

Fairfield County Educational Service Center

Fairfield County, Ohio

Regular Audit

July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2008



Balestra, Harr & Scherer, CPAs, Inc.

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Mary Taylor, CPA
Auditor of State

Board of Education
Fairfield County Educational Service Center
955 Liberty Drive
Lancaster, Ohio 43130

We have reviewed the *Independent Accountants' Report* of the Fairfield County Educational Service Center, Fairfield County, prepared by Balestra, Harr & Scherer, CPAs, Inc., for the audit period July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2008. 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 Fairfield County Educational Service Center is responsible for compliance with these laws and regulations.

Mary Taylor

Mary Taylor, CPA
Auditor of State

March 11, 2009

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Fairfield County Educational Service Center
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Independent Accountants' Report

Fairfield County Educational Service Center
955 Liberty Drive
Lancaster, Ohio 43130

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, the major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Fairfield County Educational Service Center, Fairfield County, Ohio (the Center), as of and for the year ended June 30, 2008, which collectively comprise the Center's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Center's management. Our responsibility is to express opinions on these financial statements based on our audit.


We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in the Comptroller General of the United States' *Government Auditing Standards*. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to reasonably assure 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 audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinions.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, the major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Center, as of June 30, 2008, and the respective changes in financial position thereof and the budgetary comparison for the General Fund for the year then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated December 22, 2008, on our consideration of the Center's internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements and other matters. While we did not opine on the internal control over financial reporting or on compliance, that report describes the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*. You should read it in conjunction with this report in assessing the results of our audit.

Management's discussion and analysis is not a required part of the basic financial statements but is supplementary information accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires. We have applied certain limited procedures, consisting principally of inquiries of management regarding the methods of measuring and presenting the required supplementary information. However, we did not audit the information and express no opinion on it.

As described in Note 3 to the basic financial statements, the Center implemented Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statements No. 45, "Accounting and Financial Reporting by Employers for Postemployment Benefits Other Than Pensions," No. 48, "Sales and Pledges of Receivables and Future Revenues and Intra-Entity Transfers of Assets and Future Revenues," and No. 50, "Pension Disclosures."


Balestra, Harr & Scherer, CPAs, Inc.
December 22, 2008

FAIRFIELD COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER

*Management's Discussion and Analysis
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2008
(Unaudited)*

The discussion and analysis of the Fairfield County Educational Service Center's financial performance provides an overview and analysis of the Educational Service Center's financial activities for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2008. The intent of this discussion and analysis is to look at the Educational Service Center's financial performance as a whole. Readers should also review our notes to the basic financial statements and the financial statements themselves to enhance their understanding of the Educational Service Center's financial performance.

The Management's Discussion and Analysis (MD&A) is an element of the reporting model adopted by the Governmental Accounting Standard Board (GASB) in their Statement No. 34 "Basic Financial Statements – and Management's Discussion and Analysis – for State and Local Governments" issued in June 1999. Certain comparative information between the current year and the prior year is required to be presented in the MD&A.

Financial Highlights

- ▶ The assets of Fairfield County Educational Service Center exceeded its liabilities at June 30, 2008 by \$850,022. This balance was comprised of a \$61,176 balance invested in capital assets, net of related debt, and net asset amounts restricted for specific purposes and a balance of \$788,846 in unrestricted net assets.
- ▶ In total, net assets of governmental activities decreased by \$101,231, which represents a 10.64 percent decrease from 2007.
- ▶ General revenues accounted for \$2,853,823 or 35.50 percent of all revenues. Program specific revenues in the form of charges for services and sales, grants and contributions accounted for \$5,184,671 or 64.50 percent of total revenues of \$8,038,494.
- ▶ The Educational Service Center had \$8,139,725 in expenses related to governmental activities; only \$5,184,671 of these expenses were offset by program specific charges for services and sales, grants or contributions. General revenues (primarily grants and entitlements, and contractual service fees) of \$2,853,823 and net assets from the prior year were used to provide for the remainder of these programs.
- ▶ The Educational Service Center recognizes one major governmental fund: the General Fund. In terms of dollars received and spent, the General Fund is significantly larger than all the other funds of the Educational Service Center combined. The General Fund had \$7,931,318 in revenues and \$7,860,807 in expenditures in fiscal year 2008.

Using this Annual Report

This annual report consists of a series of financial statements and notes to those statements. These statements are presented following the requirements of GASB Statement No. 34, and are organized so the reader can understand Fairfield County Educational Service Center as a financial whole, an entire operating entity. The statements then proceed to provide an increasingly detailed look at specific financial activities.

FAIRFIELD COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER

*Management's Discussion and Analysis
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2008
(Unaudited)*

This discussion and analysis is intended to serve as an introduction to the Educational Service Center's basic financial statements. The Educational Service Center's basic financial statements are comprised of three components: the government-wide financial statements, fund financial statements and notes to the basic financial statements.

Reporting the Educational Service Center as a Whole

Government-Wide Financial Statements

The government-wide financial statements are designed to provide readers with a broad overview of the Educational Service Center's finances, in a manner similar to private-sector business. The statement of net assets and statement of activities provide information about the activities of the whole Educational Service Center, presenting both an aggregate view of the Educational Service Center's finances and a longer-term view of those finances. These statements include all assets and liabilities using the accrual basis of accounting which is 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.

The statement of net assets presents information on all of the Educational Service Center's assets and liabilities, with the difference between the two reported as net assets. Over time, increases and decreases in net assets are important because they serve as a useful indicator of whether the financial position of the Educational Service Center as a whole is improving or deteriorating. The cause of this change may be the result of several factors, some financial and some not. Nonfinancial factors include the Educational Service Center's facility conditions, required but unfunded educational programs, and other factors. Ultimately, the Educational Service Center's goal is to provide services to our students, not to generate profits as commercial entities do.

The statement of activities presents information showing how the Educational Service Center's net assets changed during the recent fiscal year. All changes in net assets are reported as soon as the underlying event giving rise to the change occurs, regardless of the timing of related cash flows. Thus, revenues and expenses are reported in this statement for some items that will only result in cash flows in future fiscal periods (e.g. uncollected contractual service fees, and earned but unused vacation leave).

In both of the government-wide financial statements, the Educational Service Center's activities are shown as governmental activities. All of the Educational Service Center's programs and services are reported here including instructional services and support services. These services are funded primarily by charges for services, contractual service fees, and intergovernmental revenues including federal and state grants and other shared revenues.

Reporting the Educational Service Center's Most Significant Funds

Fund Financial Statements

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

FAIRFIELD COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER

*Management's Discussion and Analysis
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2008
(Unaudited)*

A fund is a grouping of related accounts that is used to maintain control over resources that have been segregated for specific activities or objectives. The Educational Service Center, like other state and local governments, uses fund accounting to ensure and demonstrate compliance with finance-related legal requirements. All of the funds of the Educational Service Center are governmental funds.

Governmental Funds

Governmental funds are used to account for essentially the same functions reported as governmental activities in the government-wide financial statements. However, unlike the government-wide financial statements, governmental fund financial statements focus on current inflows and outflows of spendable resources, as well as on balances of spendable resources available at the end of the fiscal year. Such information may be useful in evaluating a government's near-term requirements. These funds are reported using an accounting method called modified accrual accounting, which measures cash and all other financial assets that can readily be converted to cash.

Because the focus of the governmental funds is narrower than that of the government-wide financial statements, it is useful to compare the information presented for governmental funds with similar information presented for governmental activities in the government-wide financial statements. By doing so, readers may better understand the long-term impact of the Educational Service Center's near-term financing decisions. Both the governmental fund balance sheet and the governmental fund statement of revenues, expenditures, and changes in fund balances provide a reconciliation to facilitate this comparison between governmental funds and governmental activities.

