# ILEAD SPRING MEADOWS LUCAS COUNTY, OHIO

**FINAL AUDIT** 

FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023



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88 East Broad Street Columbus, Ohio 43215 IPAReport@ohioauditor.gov (800) 282-0370

Board of Directors iLead Spring Meadows 3131 Executive Parkway, Suite 306 Toledo, Ohio 43606

We have reviewed the *Independent Auditor's Report* of the iLead Spring Meadows, Lucas County, prepared by Rea & Associates, Inc., for the audit period July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023. Based upon this review, we have accepted these reports in lieu of the audit required by Section 117.11, Revised Code. The Auditor of State did not audit the accompanying financial statements and, accordingly, we are unable to express, and do not express an opinion on them.

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

Keith Faber Auditor of State Columbus, Ohio

December 20, 2023



#### iLEAD SPRING MEADOWS LUCAS COUNTY, OHIO

#### TABLE OF CONTENTS

TITLE	<b>PAGE</b>
Independent Auditor's Report	1
Management's Discussion and Analysis	4
Basic Financial Statements:	
Statement of Net Position-Cash Basis	7
Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Position-Cash Basis	8
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements	9
Independent Auditor's Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and other Matters Based on an Audit of Financial Statements Performed in Accordance with <i>Government Auditing Standards</i>	32
Schedule of Findings and Responses	34





#### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Board of Directors and Management iLead Spring Meadows Lucas County, OH Ohio Council of Community Schools (Sponsor) 3131 Executive Parkway, Suite 306 Toledo, OH 43606

#### **Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements**

#### **Opinion**

We have audited the accompanying cash-basis financial statements of the iLead Spring Meadows, Lucas County, Ohio, (the "School") as of and for the year ended June 30, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the School's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective cash-basis financial position of the iLead Spring Meadows, Lucas County, Ohio, as of June 30, 2023, and the respective changes in cash-basis financial position for the year then ended in accordance with the accounting basis described in Note 2.

#### Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS) and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in Government Auditing Standards, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of the School, and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

#### Emphasis of Matter - Accounting Basis

Ohio Administrative Code § 117-2-03(B) requires the School to prepare its annual financial report in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. We draw attention to Note 2 of the financial statements, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial statements are prepared on the cash basis of accounting, which is a basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Our opinion is not modified with respect to this matter.

#### Emphasis of Matter – Restatement of Net Position

As discussed in Note 14 to the financial statements, during 2023, the School has elected to change its financial presentation to a cash basis of accounting comparable to the requirements of Governmental Accounting Standards. Our opinion is not modified with respect to this matter.

iLead Spring Meadows Independent Auditor's Report Page 2 of 3

#### Emphasis of Matter – School Closure

As discussed in Note 16 to the financial statements, the School closed operations on June 30, 2023. Our opinion is not modified with respect to this matter.

#### Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with the cash basis of accounting described in Note 2, and for determining that the cash basis of accounting is an acceptable basis for preparation of the financial statements in the circumstances. Management is also responsible for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the School's ability to continue as a going concern for twelve months beyond the financial statement date, including any currently known information that may raise substantial doubt shortly thereafter.

#### Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with GAAS and Government Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS and Government Auditing Standards, we

- exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the School's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.

iLead Spring Meadows Independent Auditor's Report Page 3 of 3

- evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the School's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control-related matters that we identified during the audit.

#### Other Information

We applied no procedures to Management's Discussion & Analysis as listed in the table of contents. Accordingly, we express no opinion or any other assurance on it.

In connection with our audit of the basic financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and consider whether a material inconsistency exists between the other information and the basic financial statements, or the other information otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on the work performed, we conclude that an uncorrected material misstatement of the other information exists, we are required to describe it in our report.

#### Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated November 7, 2023, on our consideration of the School'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. The purpose of that report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the School's 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 School's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Kea & Associates, Inc.

Rea & Associates, Inc. Lima, Ohio November 7, 2023

## iLEAD SPRING MEADOWS - LUCAS COUNTY, OHIO MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS (Unaudited) FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

The discussion and analysis of the iLEAD Spring Meadows (the School) financial performance provides an overall review of the School's financial activities for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2023. The intent of this discussion and analysis is to look at the School's financial performance as a whole; readers should also review the basic financial statements and notes to the basic financial statements to enhance their understanding of the School's financial performance.

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

#### **FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS**

Key Financial Highlights for the School for the 2022-23 school year are as follows:

- In total, net cash position was \$49,951 at June 30, 2023.
- The School had operating revenues of \$1,967,647 and operating expenses of \$2,456,389 for fiscal year 2023.
- The School also received \$588,531 in non-operating state and federal grant revenues during fiscal year 2023.
- The Board voluntarily elected to cease operations effective June 30, 2023.

#### **USING THIS ANNUAL REPORT**

This report consists of three parts: the required supplementary information, the basic financial statements, and notes to those statements. The basic financial statements include a Statement of Net Position-Cash Basis and a Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Change in Net Position-Cash Basis.

The Statement of Net Position and Statement of Revenues, Expenses, and Changes in Net Position was prepared on a cash basis and reflects how the School did financially during fiscal year 2023.

These statements report the School's Net Position using the cash basis of accounting, which is a basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. This basis of accounting takes into account only the current year's revenues and expenses if the cash was actually paid or received.

These two statements report the School's net position and changes in net position on a cash basis. This change in net position is important because it tells the reader that, for the School as a whole, the cash basis financial position of the School has improved or diminished. The causes of this change may be the result of many factors, some financial and some not. Non-financial factors include the School's student enrollment, per-pupil funding as determined by the State of Ohio, change in technology, required educational programs and other factors.

## iLEAD SPRING MEADOWS - LUCAS COUNTY, OHIO MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS (Unaudited) FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

Table 1 provides a summary of the School's net cash position for fiscal year 2023 compared to fiscal year 2022 (restated, see note 14).

