



**EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS  
FRANKLIN COUNTY**

**REGULAR AUDIT**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2018**

**OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE  
KEITH FABER**





**EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS  
FRANKLIN COUNTY  
JUNE 30, 2018**

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# OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE KEITH FABER



## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Educational Service Center Council of Governments  
Franklin County  
2080 Citygate Drive  
Columbus, Ohio 43219

To the Governing Board:

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

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the Educational Service Center Council of Governments, Franklin County, Ohio (the Council), a component unit of the Educational Service Center of Central Ohio, as of and for the year ended June 30, 2018, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Council's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Opinion**

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Educational Service Center Council of Governments, Franklin County as of June 30, 2018, and the changes in its financial position and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with the accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

**Emphasis of Matter**

As discussed in Note 3 to the financial statements, during 2018, the Council adopted new accounting guidance in Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 75, *Accounting and Financial Reporting for Postemployment Benefits Other Than Pension*. We did not modify our opinion regarding this matter.

**Other Matters**

*Required Supplementary Information*

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

**Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards**

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated February 7, 2019, on our consideration of the Council's internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements and other matters. That report describes the scope of our internal control testing over financial reporting and compliance, and the results of that testing, and does not opine on internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the Council's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.



**Keith Faber**  
Auditor of State  
Columbus, Ohio

February 7, 2019

**EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS  
FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO**

**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2018**

The management's discussion and analysis of the Educational Service Center Council of Governments (the Council) provides an overall review of the Council's financial activities for the period July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018. The intent of this discussion and analysis is to look at the Council's financial performance as a whole; readers should also review the financial statements and notes to the basic financial statements to enhance their understanding of the Council's financial performance. The Council is a jointly governed entity between the Educational Service Center of Central Ohio, Gahanna-Jefferson Public School District, and Delaware City School District. Fiscal year 2009 was the first fiscal year of operations, with operations beginning on September 3, 2008. The primary operations of the Council are to employ personnel on behalf of other governmental entities and agencies throughout Central Ohio.

**Financial Highlights**

Key financial highlights for fiscal year 2018 are as follows:

- Net position at June 30, 2018 was a deficit of \$101,467,529; this represents an increase of \$29,812,301 compared to the prior fiscal year.
- Operating revenues were \$73,196,787; this represents an increase of \$4,432,754 or 6.45%.

**Using the Basic Financial Statements**

This annual report consists of a series of financial statements and notes to those statements. These statements are organized so the reader can understand the Council's financial activities. The statement of net position and statement of revenues, expenses and changes in net position provide information about the activities of the Council, including all short-term and long-term financial resources and obligations. The statement of cash flows provides information about how the Council finances and meets the cash flow needs of its operations.

**Reporting the Council Financial Activities**

***Statement of Net Position, Statement of Revenues, Expenses, and Changes in Net Position and the Statement of Cash Flows***

These documents look at all financial transactions and ask the question, "How did the Council perform financially during 2018?" The statement of net position and the statement of revenues, expenses and changes in net position answer this question. These statements include all assets, deferred outflows of resources, liabilities, deferred inflows of resources, revenues and expenses using the accrual basis of accounting similar to the accounting used by most private-sector companies. This basis of accounting will take into account all of the current year's revenues and expenses regardless of when cash is received or paid.

These two statements report the Council's net position and changes in net position. This change in net position is important because it tells the reader that, for the Council as a whole, the financial position of the Council has improved or diminished. The causes of this change may be the result of many factors, some financial, some not. These statements can be found on pages 9 and 10 of this report. The statement of cash flows can be found on page 11.

The notes provide additional information that is essential to a full understanding of the data provided in the financial statements. These notes to the basic financial statements can be found on pages 13-36 of this report.

In addition to the basic financial statements and accompanying notes, this report also presents certain required supplementary information concerning the Council's net pension liability and net OPEB liability. The required supplementary information can be found on pages 38-51 of this report.

**EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS  
FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO**

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2018

The table that follows provides a summary of the Council's net position at June 30, 2018 and 2017. Net position at June 30, 2017 has been restated as described in Note 3 in the notes to the basic financial statements.

	<b>Net Position</b>	
	<u>2018</u>	<u>Restated 2017</u>
<b><u>Assets</u></b>		
Current assets	\$ 8,032,447	\$ 8,258,862
Restricted assets	656,205	656,456
Noncurrent assets	<u>649,717</u>	<u>633,156</u>
Total assets	<u>9,338,369</u>	<u>9,548,474</u>
<b><u>Deferred outflows of resources</u></b>		
Pension	38,076,282	33,547,928
OPEB	<u>2,566,996</u>	<u>386,865</u>
Total deferred outflows of resources	<u>40,643,278</u>	<u>33,934,793</u>
<b><u>Liabilities</u></b>		
Current liabilities	9,129,568	8,407,594
Restricted liabilities	656,205	656,456
Noncurrent liabilities:		
Net pension liability	104,963,396	131,842,001
Net OPEB liability	30,087,928	33,107,851
Other amounts	<u>652,001</u>	<u>634,728</u>
Total liabilities	<u>145,489,098</u>	<u>174,648,630</u>
<b><u>Deferred inflows of resources</u></b>		
Pension	2,769,684	143,881
OPEB	<u>3,190,394</u>	<u>-</u>
Total deferred inflows of resources	<u>5,960,078</u>	<u>143,881</u>
<b><u>Net position</u></b>		
Unrestricted (deficit)	<u>(101,467,529)</u>	<u>(131,279,830)</u>
Total net position (deficit)	<u>\$ (101,467,529)</u>	<u>\$ (131,279,830)</u>

The net pension liability (NPL) is the largest single liability reported by the Council at June 30, 2018 and is reported pursuant to GASB Statement 68, "Accounting and Financial Reporting for Pensions—an Amendment of GASB Statement 27." For fiscal year 2018, the School Council adopted GASB Statement 75, "Accounting and Financial Reporting for Postemployment Benefits Other Than Pensions," which significantly revises accounting for costs and liabilities related to other postemployment benefits (OPEB). For reasons discussed below, many end users of this financial statement will gain a clearer understanding of the Council's actual financial condition by adding deferred inflows related to pension and OPEB, the net pension liability and the net OPEB liability to the reported net position and subtracting deferred outflows related to pension and OPEB.



**EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS  
FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO**

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2018

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

As a result of implementing GASB 75, the Council is reporting a net OPEB liability and deferred inflows/outflows of resources related to OPEB. This implementation also had the effect of restating net position at June 30, 2017.

**EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS  
FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO**

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2018

***Analysis of Net Position***

Over time, net position can serve as a useful indicator of a government's financial position. Total net position increased \$29,812,301 but remained at a deficit net position of \$101,467,529 at June 30, 2018. Both the net pension liability and net OPEB liability decreased considerably. These liabilities represent the Council's share of the two state retirement systems' present value of estimated future pension benefits less the assets available to pay those benefits. This will fluctuate annually based on a number of factors including investment returns, actuarial assumptions used, and the Council's proportionate share of the net pension and net OPEB cost. As a result many end users of this financial statement will gain a clearer understanding of the District's actual financial condition by adding deferred inflows related to pension and OPEB, the net pension liability and the net OPEB liability to the reported net position and subtracting deferred outflows related to pension and OPEB. The result would be a deficit net position at June 30, 2018 of \$1,099,405.

Current assets for the Council consist primarily of cash and cash equivalents and receivables from operations. The Council's noncurrent assets are receivables that are not expected to be received within one year. Current liabilities are mostly accrued wages and benefits and amounts due to other governmental entities. The noncurrent liabilities reported at June 30, 2018 represent the net pension liability, net OPEB liability and the long-term portion of the Council's compensated absences liability.

The table that follows shows the changes in net position for fiscal years 2018 and 2017.

