		16,457,919		16,042,129	415,790
Internal Service		5,000,253		4,875,441	124,812
Fiduciary		4,512,383		2,936,006	1,576,377
Total	_	30,109,901	\$	26,918,533	\$ 3,191,368

NOTE 4 – STATE TEACHERS RETIREMENT SYSTEM

The Council contributes to the State Teachers Retirement System of Ohio (STRS), a costsharing multiple employer public employee retirement system. STRS provides retirement, disability benefits, annual cost-of-living adjustments, and death and survivor benefits to members and beneficiaries. Benefits are established by Chapter 3307 of the

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, CONTINUED

NOTE 4 – STATE TEACHERS RETIREMENT SYSTEM, Continued

Ohio Revised Code. STRS issues a publicly available financial report that includes financial statements and required supplementary information for STRS. The report may be obtained by writing to the State Teachers Retirement System, 275 East Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215-3771.

For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2000 and 1999, plan members were required to contribute 9.3 percent of their annual covered salaries. The Council was required to contribute 14 percent; 6 percent was the portion used to fund pension obligations for fiscal years 2000 and 1999. Contribution rates are established by STRS, upon recommendation of its consulting actuary, not to exceed statutory maximum rates of 10 percent for members and 14 percent for employers. The Council's required contribution to STRS for the years ended June 30, 2000, 1999, and 1998, were \$72,066, \$46,241 and \$50,136 respectively.

NOTE 5 – SCHOOL EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM

The Council contributes to the School Employees Retirement System of Ohio (SERS), a cost-sharing multiple employer public employee retirement system. SERS provides retirement and disability benefits, annual cost-of-living adjustments, and death benefits to plan members and beneficiaries. Authority to establish and amend benefits is provided by Chapter 3309 of the Ohio Revised Code. SERS issues a publicly available, stand-alone financial report that includes financial statements and required supplementary information. That report may be obtained by writing to the School Employees Retirement System, 45 N. Fourth Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215-3634.

Plan members are required to contribute 9 percent of their annual covered salary and the Council is required to contribute at an actuarially determined rate. The current rate is 14 percent of annual covered payroll. A portion of the Council's contribution is used to fund pension obligations with the remainder being used to fund health care benefits; for fiscal year 2000, 5.55 percent of annual covered salary was the portion used to fund pension obligations. In fiscal 1999, 7.70 percent was used to fund pension obligations. The contribution requirements of plan members and employers are established and may be amended, up to statutory maximum amounts, by the SERS' Retirement Board. The Council's required contributions to SERS for the years ended June 30, 2000, 1999, and 1998 were \$318,560, \$238,612 and \$309,221 respectively.

NOTE 6 – POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS

The State Teachers Retirement System (STRS) provides comprehensive health care benefits to retirees and their dependents. Coverage includes hospitalization, physician fees, prescription drugs and partial reimbursement of monthly Medicare premiums. All benefit recipients and sponsored dependents are eligible for health care coverage. Pursuant to the Revised Code, the State Teachers Retirement Board has discretionary

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, CONTINUED

NOTE 6 - POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS, Continued

authority over how much, if any, of the health care costs will be absorbed by STRS. Most benefit recipients pay a portion of health care costs in the form of a monthly premium.

The Revised Code grants authority to STRS to provide health care coverage to benefit recipients, spouses and dependents. By Ohio law, the cost of the coverage paid from STRS funds shall be included in the employer contribution rate, currently at 14 percent of covered payroll.

For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2000, the State Teachers Retirement Board allocated employer contributions equal to 8 percent of covered payroll to the Health Care Reserve Fund, which was the percentage allocated in fiscal 1999. The balance in the Health Care Reserve Fund, from which health care benefits are paid, was \$3.419 billion on June 30, 2000. The Health Care Reserve Fund allocation for the year ended June 30, 2001 will be 4.5 percent of covered payroll.

For the year ended June 30, 2000, net health care costs paid by STRS were \$283,137,000. There were 99,011 eligible benefit recipients.