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements

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

FAIRFIELD COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER

*Management's Discussion and Analysis
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2008
(Unaudited)*

Government-Wide Financial Analysis

Recall that the statement of net assets provides the perspective of the Educational Service Center as a whole, showing assets, liabilities, and the difference between them (net assets). Table 1 provides a summary of the Educational Service Center's net assets for 2008 compared to fiscal year 2007:

Table 1
Net Assets

	<u>Governmental Activities</u>	
	2008	2007
<u>Assets:</u>		
Current and Other Assets	\$2,094,948	\$1,944,195
Capital Assets, Net	75,090	74,480
<i>Total Assets</i>	<u>2,170,038</u>	<u>2,018,675</u>
<u>Liabilities:</u>		
Long-Term Liabilities	403,938	231,425
Other Liabilities	916,078	835,997
<i>Total Liabilities</i>	<u>1,320,016</u>	<u>1,067,422</u>
<u>Net Assets:</u>		
Invested in Capital Assets, Net of Related Debt	59,231	52,724
Restricted	1,945	1,597
Unrestricted	788,846	896,932
<i>Total Net Assets</i>	<u><u>\$850,022</u></u>	<u><u>\$951,253</u></u>

Current and other assets increased \$150,753 from fiscal year 2007 due to an increase in intergovernmental receivables held by the Educational Service Center, which was partially offset by a decrease in cash and cash equivalents.

Capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation increased by \$610.

Current (other) liabilities increased \$80,081 due primarily to an increase in accrued wages and benefits.

Long-term liabilities increased by \$172,513 due to an increase in compensated absences payable.

FAIRFIELD COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER

*Management's Discussion and Analysis
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2008
(Unaudited)*

The Educational Service Center's largest portion of net assets is unrestricted. These net assets represent resources that may be used to meet the Educational Service Center's ongoing obligations to its students and creditors.

The Educational Service Center's smallest portion of net assets is restricted assets. The restricted net assets are subject to external restrictions on how they may be used.

The remaining balance of \$59,231 is related to amounts invested in capital assets, net of related debt. The Educational Service Center used these capital assets to provide services to students; consequently, these assets are not available for future spending.

Table 2 shows the changes in net assets for fiscal year 2008 and comparisons to fiscal year 2007.

Table 2
Changes in Net Assets

	Governmental Activities	
	2008	2007
<u>Revenues:</u>		
<i>Program Revenue:</i>		
Charges for Services and Sales	\$4,495,429	\$3,987,613
Operating Grants and Contributions	689,242	650,956
<i>General Revenue:</i>		
Unrestricted Grants and Entitlements	614,686	667,473
Unrestricted Contractual Service Fees	2,168,562	2,141,255
Investment Earnings	26,721	33,593
Miscellaneous	43,854	47,100
<i>Total Revenues</i>	<u>8,038,494</u>	<u>7,527,990</u>
<u>Expenses:</u>		
<i>Program Expenses:</i>		
<i>Instruction:</i>		
Regular	280,471	255,349
Special	1,507,238	1,468,890

(Continued)

FAIRFIELD COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER

*Management's Discussion and Analysis
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2008
(Unaudited)*

Table 2
Changes in Net Assets

	<u>2008</u>	<u>2007</u>
<i>Support Services:</i>		
Pupils	2,015,366	1,678,726
Instructional Staff	2,234,234	2,054,148
Board of Education	27,801	22,221
Administration	1,819,109	1,542,146
Fiscal	173,916	170,949
Operation and Maintenance of Plant	48,205	43,026
Central	31,450	16,617
Interest and Fiscal Charges	<u>1,935</u>	<u>2,571</u>
<i>Total Expenses</i>	<u>8,139,725</u>	<u>7,254,643</u>
<i>Change in Net Assets</i>	(101,231)	273,347
Net Assets at Beginning of Year	<u>951,253</u>	<u>677,906</u>
Net Assets at End of Year	<u>\$850,022</u>	<u>\$951,253</u>

The most significant program expenses for the Educational Service Center are Instructional Staff, Pupils, Special Instruction and Administration. These programs account for 93.07 percent of the total governmental activities. Instructional Staff, which represents 27.45 percent of the total cost, represents costs associated with assisting the teaching staff with the content and process of educating students. Pupils, which represent 24.76 percent of the total cost, represent costs associated with activities designed to assess and improve the well-being of pupils and supplement the teaching process. Special Instruction, which accounts for 18.52 percent of the total, represents costs associated with providing educational services for handicapped, disadvantaged and other special needs students. Administration, which represents 22.35 percent of the total, represents costs associated with the overall administrative responsibility for each building and the Educational Service Center as a whole.

FAIRFIELD COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER

*Management's Discussion and Analysis
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2008
(Unaudited)*

The majority of the funding for the most significant programs indicated above is from charges for services, operating grants and contributions, other grants and entitlements that are not restricted for specific programs, and contractual services. These funding sources account for 99.12 percent of total revenues.

Governmental Activities

Over the past several fiscal years, the Educational Service Center has remained in stable financial condition. This has been accomplished through good fiscal management. The Educational Service Center is heavily dependent on charges for services, contractual service fees, and intergovernmental revenue and, like most Ohio schools, is hampered by a lack of revenue growth. Contractual service fees and charges for services made up 82.90 percent and intergovernmental revenue made up 16.22 percent of the total revenue for the governmental activities in fiscal year 2008.

The Educational Service Center's intergovernmental revenue consists of school foundation basic allowance, and federal and state grants. During fiscal year 2008, the Educational Service Center received \$1,216,520 through the State's foundation program, which represents 15.13 percent of the total revenue for the governmental activities. The Educational Service Center relies heavily on this state funding to operate at the current levels of service.

Instruction accounts for 21.96 percent of governmental activities program expenses. Support services expenses make up 78.01 percent of governmental activities expenses. The statement of activities shows the cost of program services and 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 for fiscal year 2008 compared to fiscal year 2007. That is, it identifies the cost of these services supported by contractual service fees and unrestricted State entitlements.

Table 3
Net Cost of Governmental Activities

	Total Cost of Services	Net Cost of Services	Total Cost of Services	Net Cost of Services
	2008	2008	2007	2007
<i>Program Expenses:</i>				
Instruction	\$1,787,709	\$102,787	\$1,724,239	\$121,642
Support Services	6,350,081	2,850,332	5,527,833	2,491,861
Interest and Fiscal Charges	1,935	1,935	2,571	2,571
Total Expenses	\$8,139,725	\$2,955,054	\$7,254,643	\$2,616,074

FAIRFIELD COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER

*Management's Discussion and Analysis
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2008
(Unaudited)*

The Educational Service Center's Funds

The Educational Service Center's governmental funds are accounted for using the modified accrual basis of accounting. (See Note 2 for discussion of significant accounting policies). All governmental funds had total revenues of \$8,038,494 and expenditures of \$7,967,822.

Total governmental funds fund balance increased by \$70,672. The increase in fund balance for the year was most significant in the General Fund. The increase in the General Fund is due mostly to there being a slightly larger increase in revenues than the increase in expenses increasing in total.

Budget Highlights - General Fund

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

During the course of fiscal year 2008, the Educational Service Center amended its General Fund budget several times. The Educational Service Center uses a modified site-based budget technique that is designed to control site budgets while providing building administrators and supervisors flexibility for site management.

The Educational Service Center prepares and monitors a detailed cashflow plan for the General Fund. Actual cashflow is compared to monthly and year-to-date estimates, and a monthly report is prepared for top management and the Board of Education.

For the General Fund, the final budgeted revenue was \$8,136,810 representing no change from the original budgeted revenue of \$8,136,810. For the General Fund, the final budgeted expenditures were \$10,138,608 representing an increase of \$296,780 from the original budgeted expenditures of \$9,841,828.

FAIRFIELD COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER

*Management's Discussion and Analysis
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2008
(Unaudited)*

Capital Assets and Debt Administration

Capital Assets

At the end of fiscal year 2008 the Educational Service Center had \$208,426 invested in capital assets, of which all was in governmental activities. That total carries an accumulated depreciation of \$133,336. Table 4 shows fiscal year 2008 balances compared to fiscal year 2007.