**Change in Net Position**

	<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>
<b><u>Operating revenues:</u></b>		
Charges for services	\$ 73,196,787	\$ 68,764,033
Total operating revenues	<u>73,196,787</u>	<u>68,764,033</u>
<b><u>Operating expenses:</u></b>		
Personnel services	57,398,348	53,817,102
Employee benefits	(14,431,128)	22,403,416
Other	<u>417,266</u>	<u>578,798</u>
Total operating expenses	<u>43,384,486</u>	<u>76,799,316</u>
Change in net position	29,812,301	(8,035,283)
Net position (deficit) at the beginning of the fiscal year (restated)	<u>(131,279,830)</u>	N/A
Net position (deficit) at the end of the fiscal year	<u>\$ (101,467,529)</u>	<u>\$ (131,279,830)</u>

The information necessary to restate the 2017 beginning balances and the 2017 OPEB expense amounts for the effects of the initial implementation of GASB 75 is not available. Therefore, 2017 expenses still include OPEB expense of \$386,865 computed under GASB 45. GASB 45 required recognizing OPEB expense equal to the contractually required contributions to the plan. Under GASB 75, OPEB expense represents additional amounts earned, adjusted by deferred inflows/outflows. The contractually required contribution is no longer a component of OPEB expense. Under GASB 75, the 2018 statements report negative OPEB expense of \$1,456,174. Consequently, in order to compare 2018 total expenses to 2017, the following adjustments are needed:

**EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS  
FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO**

**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2018**

Total 2018 expenses under GASB 75	\$ 43,384,486
Negative OPEB expense under GASB 75	1,456,174
2018 contractually required contributions	<u>553,486</u>
Adjusted 2018 expenses	45,394,146
Total 2017 expenses under GASB 45	<u>76,799,316</u>
Decrease in expenses not related to OPEB	<u>\$ (31,405,170)</u>

The Council operates as a business-type enterprise fund. Results of the period ended June 30, 2018 indicate an increase in net position of \$29,812,301. This is primarily a result of a decrease in pension expense and OPEB expense for the Council due to the overall decrease in net pension liability and net OPEB liability reported by the School Employees Retirement System (SERS) and the State Teachers Retirement System (STRS). Total pension expense and OPEB expense for the Council in fiscal year 2018 amounted to \$(22,453,853) which is recorded in employee benefits expense.

Charges for services revenue is primarily the cost of employing personnel on behalf of other entities. Personnel services expenses consist of employee salaries and wages. Employee benefits consist primarily of the aforementioned pension expense and OPEB expense, as well as the Council's share of employees' health and dental insurance premiums and the Council's required contributions to SERS and STRS.

**Budget**

Regional Council of Governments are not subject to the budgetary provisions set forth in Ohio Revised Code Chapter 5705.

**Capital Assets and Debt Administration**

The Council maintains no capital assets and has not issued any debt.

**Economic Factors**

The Council's ongoing activities are primarily dependent upon the continued support of the Educational Service Center of Central Ohio. Management is currently unaware of any facts, decisions or conditions that have occurred that are expected to have a significant effect on financial position or results of operations.

**Operations**

The Council is a legally separate body politic and corporate served by an appointed three-member Board of Directors. The Board is made up of representatives from Gahanna-Jefferson Public Schools, Delaware City Schools and the Educational Service Center of Central Ohio. The goal is to serve those entities that are served by the Center. The Council provides employment services to other governmental entities on a contractual basis.

**Requests for Information**

This financial report is designed to provide our citizens, investors and creditors with a general overview of the Council's finances and to show the Council's accountability for the money it receives. If you have questions about this report or need additional financial information contact David Varda, Treasurer of the Educational Service Center of Central Ohio, 2080 Citygate Drive, Columbus, Ohio 43219.

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**EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS  
FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO**

STATEMENT OF NET POSITION  
JUNE 30, 2018

<b>Assets:</b>	
Current assets:	
Cash and cash equivalents . . . . .	\$ 3,342,118
Receivables . . . . .	4,655,940
Prepayments . . . . .	34,389
Restricted assets:	
Investments held on behalf of others . . . . .	652,636
Receivables . . . . .	3,569
Total current assets . . . . .	<u>8,688,652</u>
Noncurrent assets:	
Receivables . . . . .	<u>649,717</u>
Total noncurrent assets . . . . .	<u>649,717</u>
Total assets . . . . .	<u>9,338,369</u>
<b>Deferred outflows of resources:</b>	
Pension . . . . .	38,076,282
OPEB . . . . .	<u>2,566,996</u>
Total deferred outflows of resources. . . . .	<u>40,643,278</u>
<b>Liabilities:</b>	
Current liabilities:	
Accounts payable . . . . .	1,251
Accrued wages and benefits . . . . .	3,349,743
Due to other governments . . . . .	5,185,034
Compensated absences. . . . .	593,540
Payables from restricted assets. . . . .	<u>656,205</u>
Total current liabilities . . . . .	<u>9,785,773</u>
Noncurrent liabilities:	
Compensated absences. . . . .	652,001
Net pension liability (see Note 9). . . . .	104,963,396
Net OPEB liability (see Note 10). . . . .	<u>30,087,928</u>
Total noncurrent liabilities . . . . .	<u>135,703,325</u>
Total liabilities . . . . .	<u>145,489,098</u>
<b>Deferred inflows of resources:</b>	
Pension . . . . .	2,769,684
OPEB . . . . .	<u>3,190,394</u>
Total deferred inflows of resources . . . . .	<u>5,960,078</u>
<b>Net position:</b>	
Unrestricted (deficit) . . . . .	<u>(101,467,529)</u>
Total net position (deficit) . . . . .	<u>\$ (101,467,529)</u>

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS  
FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO**

STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENSES AND  
CHANGES IN NET POSITION  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2018

<b>Operating revenues:</b>	
Charges for services. . . . .	\$ 73,196,787
Total operating revenues. . . . .	<u>73,196,787</u>
 <b>Operating expenses:</b>	
Personnel services. . . . .	57,398,348
Employee benefits. . . . .	(14,431,128)
Purchased services. . . . .	350,266
Materials and supplies. . . . .	16,113
Other. . . . .	50,887
Total operating expenses. . . . .	<u>43,384,486</u>
Operating gain and change in net position. . . . .	29,812,301
 <b>Net position (deficit) at beginning of fiscal year . . . . .</b>	 <u>(131,279,830)</u>
<b>Net position (deficit) at end of fiscal year . . . . .</b>	 <u>\$ (101,467,529)</u>

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS  
FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO**

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2018

<b>Cash flows from operating activities:</b>	
Cash received from customers . . . . .	\$ 73,509,422
Cash payments for personnel services . . . . .	(57,601,403)
Cash payments for employee benefits . . . . .	(15,500,133)
Cash payments for purchased services . . . . .	(319,553)
Cash payments for materials and supplies . . . . .	(16,113)
Cash payments for other expenses . . . . .	(50,304)
	<hr/>
Net cash provided by operating activities . . . . .	21,916
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents . . . . .	21,916
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of fiscal year . . . . .</b>	<b>3,320,202</b>
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at end of fiscal year . . . . .</b>	<b><u><u>\$ 3,342,118</u></u></b>
<b>Reconciliation of operating gain to net cash provided by operating activities:</b>	
Operating gain . . . . .	\$ 29,812,301
Changes in assets, deferred inflows of resources, liabilities and deferred outflows of resources:	
Decrease in receivables . . . . .	266,159
Increase in prepayments . . . . .	(4,975)
Increase in deferred outflows - pension . . . . .	(4,528,354)
Increase in deferred outflows - OPEB . . . . .	(2,180,131)
Decrease in accounts payable . . . . .	(1,622)
Decrease in accrued wages and benefits . . . . .	(288,375)
Increase in due to other governments . . . . .	943,924
Increase in compensated absences payable . . . . .	85,320
Decrease in net pension liability . . . . .	(26,878,605)
Decrease in net OPEB liability . . . . .	(3,019,923)
Increase in deferred inflows - pension . . . . .	2,625,803
Increase in deferred inflows - OPEB . . . . .	3,190,394
	<hr/>
Net cash provided by operating activities . . . . .	<b><u><u>\$ 21,916</u></u></b>

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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**EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS  
FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO**

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2018

**NOTE 1 - DESCRIPTION OF THE COUNCIL AND REPORTING ENTITY**

The Educational Service Center Council of Governments (the “Council”) is a legally separate body politic and corporate that meets the definition of regional council of governments under Chapter 167 of the Ohio Revised Code. The Council is governed by a Governing Board consisting of one member designated by each of the Educational Service Center of Central Ohio (Center), Gahanna-Jefferson Public School District and Delaware City School District. The Council provides employment services primarily to the Center.

Other School Districts, community schools and other political subdivisions that have entered into service agreements with the Council shall automatically be members of the Council’s Advisory Committee during the terms of such agreements. The Treasurer of the Center is also the Treasurer of the Council. Due to the nature and significance of the Council’s relationship with the Center, the Council has been determined to be a discretely presented component unit and has been included as part of the Center’s basic financial statements.