Table 1
Net Cash Position

	2023		Restated 2022	
Assets	 			
Current Assets	\$ 49,951	\$	312,584	
Net Cash Position				
Unrestricted	 49,951		312,584	
Total Net Cash Position	\$ 49,951	\$	312,584	

Over time, net position can serve as a useful indicator of a government's financial position. Total net cash position of the School decreased \$262,633, which represents a 84% decrease from restated net cash position at June 30, 2022. The unrestricted net cash position of \$49,951 may be used for the School's ongoing operations.

Table 2 shows the change in Net Position for fiscal years 2023 and 2022 (restated, see note 14), as well as a listing of revenues and expenses.

Table 2
Change in Net Cash Position

	2023	Restated 2022
Operating Receipts		
State Aid	\$ 1,952,000	\$ 1,958,949
Other	15,64	7 8,025
Total Operating Receipts	1,967,64	1,966,974
Operating Disbursements		
Salaries	1,339,25	1,313,813
Fringe Benefits	350,14	376,303
Purchased Services	660,313	1,269,051
Materials and Supplies	69,27	105,311
Other	37,408	37,925
Total Operating Disbursements	2,456,389	3,102,403
Operating Loss	(488,742	) (1,135,429)
Non-Operating Receipts (Disbursements):		
State and Federal Grants	588,53:	1,068,091
Interest Income	2,562	2 0
Proceeds from Charter Asset Management	1,050,22	1,643,244
Principal & Interest Payments	(1,415,206	) (1,375,259)
Net Non-Operating Receipts/(Disbursements):	226,109	1,336,076
Change in Net Cash Position	(262,633	) 200,647
Net Cash Position - Beginning of year-Restated	312,584	111,937
Net Cash Position - End of year	\$ 49,951	

## iLEAD SPRING MEADOWS - LUCAS COUNTY, OHIO MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS (Unaudited) FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

The decrease in state aid was due to decreased enrollment for fiscal year 2023. Salaries and fringe benefits increased due to annual raises to employees. State aid and federal grants decreased due to reduced allocations of CARES Act funding recognized in the current period. Proceeds on advances decreased during the year due to reduced enrollment which reduces the available funding sources and principal and interest payments increased due to school closure and advances all being paid in full due to school closure.

#### **BUDGETING HIGHLIGHTS**

Unlike other public schools located in the State of Ohio, community schools are not required to follow budgetary provisions set forth in Ohio Rev. Code Chapter 5705 (with the exception section 5705.391 – Five Year Forecasts), unless specifically provided in the community School's contract with its Sponsor.

The contract between the School and its Sponsor does prescribe a budgetary process. The School must prepare and submit a detail budget for every fiscal year to the Board of Directors and its Sponsor. The five-year forecast is also submitted to the Ohio Department of Education, annually.

#### **CAPITAL ASSETS**

The School does not record capital assets in the accompanying cash basis basic financial statements, but records payments for capital assets as cash disbursements.

#### **DEBT ADMINISTRATION**

At fiscal year end, the School had outstanding advances payable of \$349,701 and a loan with Highmark Development of \$1,917,293. For more information on debt, see Note 5 and 6 of the Basic Financial Statements.

#### **CURRENT FINANCIAL ISSUES**

The School is a community school and is funded through the State of Ohio Foundation Program. The School relies on this, as well as, State and Federal funds as its primary source of revenue.

The full-time equivalent enrollment of the School for the year ended June 30, 2023 was 192 compared to a figure of 213 at the end of fiscal year 2022.

As previously noted, the School Board voted to cease operations effective June 30, 2023.

#### CONTACTING THE SCHOOL'S FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

This financial report is designed to provide our citizen's, taxpayers, investors and creditors with a general overview of the School's finances and to demonstrate accountability for the money it receives. If you have questions about this report or need additional information contact the School's Fiscal Officer, C. David Massa, CPA, of Massa Financial Solutions, LLC, 3131 Executive Pkwy #306, Toledo, Ohio 43606.

#### **ILEAD SPRING MEADOWS - LUCAS COUNTY, OHIO**

#### Statement of Net Position – Cash Basis At June 30, 2023

Assets:	
Current Assets:	
Equity in Pooled Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 49,951
Net Cash Position:	
Unrestricted	 49,951
Total Net Cash Position	\$ 49,951

See Accompanying Notes to the Basic Financial Statements

#### **ILEAD SPRING MEADOWS - LUCAS COUNTY, OHIO**

## Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Position – Cash Basis For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023

Operating Receipts:	
State Aid	\$ 1,952,000
Other	 15,647
Total Operating Receipts	1,967,647
Operating Disbursements:	
Salaries	1,339,251
Fringe Benefits	350,145
Purchased Services	660,313
Materials and Supplies	69,272
Other	 37,408
Total Operating Disbursements	2,456,389
Operating Loss	(488,742)
	( 100,7 12)
Non-Operating Receipts/(Disbursements):	
State and Federal Grants	588,531
Interest Income	2,562
Proceeds from Charter Asset Management	1,050,222
Principal & Interest Payments	 (1,415,206)
Net Non-Operating Receipts/(Disbursements)	 226,109
Change in Net Position	(262,633)
Net Cash Position - Beginning of year, Restated, see note 14	 312,584
Net Cash Position - End of year	\$ 49,951

#### NOTE 1 - DESCRIPTION OF THE ENTITY

iLEAD Spring Meadows, Lucas County, Ohio (the School) is a nonprofit corporation established pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Chapters 3314 and 1702. The School's mission is to improve the lives of its students by providing authentic learning experiences in a collaborative, nurturing environment that will build a foundation for student's success in school, at future work and in life. The School operates on a foundation, which fosters character building for all students, parents and staff members. The School, which is part of the State's education program, is independent of any School and is nonsectarian in its programs, admission policies, employment practices, and all other operations. The School may acquire facilities as needed and contract for any services necessary for the operation of the School.

The School was approved for operation under a contract with Ohio Council of Community Schools ("OCCS") (the Sponsor) for a five-year period commencing on July 1, 2016, which was renewed through June 20, 2026. The Sponsor is responsible for evaluating the performance of the School and has the authority to deny renewal of the contract at its expiration or terminate the contract prior to its expiration.

