



ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT • FISCAL YEAR 2023

Lincoln County Board of Education Lincolnton, Georgia

Including Independent Auditor's Report

Greg S. Griffin | State Auditor



DOAA
Georgia Department
of Audits & Accounts

Lincoln County Board of Education

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Section I

Financial



INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

The Honorable Brian P. Kemp, Governor of Georgia
Members of the General Assembly of the State of Georgia
Members of the State Board of Education
and
Dr. Samuel P. Light, Superintendent and Members of the
Lincoln County Board of Education

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Opinions

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities and each major fund of the Lincoln County Board of Education (School District) as of and for the year ended June 30, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the School District's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities and each major fund of the School District as of June 30, 2023, and the respective changes in financial position for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Basis for Opinions

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 District 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 opinions.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and 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 District'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 opinions. 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 District's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- 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 District'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.

Required Supplementary Information

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the Management's Discussion and Analysis and required supplementary information listed in the table of contents be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or

historical context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with GAAS, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient appropriate evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

Supplementary Information

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the School District's basic financial statements. The accompanying supplementary information, as listed in the table of contents, is presented for the purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the basic financial statements. The *Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards* is presented for purposes of additional analysis as required by Title 2 U.S. *Code of Federal Regulations* (CFR) Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards*, and is also not a required part of the basic financial statements.

The supplementary information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements or to the basic financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with GAAS. In our opinion, the information is fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the basic financial statements as a whole.

Other Reporting Required by *Government Auditing Standards*

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated March 26, 2024 on our consideration of the School District's internal control over financial reporting and on 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 District'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 District's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

A copy of this report has been filed as a permanent record and made available to the press of the State, as provided for by Official Code of Georgia Annotated section 50-6-24.

Respectfully submitted,



Greg S. Griffin
State Auditor

March 26, 2024

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LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

INTRODUCTION

The discussion and analysis of the Lincoln County Board of Education's (the School District) financial performance provides an overview of the School District's financial activities for the fiscal years ended June 30, 2022, and June 30, 2023. The intent of this discussion and analysis is to look at the School District's financial performance as a whole. Readers should also review the financial statements and the notes to the basic financial statements to enhance their understanding of the School District's financial performance.

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

Key financial highlights for the fiscal years 2023 and 2022 are as follows:

- On the government-wide financial statements, the liabilities and deferred inflow of resources of the School District exceeded assets and deferred outflow of resources by \$5.932 million and \$8.102 million, respectively, for the fiscal years ended June 30, 2023, and 2022.
- The School District had \$19.792 million and \$17.342 million in expenses relating to governmental activities for the fiscal years ended June 30, 2023 and June 30, 2022, respectively. Only \$13.176 million and \$11.862 million of the above-mentioned expenses for 2023 and 2022 were offset by program specific charges for services, grants and contributions. General revenues (primarily property and sales taxes) of \$8.786 million and \$7.580 million, respectively, for 2023 and 2022, along with fund balance were adequate to provide for these programs.
- General revenues accounts for \$8.786 million in revenue or 40.01% of all revenues. Program specific revenues in the form of charges for services and sales, grants and contributions accounted for \$13.176 million or 59.99% of total revenues of \$21,961,916.
- The current ratio, which measures the School District's ability to transform current assets into cash and pay its short-term liabilities, was 2.914 and 2.515 for the fiscal years ended June 30, 2023 and June 30, 2022, respectively. Generally, a ratio greater than 2.0 is considered very financially stable.
- The Lincoln County voters passed a one percent sales tax for educational purposes (ESPLOST) for another five years (2022-2027) on November 20, 2021.
- Long-term debt decreased by \$963 thousand for 2023. This decrease was due primarily to the payment of principal and amortization of bond premiums.
- Among major funds, the general fund had \$19.210 million in revenues and \$18.955 million in expenditures. The fund balance for the general fund increased from \$2.726 million to approximately \$2.932 million.

OVERVIEW OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

This annual report consists of three parts; management's discussion and analysis, the basic financial statements and required supplementary information. The basic financial statements include two levels of statements that present different views of the School District. These include the government-wide and fund financial statements.

The government-wide financial statements include the Statement of Net Position and Statement of Activities. These statements provide information about the activities of the School District presenting both short-term and long-term information about the overall financial status.

LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

The fund financial statements focus on individual parts, reporting the School District's operation in more detail. The governmental funds statements disclose how basic services are financed in the short-term as well as what remains for future spending.