The Council participates in a public entity shared risk pool to provide health and dental benefits to its employees. See Note 11 for additional detail.

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

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

**A. Basis of Presentation**

The Council’s basic financial statements consist of a statement of net position, a statement of revenues, expenses, and changes in net position, and a statement of cash flows. Enterprise accounting is used to account for operations that are financed and operated in a manner similar to private business enterprises, where the intent is that the costs (expenses, including depreciation) of providing goods or services to the general public on a continuing basis be financed or recovered primarily through user charges; or where it has been decided that periodic determination of revenues earned, expenses incurred, and net income is appropriate for capital maintenance, public policy, management control, accountability or other purposes.

**B. Measurement Focus**

The accounting and financial reporting treatment is determined by its measurement focus. Enterprise accounting uses a “flow of economic resources” measurement focus. With this measurement focus, all assets and deferred outflows of resources and all liabilities and deferred inflows of resources are included on the statement of net position.

**EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS  
FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO**

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2018

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

**C. Basis of Accounting**

Basis of accounting determines when transactions are recorded in the financial records and reported on the financial statements. The Council's financial statements are prepared using the accrual basis of accounting. Revenues resulting from exchange transactions, in which each party gives and receives essentially equal value, are recorded when the exchange takes place. Revenues resulting from non-exchange transactions, in which the Council receives value without directly giving equal value in return, such as grants and entitlements, are recognized in the year when use is first permitted and all eligibility requirements have been met; eligibility requirements include matching requirements, in which the Council must provide local resources to be used for a specified purpose, and expenditures requirements, in which the resources are provided to the Council on a reimbursement basis. Expenses are recognized at the time they are incurred.

**D. Budgetary Process**

Regional Council of Governments are not subject to the budgetary provisions set forth in Ohio Revised Code Chapter 5705.

**E. Cash, Cash Equivalents and Investments**

Cash held by the Council is reflected as "cash and cash equivalents" on the statement of net position. All monies received by the Council are maintained in demand deposit accounts or used to purchase investments. For internal accounting purposes, the Council segregates its cash. Investments with an original maturity of three months or less at the time they are purchased are presented on the financial statements as cash equivalents. Investments with an original maturity of more than three months are reported as investments.

Investments are reported at fair value, except for non-negotiable certificates of deposit, which are reported at cost. The Council's investments in fiscal year 2018 consisted of negotiable certificates of deposit (CDs) and U.S. Government obligations.

**F. Prepayments**

Certain payments to vendors reflect the costs applicable to future accounting periods and are recorded as prepaid items in the financial statements. These items are reported as assets on the statement of net position using the consumption method. A current asset for the prepaid amount is recorded at the time of the purchase and the expense is reported in the year in which services are consumed.

**G. Capital Assets**

The Council maintains no capital assets.

**H. Net Position**

Net position represents the difference between assets and deferred outflows of resources and liabilities and deferred inflows of resources. Net position is reported as restricted when there are limitations imposed on its use either through the enabling legislation adopted by the Council or through external restrictions imposed by creditors, grantors or laws or regulations of other governments. The Council did not have any restricted net position at fiscal year-end.

**EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS  
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NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2018

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

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

**I. Compensated Absences**

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

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 Council has identified as probable of receiving payment in the future. The amount is based on accumulated sick leave and employees' wage rates at fiscal year-end, taking into consideration any limits specified in the Council's termination policy. The Council records a liability for accumulated unused sick leave for all employees age 52 years and older.

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

All payables, accrued liabilities and long-term obligations are reported in the financial statements.

**K. Estimates**

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

**L. Operating Revenues and Expenses**

Operating revenues are those revenues that are generated directly from the primary activity of the Council. Operating expenses are necessary cost incurred to provide the service that is the primary activity of the Council. All revenues and expenses not meeting this definition are reported as non-operating.

**M. Extraordinary and Special Items**

Extraordinary items are transactions or events that are both unusual in nature and infrequent in occurrence. Special items are transactions or events that are within the control of the Governing Board and that are either unusual in nature or infrequent in occurrence. The Council had no extraordinary or special items during fiscal year 2018.

**EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS  
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NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2018

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

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

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

**O. Fair Value**

The Council categorizes its fair value measurements within the fair value hierarchy established by generally accepted accounting principles. The hierarchy is based on the valuation inputs used to measure the fair value of the asset. Level 1 inputs are quoted prices in active markets for identical assets; Level 2 inputs are significant other observable inputs; Level 3 inputs are significant unobservable inputs.

**NOTE 3 - ACCOUNTABILITY**

**Change in Accounting Principles**

For fiscal year 2018, the Council has implemented GASB Statement No. 75, "Accounting and Financial Reporting for Postemployment Benefits Other Than Pension", GASB Statement No. 81 "Irrevocable Split-Interest Agreements", GASB Statement No. 85, "Omnibus 2017" and GASB Statement No. 86, "Certain Debt Extinguishments".

GASB Statement No. 75 improves the accounting and financial reporting by state and local governments for postemployment benefits other than pension (OPEB). It also improves information provided by state and local governmental employers about financial support for OPEB that is provided by other entities. The implementation of GASB Statement No. 75 affected the Council's postemployment benefit plan disclosures, as presented in Note 10 to the basic financial statements, and added required supplementary information which is presented after these notes to the basic financial statements.

GASB Statement No. 81 improves the accounting and financial reporting for irrevocable split-interest agreements by providing recognition and measurement guidance for situations in which a government is a beneficiary of the agreement. The implementation of GASB Statement No. 81 did not have an effect on the financial statements of the Council.

GASB Statement No. 85 addresses practice issues that have been identified during implementation and application of certain GASB Statements. This Statement addresses a variety of topics including issues related to blending component units, goodwill, fair value measurement and application, and OPEB. The implementation of GASB Statement No. 85 did not have an effect on the financial statements of the Council.

**EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS  
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NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
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**NOTE 3 - ACCOUNTABILITY (Continued)**

GASB Statement No. 86 improves consistency in accounting and financial reporting for in-substance defeasance of debt by providing guidance for transactions in which cash and other monetary assets acquired with only existing resources - resources other than the proceeds of refunding debt - are placed in an irrevocable trust for the sole purpose of extinguishing debt. This Statement also improves accounting and financial reporting for prepaid insurance on debt that is extinguished and notes to financial statements for debt that is defeased in substance. The implementation of GASB Statement No. 86 did not have an effect on the financial statements of the Council.

A net position restatement is required in order to implement GASB Statement No 75. The governmental activities at July 1, 2017 have been restated as follows:

Net position as previously reported	\$ (98,558,844)
Deferred outflows - payments subsequent to measurement date	386,865
Net OPEB liability	<u>(33,107,851)</u>
Restated net position at July 1, 2017	<u><u>\$(131,279,830)</u></u>

Other than employer contributions subsequent to the measurement date, the Council made no restatement for deferred inflows/outflows of resources as the information needed to generate these restatements was not available.

**NOTE 4 - DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS**

**A. Deposits with Financial Institutions**

At June 30, 2018, the carrying amount of all Council deposits was \$3,342,119 and the bank balance of all Council deposits was \$3,372,083. Of the bank balance, \$250,000 was covered by the FDIC and \$3,122,083 was potentially exposed to custodial credit risk as discussed below because those deposits were uninsured and could be uncollateralized. Although all statutory requirements for the deposit of money had been followed, noncompliance with Federal requirements could potentially subject the Council to a successful claim by the FDIC.

Custodial credit risk is the risk that, in the event of bank failure, the Council's deposits may not be returned. The Council has no deposit policy for custodial risk beyond the requirements of State statute. Ohio law requires that deposits either be insured or protected by: (1) eligible securities pledged to the Council and deposited with a qualified trustee by the financial institution as security for repayment whose market value at all times shall be at least 105 percent of the deposits being secured; or (2) participation in the Ohio Pooled Collateral System (OPCS), a collateral pool of eligible securities deposited with a qualified trustee and pledged to the Treasurer of State to secure the repayment of all public monies deposited in the financial institution. OPCS requires the total market value of the securities pledged to be 102 percent of the deposits being secured or a rate set by the Treasurer of State. For 2018, the Council's financial institutions were approved for a reduced collateral rate of 50 percent through the OPCS.

**EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS  
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NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2018

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

**B. Investments**

As of June 30, 2018, the Council had the following investments and maturities:

<u>Investment type</u>	<u>Fair Value</u>	<u>Investment Maturities</u>		<u>Percentage of Total</u>
		<u>6 months or less</u>	<u>Greater than 6 months</u>	
Negotiable CDs	\$ 639,785	\$ -	\$ 231,966	98.03
U.S. Government Obligations	<u>12,851</u>	<u>12,851</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1.97</u>
	<u>\$ 652,636</u>	<u>\$ 12,851</u>	<u>\$ 231,966</u>	<u>100.00</u>

The weighted average maturity of investments is 2.35 years.

The Council's investments are valued using quoted market prices in markets that are not considered to be active, dealer quotations or alternative pricing sources for similar assets or liabilities for which all significant inputs are observable, either directly or indirectly (Level 2 inputs).

*Interest Rate Risk:* Interest rate risk is the possibility that changes in interest rates will adversely affect the fair value of an investment. The Council's investment policy places a five year limit on investment maturities as a means of managing its exposure to fair value losses arising from increasing interest rates.

*Credit Risk:* The Council's U.S. Government obligations were rated AA+ and Aaa by Standard & Poor's and Moody's Investor Services, respectively. The Negotiable CDs were not rated. The Council's investment policy does not specifically address credit risk beyond the adherence to all relevant sections of the Ohio Revised Code.

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

*Concentration of Credit Risk:* The Council's investment policy places no limit on the percentage of the Council's portfolio that may be invested in any one issuer.

**NOTE 5 - RECEIVABLES**

Receivables at June 30, 2018, consist of amounts due from operations. \$649,717 is not expected to be collected within one year and is reported as a noncurrent asset on the statement of net position.

**EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS  
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NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2018

**NOTE 6 - LONG-TERM OBLIGATIONS**

The following is a summary of the Council's long-term obligations activity in fiscal year 2018:

	Balance June 30, 2017	Additions	Reductions	Balance June 30, 2018	Due Within One Year
Compensated absences	\$ 1,160,221	\$ 610,813	\$ (525,493)	\$ 1,245,541	\$ 593,540
Net pension liability	131,842,001	-	(26,878,605)	104,963,396	-
Net OPEB liability	33,107,851	-	(3,019,923)	30,087,928	-
Total	<u>\$ 166,110,073</u>	<u>\$ 610,813</u>	<u>\$ (30,424,021)</u>	<u>\$ 136,296,865</u>	<u>\$ 593,540</u>

**NOTE 7 - CONTINGENCIES**

There are currently no matters in litigation with the Council as plaintiff or defendant.

**NOTE 8 - RISK MANAGEMENT**

**A. General Risk**

The Council is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts, theft or damage, destruction of assets, errors and omissions, injuries to employees, and natural disasters. The Council maintains insurance coverage consistent with that of the Center. Settled claims have not exceeded this commercial coverage in any of the past three years and there has been no significant reduction in coverage from the prior year.

**B. Workers' Compensation**

Workers' compensation coverage is provided by the State of Ohio. The Council pays the Bureau of Workers' Compensation a premium based on a rate per \$100 of payroll. This rate is calculated based on accident history and administrative costs.

**NOTE 9 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS**

***Net Pension Liability***

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

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

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NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
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**NOTE 9 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS - (Continued)**

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

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

The proportionate share of each plan’s unfunded benefits is presented as a long-term *net pension liability* on the accrual basis of accounting. Any liability for the contractually-required pension contribution outstanding at the end of the year is included in *due to other governments*.

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

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

Age and service requirements for retirement are as follows:

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

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

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

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



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NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
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**NOTE 9 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS - (Continued)**

Funding Policy - Plan members are required to contribute 10 percent of their annual covered salary and the Council is required to contribute 14 percent of annual covered payroll. The contribution requirements of plan members and employers are established and may be amended by the SERS' Retirement Board up to statutory maximum amounts of 10 percent for plan members and 14 percent for employers. The Retirement Board, acting with the advice of the actuary, allocates the employer contribution rate among four of the System's funds (Pension Trust Fund, Death Benefit Fund, Medicare B Fund, and Health Care Fund). For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2018, the allocation to pension, death benefits, and Medicare B was 13.5 percent. The remaining 0.5 percent of the employer contribution rate was allocated to the Health Care Fund.

The Council's contractually required contribution to SERS was \$3,522,408 for fiscal year 2018. Of this amount, \$202,848 is reported as due to other governments.

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

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

New members have a choice of three retirement plans; a Defined Benefit (DB) Plan, a Defined Contribution (DC) Plan and a Combined Plan. Benefits are established by Ohio Revised Code Chapter 3307. The DB Plan offers an annual retirement allowance based on final average salary multiplied by a percentage that varies based on years of service. Effective August 1, 2015, the calculation will be 2.2 percent of final average salary for the five highest years of earnings multiplied by all years of service. Effective July 1, 2017, the cost-of-living adjustment was reduced to zero. Members are eligible to retire at age 60 with five years of qualifying service credit, or age 55 with 26 years of service, or 31 years of service regardless of age. Eligibility changes will be phased in until August 1, 2026, when retirement eligibility for unreduced benefits will be five years of service credit and age 65, or 35 years of service credit and at least age 60.

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

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

**EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS  
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NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
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**NOTE 9 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS - (Continued)**

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

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

Funding Policy - Employer and member contribution rates are established by the State Teachers Retirement Board and limited by Chapter 3307 of the Ohio Revised Code. For fiscal year 2018, plan members were required to contribute 14 percent of their annual covered salary. The Council was required to contribute 14 percent; the entire 14 percent was the portion used to fund pension obligations. The fiscal year 2018 contribution rates were equal to the statutory maximum rates.

The Council's contractually required contribution to STRS was \$4,261,069 for fiscal year 2018. Of this amount, \$257,791 is reported as due to other governments.

***Net Pension Liability***

The net pension liability was measured as of June 30, 2017, and the total pension liability used to calculate the net pension liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of that date. The Council's proportion of the net pension liability was based on the Council's share of contributions to the pension plan relative to the projected contributions of all participating entities. Following is information related to the proportionate share and pension expense:

	<u>SERS</u>	<u>STRS</u>	<u>Total</u>
Proportion of the net pension liability prior measurement date	0.71481970%	0.23757584%	
Proportion of the net pension liability current measurement date	<u>0.74505190%</u>	<u>0.25446283%</u>	
Change in proportionate share	<u>0.03023220%</u>	<u>0.01688699%</u>	
Proportionate share of the net pension liability	\$ 44,515,205	\$ 60,448,191	\$ 104,963,396
Pension expense	\$ (820,463)	\$ (20,177,216)	\$ (20,997,679)

**EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS  
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NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
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**NOTE 9 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS - (Continued)**

At June 30, 2018, the Council reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions from the following sources:

	<u>SERS</u>	<u>STRS</u>	<u>Total</u>
<b>Deferred outflows of resources</b>			
Differences between expected and actual experience	\$ 1,915,781	\$ 2,334,225	\$ 4,250,006
Changes of assumptions	2,301,914	13,220,683	15,522,597
Difference between Council contributions and proportionate share of contributions/ change in proportionate share	2,068,759	8,451,443	10,520,202
Council contributions subsequent to the measurement date	<u>3,522,408</u>	<u>4,261,069</u>	<u>7,783,477</u>
Total deferred outflows of resources	<u>\$ 9,808,862</u>	<u>\$ 28,267,420</u>	<u>\$ 38,076,282</u>
<b>Deferred inflows of resources</b>			
Differences between expected and actual experience	\$ -	\$ 487,189	\$ 487,189
Net difference between projected and actual earnings on pension plan investments	211,305	1,994,859	2,206,164
Difference between Council contributions and proportionate share of contributions/ change in proportionate share	<u>76,331</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>76,331</u>
Total deferred inflows of resources	<u>\$ 287,636</u>	<u>\$ 2,482,048</u>	<u>\$ 2,769,684</u>

\$7,783,477 reported as deferred outflows of resources related to pension resulting from Council contributions subsequent to the measurement date will be recognized as a reduction of the net pension liability in the year ending June 30, 2019. Other amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pension will be recognized in pension expense as follows:

	<u>SERS</u>	<u>STRS</u>	<u>Total</u>
Fiscal Year Ending June 30:			
2019	\$ 2,567,109	\$ 5,883,606	\$ 8,450,715
2020	3,432,191	8,597,302	12,029,493
2021	1,037,262	5,002,491	6,039,753
2022	<u>(1,037,744)</u>	<u>2,040,904</u>	<u>1,003,160</u>
Total	<u>\$ 5,998,818</u>	<u>\$ 21,524,303</u>	<u>\$ 27,523,121</u>

**EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS  
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NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2018

**NOTE 9 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS - (Continued)**

*Actuarial Assumptions - SERS*

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

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

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

Key methods and assumptions used in calculating the total pension liability in the latest actuarial valuation, prepared as of June 30, 2017, are presented below:

Wage inflation	3.00 percent
Future salary increases, including inflation	3.50 percent to 18.20 percent
COLA or ad hoc COLA	2.50 percent
Investment rate of return	7.50 percent net of investments expense, including inflation
Actuarial cost method	Entry age normal (level percent of payroll)

Prior to 2017, an assumption of 3 percent was used for COLA or Ad Hoc COLA.