Table 4
Capital Assets & Accumulated Depreciation at June 30, 2008

	<u>Governmental Activities</u>	
	<u>2008</u>	<u>2007</u>
<i>Depreciable Capital Assets:</i>		
Furniture, Fixtures and Equipment	\$208,426	\$196,668
<i>Less Accumulated Depreciation:</i>		
Furniture, Fixtures and Equipment	<u>133,336</u>	<u>122,188</u>
Capital Assets, Net	<u><u>\$75,090</u></u>	<u><u>\$74,480</u></u>

More detailed information pertaining to the Educational Service Center's capital asset activity can be found in Note 7 of the notes to the basic financial statements.

Debt Administration

At June 30, 2008, the Educational Service Center had no general obligation debt outstanding, however, capital leases outstanding amounted to \$15,860.

More detailed information pertaining to the Educational Service Center's long-term debt activity can be found in Note 12 of the notes to the basic financial statements.

FAIRFIELD COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER

*Management's Discussion and Analysis
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2008
(Unaudited)*

Current Issues

Fairfield County Educational Service Center is financially stable, and has been over the past several years. As indicated in the preceding financial information, the Educational Service Center is dependent on intergovernmental revenue. Intergovernmental revenue does not increase solely as a result of inflation. Therefore, in the long-term, the current program and staffing levels will be dependent on increased funding to meet inflation. Careful financial planning has permitted the Educational Service Center to provide a quality education for the students of Fairfield County.

As indicated in the preceding financial information, the Educational Service Center relies on the State's foundation program for about fifteen percent of their funding. In the spring of 2002, the Ohio Supreme Court issued its fourth split decision regarding the State's school funding plan. The majority opinion identified aspects of the current plan that require modification if the plan is to be considered constitutional. However, in December of 2002 the Court again ruled in a split decision that the State's plan was not acceptable. The Ohio Supreme Court had two new Justices beginning in calendar year 2003 and another in calendar year 2005, the new court may be called upon to address the issue. At this time there can be no reasonable estimate of the decision or its impact on school funding.

As of the date of these financial statements, the Educational Service Center is unable to determine what effect, if any, this decision will have on its future State funding and on its financial statements.

Contacting the Educational Service Center's Financial Management

This financial report is designed to provide our citizens, taxpayers, and investors and creditors with a general overview of the Educational Service Center's finances and to show the Educational Service Center's accountability for the money it received. If you have any questions about this report or need additional information, contact Teresa Thomas, Treasurer of Fairfield County Educational Service Center, 955 Liberty Drive, Lancaster, Ohio 43130.

FAIRFIELD COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER

Statement of Net Assets

June 30, 2008

	<u>Governmental Activities</u>
<u>Assets:</u>	
Equity in Pooled Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$1,636,004
Accounts Receivable	561
Intergovernmental Receivable	452,685
Materials and Supplies Inventory	5,698
Depreciable Capital Assets, Net	<u>75,090</u>
<i>Total Assets</i>	<u>2,170,038</u>
<u>Liabilities:</u>	
Accounts Payable	17,168
Accrued Wages and Benefits	677,520
Intergovernmental Payable	221,390
<i>Long-Term Liabilities:</i>	
Due within One Year	101,364
Due in More Than One Year	<u>302,574</u>
<i>Total Liabilities</i>	<u>1,320,016</u>
<u>Net Assets:</u>	
Invested in Capital Assets, Net of Related Debt	59,231
<i>Restricted for:</i>	
Other Purposes	1,945
Unrestricted	<u>788,846</u>
<i>Total Net Assets</i>	<u><u>\$850,022</u></u>

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements.

FAIRFIELD COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER

Statement of Activities

For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2008

	Program Revenues		Net (Expense) Revenue and Changes in Net Assets	
	Expenses	Charges for Services and Sales	Operating Grants and Contributions	
<u>Governmental Activities:</u>	Governmental Activities			
<i>Instruction:</i>				
Regular	\$280,471	\$157,009	\$65,354	(\$58,108)
Special	1,507,238	843,761	618,798	(44,679)
<i>Support Services:</i>				
Pupils	2,015,366	1,128,214	0	(887,152)
Instructional Staff	2,234,234	1,250,738	0	(983,496)
Board of Education	27,801	0	0	(27,801)
Administration	1,819,109	1,018,348	2,090	(798,671)
Fiscal	173,916	97,359	3,000	(73,557)
Operation and Maintenance of Plant	48,205	0	0	(48,205)
Central	31,450	0	0	(31,450)
Interest and Fiscal Charges	1,935	0	0	(1,935)
<i>Total Governmental Activities</i>	<u>\$8,139,725</u>	<u>\$4,495,429</u>	<u>\$689,242</u>	<u>(2,955,054)</u>
 <u>General Revenues:</u>				
Grants and Entitlements not Restricted to Specific Programs				614,686
Contractual Service Fees				2,168,562
Investment Earnings				26,721
Miscellaneous				43,854
<i>Total General Revenues</i>				<u>2,853,823</u>
Change in Net Assets				(101,231)
<i>Net Assets at Beginning of Year</i>				<u>951,253</u>
<i>Net Assets at End of Year</i>				<u>\$850,022</u>

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements.

FAIRFIELD COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER

*Balance Sheet
Governmental Funds
June 30, 2008*

	General	Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
<u>Assets:</u>			
Equity in Pooled Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$1,634,059	\$1,945	\$1,636,004
Accounts Receivable	561	0	561
Intergovernmental Receivable	452,685	0	452,685
Materials and Supplies Inventory	5,698	0	5,698
<i>Total Assets</i>	<u>\$2,093,003</u>	<u>\$1,945</u>	<u>\$2,094,948</u>
<u>Liabilities and Fund Balances:</u>			
<u>Liabilities:</u>			
Accounts Payable	\$17,168	\$0	\$17,168
Accrued Wages and Benefits	677,520	0	677,520
Intergovernmental Payable	221,203	187	221,390
<i>Total Liabilities</i>	<u>915,891</u>	<u>187</u>	<u>916,078</u>
<u>Fund Balances:</u>			
Reserved for Encumbrances	12,409	0	12,409
<i>Unreserved, Undesignated, Reported in:</i>			
General Fund	1,164,703	0	1,164,703
Special Revenue Funds	0	1,758	1,758
<i>Total Fund Balances</i>	<u>1,177,112</u>	<u>1,758</u>	<u>1,178,870</u>
<i>Total Liabilities and Fund Balances</i>	<u>\$2,093,003</u>	<u>\$1,945</u>	<u>\$2,094,948</u>

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements.

FAIRFIELD COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER

Reconciliation of Total Governmental Fund Balances to

Net Assets of Governmental Activities

June 30, 2008

Total Governmental Funds Balances \$1,178,870

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

Capital assets used in governmental activities are not financial resources
and therefore are not reported in the funds. 75,090

Some liabilities are not due and payable in the current period and therefore are
not reported in the funds. These liabilities consist of:

Compensated absences (388,078)
Capital leases (15,860)

Total liabilities not reported in the funds (403,938)

Net Assets of Governmental Activities \$850,022

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements.

FAIRFIELD COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER
Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances
Governmental Funds
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2008

	General	Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
<u>Revenues:</u>			
Intergovernmental	\$1,216,520	\$107,176	\$1,323,696
Interest	26,721	0	26,721
Contractual Service Fees	6,108,654	0	6,108,654
Charges for Services	535,569	0	535,569
Miscellaneous	43,854	0	43,854
<i>Total Revenues</i>	<u>7,931,318</u>	<u>107,176</u>	<u>8,038,494</u>
<u>Expenditures:</u>			
<i>Current:</i>			
<i>Instruction:</i>			
Regular	199,123	65,189	264,312
Special	1,475,260	36,732	1,511,992
<i>Support Services:</i>			
Pupils	1,946,730	0	1,946,730
Instructional Staff	2,196,599	4	2,196,603
Board of Education	27,801	0	27,801
Administration	1,768,584	2,090	1,770,674
Fiscal	159,223	3,000	162,223
Operation and Maintenance of Plant	48,205	0	48,205
Central	31,450	0	31,450
<i>Debt Service:</i>			
Principal Retirement	5,897	0	5,897
Interest and Fiscal Charges	1,935	0	1,935
<i>Total Expenditures</i>	<u>7,860,807</u>	<u>107,015</u>	<u>7,967,822</u>
<i>Excess of Revenues Over Expenditures</i>	<u>70,511</u>	<u>161</u>	<u>70,672</u>
<i>Net Change in Fund Balances</i>	70,511	161	70,672
<i>Fund Balances at Beginning of Year</i>	<u>1,106,601</u>	<u>1,597</u>	<u>1,108,198</u>
<i>Fund Balances at End of Year</i>	<u><u>\$1,177,112</u></u>	<u><u>\$1,758</u></u>	<u><u>\$1,178,870</u></u>

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements.