The fund financial statements reflect the School District's most significant funds. For the years ending June 30, 2023 and 2022, the general fund, the capital projects fund, and the debt service fund represent the most significant funds.

The financial statements also include notes that explain some of the information in the statements and provide more detailed data. The statements are followed by a section of required supplementary information that further explains and supports the financial statements. Additionally, other supplementary information (not required) is also presented that further supplements understanding of the financial statements.

Government-Wide Statements

The government-wide statements report information about the School District as a whole using accounting methods similar to those used by private-sector companies. The Statement of Net Position includes all of the School District's assets and liabilities. All of the current fiscal year's revenues and expenses are accounted for in the Statement of Activities regardless of when cash is received or paid.

The two government-wide statements report the School District's net position and how it has changed. Net position, the difference between the School District's assets, deferred outflows of resources, liabilities and deferred inflows of resources, are one way to measure the School District's overall financial health or position. Over time, increases or decreases in net position are an indication of whether its financial health is improving or deteriorating. Changes may be the result of many factors, including those not under the School District's control, such as the property tax base, facility conditions, required educational programs and other factors.

In the Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities, the School District has one distinct type of activity:

- **Governmental Activities** – All of the School District's programs and services are reported here including instruction, support services, operation and maintenance of plant, pupil transportation, food service, student activity accounts and various others.

Fund Financial Statements

The School District's fund financial statements provide detailed information about the most significant funds, not the School District as a whole. Some funds are required by State law and some by bond requirements. The School District's major governmental funds are the general fund, the capital projects fund, and the debt service fund.

Governmental Funds - All of the School District's activities are reported in governmental funds, which focus on the determination of financial position and change in financial position, not on income determination. These funds are reported using the modified accrual method of accounting, which measures cash and all other financial assets that can readily be converted to cash. The governmental fund statements provide a detailed short-term view of the School District's general government operations and the basic services it provides. Governmental fund information helps determine whether there are more or fewer financial resources that can be spent in the near future to finance educational programs. The relationship (or differences) between governmental activities (reported in the Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities) and governmental funds are reconciled to the financial statements.

LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

FINANCIAL ANALYSIS OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT AS A WHOLE

Recall that the Statement of Net Position provides the perspective of the School District as a whole. Table 1 provides a summary of the School District's net position for fiscal years 2023 and 2022.

**Table 1
Net Position**

	Governmental Activities	
	Fiscal Year 2023	Fiscal Year 2022
Assets		
Current and Other Assets	\$ 7,840,407	\$ 6,284,692
Intangible Right-to-Use Assets, Net	81,023	105,794
Capital Assets, Net	<u>30,009,389</u>	<u>29,661,011</u>
Total Assets	<u>37,930,819</u>	<u>36,051,497</u>
Deferred Outflows of Resources		
Loss on Refunding Debt	942,000	1,019,818
Related to Defined Benefit Pension Plan	8,567,787	3,622,408
Related to OPEB Plan	<u>2,930,863</u>	<u>3,242,241</u>
Total Deferred Outflows of Resources	<u>12,440,650</u>	<u>7,884,467</u>
Liabilities		
Current and Other Liabilities	2,690,952	2,499,297
Long-Term Liabilities	20,819,045	21,782,059
Net Pension Liability	17,695,580	4,781,512
Net OPEB Liability	<u>9,270,369</u>	<u>10,114,368</u>
Total Liabilities	<u>50,475,946</u>	<u>39,177,236</u>
Deferred Inflows of Resources		
Related to Defined Benefit Pension Plan	248,785	7,318,113
Related to OPEB Plan	<u>5,579,216</u>	<u>5,542,735</u>
Total Deferred Inflows of Resources	<u>5,828,001</u>	<u>12,860,848</u>
Net Position		
Net Investment in Capital Assets	10,906,787	9,812,686
Restricted	1,580,747	1,286,274
Unrestricted (Deficit)	<u>(18,420,012)</u>	<u>(19,201,080)</u>
Total Net Position	<u>\$ (5,932,478)</u>	<u>\$ (8,102,120)</u>

Total assets and deferred outflows of resources increased by \$6.436 million.

Total liabilities and deferred inflows of resources increased by \$4.266 million which was primarily due to the increases in net pension liabilities. The combination of the insignificant increase in total assets and deferred outflows of resources and the significant increase in total liabilities and deferred inflows of resources yielded an increase in net position of \$2.170 million.

LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

Table 2 shows the changes in net position for fiscal years ending June 30, 2023 and June 30, 2022.