For 2017, the mortality rates were based on the RP-2014 Blue Collar Mortality Table with fully generational projection and a five-year age set-back for both males and females. Mortality among service retired members, and beneficiaries were based upon the RP-2014 Blue Collar Mortality Table with fully generational projection with Scale BB, 120 percent of male rates, and 110 percent of female rates. Mortality among disabled members was based upon the RP-2000 Disabled Mortality Table, 90 percent for male rates and 100 percent for female rates, set back five years is used for the period after disability retirement.

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

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NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
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**NOTE 9 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS - (Continued)**

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

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

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

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

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

	<u>1% Decrease (6.50%)</u>	<u>Current Discount Rate (7.50%)</u>	<u>1% Increase (8.50%)</u>
District's proportionate share of the net pension liability	\$ 61,775,536	\$ 44,515,205	\$ 30,056,157

**EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS  
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NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
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**NOTE 9 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS - (Continued)**

*Actuarial Assumptions - STRS Ohio*

Key methods and assumptions used in the latest actuarial valuation, reflecting experience study results used in the July 1, 2017, actuarial valuation, compared with July 1, 2016 are presented below:

	July 1, 2017	July 1, 2016
Inflation	2.50 percent	2.75 percent
Projected salary increases	12.50 percent at age 20 to 2.50 percent at age 65	12.25 percent at age 20 to 2.75 percent at age 70
Investment rate of return	7.45 percent, net of investment expenses, including inflation	7.75 percent, net of investment expenses, including inflation
Payroll increases	3 percent	3.5 percent
Cost-of-living adjustments (COLA)	0.0 percent, effective July 1, 2017	2 percent simple applied as follows: for members retiring before August 1, 2013, 2 percent per year; for members retiring August 1, 2013, or later, 2 percent COLA commences on fifth anniversary of retirement date.

For the July 1, 2017, actuarial valuation, post-retirement mortality rates for healthy retirees are based on the RP-2014 Annuitant Mortality Table with 50 percent of rates through age 69, 70 percent of rates between ages 70 and 79, 90 percent of rates between ages 80 and 84, and 100 percent of rates thereafter, projected forward generationally using mortality improvement scale MP-2016. Post-retirement disabled mortality rates are based on the RP-2014 Disabled Mortality Table with 90 percent of rates for males and 100 percent of rates for females, projected forward generationally using mortality improvement scale MP-2016. Pre-retirement mortality rates are based on RP-2014 Employee Mortality Table, projected forward generationally using mortality improvement scale MP-2016.

For the July 1, 2016 actuarial valuation, mortality rates were based on the RP-2000 Combined Mortality Table (Projection 2022—Scale AA) for Males and Females. Males' ages are set-back two years through age 89 and no set-back for age 90 and above. Females younger than age 80 are set back four years, one year set back from age 80 through 89, and no set back from age 90 and above.

Actuarial assumptions used in the July 1 2017, valuation are based on the results of an actuarial experience study for the period July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2016. Actuarial assumptions used in the June 30, 2016, valuation are based on the results of an actuarial experience study, effective July 1, 2012.

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NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
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**NOTE 9 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS - (Continued)**

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

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

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

**Discount Rate** - The discount rate used to measure the total pension liability was 7.45 percent as of June 30, 2017. The discount rate used to measure the total pension liability was 7.75 percent as of June 30, 2016. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumes member and employer contributions will be made at the statutory contribution rates in accordance with rate increases described above. For this purpose, only employer contributions that are intended to fund benefits of current plan members and their beneficiaries are included. Projected employer contributions that are intended to fund the service costs of future plan members and their beneficiaries, as well as projected contributions from future plan members, are not included. Based on those assumptions, STRS' fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments to current plan members as of June 30, 2017. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments of 7.45 percent was applied to all periods of projected benefit payment to determine the total pension liability as of June 30, 2017.

**Sensitivity of the Council's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate** - The following table presents the Council's proportionate share of the net pension liability calculated using the current period discount rate assumption of 7.45 percent, as well as what the Council's proportionate share of the net pension liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is one-percentage-point lower (6.45 percent) or one-percentage-point higher (8.45 percent) than the current rate:

	<u>1% Decrease (6.45%)</u>	<u>Current Discount Rate (7.45%)</u>	<u>1% Increase (8.45%)</u>
District's proportionate share of the net pension liability	\$ 86,650,424	\$ 60,448,191	\$ 38,376,736

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NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
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**NOTE 10 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS**

***Net OPEB Liability***

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

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

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

GASB 75 assumes the liability is solely the obligation of the employer, because they benefit from employee services. OPEB contributions come from these employers and health care plan enrollees which pay a portion of the health care costs in the form of a monthly premium. The Ohio Revised Code permits, but does not require the retirement systems to provide healthcare to eligible benefit recipients. Any change to benefits or funding could significantly affect the net OPEB liability. Resulting adjustments to the net OPEB liability would be effective when the changes are legally enforceable. The retirement systems may allocate a portion of the employer contributions to provide for these OPEB benefits.

The proportionate share of each plan's unfunded benefits is presented as a long-term *net OPEB liability* on the accrual basis of accounting. Any liability for the contractually-required OPEB contribution outstanding at the end of the year is included in *due to other governments*.

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

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



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

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

Funding Policy - State statute permits SERS to fund the health care benefits through employer contributions. Each year, after the allocation for statutorily required pensions and benefits, the Retirement Board may allocate the remainder of the employer contribution of 14 percent of covered payroll to the Health Care Fund in accordance with the funding policy. For fiscal year 2018, .5 percent of covered payroll was made to health care. An additional health care surcharge on employers is collected for employees earning less than an actuarially determined minimum compensation amount, pro-rated if less than a full year of service credit was earned. For fiscal year 2018, this amount was \$23,700. 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 2018, the Council's surcharge obligation was \$423,026.

The surcharge added to the allocated portion of the 14 percent employer contribution rate is the total amount assigned to the Health Care Fund. The Council's contractually required contribution to SERS was \$553,486 for fiscal year 2018. Of this amount, \$430,539 is reported as due to other governments.

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

Plan Description – The State Teachers Retirement System of Ohio (STRS) administers a cost-sharing Health Plan administered for eligible retirees who participated in the defined benefit or combined pension plans offered by STRS. Ohio law authorizes STRS to offer this plan. Benefits include hospitalization, physicians' fees, prescription drugs and partial reimbursement of monthly Medicare Part B premiums. Medicare Part B premium reimbursements will be discontinued effective January 1, 2020. The Plan is included in the report of STRS which can be obtained by visiting [www.strsoh.org](http://www.strsoh.org) or by calling (888) 227-7877.

Funding Policy – Ohio Revised Code Chapter 3307 authorizes STRS to offer the Plan and gives the Retirement Board discretionary authority over how much, if any, of the health care costs will be absorbed by STRS. Active employee members do not contribute to the Health Care Plan. Nearly all health care plan enrollees, for the most recent year, pay a portion of the health care costs in the form of a monthly premium. Under Ohio law, funding for post-employment health care may be deducted from employer contributions, currently 14 percent of covered payroll. For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2018, STRS did not allocate any employer contributions to post-employment health care.