The School operates under the direction of a Board of Directors (the Board). The Board is responsible for carrying out the provisions of the contract which include, but are not limited to, state mandated provisions regarding student populations, curriculum, academic goals, performance standards, admissions standards, and qualifications of teachers. The Board controls the School's instructional and administrative staff. The School voluntarily closed on June 30, 2023 (see note 16 for further information).

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

As discussed in this Note, these financial statements are presented on the cash basis of accounting. The cash basis of accounting differs from accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP). Generally accepted accounting principles include all relevant Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) pronouncements, which have been applied to the extent they are applicable to the cash basis of accounting. Following are the more significant of the School's accounting policies.

<u>Basis of Presentation</u> - The School's basic financial statements consist of a statement of net position and a statement of revenues, expenses and change in net position. The statement of net position presents the cash balance of the business-type activities of the School at fiscal year-end.

The statement of revenues, expenses and changes in net position compares disbursements with receipts for each function of the School's business-type activities. Disbursements are reported by function. A function is a group of related activities designed to accomplish a major service or regulatory program for which the government is responsible.

Measurement Focus and Basis of Accounting - The School uses enterprise accounting to track and report on its financial activities. 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) 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/or net income is appropriate for capital maintenance, public policy, management control, accountability or other purposes.

The School's financial statements are prepared using the cash basis of accounting. Receipts are recorded in the School's financial records and reported in the financial statements when cash is received rather than when earned and disbursements are recorded when cash is paid rather than when a liability is incurred.

As a result of the use of this cash basis of accounting, certain assets and their related revenues (such as accounts receivable and revenue for billed or provided services not yet collected) and certain liabilities and their related expenses (such as accounts payable and expenses for goods or services received but not yet paid, and accrued expenses and liabilities) are not recorded in these financial statements.

<u>Budgetary Process</u> - Community schools are statutorily required to adopt a budget by Ohio Revised Code 3314.032(C). However, unlike traditional public schools located in the State of Ohio, community schools are not required to follow the specific budgetary process and limits set forth in the Ohio Revised Code Chapter 5705, unless specifically provided in the contract between the School and its Sponsor. The contract between the School and its Sponsor does not require the School to follow the provisions Ohio Revised Code Chapter 5705; therefore, no budgetary information is presented in the basic financial statements.

<u>Cash and Cash Equivalents</u> - All cash received by the School is maintained in a demand deposit account and a money market account. All investments of the School are considered to be cash and cash equivalents for financial reporting purposes. During fiscal year 2023, investments included a money market account which is reported at cost.

<u>Capital Assets</u> - Acquisitions of property, plant, and equipment purchased are recorded as disbursements when paid. These items are not reflected as assets on the accompanying financial statements.

<u>Inventory and Prepaid Items</u> - The School reports disbursements for inventory and prepaid items when paid. These items are not reflected as assets in the accompanying financial statements.

**Net Cash Position** - Net cash position is reported as restricted when there are limitations imposed on their use either through the enabling legislation or through external restrictions imposed by creditors, grantors or laws or regulations of other governments. The School applies restricted resources first when an expense is incurred for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted net position is available.

<u>Intergovernmental Revenues</u> - The School currently participates in the State Foundation Program. Revenues received from this program are recognized as operating revenues in the accounting period in which all payment is received by the School. Grants and entitlements are recognized as non-operating revenues in the accounting period in which payment is received by the School. The School participates in various federal programs passed through the Ohio Department of Education.

Under the above programs the School recorded \$1,952,000 this fiscal year from the Foundation Program and Casino Tax Revenues and \$588,531 from State and Federal Grants.

<u>Operating and Non-Operating Revenues and Expenses</u> - Operating revenues are those revenues that are generated directly from the primary activities of the School. For the School, these revenues are primarily the State Foundation program. Operating expenses are necessary costs incurred to provide the good or service that is the primary activity of the School. All revenues and expenses not meeting this definition are reported as non-operating. Non-operating expenses reported at June 30, 2023 related to principal and interest expenses due advances payable.

Non-operating revenues are those revenues that are not generated directly from the primary activities of the School. Various federal and state grants, interest earnings, if any, and contributions and donations comprise the non-operating revenues of the School.

<u>Pensions and Other Postemployment Benefits (OPEB)</u> - For purposes of measuring the net pension/OPEB asset/liability, deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions/OPEB, and pension/OPEB expense, information about the fiduciary net position of the pension/OPEB plans and additions to/deductions from their fiduciary net position have been determined on the same basis as they are reported by the pension/OPEB 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.

<u>Long-Term Obligations</u> – The School's cash basis financial statements do not report liabilities for loans and other long-term obligations. Proceeds of debt are reported when cash is received, and principal and interest payments are reported when paid. Since recording a capital asset when entering into a capital lease is not a cash transaction, neither another financing source nor a capital outlay expenditure are reported at inception. Lease payments are reported when made.

#### **NOTE 3 – COMPLIANCE**

Ohio Administrative Code, Section 117-2-03(B), requires the School to prepare its annual financial report in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. However, the School prepared its financial statements on the cash basis, which is a comprehensive basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. The accompanying financial statements omit assets, liabilities, Net Position/fund balances, and disclosures that, while material, cannot be determined at this time. The school can be fined, and various other administrative remedies may be taken against the School.

#### **NOTE 4 - CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS**

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

The School maintains its cash balances at Huntington Bank in Ohio. At June 30, 2023, the carrying amount of the School's deposits was \$20,383 and the bank balance was \$26,652. Of the School's bank balance, \$26,652 was covered by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC).

*Investments-* As of June 30, 2023 the School had the following investment:

Investment Type	surement Value	nent Maturity nths or Less	Percentage of Total
Money Market Account	\$ 29,568	\$ 29,568	100%

Interest Rate Risk- As a means of limiting exposure to fair value losses arising from rising interest rates according to state law, the School's investment policy limits investment portfolio maturities to five years or less.

*Credit Risk*- The School has no policy limiting investments based on credit risk other than those established by State law. The money market account is rated AAAm by Standard and Poor's.

Concentration of Credit Risk- The School places no limit on the amount that may be invested in any one issuer.