Table 2
Change in Net Position

	Governmental Activities	
	Fiscal Year 2023	Fiscal Year 2022
Revenues		
Program Revenues:		
Charges for Services	\$ 389,909	\$ 203,939
Operating Grants and Contributions	12,433,518	11,649,945
Capital Grants and Contributions	352,440	8,000
Total Program Revenues	<u>13,175,867</u>	<u>11,861,884</u>
General Revenues:		
Taxes		
Property Taxes		
For Maintenance and Operations	5,180,963	4,886,442
For Debt Service	795,419	761,161
Sales Taxes		
Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax		
For Debt Service	1,083,169	967,339
Other Taxes	94,616	136,105
Grants and Contributions not		
Restricted to Specific Programs	1,049,781	277,868
Investment Earnings	14,711	7,271
Miscellaneous	567,390	461,806
Special Item	-	82,100
Total General Revenues and Special Item	<u>8,786,049</u>	<u>7,580,092</u>
Total Revenues and Special Item	<u>21,961,916</u>	<u>19,441,976</u>
Program Expenses:		
Instruction	11,705,260	9,666,008
Support Services		
Pupil Services	667,826	573,904
Improvement of Instructional Services	485,047	563,947
Educational Media Services	309,489	253,970
General Administration	334,353	273,825
School Administration	1,305,310	1,066,880
Business Administration	290,300	285,289
Maintenance and Operation of Plant	1,560,024	1,540,364
Student Transportation Services	1,101,896	1,128,672
Central Support Services	4,405	8,167
Other Support Services	91,180	47,202
Operations of Non-Instructional Services		
Community Services	263,142	189,514
Food Services	934,791	970,309
Interest on Long-Term Debt	739,251	773,862
Total Expenses	<u>19,792,274</u>	<u>17,341,913</u>
Increase in Net Position	<u>\$ 2,169,642</u>	<u>\$ 2,100,063</u>

LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

Program revenues, in the form of charges for services, operating grants and contributions and capital grants and contributions increased \$1.314 million for governmental activities. This increase is largely due to capital and operating grants and contributions received from the state and federal government, including funds earned through the State Quality Basic Education (QBE) Funding Formula.

General revenues increased by \$1.206 million during fiscal year 2023. This increase can be attributed to property and sales taxes collected, grants and contributions not restricted to specific programs and miscellaneous revenues associated with school activity accounts.

Governmental Activities

The Statement of Activities shows the cost of program services and the charges for services and grants offsetting those services. Table 3 shows the total cost of services and the net cost of services. Net cost of services can be defined as the total cost less fees generated by the activities and intergovernmental revenue provided for specific programs. The net cost reflects the financial burden on the School District's taxpayers by each activity.

Table 3
Governmental Activities

	Total Cost of Services		Net Cost of Services	
	Fiscal Year	Fiscal Year	Fiscal Year	Fiscal Year
	2023	2022	2023	2022
Instruction	\$ 11,705,260	\$ 9,666,008	\$ 2,614,901	\$ 1,696,089
Support Services:				
Pupil Services	667,826	573,904	562,508	472,359
Improvement of Instructional Services	485,047	563,947	243,199	308,837
Educational Media Services	309,489	253,970	131,897	81,841
General Administration	334,353	273,825	(160,810)	(206,549)
School Administration	1,305,310	1,066,880	744,514	507,429
Business Administration	290,300	285,289	260,450	259,157
Maintenance and Operation of Plant	1,560,024	1,540,364	1,028,665	1,048,530
Student Transportation Services	1,101,896	1,128,672	317,707	619,238
Central Support Services	4,405	8,167	4,112	7,620
Other Support Services	91,180	47,202	34,543	40,904
Operations of Non-Instructional Services:				
Community Services	263,142	189,514	45,455	41,925
Food Services	934,791	970,309	50,015	(171,213)
Interest on Long-Term Debt	739,251	773,862	739,251	773,862
Total Expenses	\$ 19,792,274	\$ 17,341,913	\$ 6,616,407	\$ 5,480,029

Although program revenues make up a majority of the funding, the School District is still dependent upon tax revenues for governmental activities. For 2023, 33.43% of expenses were supplemented by taxes and other general revenues compared to 31.60% in 2022.

LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

FINANCIAL ANALYSIS OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT'S FUNDS

The School District's governmental funds are accounted for using the modified accrual basis of accounting. Total governmental funds had revenues and other financing sources of \$21.142 million and expenditures and other financing uses of \$20.582 million. The capital projects fund had an overall increase of \$22 thousand due to less expenditures than transferred in from general fund. The general fund had an overall increase of \$206 thousand. The increase in the general fund for the year is due mostly to an increase in state funding and conservative spending.