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

***Net OPEB Liability***

The net OPEB liability was measured as of June 30, 2017, and the total OPEB liability used to calculate the net OPEB liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of that date. The Council's proportion of the net OPEB liability was based on the Council's share of contributions to the respective retirement systems relative to the contributions of all participating entities. Following is information related to the proportionate share and OPEB expense:

	<u>SERS</u>	<u>STRS</u>	<u>Total</u>
Proportion of the net OPEB liability prior measurement date	0.71577492%	0.23757584%	
Proportion of the net OPEB liability current measurement date	<u>0.75118110%</u>	<u>0.25446283%</u>	
Change in proportionate share	<u>0.03540618%</u>	<u>0.01688699%</u>	
Proportionate share of the net OPEB liability	\$ 20,159,727	\$ 9,928,201	\$ 30,087,928
OPEB expense	\$ 1,444,360	\$ (2,900,534)	\$ (1,456,174)

At June 30, 2018, the Council reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB from the following sources:

	<u>SERS</u>	<u>STRS</u>	<u>Total</u>
<b>Deferred outflows of resources</b>			
Differences between expected and actual experience	\$ -	\$ 573,117	\$ 573,117
Difference between Council contributions and proportionate share of contributions/ change in proportionate share	666,290	774,103	1,440,393
Council contributions subsequent to the measurement date	<u>553,486</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>553,486</u>
Total deferred outflows of resources	<u>\$ 1,219,776</u>	<u>\$ 1,347,220</u>	<u>\$ 2,566,996</u>
<b>Deferred inflows of resources</b>			
Net difference between projected and actual earnings on pension plan investments	\$ 53,237	\$ 424,354	\$ 477,591
Changes of assumptions	<u>1,913,054</u>	<u>799,749</u>	<u>2,712,803</u>
Total deferred inflows of resources	<u>\$ 1,966,291</u>	<u>\$ 1,224,103</u>	<u>\$ 3,190,394</u>

\$553,486 reported as deferred outflows of resources related to OPEB resulting from Council contributions subsequent to the measurement date will be recognized as a reduction of the net OPEB liability in the year ending June 30, 2019. Other amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB will be recognized in OPEB expense as follows:

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

Fiscal Year Ending June 30:	<u>SERS</u>	<u>STRS</u>	<u>Total</u>
2019	\$ (465,035)	\$ (14,844)	\$ (479,879)
2020	(465,035)	(14,844)	(479,879)
2021	(356,621)	(14,844)	(371,465)
2022	(13,310)	(14,842)	(28,152)
2023	-	91,245	91,245
Thereafter	-	91,246	91,246
Total	<u>\$ (1,300,001)</u>	<u>\$ 123,117</u>	<u>\$ (1,176,884)</u>

***Actuarial Assumptions - SERS***

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

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

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

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

Key methods and assumptions used in calculating the total OPEB liability in the latest actuarial valuation date of June 30, 2017, are presented below:

Wage inflation	3.00 percent
Future salary increases, including inflation	3.50 percent to 18.20 percent
Investment rate of return	7.50 percent net of investments expense, including inflation
Municipal bond index rate:	
Measurement date	3.56 percent
Prior measurement date	2.92 percent
Single equivalent interest rate, net of plan investment expense, including price inflation:	
Measurement date	3.63 percent
Prior measurement date	2.98 percent
Medical trend assumption:	
Medicare	5.50 to 5.00 percent
Pre-Medicare	7.50 to 5.00 percent

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

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

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

The target asset allocation and best estimates of arithmetic real rates of return for each major asset class, as used in the June 30, 2015 five-year experience study, are summarized as follows:

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

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

**Discount Rate** - The discount rate used to measure the total OPEB liability at June 30, 2017 was 3.63 percent. The discount rate used to measure total OPEB liability prior to June 30, 2017 was 2.98 percent. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed that contributions will be made from members and the System at the state statute contribution rate of 2.00 percent of projected covered employee payroll each year, which includes a 1.50 percent payroll surcharge and 0.50 percent of contributions from the basic benefits plan. Based on these assumptions, the OPEB plan's fiduciary net position was projected to become insufficient to make future benefit payments during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on OPEB plan assets was used to present value the projected benefit payments through the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024 and the Fidelity General Obligation 20-year Municipal Bond Index rate of 3.56 percent, as of June 30, 2017 (i.e. municipal bond rate), was used to present value the projected benefit payments for the remaining years in the projection. The total present value of projected benefit payments from all years was then used to determine the single rate of return that was used as the discount rate. The projection of future benefit payments for all current plan members was until the benefit payments ran out.

**Sensitivity of the Council's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate and Changes in the Health Care Cost Trend Rates** - The net OPEB liability is sensitive to changes in the discount rate and the health care cost trend rate. The following table presents the net OPEB liability of SERS, what SERS' net OPEB liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1 percentage point lower (2.63%) and higher (4.63%) than the current discount rate (3.63%). Also shown is what SERS' net OPEB liability would be based on health care cost trend rates that are 1 percentage point lower (6.5% decreasing to 4.0%) and higher (8.5% decreasing to 6.0%) than the current rate.

	1% Decrease (2.63%)	Current Discount Rate (3.63%)	1% Increase (4.63%)
Council's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability	\$ 24,345,437	\$ 20,159,727	\$ 16,843,576

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

	1% Decrease (6.5 % decreasing to 4.0 %)	Current Trend Rate (7.5 % decreasing to 5.0 %)	1% Increase (8.5 % decreasing to 6.0 %)
Council's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability	\$ 16,358,108	\$ 20,159,727	\$ 25,191,235

***Actuarial Assumptions - STRS***

Key methods and assumptions used in the latest actuarial valuation, reflecting experience study results used in the June 30, 2017, actuarial valuation are presented below:

Inflation	2.50 percent
Projected salary increases	12.50 percent at age 20 to 2.50 percent at age 65
Investment rate of return	7.45 percent, net of investment expenses, including inflation
Payroll increases	3 percent
Cost-of-living adjustments (COLA)	0.0 percent, effective July 1, 2017
Blended discount rate of return	4.13 percent
Health care cost trends	6 to 11 percent initial, 4.5 percent ultimate

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

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

Actuarial assumptions used in the June 30, 2017, valuation are based on the results of an actuarial experience study for the period July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2016.

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

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

Also since the prior measurement date, the subsidy multiplier for non-Medicare benefit recipients was reduced from 2.1 percent to 1.9 percent per year of service. Medicare Part B premium reimbursements were discontinued for certain survivors and beneficiaries and all remaining Medicare Part B premium reimbursements will be discontinued beginning January 2019. Subsequent to the current measurement date, the date for discontinuing remaining Medicare Part B premium reimbursements was extended to January 2020.

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

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

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

**Discount Rate** - The discount rate used to measure the total OPEB liability was 4.13 percent as of June 30, 2017. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumes STRS Ohio continues to allocate no employer contributions to the health care fund. Based on these assumptions, the OPEB plan's fiduciary net position was not projected to be sufficient to make all projected future benefit payments of current plan members. The OPEB plan's fiduciary net position was projected to become insufficient to make future benefit payments during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2037. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on OPEB plan assets was used to determine the present value of the projected benefit payments through the fiscal year ending June 30, 2036 and the Bond Buyer 20-year municipal bond rate of 3.58 percent as of June 30, 2017 (i.e. municipal bond rate), was used to determine the present value of the projected benefit payments for the remaining years in the projection. The total present value of projected benefit payments from all years was then used to determine the single rate of return that was used as the discount rate. The blended discount rate of 4.13 percent, which represents the long-term expected rate of return of 7.45 percent for the funded benefit payments and the Bond Buyer 20-year municipal bond rate of 3.58 percent for the unfunded benefit payments, was used to measure the total OPEB liability as of June 30, 2017. A blended discount rate of 3.26 percent which represents the long term expected rate of return of 7.75 percent for the funded benefit payments and the Bond Buyer 20-year municipal bond rate of 2.85 percent for the unfunded benefit payments was used to measure the total OPEB liability at June 30, 2016.

**EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS  
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NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
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**NOTE 10 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS - (Continued)**

*Sensitivity of the Council's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability to Changes in the Discount and Health Care Cost Trend Rate* - The following table represents the net OPEB liability as of June 30, 2017, calculated using the current period discount rate assumption of 4.13 percent, as well as what the net OPEB liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is one percentage point lower (3.13 percent) or one percentage point higher (5.13 percent) than the current assumption. Also shown is the net OPEB liability as if it were calculated using health care cost trend rates that are one percentage point lower or one percentage point higher than the current health care cost trend rates.