FAIRFIELD COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER
*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, 2008*

Net Change in Fund Balances - Total Governmental Funds	\$70,672
 <i>Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of activities are different because:</i>	
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.	2,707
Governmental funds only report the disposal of capital assets to the extent proceeds are received from the sale. In the statement of activities, a gain or loss is reported for each disposal.	(2,097)
Repayment of capital leases is an expenditure in the governmental funds, but the repayment reduces long-term liabilities in the statement of net assets.	5,897
Some items 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. These activities consist of:	
Increase in compensated absences	<u>(178,410)</u>
<i>Change in Net Assets of Governmental Activities</i>	<u><u>(\$101,231)</u></u>

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements.

FAIRFIELD COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER

*Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes
in Fund Balance - Budget and Actual (Budget Basis)
General Fund
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2008*

	Budgeted Amounts		Actual	Variance with Final Budget Positive (Negative)
	Original	Final		
<u>Revenues:</u>				
Intergovernmental	\$1,038,174	\$1,038,174	\$1,216,520	\$178,346
Interest	25,000	25,000	26,721	1,721
Tuition and Fees	6,610,409	6,610,409	5,895,895	(714,514)
Customer Sales and Service	427,377	427,377	535,569	108,192
Miscellaneous	35,850	35,850	43,293	7,443
<i>Total Revenues</i>	<u>8,136,810</u>	<u>8,136,810</u>	<u>7,717,998</u>	<u>(418,812)</u>
<u>Expenditures:</u>				
<i>Current:</i>				
<i>Instruction:</i>				
Regular	181,955	200,223	194,515	5,708
Special	1,612,143	1,670,751	1,484,487	186,264
<i>Support Services:</i>				
Pupils	2,005,293	2,103,361	1,942,795	160,566
Instructional Staff	2,571,629	2,620,832	2,160,364	460,468
Board of Education	27,123	27,503	16,998	10,505
Administration	3,159,949	3,218,702	1,763,801	1,454,901
Fiscal	210,921	210,921	172,464	38,457
Operation and Maintenance of Plant	52,000	52,000	48,205	3,795
Central	20,815	34,315	31,712	2,603
<i>Total Expenditures</i>	<u>9,841,828</u>	<u>10,138,608</u>	<u>7,815,341</u>	<u>2,323,267</u>
<i>Excess of Revenues Under Expenditures</i>	(1,705,018)	(2,001,798)	(97,343)	1,904,455
<i>Fund Balance at Beginning of Year</i>	1,671,304	1,671,304	1,671,304	0
<i>Prior Year Encumbrances Appropriated</i>	33,714	33,714	33,714	0
<i>Fund Balance at End of Year</i>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>(\$296,780)</u>	<u>\$1,607,675</u>	<u>\$1,904,455</u>

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements.

FAIRFIELD COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER

*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2008*

NOTE 1 - DESCRIPTION OF THE EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER AND REPORTING ENTITY

Description of the Educational Service Center

The Fairfield County Educational Service Center (the “Educational Service Center”) is located in Lancaster, Ohio, the county seat. The Educational Service Center supplies supervisory, special education, administrative, and other services to the Amanda-Clearcreek, Berne Union, Bloom Carroll, Fairfield Union, Liberty Union-Thurston, Pickerington and Walnut Township Local School Districts. Lancaster City School District and other school districts outside Fairfield County are served on an individual contract basis for various services. The Educational Service Center furnishes leadership and consulting services designed to strengthen the school districts in areas they are unable to finance or staff independently.

The Fairfield County Educational Service Center operates under a locally-elected Board form of government consisting of five members elected at-large for staggered four-year terms. The Educational Service Center is staffed by 58 classified and 79 certified employees providing educational service to school districts.

Reporting Entity

A reporting entity is comprised of the primary government, component units, and other organizations that are included to ensure that the financial statements are not misleading. The primary government of the Educational Service Center consists of all funds, departments, boards, and agencies that are not legally separate from the Educational Service Center. For Fairfield County Educational Service Center, this includes general operations and student related activities.

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

The Educational Service Center is associated with four organizations. Three are jointly governed organizations, and one is a insurance purchasing pool. These organizations are the Metropolitan Educational Council (MEC), Fairfield County Council for Educational Collaboration, Eastland-Fairfield Career and Technical Schools and the Ohio School Boards Association Worker’s Compensation Group Rating Plan. Information about these organizations is presented in Note 14 and Note 15 to the basic financial statements.

FAIRFIELD COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER

*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2008*

NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The financial statements of the Educational Service Center have been prepared in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) as applied to governmental units. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) is the accepted standard-setting body for establishing governmental accounting and financial reporting principles. The Educational Service Center also applies Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) statements and interpretations issued on or before November 30, 1989, to its governmental activities provided they do not conflict with or contradict GASB pronouncements. The Educational Service Center has elected not to apply FASB pronouncements and interpretations issued after November 30, 1989. The more significant of the Educational Service Center's accounting policies are described below.

A. Basis of Presentation

The Educational Service Center's basic financial statements consist of government-wide financial statements, including a statement of net assets 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 assets and the statement of activities display information about the Educational Service Center as a whole. These statements include the financial activities of the primary government. The statements distinguish between those activities of the Educational Service Center that are governmental and those that are considered business-type activities. The Educational Service Center has no business-type activities.

The statement of net assets presents the financial condition of the governmental activities of the Educational Service Center at year-end. The statement of activities presents a comparison between direct expenses and program revenues for each program or function of the Educational Service Center's governmental activities. Direct expenses are those that are specifically associated with a service, program or department and therefore 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. Revenues which are not classified as program revenues are presented as general revenues of the Educational Service Center, with certain limited exceptions. The comparison of direct expenses with program revenues identifies the extent to which each business segment or governmental function is self-financing or draws from the general revenues of the Educational Service Center.

Fund Financial Statements

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

B. Fund Accounting

The Educational Service Center uses funds to maintain its financial records during the fiscal year. A fund is defined as a fiscal and accounting entity with self-balancing set of accounts. The funds of the Educational Service Center fall within the category of governmental.

FAIRFIELD COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER

*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2008*

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

Governmental Funds

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

The following is the Educational Service Center's only major governmental fund:

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

The other governmental funds of the Educational Service Center accounts for grants and other resources of the Educational Service Center whose use is restricted to a particular purpose.

C. Measurement Focus

Government-Wide Financial Statements

The government-wide financial statements are prepared using the economic resources measurement focus. All assets and liabilities associated with the operation of the Educational Service Center are included on the statement of net assets.

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 current liabilities generally are included on the balance sheet. The statement of revenues, expenditures and changes in fund balance 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 a reconciliation with brief explanations to better identify the relationship between the government-wide statements and the statements for governmental funds.

FAIRFIELD COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER

*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2008*

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

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. Differences in the accrual and the modified accrual basis of accounting arise in the recognition of revenue, the recording of deferred revenue, and in the presentation of expenses versus expenditures.

Revenues - Exchange and Nonexchange Transactions

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

Nonexchange transactions, in which the Educational Service Center receives value without directly giving equal value in return, include grants, entitlements and donations. 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 Educational Service Center must provide local resources to be used for a specified purpose; and expenditure requirements, in which the resources are provided to the Educational Service Center on a reimbursement basis. On a modified accrual basis, revenue from nonexchange transactions must also be available before it can be recognized.