General Fund Budgeting Highlights

The School District's budget is prepared according to Georgia Law. The most significant budgeted fund is the general fund, funded primarily through state revenue and local property tax revenue. During the course of fiscal years 2023 and 2022, the School District amended its general fund budget as needed.

For the general fund, the final budgeted revenues and other financing sources of \$19.120 million increased from the original budgeted amount of \$18.070 million by \$1.050 million. This difference was mainly due to the receipt of Impact Aid money and adjustment of various grants. The actual revenue was more than the final budgeted amount by \$92 thousand. The majority of the variances between final budget and actual revenue are due to the addition of principals' accounts which are not budgeted for and federal grants timing.

The final budgeted expenditures and other financial uses of \$18.818 million was more than the original budgeted amount of \$18.343 million by \$475 thousand. This difference was due mainly to additional purchases with Impact Aid money, adjustment to approved grant amounts, and a salary increase for employees. The actual expenditures and other financing uses of \$19.005 million was \$187 thousand more than budgeted. The majority of the variances between the final budgeted expenditures and actual are due to the addition of principals' accounts which are not budgeted for and federal grants timing.

CAPITAL ASSETS AND INTANGIBLE RIGHT-TO-USE ASSETS

Capital Assets

At the fiscal years ended June 30, 2023 and June 30, 2022, the School District had \$30.009 million and \$29.661 million, respectively, invested in capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation. These assets are made up of a broad range of capital assets, including land; buildings; transportation, food service, and maintenance equipment. Table 4 reflects a summary of these balances, by class, net of accumulated depreciation.

Table 4
Capital Assets
(Net of Depreciation)

	Governmental Activities	
	Fiscal Year	Fiscal Year
	2023	2022
Land	\$ 198,884	\$ 198,884
Construction In Progress	848,281	145,086
Building and Improvements	22,149,267	22,780,356
Equipment	1,916,208	1,509,495
Land Improvements	4,896,749	5,027,190
Total	\$ 30,009,389	\$ 29,661,011

LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

The overall capital assets remained relatively stable in fiscal year 2023 due to depreciation offsetting new purchases.

Intangible Right-to-Use Assets

At the end of fiscal year 2023, the School District recorded \$81 thousand in intangible right-to-use assets, net of amortization, due to the implementation of GASB No. 87. Table 5 provides a summary of assets for fiscal year 2023.

Table 5
Intangible Right-to-Use Assets
(Net of Amortization)

	Governmental Activities	
	Fiscal Year	Fiscal Year
	2023	2022
Equipment	\$ <u>81,023</u>	\$ <u>105,794</u>

DEBT ADMINISTRATION

At June 30, 2023, the School District had \$20.819 million in total debt outstanding with \$1.180 million due within one year. Table 6 summarizes bond debt outstanding at June 30, 2023 and 2022.

Table 6
Debt at June 30

	Governmental Activities	
	Fiscal Year	Fiscal Year
	2023	2022
General Obligation Bonds	\$ 19,465,000	\$ 20,275,000
Unamortized Bond Premiums	942,791	1,021,402
Copier Lease	73,496	103,801
Financed Purchase	<u>337,758</u>	<u>381,856</u>
Total	<u>\$ 20,819,045</u>	<u>\$ 21,782,059</u>

CURRENT ISSUES

In fiscal year 2023, Lincoln County School District has returned to some semblance of normality in the midst of the pandemic. The Federal grants have helped to offset the additional costs incurred. While we, as a district, are currently able to adapt and respond to each challenge placed upon us, we are concerned about the long-term effects of the disruptions this illness has caused and the financial implications of its effects.

Approximately 84% of general fund expenses, the main operating fund for the School District, were related to salaries and employee benefits for the year ended June 30, 2023. Over 35% of certified personnel in the School District have 21 years or more of experience resulting in salaries at the highest possible state pay level. With such personnel heavy expenses, it is difficult to offset mandated expense increases such as TRS

LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

and health insurance premium expenses. The School District consistently evaluates how funds can be spent smarter and more effectively to ensure that Lincoln County students receive a quality education from effective personnel.

The School District's millage rate for fiscal year 2023 was 13.393. The net digest has been increasing steadily since 2019, with an increase of \$37.009 million for 2023. The net digest for fiscal year 2023 was \$347.676 million, which produced approximately \$347,676 per mill, resulting in an increase of \$130,633 in tax revenues. As shown in Table 2, property tax and sales tax are responsible for covering 36.15% of the School District's costs. It is anticipated that this pressure to provide local monies to meet mandated educational requirements and operational costs will continue.