	1% Decrease (3.13%)	Current Discount Rate (4.13%)	1% Increase (5.13%)
Council's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability	\$ 13,328,450	\$ 9,928,201	\$ 7,240,893
	1% Decrease	Current Trend Rate	1% Increase
Council's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability	\$ 6,897,688	\$ 9,928,201	\$ 13,916,710

**NOTE 11 - PUBLIC ENTITY SHARED RISK POOL**

The Council is a member of the Optimal Health Initiatives Consortium (the "Consortium"), a public entity shared risk pool, consisting of school districts and other entities whose self-insurance programs for health care benefits were administered previously under the Scioto County Schools Council of Governments, the Northern Buckeye Education Council, and the Butler Health Plan. The overall objective of the Consortium is to enable its members to purchase employee benefits and related products and services using the Consortium's economies of scale to create cost-savings. Members pay monthly premiums to the Consortium based on the benefits structure selected and the risk of loss transfers to the Consortium upon payment of these premiums. The Consortium's business and affairs are managed by an Executive Board of Trustees, consisting of the chairperson of each division's board of trustees and the chairperson of the Butler Health Plan. The participants pay an administrative fee to the fiscal agent to cover the costs of administering the Consortium. To obtain financial information, write to the fiscal agent, Charlie LeBoeuf, Mountjoy Chilton Medley LLP, 201 East 5<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 2100, Cincinnati, Ohio 45202.



REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

**EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS  
FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO**

SCHEDULES OF REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

SCHEDULE OF THE COUNCIL'S PROPORTIONATE SHARE OF  
THE NET PENSION LIABILITY  
SCHOOL EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM (SERS) OF OHIO

LAST FIVE FISCAL YEARS

	<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>
Council's proportion of the net pension liability	0.74505190%	0.71481970%	0.68810160%	0.69361400%	0.69361400%
Council's proportionate share of the net pension liability	\$ 44,515,205	\$ 52,318,206	\$ 39,263,744	\$ 35,103,410	\$ 41,246,998
Council's covered payroll	\$ 24,660,436	\$ 22,447,650	\$ 20,715,448	\$ 20,155,058	\$ 17,721,871
Council's proportionate share of the net pension liability as a percentage of its covered payroll	180.51%	233.07%	189.54%	174.17%	232.75%
Plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of the total pension liability	69.50%	62.98%	69.16%	71.70%	65.52%

Note: Information prior to 2014 was unavailable. Schedule is intended to show information for 10 years. Additional years will be displayed as they become available.

Amounts presented for each fiscal year were determined as of the Council's measurement date which is the prior year-end.

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

**EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS  
FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO**

SCHEDULES OF REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

SCHEDULE OF THE COUNCIL'S PROPORTIONATE SHARE OF  
THE NET PENSION LIABILITY  
STATE TEACHERS RETIREMENT SYSTEM (STRS) OF OHIO

LAST FIVE FISCAL YEARS

	<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>
Council's proportion of the net pension liability	0.25446283%	0.23757584%	0.23488102%	0.20013330%	0.20013330%
Council's proportionate share of the net pension liability	\$ 60,448,191	\$ 79,523,795	\$ 64,914,244	\$ 48,679,345	\$ 57,986,517
Council's covered payroll	\$ 27,978,693	\$ 25,095,421	\$ 25,779,607	\$ 20,448,092	\$ 17,486,831
Council's proportionate share of the net pension liability as a percentage of its covered payroll	216.05%	316.89%	251.80%	238.06%	331.60%
Plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of the total pension liability	75.30%	66.80%	72.10%	74.70%	69.30%

Note: Information prior to 2014 was unavailable. Schedule is intended to show information for 10 years. Additional years will be displayed as they become available.

Amounts presented for each fiscal year were determined as of the Council's measurement date which is the prior year-end.

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

**EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS  
FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO**

SCHEDULES OF REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

SCHEDULE OF COUNCIL PENSION CONTRIBUTIONS  
SCHOOL EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM (SERS) OF OHIO

LAST TEN FISCAL YEARS

	<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>
Contractually required contribution	\$ 3,522,408	\$ 3,452,461	\$ 3,142,671	\$ 2,730,296
Contributions in relation to the contractually required contribution	<u>(3,522,408)</u>	<u>(3,452,461)</u>	<u>(3,142,671)</u>	<u>(2,730,296)</u>
Contribution deficiency (excess)	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>
Council's covered payroll	\$ 26,091,911	\$ 24,660,436	\$ 22,447,650	\$ 20,715,448
Contributions as a percentage of covered payroll	13.50%	14.00%	14.00%	13.18%

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>2012</u>	<u>2011</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2009</u>
\$ 2,793,491	\$ 2,452,707	\$ 1,643,345	\$ 1,044,304	\$ 361,849	\$ 10,725
<u>(2,793,491)</u>	<u>(2,452,707)</u>	<u>(1,643,345)</u>	<u>(1,044,304)</u>	<u>(361,849)</u>	<u>(10,725)</u>
<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>
\$ 20,155,058	\$ 17,721,871	\$ 12,218,178	\$ 8,307,908	\$ 2,672,445	\$ 108,994
13.86%	13.84%	13.45%	12.57%	13.54%	9.84%

**EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS  
FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO**

SCHEDULES OF REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

SCHEDULE OF COUNCIL PENSION CONTRIBUTIONS  
STATE TEACHERS RETIREMENT SYSTEM (STRS) OF OHIO

LAST TEN FISCAL YEARS

	<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>
Contractually required contribution	\$ 4,261,069	\$ 3,917,017	\$ 3,513,359	\$ 3,609,145
Contributions in relation to the contractually required contribution	<u>(4,261,069)</u>	<u>(3,917,017)</u>	<u>(3,513,359)</u>	<u>(3,609,145)</u>
Contribution deficiency (excess)	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>
Council's covered payroll	\$ 30,436,207	\$ 27,978,693	\$ 25,095,421	\$ 25,779,607
Contributions as a percentage of covered payroll	14.00%	14.00%	14.00%	14.00%

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>2012</u>	<u>2011</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2009</u>
\$ 2,658,252	\$ 2,273,288	\$ 1,214,519	\$ 763,110	\$ 555,727	\$ 342,436
<u>(2,658,252)</u>	<u>(2,273,288)</u>	<u>(1,214,519)</u>	<u>(763,110)</u>	<u>(555,727)</u>	<u>(342,436)</u>
<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>
\$ 20,448,092	\$ 17,486,831	\$ 9,342,454	\$ 5,870,077	\$ 4,274,823	\$ 2,634,123
13.00%	13.00%	13.00%	13.00%	13.00%	13.00%

**EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS  
FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO**

SCHEDULES OF REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

SCHEDULE OF THE COUNCIL'S PROPORTIONATE SHARE OF  
THE NET OPEB LIABILITY  
SCHOOL EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM (SERS) OF OHIO

LAST TWO FISCAL YEARS

	<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>
Council's proportion of the net OPEB liability	0.75118110%	0.71577492%
Council's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability	\$ 20,159,727	\$ 20,402,233
Council's covered payroll	\$ 24,660,436	\$ 22,447,650
Council's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability as a percentage of its covered payroll	81.75%	90.89%
Plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of the total OPEB liability	12.46%	11.49%

Note: Information prior to 2017 was unavailable. Schedule is intended to show information for 10 years. Additional years will be displayed as they become available.

Amounts presented for each fiscal year were determined as of the Council's measurement date which is the prior year-end.

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION



**EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS  
FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO**

SCHEDULES OF REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

SCHEDULE OF THE COUNCIL'S PROPORTIONATE SHARE OF  
THE NET OPEB LIABILITY  
STATE TEACHERS RETIREMENT SYSTEM (STRS) OF OHIO

LAST TWO FISCAL YEARS

	<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>
Council's proportion of the net OPEB liability	0.25446283%	0.23757584%
Council's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability	\$ 9,928,201	\$ 12,705,618
Council's covered payroll	\$ 27,978,693	\$ 25,095,421
Council's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability as a percentage of its covered payroll	35.48%	50.63%
Plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of the total OPEB liability	47.10%	37.30%

Note: Information prior to 2017 was unavailable. Schedule is intended to show information for 10 years. Additional years will be displayed as they become available.