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

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 the governmental funds.

E. Cash and Cash Equivalents

To improve cash management, cash received by the Educational Service Center is pooled. Monies for all funds are maintained in this pool. Individual fund integrity is maintained through Educational Service Center records. Each fund's interest in the pool is presented as "Equity in Pooled Cash and Cash Equivalents" on the financial statements.

FAIRFIELD COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER

*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2008*

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

During fiscal year 2008, investments were limited to the State Treasury Assets Reserve of Ohio (STAR Ohio). STAR Ohio is an investment pool managed by the State Treasurer's Office which allows governments within the State to pool their funds for investment purposes. STAR Ohio is not registered with the SEC as an investment company, but does operate in a manner consistent with Rule 2a7 of the Investment Company Act of 1940. Investments in STAR Ohio are valued at STAR Ohio's share price which is the price the investment could be sold for on June 30, 2008.

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 2008 amounted to \$26,721, which includes \$31 assigned from other Educational Service Center funds.

Investments of the cash management pool and investments with original maturities of three months or less at the time they are purchased by the Educational Service Center are presented on the financial statements as cash equivalents.

F. Inventory

On government-wide financial statements, inventories are presented at the lower of cost or market on a first-in, first-out basis and are expensed when used.

On fund financial statements, inventories of governmental funds are stated at cost. Cost is determined on a first-in, first-out basis. Inventory in governmental funds consists of expendable supplies held for consumption. The cost of inventory items is recorded as an expenditure in the governmental fund types when consumed or used.

G. Capital Assets

All capital assets of the Educational Service Center are general capital assets that are associated with governmental activities. 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 assets 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. Donated capital assets are recorded at their fair market values as of the date received. The Educational Service Center maintains a capitalization threshold of five hundred dollars. The Educational Service Center does not possess any infrastructure. Improvements are capitalized; the normal maintenance and repairs that do not add to the value of the asset or materially extend an asset's life are not capitalized.

All reported capital assets 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:

<u>Description</u>	<u>Estimated Lives</u>
Furniture, Fixtures and Equipment	5 - 10 years

FAIRFIELD COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER

*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2008*

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

H. Compensated Absences

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

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

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 as payments come due each period upon the occurrence of employee resignations and retirements. These amounts are recorded in the account "compensated absences payable" in the fund from which the employees will be paid. The Educational Service Center did not have such liabilities within the funds as of June 30, 2008.

I. Accrued Liabilities and Long-Term Liabilities

All payables, accrued liabilities and long-term liabilities 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 and contractually required pension contributions 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 in the current year. Long-term capital leases are recognized as a liability on the fund financial statements when due.

J. Net Assets

Net assets represent the difference between assets and liabilities. Net assets invested in capital assets, net of related debt 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 assets are reported as restricted when there are limitations imposed on their use either through the enabling legislation adopted by the Educational Service Center or through external restrictions imposed by creditors, grantors or laws, or regulations of other governments. Net assets restricted for other purposes represents balances in special revenue funds which are restricted as to use per grant agreement.

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

The Educational Service Center reports \$1,945 at fiscal year end in restricted net assets, none of which is restricted by enabling legislation.

FAIRFIELD COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements

For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2008

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

K. Fund Balance Reserves

The Educational Service Center reserves those portions of fund balance which are legally segregated for a specific future use or which do not represent available expendable resources and therefore are not available for appropriation or expenditure. Unreserved fund balance indicates that portion of fund equity which is available for appropriation in future periods. The Educational Service Center has established a reserve for encumbrances.

L. Interfund Transactions

Exchange transactions between funds are reported as revenues in the seller funds and as expenditures in the purchaser funds. Flows of cash or goods from one 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 to the funds that initially paid for them are not presented on the financial statements. The Educational Service Center had no transfers between funds for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2008.

M. Estimates

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

N. Budgetary Process

The Educational Service Center's budget is prepared in accordance with the Ohio Revised Code, which only requires that the Educational Service Center also adopt a budget for control purposes.

The Educational Service Center adopts its budget for all funds on or before the start of the new fiscal year. Included in the budget are the estimated resources and expenditures for each fund. The annual appropriation resolution is approved by the Board. Any revisions that alter the total of any fund appropriation must be approved by the Board. During the year, several supplemental appropriations were approved. The budget amounts in the budgetary comparisons, represent the original budgeted receipts, the final budgeted receipts, the original appropriations, and the final appropriations as amended throughout the year.

In the first quarter of each fiscal year, the Educational Service Center summarizes and certifies its budget on forms furnished by the State Department of Education, together with such other information as the State Department of Education may require. The summarized budget document consists of three parts. Part (A) includes entitlement funding from the State for the cost of salaries, employer's retirement contributions, and travel expenses of supervisory teachers approved by the State Board of Education. Part (B) includes the cost of all other lawful expenditures of the Educational Service Center. Part (C) includes the adopted appropriation resolution of the Educational Service Center. The State Board of Education reviews the budget and certifies to each local board of education under the supervision of the Educational Service Center the amount from part (B) that is to be apportioned to their district.

FAIRFIELD COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER

*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2008*

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

Encumbrances: As part of formal budgetary control, purchase orders, contracts and other commitments for the expenditure of monies are recorded as the equivalent of expenditures on the non-GAAP budgetary basis in order to reserve that portion of the applicable appropriation and to determine and maintain legal compliance. On the GAAP basis, encumbrances outstanding at fiscal year-end are reported as a reservation of fund balance for subsequent-year expenditures for governmental funds.

NOTE 3- NEW GASB PRONOUNCEMENTS

For fiscal year 2008, the Educational Service Center implemented GASB Statement No. 45, "Accounting and Financial Reporting by Employers for Postemployment Benefits Other Than Pensions," GASB Statement No. 48, "Sales and Pledges of Receivables and Future Revenues and Intra-Entity Transfers of Assets and Future Revenues", and GASB No. 50, "Pension Disclosures", an amendment of GASB Statements No. 25 and No. 27. The implementation of GASB Statement No. 48 and 50 had some effect on the disclosure requirements, however, there was no effect on the prior period fund balances of the Educational Service Center.

NOTE 4 - BUDGETARY BASIS OF ACCOUNTING

While the Educational Service Center is reporting financial position, results of operations and changes in fund balance on the basis of generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP), the budgetary basis as provided by law and described earlier 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 and Actual (Budget Basis) is presented for the General Fund on the budgetary basis to provide a meaningful comparison of actual results with the budget. The major differences between the budget basis and modified accrual GAAP basis are that:

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/expenses for all funds (budget basis) rather than as a reservation of fund balance (GAAP basis).

FAIRFIELD COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER

*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2008*

NOTE 4 - BUDGETARY BASIS OF ACCOUNTING - (Continued)

The following table summarizes the adjustments necessary to reconcile the GAAP and budgetary basis statements for the General Fund.

	Net Change in Fund Balance
	<u>General</u>
Budget Basis	(\$97,343)
<i>Adjustments:</i>	213,320
Revenue Accruals	
Expenditure Accruals	(77,549)
Encumbrances	32,083
GAAP Basis	<u><u>\$70,511</u></u>

NOTE 5 - DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS

State statutes classify monies held by the Educational Service Center into three categories.

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

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

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

Public depositories must give security for all public funds on deposit. Protection of the Educational Service Center's deposits is provided by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC), by eligible securities pledged by the financial institution as security for repayment, by surety company bonds deposited with the Treasurer by the financial institution, or by a single collateral pool established by the financial institution to secure the repayment of all public monies deposited with the institution.

FAIRFIELD COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER

*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2008*

NOTE 5 - DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS - (Continued)

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

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

The following information classifies deposits and investments by categories of risk as defined in GASB Statement No. 3, "Deposits with Financial Institutions, Investments and Reverse Repurchase Agreements" and GASB Statement No. 40, "Deposit and Investment Risk Disclosures."