Custodial Credit Risk- For investments, custodial credit risk is the risk that, in the event of failure of the counterparty, the School will not be able to recover the value of its investment or collateral securities that are in the possession of an outside party. \$29,568 of the money market account was covered FDIC insurance.

#### **NOTE 5 - ADVANCES PAYABLE**

During a prior fiscal year, the School received working capital advances from iLEAD Schools Development, LLC. The total amount of advances outstanding at June 30, 2023 was \$349,701. In addition, during the year the School received working capital advances from Charter Asset Management through a receivables purchase agreement. As the School receives its monthly State funding, these advances are repaid, however, the School may elect to receive future advances from Charter Asset Management by entering into additional agreements. The outstanding balance at June 30, 2023 was \$0 as this amount was paid in full, and cost of funding during the year was \$50,222.

The activity for the year is reflected as follows:

	Balance	Balance		
	6/30/2022	Additions	Reductions	6/30/2023
Maker Learning Network	\$ 349,701	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 349,701
Charter Asset Management	314,763	1,050,222	(1,364,985)	<u>-</u>
	\$ 664,464	\$ 1,050,222	\$ (1,364,985)	\$ 349,701

#### NOTE 6 – LONG-TERM OBLIGATIONS

The changes in the School's long-term obligations during fiscal year 2023 were as follows:

	Re	stated						
	Ва	alance					Ва	alance
	6/3	0/2022	Α	dditions	Rec	ductions	6/3	30/2023
Direct Borrowing:								
Financed Purchase	\$	2,118	\$	-	\$	(2,118)	\$	-
Highmark Development	1	,504,966		412,327			1	,917,293
		_		_				_
Total Long-Term Obligations	\$ 1	,507,084	\$	412,327	\$	(2,118)	\$ 1	,917,293

**Highmark Development:** The Highmark-Term Loan represents the portion of accrued rent sub-lease and forbearance payments dues as of June 30, 2023. Base rent *expense* for the fiscal year ended 2023 was \$604,200, however \$181,873 was paid to the landlord leaving an accrued balance of \$1,917,293 due to iLEAD Holland Project Development at June 30, 2023.

#### **NOTE 7 - RISK MANAGEMENT**

**Property & Liability** - The School is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; injuries to employees; and natural disasters. During the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023, the School contracted with United Educators Insurance Company for nonprofits and maintained general liability insurance with a \$1,000,000 single occurrence limit and \$2,000,000 annual aggregate. The School also maintained umbrella liability insurance through United Educators Insurance Company with a \$25,000,000 single occurrence limit and a \$25,000,000 annual aggregate. Settled claims have not exceeded this commercial coverage in any prior three years and there have been no significant reductions in insurance coverage from the prior year.

<u>Workers' Compensation</u> - The School pays the State Worker's Compensation System a premium for employee injury coverage. The premium is calculated by multiplying the monthly total gross payroll by a factor that is calculated by the State.

<u>Employee Medical and Dental Benefits</u> - The School provides medical, vision, and dental insurance benefits through United Healthcare to all full-time employees. During the School year, the School paid 80% of the monthly premiums for all employees.

#### **NOTE 8 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLAN**

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

Ohio Revised Code limits the School's obligation for this liability to annually required payments. The School cannot control benefit terms or the manner in which pensions are financed; however, the School 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.

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

**Plan Description** —School 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 under Employers/Audit Resources.

Age and service requirements for retirement are as follows:

	Eligible to Retire on or before August 1, 2017 *	Eligible to Retire on or after August 1, 2017
Full Benefits	Any age with 30 years of service credit Age 60 with 5 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

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

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

An individual whose benefit effective date is before April 1, 2018, is eligible for a cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) on the first anniversary date of the benefit. Beginning April 1, 2018, new benefit recipients must wait until the fourth anniversary of their benefit for COLA eligibility. The COLA is added each year to the base benefit amount on the anniversary date of the benefit. The COLA is indexed to the percentage increase in the CPI-W, not to exceed 2.5% and with a floor of 0.0%.

A three-year COLA suspension was in effect for all benefit recipients for calendar years 2018, 2019, and 2020. The Retirement Board approved a 2.5% COLA for calendar year 2023.

Funding Policy – Plan members are required to contribute 10 percent of their annual covered salary and the School 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, 2023, the allocation to pension, death benefits, and Medicare B was the entire 14.0 percent.

The School's contractually required contribution to SERS was \$45,382 for fiscal year 2023.

#### <u>Plan Description - State Teachers Retirement System</u> (STRS)

**Plan Description** –School licensed teachers and other faculty members 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 Web site at 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 is 2.2 percent of final average salary for the five highest years of earnings multiplied by all years of service. Eligibility changes will be phased in until August 1, 2026, when retirement eligibility for unreduced benefits will be five years of service credit and at least age 60. Eligibility changes for DB plan members who retire with actuarially reduced benefits will be phased in until August 1, 2023 when retirement eligibility will be five years of qualifying servicer credit and age 60, or 30 years or service credit at any age.

The DC Plan allows members to place all of their member contributions and 9.53 percent of the 14 percent employer contributions into an investment account. Investment allocation decisions are determined by the member. The remaining 4.47 percent of the 14 percent employer rate is allocated to the defined benefit unfunded liability. A member is eligible to receive a retirement benefit at age 50 and termination of employment. The member may elect to receive a lifetime monthly annuity or a lump sum withdrawal.

The Combined Plan offers features of both the DB Plan and the DC Plan. In the Combined Plan, 12.0 of the 14.0 percent member rates goes to the DC Plan and the remaining 2.0 percent goes to the DB plan. Member contributions to the DC plan are allocated among investment choices by the member, and contributions to the DB plan from the employer and the member are used to fund the defined benefit payment at a reduced level from the regular DB Plan. The defined benefit portion of the Combined Plan payment is payable to a member on or after age 60 with five years of services. The defined contribution portion of the account may be taken as a lump sum payment or converted to a lifetime monthly annuity after termination of employment at age 50 or later.

New members who choose the DC plan or Combined Plan will have another opportunity to reselect a permanent plan during their fifth year of membership. Members may remain in the same plan or transfer to another STRS 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 in the GASB 68 schedules of employer allocation and pension amounts by employer.