Amounts presented for each fiscal year were determined as of the Council's measurement date which is the prior year-end.

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

**EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS  
FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO**

SCHEDULES OF REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

SCHEDULE OF COUNCIL OPEB CONTRIBUTIONS  
SCHOOL EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM (SERS) OF OHIO

LAST TEN FISCAL YEARS

	<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>
Contractually required contribution	\$ 553,486	\$ 386,865	\$ 325,217	\$ 496,170
Contributions in relation to the contractually required contribution	<u>(553,486)</u>	<u>(386,865)</u>	<u>(325,217)</u>	<u>(496,170)</u>
Contribution deficiency (excess)	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>
Council's covered payroll	\$ 26,091,911	\$ 24,660,436	\$ 22,447,650	\$ 20,715,448
Contributions as a percentage of covered payroll	2.12%	1.57%	1.45%	2.40%

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>2012</u>	<u>2011</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2009</u>
\$ 298,139	\$ 184,031	\$ 164,833	\$ 168,249	\$ 82,968	\$ 4,908
<u>(298,139)</u>	<u>(184,031)</u>	<u>(164,833)</u>	<u>(168,249)</u>	<u>(82,968)</u>	<u>(4,908)</u>
<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>
\$ 20,155,058	\$ 17,721,871	\$ 12,218,178	\$ 8,307,908	\$ 2,672,445	\$ 108,994
1.48%	1.04%	1.35%	2.03%	3.10%	4.50%

**EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS  
FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO**

SCHEDULES OF REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

SCHEDULE OF COUNCIL OPEB CONTRIBUTIONS  
STATE TEACHERS RETIREMENT SYSTEM (STRS) OF OHIO

LAST TEN FISCAL YEARS

	<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>
Contractually required contribution	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Contributions in relation to the contractually required contribution	-	-	-	-
Contribution deficiency (excess)	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>
Council's covered payroll	\$ 30,436,207	\$ 27,978,693	\$ 25,095,421	\$ 25,779,607
Contributions as a percentage of covered payroll	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>2012</u>	<u>2011</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2009</u>
\$ 204,802	\$ 162,378	\$ 112,777	\$ 54,508	\$ 38,418	\$ 26,341
<u>(204,802)</u>	<u>(162,378)</u>	<u>(112,777)</u>	<u>(54,508)</u>	<u>(38,418)</u>	<u>(26,341)</u>
<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>
\$ 20,448,092	\$ 17,486,831	\$ 9,342,454	\$ 5,870,077	\$ 4,274,823	\$ 2,634,123
1.00%	1.00%	1.00%	1.00%	1.00%	1.00%

**EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS  
FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO**

NOTES TO REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2018

PENSION

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*SCHOOL EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM (SERS) OF OHIO*

Changes in benefit terms: There were no changes in benefit terms from the amounts reported for fiscal years 2014-2017. For fiscal year 2018, SERS changed from a fixed 3% annual increase to a Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) based on the change in the Consumer Price Index (CPI-W), with a cap of 2.5% and a floor of 0%.

Changes in assumptions: There were no changes in methods and assumptions used in the calculation of actuarial determined contributions for fiscal years 2014-2016. For fiscal year 2017, the following changes of assumptions affected the total pension liability since the prior measurement date: (a) the assumed rate of inflation was reduced from 3.25% to 3.00%, (b) payroll growth assumption was reduced from 4.00% to 3.50%, (c) assumed real wage growth was reduced from 0.75% to 0.50%, (d) Rates of withdrawal, retirement and disability were updated to reflect recent experience, (e) mortality among active members was updated to RP-2014 Blue Collar Mortality Table with fully generational projection and a five year age set-back for both males and females, (f) mortality among service retired members, and beneficiaries was updated to the following RP-2014 Blue Collar Mortality Table with fully generational projection with Scale BB, 120% of male rates, and 110% of female rates, (g) mortality among disabled members was updated to RP-2000 Disabled Mortality Table, 90% for male rates and 100% for female rates, set back five years is used for the period after disability retirement and (h) the discount rate was reduced from 7.75% to 7.50%. There were no changes in methods and assumptions used in the calculation of actuarial determined contributions for fiscal year 2018.

*STATE TEACHERS RETIREMENT SYSTEM (STRS) OF OHIO*

Changes in benefit terms: There were no changes in benefit terms from the amounts reported for fiscal years 2014-2017. For fiscal year 2018, STRS decreased the Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) to zero.

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

(Continued)

**EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS  
FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO**

NOTES TO REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION (CONTINUED)  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2018

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OTHER POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS (OPEB)

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*SCHOOL EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM (SERS) OF OHIO*

Changes in benefit terms: There were no changes in benefit terms from the amounts reported for fiscal years 2017-2018.

Changes in assumptions: There were no changes in methods and assumptions used in the calculation of actuarial determined contributions for fiscal years 2017. For fiscal year 2018, the following changes of assumptions affected the total OPEB liability since the prior measurement date: (a) assumed rate of inflation was reduced from 3.25% to 3.00%, (b) payroll growth assumption was reduced from 4.00% to 3.50%, (c) assumed real wage growth was reduced from 0.75% to 0.50%, (d) rates of withdrawal, retirement, and disability were updated to reflect recent experience, (e) mortality among active members was updated to the following: RP-2014 Blue Collar Mortality Table with fully generational projection and a five-year age set-back for both males and females, (f) mortality among service retired members, and beneficiaries was updated to the following: RP-2014 Blue Collar Mortality Table with fully generational projection with Scale BB, 120% of male rates, and 110% of female rates, (g) mortality among disabled members was updated to the following: RP-2000 Disabled Mortality Table, 90% for male rates and 100% for female rates, set back five years is used for the period after disability retirement.

*STATE TEACHERS RETIREMENT SYSTEM (STRS) OF OHIO*

Changes in benefit terms: There were no changes in benefit terms from the amounts reported for fiscal year 2017. For fiscal year 2018, STRS reduced the subsidy multiplier for non-Medicare benefit recipients from 2.1% to 1.9% per year of service. Medicare Part B premium reimbursements were discontinued for certain survivors and beneficiaries and all remaining Medicare Part B premium reimbursements will be discontinued beginning January 2019.

Changes in assumptions: There were no changes in methods and assumptions used in the calculation of actuarial determined contributions for fiscal year 2017. For fiscal year 2018, the following changes of assumption affected the total OPEB liability since the prior measurement date: (a) the discount rate was increased from 3.26% to 4.13% based on the methodology defined under GASB Statement No. 74, Financial Reporting for Postemployment Benefit Plans Other Than Pension Plans (OPEB), (b) the long term expected rate of return was reduced from 7.75% to 7.45%, (c) valuation year per capita health care costs were updated, and the salary scale was modified, (d) the percentage of future retirees electing each option was updated based on current data and the percentage of future disabled retirees and terminated vested participants electing health coverage were decreased and (e) the assumed mortality, disability, retirement, withdrawal and future health care cost trend rates were modified along with the portion of rebated prescription drug costs.

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# OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE KEITH FABER



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

Educational Service Center Council of Governments  
Franklin County  
2080 Citygate Drive  
Columbus, Ohio 43219

To the Governing Board:

We have audited, in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States and the Comptroller General of the United States' *Government Auditing Standards*, the financial statements of the Educational Service Center Council of Governments, Franklin County, (the Council), a component unit of the Educational Service Center of Central Ohio, as of and for the year ended June 30, 2018, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Council's basic financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated February 7, 2019, wherein we noted the Council adopted new accounting guidance in Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 75, *Accounting and Financial Reporting for Postemployment Benefits Other Than Pension*.

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

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

A *deficiency in internal control* exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, when performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and timely correct misstatements. A *material weakness* is a deficiency, or combination of internal control deficiencies resulting in a reasonable possibility that internal control will not prevent or detect and timely correct a material misstatement of the Council's financial statements. A *significant deficiency* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all internal control deficiencies that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. Given these limitations, we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider material weaknesses. However, unidentified material weaknesses may exist.

88 East Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215  
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[www.ohioauditor.gov](http://www.ohioauditor.gov)

***Compliance and Other Matters***

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

***Purpose of this Report***

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



**Keith Faber**  
Auditor of State  
Columbus, Ohio

February 7, 2019

# OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE KEITH FABER



**EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS**

**FRANKLIN 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 14, 2019**