FAIRFIELD COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER

*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2008*

NOTE 5 - DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS - (Continued)

Deposits: Custodial credit risk is the risk that, in the event of a bank failure, the Educational Service Center’s deposits may not be returned. All deposits are collateralized with eligible securities. Such collateral, as permitted by the Ohio Revised Code, is held in single financial institution collateral pools at Federal Reserve Banks, or at member banks of the federal reserve system, in the name of the respective depository bank and pledged as a pool of collateral against all of the public deposits it holds or as specific collateral held at the Federal Reserve Bank in the name of the Educational Service Center. The Educational Service Center’s investment policy does not address custodial credit risk for deposits.

At June 30, 2008, the carrying amount of all Educational Service Center deposits was \$1,054,238. Based on the criteria described in GASB Statement No. 40, “Deposit and Investment Risk Disclosures”, as of June 30, 2008, \$100,000 of the Educational Service Center’s bank balance of \$1,075,840 was covered by Federal Deposit Insurance. The remaining balance of \$975,840 was collateralized with securities held by the financial institution or its agency in the Educational Service Center’s name.

Investments: As of June 30, 2008, the Educational Service Center had the following investments and maturities:

<u>Investment Type</u>	<u>Fair Value</u>	<u>6 Months or Less</u>
STAROhio	\$581,766	\$581,766
Totals	<u>\$581,766</u>	<u>\$581,766</u>

Interest Rate Risk: Interest rate risk is the risk that changes in interest rates will adversely affect the fair value of an investment. As a means of limiting its exposure to fair value losses arising from rising interest rates and according to state law, the Educational Service Center’s investment policy limits investment portfolio maturities to five years or less.

Credit Risk: Credit risk is the risk that an issue or other counter party to an investment will not fulfill its obligations. The Educational Service Center’s investment policy does not address credit risk. Standard and Poor’s has assigned STAROhio an “AAAm” money market rating.

Custodial Credit Risk: For investments, custodial credit risk is the risk that, in the event of the failure of the counter party, the Educational Service Center will not be able to recover the value of its investments or collateral securities in the possession of an outside party. Educational Service Center policy provides that investment collateral is held by the counter party as trust department or agent, and may be held in the name of the Educational Service Center or not.

FAIRFIELD COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER

*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2008*

NOTE 5 - DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS - (Continued)

The classification cash and cash equivalents, and investments are reported as equity in pooled cash and cash equivalents based on criteria set forth in GASB Statement No. 9. A reconciliation between the equity in pooled cash and cash equivalents on the financial statements and the classifications of deposits and investments presented above per GASB Statement No. 3 is as follows:

	Cash and Cash Equivalents/Deposits	Investments
GASB Statement No. 9	\$1,636,004	\$0
<i>Investments:</i>		
STAR Ohio	(581,766)	581,766
GASB Statement No. 3	<u>\$1,054,238</u>	<u>\$581,766</u>

NOTE 6 - RECEIVABLES

Receivables at June 30, 2008 consist of intergovernmental. All receivables are considered collectible in full.

The principal item that makes up intergovernmental receivable follows:

Governmental Activities:	
<u>General Fund:</u>	
Contractual Service Fees	\$452,685

NOTE 7 - CAPITAL ASSETS

Capital asset governmental activity for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2008 was as follows:

Asset Category	Balance at July 1, 2007	Additions	Deletions	Balance at June 30, 2008
<i>Depreciable Capital Assets:</i>				
Furniture, Fixtures and Equipment	\$196,668	\$19,696	(\$7,938)	\$208,426
<i>Accumulated Depreciation:</i>				
Furniture, Fixtures and Equipment	(122,188)	(16,989)	5,841	(133,336)
Total Net Capital Assets	<u>\$74,480</u>	<u>\$2,707</u>	<u>(\$2,097)</u>	<u>\$75,090</u>

FAIRFIELD COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER

*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2008*

NOTE 7 - CAPITAL ASSETS - (Continued)

Depreciation expense was charged to governmental functions as follow:

<i>Instruction:</i>	
Special	\$5,703
<i>Support Services:</i>	
Administration	11,286
	<hr/>
Total Depreciation Expense	<u>\$16,989</u>

NOTE 8 - RISK MANAGEMENT

The Educational Service Center is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; injuries to employees and natural disasters. During fiscal year 2008, the Educational Service Center contracted through commercial carriers. Coverages provided are as follows:

Building Contents	\$352,562
<i>General Liability:</i>	
Each Occurrence	1,000,000
Aggregate Limit	1,000,000

Settled claims have not exceeded this commercial coverage in any of the past three years. There has been no significant change in coverage from last year.

For fiscal year 2008, the Educational Service Center participated in the Ohio School Boards Association Worker's Compensation Group Rating Plan (GRP), an insurance purchasing pool (Note 15). The intent of the GRP is to achieve the benefit of a reduced premium for the Educational Service Center 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 ensures 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 Gates McDonald & Co. provides administrative, cost control and actuarial services to the GRP.

FAIRFIELD COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER

*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2008*

NOTE 9 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS

School Employees Retirement System

The Educational Service Center contributes to the School Employees Retirement System of Ohio (SERS), a cost-sharing multiple employer defined benefit pension plan. 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 State statute, Chapter 3309 of the Ohio Revised Code. SERS issues a publicly available financial report that includes financial statements and required supplementary information. The report may be obtained by writing to the School Employees Retirement System, 300 East Broad Street, Suite 100, Columbus, Ohio 43215-3746 or by calling (614) 222-5853.

Plan members are required to contribute 10 percent of their annual covered salary and the Educational Service Center is required to contribute at an actuarially determined rate. The current rate is 14 percent of annual covered payroll. A portion of the Educational Service Center's contribution is used to fund pension obligations with the remainder being used to fund health care benefits. For fiscal year 2008, 9.82 percent of the annual covered salary was the portion used to fund pension obligations. For fiscal year 2007, 10.68 percent was the portion 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 Educational Service Center's required contributions for pension obligations to SERS for the fiscal years ended June 30, 2008, 2007, and 2006 were \$126,238, \$115,970, and \$104,442, respectively. The Educational Service Center has contributed 58.77 percent of the required contributions for fiscal year 2008 and 100 percent for fiscal year 2007 and 2006, respectively.

State Teachers Retirement System

The Educational Service Center contributes to the State Teachers Retirement System of Ohio (STRS), a cost-sharing multiple employer public employee retirement system administered by the State Teachers Retirement Board. STRS provides basic retirement benefits, disability, survivor, and health care benefits based on eligible service credit to members and beneficiaries. Benefits are established by Chapter 3307 of the Ohio Revised Code. STRS issues a publicly available financial report that includes financial statements and required supplementary information. The report may be obtained by writing to the State Teachers Retirement System of Ohio, 275 East Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215-3771 or by calling (614) 227-4090.

New members have a choice of three retirement plans, a Defined Benefit (DB) Plan, a Defined Contribution (DC) Plan and a Combined Plan. The DB Plan offers an annual retirement allowance based on final average salary times a percentage that varies based on years of service, or an allowance based on member contributions and earned interest matched by STRS Ohio funds times an actuarially determined annuity factor. The DC Plan allows members to place all their member contributions and employer contributions equal to 10.5 percent of earned compensation into an investment account. Investment decisions are made by the member. A member is eligible to receive a retirement benefit at age 50 and termination of employment. The Combined Plan offers features of both the DC Plan and the DB Plan. In the Combined Plan, member contributions are invested by the member, and employer contributions are used to fund the defined benefit payment at a reduced level from the regular DB Plan. DC and Combined Plan members will transfer to the Defined Benefit Plan during their fifth year of membership unless they permanently select the DC or Combined Plan. Existing members with less than five years of service credit as of June 30, 2001, were given the option of making a one time irrevocable decision to transfer their account balances from the existing DB Plan into the DC Plan or the Combined Plan. This option expired on December 31, 2001.