A DB or Combined Plan member with five or more years of credited service who is determined to be disabled may qualify for a disability benefit. Eligible survivors of members who die before service retirement may qualify for monthly benefits. New members on or after July 1, 2013, must have at least ten years of qualifying service credit 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 the fiscal year ended June 30, 2023, plan members were required to contribute 14 percent of their annual covered salary. The School was required to contribute 14 percent; the entire 14 percent was the portion used to fund pension obligations. The fiscal year 2023 contribution rates were equal to the statutory maximum rates.

The School's contractually required contributions to STRS was \$142,372 for fiscal year 2023.

#### <u>Pension Liabilities, Pension Expense, and Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of</u> Resources Related to Pensions

The net pension liability was measured as of June 30, 2022, and the total pension liability used to calculate the net pension liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of that date. The School's proportion of the net pension liability was based on the School's share of contributions to the pension plan relative to the contributions of all participating entities. Following is information related to the proportionate share and pension expense:

	SERS			STRS	Total
Proportion of the Net Pension Liability					
Prior Measurement Date	-0	0.0000540%	(	0.00912547%	
Proportion of the Net Pension Liability					
Current Measurement Date		0.0061886%	(	0.00775944%	
Change in Proportionate Share		0.0062426%		0.00136603%	
Proportionate Share of the Net Pension					
Liability	\$	334,728	\$	1,724,933	\$ 2,059,661
Pension Expense	\$	(36,612)	\$	427,909	\$ 391,297

#### **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, 2022, are presented below:

Wage Inflation
Future Salary Increases, including inflation
COLA or Ad Hoc COLA

Investment Rate of Return Actuarial Cost Method 2.40 percent
3.25 percent to 13.58 percent
2.0 percent, on and after April 1, 2018, COLA's for future retirees will be delayed for three years following commencement
7.00 percent net of System expenses
Entry Age Normal

Mortality rates were based on the PUB-2010 General Employee Amount Weight Below Median Healthy Retiree mortality table projected to 2017 with ages set forward 1 year and adjusted 94.20% for males and set forward 2 years and adjusted 81.35% for females. Mortality among disable members were based upon the PUB-2010 General Disabled Retiree mortality table projected to 2017 with ages set forward 5 years and adjusted 103.3% for males and set forward 3 years and adjusted 106.8% for females. Future improvement in mortality rates is reflected by applying the MP-2020 projection scale generationally.

The most recent experience study was completed June 30, 2020.

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

	Target	Long-Term Expected
Asset Class	Allocation	Real Rate of Return
Cash	2.00 %	(0.45) %
US Equity	24.75	5.37
Non-US Equity Developed	13.50	6.22
Non-US Equity Emerging	6.75	8.22
Fixed Income/Global Bonds	19.00	1.20
Private Equity	11.00	10.05
Real Estate/Real Assets	16.00	4.87
Multi-Asset Strategies	4.00	3.39
Private Debt/Private Credit	3.00	5.38
_		
Total	100.00 %	

**Discount Rate** The total pension liability was calculated using the discount rate of 7.00 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 (7.00 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 School'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 7.00 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 (6.00 percent), or one percentage point higher (8.00 percent) than the current rate.

	Current					
		Decrease (6.00%)		scount Rate (7.00%)		% Increase (8.00%)
School's proportionate share	<u>-</u>	,		, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,		/
of the net pension liability	\$	492,703	\$	334,728	\$	201,635

#### **Actuarial Assumptions – STRS**

Key methods and assumptions used in the latest actuarial valuation, reflecting experience study results used in the July 1, 2022, actuarial valuation.

Inflation	2.50 percent
Projected salary increases	Varies by service from 2.5% to 8.5%
Investment Rate of Return	7.00 percent, net of investment expenses, including inflation
Discount Rate of Return	7.00 percent
Payroll Increases	3 percent
Cost-of-Living Adjustments	0.0 percent

Post-retirement mortality rates are based on the Pub-2010 Teachers Healthy Annuitant Mortality Table, adjusted 110% for males, projected forward generationally using mortality improvement scale MP-2020. Pre-retirement mortality rates are based on Pub-2010 Teachers Employee Table adjusted 95% for females, projected forward generationally using mortality improvement scale MP-2020. Post-retirement disabled mortality rates are based on Pub-2010 Teachers Disable Annuitant Table projected forward generationally using mortality improvement scale MP-2020.

Actuarial assumptions used in the July 1, 2022 valuation are based on the results of an actuarial experience study for the period July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2021.

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:

	Target	Long-Term Expected				
Asset Class	Allocation *	Real Rate of Return **				
Domestic Equity	26.00 %	6.60 %				
International Equity	22.00	6.80				
Alternatives	19.00	7.38				
Fixed Income	22.00	1.75				
Real Estate	10.00	5.75				
Liquidity Reserves	1.00	1.00				
Total	100.00 %					

<sup>\*</sup> Target allocation percentage is effective as of July 1, 2022. Target weights were phased in over a 3-month period concluding on October 1, 2022. \*\* 10-Year annualized 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 Ohio's investment consultant indicates that the above target allocations should generate a return above the actuarial rate of return, without net value added by management.

**Discount Rate** The discount rate used to measure the total pension liability was 7.00 percent as of June 30, 2022. 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. 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, 2022. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments of 7.00 percent was applied to all periods of projected benefit payment to determine the total pension liability as of June 30, 2022.

Sensitivity of the School's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate The following table presents the School's proportionate share of the net pension liability calculated using the current period discount rate assumption of 7.00 percent, as well as what the School's proportionate share of the net pension liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is one-percentage-point lower (6.00 percent) or one-percentage-point higher (8.00 percent) than the current rate:

	Current					
	1% Decrease		Discount Rate		1% Increase	
		(6.00%)		(7.00%)		(8.00%)
School's proportionate share						
of the net pension liability	\$	2,605,746	\$	1,724,933	\$	980,038

**Assumption and Benefit Changes Since the Prior Measurement Date** - Demographic assumptions were changed based on the actuarial experience study for the July 1, 2015, through June 30, 2021. STRS approved a one-time 1.00% cost-of-living adjustment to eligible benefit recipients effective July 1, 2023.