The Ohio Revised Code gives SERS the discretionary authority to provide postretirement health care to retirees and their dependents. Coverage is made available to service retirees with ten or more years of qualifying service credit, disability and survivor benefit recipients. Members retiring on or after August 1, 1989 with less than twenty-five years of service credit must pay a portion of their premium for health care. The portion is based on years of service up to a maximum of 75 percent of the premium.

After the allocation for the basic benefits, the remainder of the employer's 14 percent contribution is allocated to providing health care benefits. For fiscal year ended June 30, 2000, the allocation rate is 8.45 percent; this rate was 6.3 percent in fiscal 1999. In addition, SERS levies a surcharge to fund health care benefits equal to 14 percent of the difference between a minimum pay and the member's pay, pro-rated for partial service credit. For fiscal 2000, the minimum pay has been established as \$12,400. The surcharge, added to the unallocated portion of the 14 percent employer contribution rate, provides for maintenance of the asset target level for the health care fund.

Health care benefits are financed on a pay-as-you-go basis. The target level for the health care reserve is 150 percent of annual health care expenses. Expenses for health care at June 30, 2000 were \$140,696,340 and the target level was \$211.0 million. At June 30, 2000, the Retirement System's net assets available for payment of health care benefits were \$252.3 million. The number of participants currently receiving health care benefits is approximately 50,000.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, CONTINUED

NOTE 7 – RISK MANAGEMENT

The Council has obtained commercial insurance for the following risks:

- Education Liability

Because the Council manages life, dental and health insurance benefit programs it has a potential liability for incurred but not yet reported claims (IBNR). IBNR claims are claims for insured events that have occurred but have not yet been reported to the third party administrator as of June 30, 2000. These claims include known loss events that are expected to later be presented as claims, unknown loss events that are expected to become claims, and expected future developments on claims already reported. This potential liability is estimated at \$2,856,000 and \$2,523,000 as of June 30, 2000 and 1999, respectively.

The Council has contracted for stop loss insurance on medical and prescription card benefits which limits the Council's liability to \$150,000 per participant per fiscal year and to an aggregate liability of \$18,437,000 and \$17,020,000 for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2000 and 1999, respectively.

NOTE 8 – DEFERRED COMPENSATION PLAN

The Council's employees participate in a statewide Deferred Compensation Plan created in accordance with Internal Revenue code Section 457. Participation is on a voluntary payroll deduction basis. The Plan is not available to employees until termination, retirement, death, or unforeseen emergency.

The Plan agreement states that the Northern Buckeye Education Council and the Ohio Public Employees Deferred Compensation Board have no liability for losses under the plan with the exception of fraud or wrongful taking.

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON COMPLIANCE AND ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING BASED ON AN AUDIT OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS

Board of Education Northern Buckeye Education Council 22900 State Route 34 Archbold, Ohio 43502-9517

We have audited the financial statements of Northern Buckeye Education Council as of and for the years ended June 30, 2000 and 1999, and have issued our report thereon dated December 20, 2000. We conducted our audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in Government Auditing Standards, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States.

Compliance

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

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit, we considered Northern Buckeye Education Council's internal control over financial reporting in order to determine our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements and not to provide assurance on the internal control over financial reporting. Our consideration of the internal control over financial reporting would not necessarily disclose all matters in the internal control over financial reporting that might be material weaknesses. A material weakness is a condition in which the design or operation of one or more of the internal control components does not reduce to a relatively low level the risk that misstatements in amounts that would be material in relation to the financial statements being audited may occur and not be detected within a timely period by

Board of Directors Page Two

employees in the normal course of performing their assigned functions. We noted no matters involving the internal control over financial reporting and its operation that we consider to be material weaknesses.

This report is intended solely for the information of and use of the Board of Directors, management and others within the organization, and grantor agencies and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

WEDER O BATA. CTO.

Weber • O'Brien, Ltd. December 20, 2000



88 East Broad Street P.O. Box 1140 Columbus, Ohio 43216-1140

Telephone 614-466-4514

800-282-0370

Facsimile 614-466-4490

NORTHERN BUCKEYE EDUCATION COUNCIL

CLERK'S CERTIFICATION

HENRY COUNTY

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

CLERK OF THE BUREAU

Susan Babbitt

CERTIFIED APRIL 24, 2001