FAIRFIELD COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER

*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2008*

NOTE 9 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS - (Continued)

A DB or Combined Plan member with five or more years credited service who becomes disabled may qualify for a disability benefit. Eligible spouses and dependents of these active members who die before retirement may qualify for survivor benefits. Members in the DC Plan who become disabled are entitled only to their account balance. If a member dies before retirement benefits begin, the member's designated beneficiary is entitled to receive the member's account balance.

Plan members are required to contribute 10 percent of their annual covered salary and the Educational Service Center is required to contribute 14 percent; 13 percent was the portion used to fund pension obligations. 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 Educational Service Center's required contributions for pension obligations to STRS for the fiscal years ended June 30, 2008, 2007, and 2006 were \$527,676, \$483,833, and \$464,708, respectively. The Educational Service Center has contributed 83.84 percent of the required contributions for fiscal year 2008 and 100 percent for fiscal year 2007 and 2006, respectively.

Social Security System

Effective July 1, 1991, all employees not otherwise covered by the School Employees Retirement System or the State Teachers Retirement System have an option to choose Social Security or the School Employees Retirement System/State Teachers Retirement System. As of June 30, 2008, all five members of the Educational Service Center's Board have elected Social Security.

NOTE 10 - POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS

Plan Description - Ohio law authorizes STRS Ohio to offer a cost-sharing, multiple employer health care plan. STRS Ohio provides access to health care coverage to eligible retirees who participated in the defined benefit or the combined plans. Coverage under the current program includes hospitalization, physicians' fees, prescription drugs, and reimbursement of monthly Medicare Part B premiums.

The State Teachers Retirement Board has statutory authority over how much, if any, of the associated health care costs will be absorbed by STRS Ohio. All benefit recipients, for the most recent year, pay a portion of the health care costs in the form of a monthly premium.

STRS Ohio issues a stand-alone financial report that includes financial information for the health care plan. Interested parties can view the most recent *Comprehensive Annual Financial Report* at www.strsoh.org or obtain a copy by calling (888) 227-7877.

Funding Policy - Under Ohio law, funding for post employment health care may be deducted from employer contributions. Of the 14 percent employer contribution rate, 1 percent of covered payroll was allocated to post-employment health care for the years ended June 30, 2008, 2007 and 2006. The 14 percent contribution is the maximum rate allowed under Ohio law.

FAIRFIELD COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER

*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2008*

NOTE 10 - POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS - (Continued)

All STRS benefit recipients pay a portion of the health care cost in the form of a monthly premium. The Educational Service Center's contributions allocated to fund post employment health care benefits for the years ended June 30, 2008, 2007, and 2006 were \$40,590, \$37,218, and \$35,747 respectively; 100 percent has been contributed for years 2008, 2007, and 2006.

STRS pays health care benefits from the Health Care Stabilization Fund. The balance in the Fund was \$4.1 billion at June 30, 2007 (the latest information year available). For the year ended June 30, 2007, net health care costs paid by STRS were \$265,558,000 and STRS had 122,934 eligible benefit recipients.

Medicare Part B Plan - The Medicare B plan reimburses Medicare Part B premiums paid by eligible retirees and beneficiaries as set forth in Ohio Revised Code 3309.69. Qualified benefit recipients who pay Medicare Part B premiums may apply for and receive a monthly reimbursement from SERS. The reimbursement amount is limited by statute to the lesser of the January 1, 1999 Medicare Part B premium or the current premium. The Medicare Part B premium for 2008 was \$96.40; SERS' reimbursement to retirees was \$45.50.

The Retirement Board, acting with the advice of the actuary, allocates a portion of the current employer contribution rate to the Medicare B Fund. For fiscal year 2008, the actuarially required allocation of 0.66 percent. The Educational Service Center's contributions for the year ended June 30, 2008 were [179,972/14%*0.66%] \$8,484, which equaled the required contributions for the year.

Health Care Plan - Ohio law authorizes SERS Ohio to offer health care benefits to eligible retirees and beneficiaries. SERS' Retirement Board reserves the right to change or discontinue any health plan or program. SERS offers several types of health plans from various vendors, including HMO's, PPO's and traditional indemnity plans. A prescription drug program is also available to those who elect health coverage. SERS employs two third-party administrators and a pharmacy benefit manager to manage the self-insurance and prescription drug plans, respectively.

The Ohio Revised Code (ORC) postemployment benefits through employer contributions. Active members do not make contributions to the postemployment benefit plans.

The Health Care Fund was established under, and is administrated in accordance with Internal Revenue Code 401(h). Each year after the allocation for statutorily required benefits, the Retirement Board allocates the remainder of the employer 14 percent contribution to the Health Care Fund. At June 30, 2007, the health care allocation was 4.18 percent. The actuarially required contributions (ARC), as of June 30, 2007 annual valuation was 11.50 percent of covered payroll. The ARC represents a level of funding that, if paid on an ongoing basis, is projected to cover normal cost each year and amortize any unfunded actuarial liabilities of the plan over a period not to exceed thirty years. Fairfield County Educational Service Center's contributions for the years ended June 30, 2008, 2007, 2006 were \$70,949, \$52,395, and \$47,349 respectively.

An additional health care surcharge on employers is collected for employees earning less than an actuarially determined minimum compensation amount, pro-rated according to service credit earned. 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 2008, the minimum compensation level was established at \$35,800.

FAIRFIELD COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER

*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2008*

NOTE 10 - POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS - (Continued)

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

The financial reports of SERS' Health Care and Medicare B plans are included in its *Comprehensive Annual Financial Report*. The report can be obtained by contacting SERS, 300 East Broad Street, Suite 100, Columbus, Ohio 43215-3746 or by calling toll free (800) 878-5853. It is also posted on SERS' website at www.ohsers.org under *Forms and Publications*.

NOTE 11 - EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

Compensated Absences

The criteria for determining vested vacation and sick leave components are derived from the Educational Service Center's Policy and State laws. Only administrative and support personnel who are under an 11 or 12 month contract are eligible for vacation time.

Employees earn ten to twenty days of vacation per year, depending upon the length of service. Employees can accumulate one and one half times their vacation to a maximum of thirty days. Accumulated, unused vacation time is paid to employees upon termination of employment.

Personnel accumulate vacation based on the following schedule:

<u>Years Service</u>	<u>Twelve Month Employees Vacation Days</u>	<u>Eleven Month Employees Vacation Days</u>
1-5	10	10
6-10	15	10
11-20	20	15
Beyond 20	20	20

Each employee earns sick leave at the rate of one and one-quarter days per month. Sick leave shall accumulate during active employment on a continuous year-to-year basis to a maximum of 200 days.

For all employees, retirement severance is paid to each employee retiring from the Educational Service Center at a per diem rate of the annual salary at the time of retirement. The dollar amount of severance pay is calculated based on twenty-five percent of the employees accumulated sick leave at the time of his/her retirement up to a maximum of 40 days.

FAIRFIELD COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER

*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2008*

NOTE 11 - EMPLOYEE BENEFITS - (Continued)

Health Care Benefits

The Educational Service Center provides the following employees insurances: Anthem for health insurance; Delta Dental for dental insurance; Vision Service Plan for vision insurance; and Medical Mutual for life, accidental death and dismemberment insurance through November 30, 2007 and AIG beginning December 1, 2007. The coverage from AIG is through the Metropolitan Educational Council Program.

NOTE 12 - LONG-TERM LIABILITIES

The changes in the Educational Service Center's long-term liabilities during fiscal year 2008 were as follows:

	Principal Outstanding at July 1, 2007	Additions	Deductions	Principal Outstanding at June 30, 2008	Amount Due In One Year
<i><u>Governmental Activities:</u></i>					
Compensated Absences Payable	\$209,668	\$247,946	\$69,536	\$388,078	\$94,834
Capital Leases Payable	21,757	0	5,897	15,860	6,530
Total Governmental Activities Long-Term Liabilities	<u>\$231,425</u>	<u>\$247,946</u>	<u>\$75,433</u>	<u>\$403,938</u>	<u>\$101,364</u>

Compensated absences will be paid from the fund from which the employee is paid.