#### **NOTE 9 – DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS**

#### Net OPEB Liability/Asset

The net OPEB liability and net OPEB asset reported on the statement of net position represents a liability or asset 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 and net OPEB asset represent the School '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 and net OPEB asset calculations are dependent on critical long-term variables, including estimated average life expectancies, earnings on investments, cost-of-living adjustments and others. While these estimates use the best information available, unknowable future events require adjusting these estimates annually.

Ohio Revised Code limits the School's obligation for this liability to annually required payments. The School cannot control benefit terms or the manner in which OPEB are financed; however, the School 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 and net OPEB asset. Resulting adjustments to the net OPEB liability and net OPEB asset 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.

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

Health Care Plan Description - The School 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 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report which can be obtained on SERS' website at www.ohsers.org under Employers/Audit Resources.

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

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 2023, there was no contribution made to health care. A 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 2023, this amount was \$25,000. 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.

The surcharge, is the total amount assigned to the Health Care Fund. The School's contractually required contribution to SERS was \$5,855 for fiscal year 2023.

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

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 monthly reimbursement elimination date was postponed indefinitely. The Plan is included in the report of STRS which can be obtained by visiting <a href="https://www.strsoh.org">www.strsoh.org</a> 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, 2023, STRS did not allocate any employer contributions to post-employment health care.

### OPEB Liabilities, OPEB Asset, OPEB Expense, and Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to OPEB

The net OPEB liability and net OPEB asset were measured as of June 30, 2022, and the total OPEB liability and asset used to calculate the net OPEB liability and net OPEB asset were determined by an actuarial valuation as of that date. The School's proportion of the net OPEB liability and net OPEB asset were based on the School'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:

		SERS		STRS	Total
Proportion of the Net OPEB Liability/asset					
Prior Measurement Date	0.	0005147%	0.	.00912547%	
Proportion of the Net OPEB Liability/asset					
Current Measurement Date	0.	0063829%	0.	.00775944%	
			•		
Change in Proportionate Share	0.	0058682%	-0.	.00136603%	
			-		
Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability	\$	89,617	\$	_	\$ 89,617
Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Asset	\$	-	\$	(200,919)	\$ (200,919)
OPEB Expense	\$	6,561	\$	(12,723)	\$ (6,162)

#### **Actuarial Assumptions - SERS**

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

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

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

Key methods and assumptions used in calculating the total OPEB liability in the latest actuarial valuation date of June 30, 2022, are presented below:

Wage Inflation

2.40 percent

Future Salary Increases, including inflation

3.25 percent to 13.58 percent

Tool percent net of investments expense, including inflation

Municipal Bond Index Rate:

Measurement Date3.69 percentPrior Measurement Date1.92 percent

Single Equivalent Interest Rate, net of plan investment expense,

including price inflation

Measurement Date4.08 percentPrior Measurement Date2.27 percentMedical Trend Assumption7.00 to 4.40 percent

Prior Measurement Date

Base Mortality: Healthy Retirees - PUB-2010 General Employee Amount Weighted Below Median Healthy Retiree mortality table projected to 2017 with ages set forward 1 year and adjusted 94.20% for males and set forward 2 years and adjusted 81.35% for females. Disabled Retirees - PUB-2010 General Disabled Retiree mortality table projected to 2017 with ages set forward 5 years and adjusted 103.3% for males and set forward 3 years and adjusted 106.8% for females. Contingent Survivors - PUB-2010 General Amount Weighted Below Median Contingent Survivor mortality table projected to 2017 with ages set forward 1 year and adjusted 105.5% for males and adjusted 122.5% for females. Actives - PUB-2010 General Amount Weighted Below Median Employee mortality table.

The most recent experience study was completed for the five-year period ended June 30, 2020.

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 2015 through 2020, and was adopted by the Board in 2021. 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, 7.00 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, 2020 five-year experience study, are summarized as follows:

Asset Class	Target Allocation	Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return
Cash	2.00 %	(0.45) %
US Equity	24.75	5.37
Non-US Equity Developed	13.50	6.22
Non-US Equity Emerging	6.75	8.22
Fixed Income/Global Bonds	19.00	1.20
Private Equity	11.00	10.05
Real Estate/Real Assets	16.00	4.87
Multi-Asset Strategy	4.00	3.39
Private Debt/Private Credit	3.00	5.38
Total	100.00 %	

Discount Rate The discount rate used to measure the total OPEB liability at June 30,2022 was 4.08 percent. The discount rate used to measure total OPEB liability prior to June 30, 2022 was 2.27 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 1.50 percent of projected covered employee payroll each year, which includes a 1.50 percent payroll surcharge and no 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 of current System members by SERS actuaries. The Municipal Bond Index Rate is used in the determination for the SEIR for both the June 30, 2022 and the June 30, 2021 total OPEB liability. The Municipal Bond Index rate is the single rate that will generate a present value of benefit payments equal to the sum of the present value determined by the long-term expected rate of return, and the present value determined by discounting those benefits after the date of depletion. The Municipal Bond Index rate is 3.69% at June 30, 2022 and 1.92% at June 30, 2021.

Sensitivity of the School'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 (3.08%) and higher (5.08%) than the current discount rate (4.08%). Also shown is what SERS' net OPEB liability would be based on health care cost trend rates that are 1 percentage point lower (6.00% decreasing to 3.40%) and higher (8.00% decreasing to 5.40%) than the current rate (7.00% decreasing to 4.40%).