Capital leases will be paid from the General Fund.

NOTE 13 - CAPITAL LEASES - LESSEE DISCLOSURE

The Educational Service Center leased one copier in October, 2005 with an original cost of \$26,719. This equipment has been capitalized by the Educational Service Center. The obligation has an outstanding balance of \$14,496 at June 30, 2008.

The Educational Service Center leased one scanner in September, 2006 with an original cost of \$3,144. This equipment has also been capitalized by the Educational Service Center. The obligation has an outstanding balance of \$1,364 at June 30, 2008.

FAIRFIELD COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER

*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2008*

NOTE 13 - CAPITAL LEASES - LESSEE DISCLOSURE - (Continued)

The following is a schedule of the minimum lease payments required for the capital leases and the present value of minimum lease payments as of June 30, 2008:

<u>Fiscal Year Ending June 30,</u>	<u>Capital Leases</u>
2009	\$7,832
2010	6,695
2011	<u>3,296</u>
Total Future Minimum Lease Payments	17,823
Less: Interest	<u>(1,963)</u>
Present Value of Future Minimum Lease	<u><u>\$15,860</u></u>

NOTE 14 - JOINTLY GOVERNED ORGANIZATIONS

Metropolitan Educational Council

The Metropolitan Educational Council (MEC) is a not-for-profit educational council whose primary purpose and objective is to contribute to the educational services available to school districts in Franklin County and surrounding areas by cooperative action membership. The governing board consists of a representative from each of the Franklin County districts. Districts outside of Franklin County are associate members and each county selects a single district to represent them on the governing board. MEC is its own fiscal agent. The Educational Service Center does not have an ongoing financial interest in or ongoing financial responsibility for MEC. MEC provides computer services and employee medical insurance to the Educational Service Center. The Educational Service Center made payments to MEC of \$17,500 during the year for computer services.

FAIRFIELD COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER

*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2008*

NOTE 14 - JOINTLY GOVERNED ORGANIZATIONS - (Continued)

Fairfield County Council for Educational Collaboration

In accordance with the provisions of Ohio Revised Code 167 and 124.81, certain boards of education and institutions of higher education, within Fairfield County, have determined to enter into an agreement to form a council of governments. This council of governments shall be known as the Fairfield County Council for Educational Collaboration.

The purpose of the Fairfield County Council for Educational Collaboration is to bring together the public school systems and public institution for higher education in Fairfield County so they can collectively devise and provide for enhanced educational opportunities for the students and citizens of the community. The areas of interest that may be addressed by the Council include, but are not limited to, student programming, school management issues, and any other collaborative projects deemed appropriate by the governing body of the Council.

The Educational Service Center appoints the superintendent to be its representative to the Board of Directors of this council. The Educational Service Center has no ongoing financial interest or financial responsibility to the Fairfield County Council for Educational Collaboration. The Educational Service Center made no payments to the Council during the year.

Eastland -Fairfield Career and Technical School District

The Fairfield County Educational Service Center is a member of the Eastland-Fairfield Career and Technical School District. The Eastland-Fairfield Career and Technical School District has a nine-member board of education. Representatives of the Eastland-Fairfield Career and Technical School District consist of two Educational Service Centers board members which serve for two years, then the other three Educational Service Center board members which serve for the next two years. Eastland-Fairfield Career and Technical School District alternates this schedule with the Franklin County Educational Service Center. The Fairfield County Educational Service Center has no ongoing financial interest or financial responsibility to the Eastland-Fairfield Career and Technical School District. The Educational Service Center made no payments to the Eastland-Fairfield Career and Technical School District during the year.

NOTE 15 - INSURANCE PURCHASING POOL

The Educational Service Center participates in a group rating plan for worker's compensation as established under Section 4123.29 of the Ohio Revised Code. The Ohio School Boards Association Worker's Compensation Group Rating Plan (the "Plan") was established through the Ohio School Boards Association (OSBA) as a group purchasing pool.

The Plan's business and affairs are conducted by a three member Board of Directors consisting of the President, the President-Elect and Immediate Past President of the OSBA. The Executive Director of the OSBA, or his designee, serves as coordinator of the program. Each year, the participating school districts pay an enrollment fee to the Plan to cover costs of administering the program.

FAIRFIELD COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER

*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2008*

NOTE 16 - CONTINGENCIES

The Educational Service Center received financial assistance from federal and state agencies in the form of grants. The expenditure of funds received under these programs generally requires compliance with terms of conditions specified in the grant agreements and is subject to audit by the grantor agencies. Any disallowed claims resulting from such audits could become a liability of the general fund or other applicable funds. However, in the opinion of management, any such disallowed claims will not have a material adverse effect on the overall financial position of the Educational Service Center at June 30, 2008.

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Member American Institute of Certified Public Accountants

Ohio Society of Certified Public Accountants

Independent Accountants' Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Required by *Government Auditing Standards*

Fairfield County Educational Service Center
955 Liberty Drive
Lancaster, Ohio 43130

We have audited the financial statements of the governmental activities, the major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Fairfield County Educational Service Center, Fairfield County, Ohio (the Center) as of and for the year ended June 30, 2008, which collectively comprise the Center's basic financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated December 22, 2008, wherein we identified the Center implemented Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statements No. 45, 48, and 50. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in the Comptroller General of the United States' *Government Auditing Standards*.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit, we considered the Center's internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing our audit procedures for expressing our opinions on the financial statements, but not to opine on the effectiveness of the Center's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we have not opined on the effectiveness of the Center's internal control over financial reporting.

Our consideration of internal control over financial reporting was for the limited purpose described in the preceding paragraph and would not necessarily identify all internal control deficiencies over financial reporting that might be significant deficiencies or material weaknesses. However, as discussed below, we identified a certain deficiency in internal control over financial reporting that we consider a significant deficiency.

A control deficiency exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in performing their assigned functions, to prevent or detect misstatements on a timely basis. A significant deficiency is a control deficiency, or combination of control deficiencies, that adversely affects the Center's ability to initiate, authorize, record, process, or report financial data reliably in accordance with its applicable accounting basis, such that there is more than a remote likelihood that the Center's internal control will not prevent or detect a more-than-inconsequential financial statement misstatement.

We consider the following deficiency described in the accompanying schedule of findings to be a significant deficiency in internal control over financial report: 2008-1.

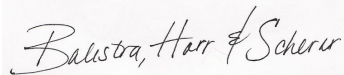
A material weakness is a significant deficiency, or combination of significant deficiencies resulting in more than a remote likelihood that the Center's internal control will not prevent or detect a material financial statement misstatement.

Our consideration of internal control over financial reporting was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and would not necessarily identify all internal control deficiencies that might be significant deficiencies and accordingly, would not necessarily disclose all significant deficiencies that are also material weaknesses. We do not believe the significant deficiency described above is a material weakness.

Compliance and Other Matters

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

We intend this report solely for the information and use of management and the Board of Education. We intend it for no one other than these specified parties.



Balestra, Harr & Scherer, CPAs, Inc.
December 22, 2008

Fairfield County Educational Service Center
Schedule of Findings
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2008

Finding 2008-1

Significant Deficiency

Financial statement misstatements were identified during the audit that should have been prevented or detected by the Center's internal controls over financial reporting. Compensated absence liabilities were misstated.

The aforementioned errors were the result of a failure in controls over financial reporting and resulted in misstated financial statements. Amounts were deemed immaterial and were not corrected in the accompanying financial statements. The Center should implement application and monitoring controls over financial reporting to ensure that financial statement amounts are accurately and completely stated and properly classified.

Client Response:

The GAAP consultants for the Fairfield County Educational Service Center, J.L. Uhrig, have already corrected this error.



Mary Taylor, CPA
Auditor of State

FAIRFIELD COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER

FAIRFIELD COUNTY

CLERK'S CERTIFICATION

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

Susan Babbitt

CLERK OF THE BUREAU

CERTIFIED
MARCH 24, 2009