	- / /	Decrease	Disc	Current count Rate		5 Increase 5.08%)
School's proportionate share		(3.08%)		4.08%)		3.0670)
of the net OPEB liability	\$	111,305	\$	89,617	\$	72,108
•			(	Current		
	1%	Decrease	Tr	end Rate	1%	Increase
	$(6.00^{\circ})$	% decreasing	$(7.00^{\circ}$	% decreasing	(8.00 %	6 decreasing
	to	3.40%)	to	4.40%)	to	5.40%)
School's proportionate share						
of the net OPEB liability	\$	69,110	\$	89,617	\$	116,401

#### **Actuarial Assumptions – STRS**

Key methods and assumptions used in the latest actuarial valuation, reflecting experience study results used in the June 30, 2022, actuarial valuation is presented below:

Projected salary increases Varies by service from 2.5 percent

to 8.5 percent

Investment Rate of Return 7.00 percent, net of investment

expenses, including inflation

Payroll Increases 3 percent
Cost-of-Living Adjustments 0 percent
Discount Rate of Return 7.00 percent

Health Care Cost Trends Initial Ultimate

Medical

Pre-Medicare 7.50 percent 3.94 percent
Medicare -68.78 percent 3.94 percent

Prescription Drug

Pre-Medicare9.00 percent3.94 percentMedicare5.47 percent3.94 percent

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

For healthy retirees the post-retirement mortality rates are based on the Pub-2010 Teachers Healthy Annuitant Mortality Table, adjusted 110% for males, projected forward generationally using mortality improvement scale MP-2020; pre-retirement mortality rates are based on Pub-2010 Teachers Employee Table adjusted 95% for females, projected forward generationally using mortality improvement scale MP-2020. For disabled retirees, mortality rates are based on the Pub-2010 Teachers Disabled Annuitant Table projected forward generationally using mortality improvement scale MP-2020.

Actuarial assumptions used in the June 30, 2022 valuation is based on the results of an actuarial experience study for the period July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2021.

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:

	Target	Long-Term Expected
Asset Class	Allocation *	Rate of Return **
Domestic Equity	26.00 %	6.60 %
International Equity	22.00	6.80
Alternatives	19.00	7.38
Fixed Income	22.00	1.75
Real Estate	10.00	5.75
Liquidity Reserves	1.00	1.00
Total	100.00 %	

<sup>\*</sup> Target allocation percentage is effective July 1, 2022. Target weights were phased in over a 3-month period concluding October 1, 2022.

**Discount Rate** The discount rate used to measure the total OPEB liability was 7.00 percent as of June 30, 2022. 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 projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments to current plan members. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on health care plan investments of 7.00 percent was used to measure the total OPEB liability as of June 30, 2022.

Sensitivity of the School's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Asset to Changes in the Discount and Health Care Cost Trend Rate The following table represents the net OPEB asset as of June 30, 2022, calculated using the current period discount rate assumption of 7.00 percent, as well as what the net OPEB asset would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is one percentage point lower (6.00 percent) or one percentage point higher (8.00 percent) than the current assumption. Also shown is the net OPEB asset as if it were calculated using health care cost trend rates that are one percentage point lower or one percentage point higher than the current health care cost trend rates.

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

				Current		
		Decrease (6.00%)		scount Rate (7.00%)		% Increase (8.00%)
School's proportionate share						
of the net OPEB asset	\$	185,743	\$	200,919	\$	213,916
				Current		
	1%	Decrease	T	rend Rate	1%	6 Increase
School's proportionate share						
of the net OPEB asset	\$	208,401	\$	200,919	\$	191,472

#### Benefit Term Changes Since the Prior Measurement Date

Salary increase rates were updated based on the actuarial experience study for the period July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2021 and were changed from age based to service based. Healthcare trends were updated to reflect emerging claims and recoveries experience.

#### **NOTE 10 - CONTINGENCIES**

<u>Grants</u> - The School received financial assistance from federal and state agencies in the form of grants. Amounts received from grantor agencies are subject to audit and adjustment by the grantor. Any disallowed costs may require refunding to the grantor. Amounts which may be disallowed, if any, are not presently determinable. However, in the opinion of the School, any such adjustments will not have a material adverse effect on the financial position of the School.

**Litigation** - There are currently no matters in litigation with the School as defendant.

#### NOTE 11 - SPONSOR CONTRACT

The School contracted with Ohio Council of Community Schools (OCCS) as its sponsor and oversight services as required by law. Sponsorship fees are calculated as a three percent of state funds received by the School from the State of Ohio. For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2023, the total sponsorship fees paid totaled \$40,774.

#### NOTE 12 – MANAGEMENT CONTRACT

The School entered into an agreement with Maker Learning Network, a California nonprofit management company, to provide legal, financial, and other management support services for fiscal year 2023. The agreement was for a period of five years beginning July 1, 2016. Management fees are calculated as 15% of the total revenues received from the State of Ohio. The total amount due from the School for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023 was \$283,144, only \$36,000 of this amount was paid during the year.

#### **NOTE 13 - PURCHASED SERVICES**

For the period of July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023, the School made the following purchased services commitments.

Purchased Services	Amount		
Professional Services	\$	232,451	
Property Services		253,563	
Utilities		64,635	
Travel & Meetings		1,977	
Communications		12,505	
Contractual Trade		95,182	
Total	\$	660,313	

### NOTE 14 – IMPLEMENTATION OF NEW ACCOUNTING PRINCIPLES/CHANGE IN BASIS OF ACCOUNTING AND RESTATEMENT OF NET POSITION

For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2023, the School has implemented Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 94, *Public-Private and Public-Public Partnerships and Availability Payment Arrangements*, GASB Statement No. 96, *Subscription-Based Information Technology Arrangements* and certain provisions of GASB Statement No. 99, *Omnibus2022*. The implementation of GASB Statements Nos. 94, 96, and 99 did not have an effect on the financial statements of the School.

For fiscal year 2023, the School ceased to report using generally accepted accounting principles and reported on the cash basis as described in Note 2. The effect on net position is below:

Net Position, June 30, 2022	\$(4,023,930)
Restatement to Convert to Cash Basis	4,336,514
Restated Net Position, July 1, 2022	<u>\$ 312,584</u>

#### **NOTE 15 – COVID-19**

The United States and the State of Ohio declared a state of emergency in March of 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Ohio's state of emergency ended in June 2021 while the national state of emergency continues. During fiscal year 2023, the School received COVID-19 funding. The financial impact of COVID-19 and the continuing recovery measures will impact subsequent periods of the School. The impact on the School's future operating costs, revenues, and additional recovery from funding, either federal or state, cannot be estimated.

#### NOTE 16 – SUBSEQUENT EVENTS/SCHOOL CLOSURE

Effective June 30, 2023 the Board of Trustees voted to close the School. The School is performing closing procedures as required by the Ohio Department of Education and will work to distribute its remaining assets in accordance with State law, following the procedures prescribed by the Ohio Department of Education (ODE) regarding official notices to ODE, retirement systems, students, staff and the community. Disposition of student records and property ow ned by the School will be handled in accordance with ODE requirements.

As of November 7, 2023 the School had a cash balance of \$22,875, known current assets of \$104,839 and projected liabilities of \$127,739. The School has sold its remaining capital assets. The School experienced limited activity subsequent to fiscal year end, only paying amounts owed to vendors with its remaining cash.



# INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS BASED ON AN AUDIT OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS

Board of Directors and Management iLead Spring Meadows Lucas County, OH Ohio Council of Community Schools (Sponsor) 3131 Executive Parkway, Suite 306 Toledo, OH 43606

We have audited, in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to the financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States (*Government Auditing Standards*), the cash-basis financial statements of iLead Spring Meadows, Lucas County, Ohio (the "School") as of and for the year ended June 30, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the School's basic financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated November 7, 2023, wherein we noted that the School uses a special purpose framework other than generally accepted accounting principles, restated beginning net position, and the School closed operations effective June 30, 2023.

#### **Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting**

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the School's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the School's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the School's internal control.

A deficiency in internal control exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct misstatements on a timely basis. A material weakness is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the School's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. 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 deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified.

iLead Spring Meadows
Independent Auditor's Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting and on
Compliance and Other Matters Based on an Audit of Financial Statements
Performed in Accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*Page 2 of 2

#### **Report on Compliance and Other Matters**

As part of reasonably assuring whether the School'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 financial statements. 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 an instance of noncompliance or other matters we must report under Government Auditing Standards which is described in the accompanying schedule of findings and responses as item 2023-001 and 2023-002.

#### School's Responses to the Findings

Government Auditing Standards requires the auditor to perform limited procedures on the School's responses to the findings identified in our audit and described in the accompanying schedule of findings and responses. The School's responses were not subjected to the other auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and, accordingly, we express no opinion on the responses.

#### **Purpose of this Report**

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the School's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the School's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

Kea & Associates, Inc.

Rea & Associates, Inc. Lima, Ohio November 7, 2023

#### iLEAD SPRING MEADOWS LUCAS COUNTY, OHIO

Schedule of Findings and Responses June 30, 2023

### FINDINGS RELATED TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS REQUIRED TO BE REPORTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GAGAS

Finding Number: 2023-001 – Material Non-compliance

Criteria: Ohio Rev. Code §117.38 provides that each public office shall file a financial report for each fiscal year. The Auditor of State may prescribe forms by rule or may issue guidelines, or both, for such reports. If the Auditor of State has not prescribed a rule regarding the form for the report, the public office shall submit its report on the form utilized by the public office.

Ohio Admin. Code Section 117-2-03(B), which further clarifies the requirements of Ohio Rev. Code § 117.38, requires the Academy to file annual financial reports which are prepared using generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP).

**Condition:** For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2023, iLead Spring Meadow's (the School) financial statements and footnotes were prepared on the cash basis of accounting, which is a comprehensive accounting basis other than GAAP.

Cause/Effect: The accompanying financial statements and notes omit assets, deferred outflows of resources, liabilities, deferred inflows of resources, net position, and disclosures that, while material, cannot be determined at this time. Pursuant to Ohio Rev. Code § 117.38 the Schol may be fined and subject to various other administrative remedies for its failure to file the required financial report. Failure to report on a GAAP basis compromises the School's ability to evaluate and monitor the overall financial condition of the School.

**Recommendation:** We recommend the School prepare its financial statements in accordance with GAAP and ensure its annual financial report is filed with the Auditor of State within the guidelines established by the Ohio Revised Code.

**Management's Response:** The School has reported on the cash-basis of accounting due a cost saving measure since the School has ceased operations effective June 30, 2023.

#### Finding Number: 2023-002 – Material Noncompliance

Criteria: Pursuant to Ohio Rev. Code (ORC) 3314.03(A)(6)(b) & (A)(27-28) community schools must adopt attendance and participation policies for their students and attendance records shall be made available to the Department of Education, Auditor of State and the School's sponsor. The School's attendance policy states that "Parents or a designated adult will be required to sign the child out when they leave and then sign in if they return." The policy also states that unexcused absences include any absence where a student fails to provide appropriate written documentation of the absence. In addition, the School's truancy policy states that within seven days of the triggering absence for a habitually truant student, the school select members of the absence intervention team and make three meaningful attempts to secure the student's parent or guardian's participation on the absence intervention team. Then, the policy states that the intervention team will develop the student's absence intervention plan.

**Condition:** During audit procedures, it was noted that the School was unable to provide all supporting documentation for excused absences, for 4 of the 5 students selected for testing, as required by the School's policy as required by ORC 3314.03(A)(6)(b) & (A)(27-28).

**Cause:** The School has closed at the end of fiscal year 2023, and the Sponsor was not able to locate any written notes from the students' parents or phone call logs for some students selected for testing.

**Effect:** Without internal controls over reporting attendance statistics in EMIS operating effectively, there is an opportunity that the School's funding could be calculated based on inaccurate information. Without proper supporting documentation it could be difficult for the School to support attendance information reported through EMIS.

**Recommendation:** We recommend the School monitor procedures implemented over student absences to verify information reported in EMIS is accurate. We also recommend all supporting documentation required by the School's attendance policy to be retained.

**Management's Response:** Due to the School's closure, and transfer of information to student's residential home school district, not all information was able to be located.





#### **ILEAD SPRING MEADOWS**

#### **LUCAS COUNTY**

#### **AUDITOR OF STATE OF OHIO CERTIFICATION**

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



Certified for Release 1/2/2024

88 East Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215 Phone: 614-466-4514 or 800-282-0370