The most significant challenge facing the School District is the relative uncertainty regarding how School Districts will be funded moving forward. The General Assembly is in the process of exploring new funding formulas that would likely cement in the austerity reductions received annually and change the way personnel salaries are calculated. It is uncertain at this point what type of financial impact these changes might have on the School District's finances.

The School District remains vigilant at controlling costs as much as possible. For several years, the School District has incurred spending increases which are attributable to state mandated increases for teacher salaries and benefits, increased Special Education costs, and increased health insurance costs due to the full implementation of the Affordable Care Act.

Another matter which is of concern to the School District is the impact of GASB No. 68 and GASB No. 75 on the financial statements for fiscal year 2023 and beyond. The addition of pension liability and OPEB liability is significant and the impact on net position in current and future financial statements is significant. The future effects are still not completely known.

CONTACTING THE SCHOOL DISTRICT'S FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

This financial report is designed to provide our citizens, taxpayers, investors and creditors with a general overview of the School District's finances and to show the School District's accountability for the money it receives. If you have questions about this report or need additional financial information, contact Dylan Norman at the Lincoln County Board of Education, 423 Metasville Road, Lincolnton, GA 30817. You may also email your questions to dnorman@lcboe.us or call (706) 359-3742 for more information.

Lincoln County Board of Education

LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
STATEMENT OF NET POSITION
JUNE 30, 2023

EXHIBIT "A"

	<u>GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES</u>
<u>ASSETS</u>	
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 3,709,252.40
Investments	1,053,607.78
Accounts Receivable, Net	
Interest	5,518.73
Taxes	367,100.14
State Government	1,552,143.34
Federal Government	1,145,190.51
Other	1,139.76
Inventories	6,454.97
Intangible Right-to-Use Assets (Net of Accumulated Amortization)	81,022.58
Capital Assets, Non-Depreciable	1,047,165.22
Capital Assets, Depreciable (Net of Accumulated Depreciation)	28,962,224.00
Total Assets	<u>37,930,819.43</u>
 <u>DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES</u>	
Deferred Charge on Debt Refunding	942,000.01
Related to Defined Benefit Pension Plan	8,567,787.48
Related to OPEB Plan	2,930,863.00
Total Deferred Outflows of Resources	<u>12,440,650.49</u>
 <u>LIABILITIES</u>	
Accounts Payable	455,750.48
Salaries and Benefits Payable	1,795,566.98
Payroll Withholdings Payable	151,176.53
Interest Payable	173,756.25
Contracts Payable	79,764.75
Retainages Payable	34,937.50
Net Pension Liability	17,695,580.00
Net OPEB Liability	9,270,369.00
Long-Term Liabilities	
Due Within One Year	1,179,715.56
Due in More Than One Year	19,639,329.64
Total Liabilities	<u>50,475,946.69</u>
 <u>DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES</u>	
Related to Defined Benefit Pension Plan	248,785.00
Related to OPEB Plan	5,579,216.00
Total Deferred Inflows of Resources	<u>5,828,001.00</u>
 <u>NET POSITION</u>	
Net Investment in Capital Assets	10,906,786.80
Restricted for	
Continuation of Federal Programs	328,133.23
Debt Service	1,252,614.15
Unrestricted (Deficit)	<u>(18,420,011.95)</u>
Total Net Position	<u>\$ (5,932,477.77)</u>

LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

EXHIBIT "B"

	PROGRAM REVENUES			NET (EXPENSES)
EXPENSES	CHARGES FOR SERVICES	OPERATING GRANTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS	CAPITAL GRANTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS	REVENUES AND CHANGES IN NET POSITION
GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES				
Instruction	\$ 11,705,260.04	\$ 13,444.44	\$ 9,076,914.81	\$ (2,614,900.79)
Support Services				
Pupil Services	667,826.19	-	105,318.26	(562,507.93)
Improvement of Instructional Services	485,046.44	-	241,847.24	(243,199.20)
Educational Media Services	309,488.62	-	177,591.68	(131,896.94)
General Administration	334,353.22	-	495,163.63	160,810.41
School Administration	1,305,309.97	-	560,795.85	(744,514.12)
Business Administration	290,300.08	-	29,849.68	(260,450.40)
Maintenance and Operation of Plant	1,560,024.42	11,960.00	519,399.30	(1,028,665.12)
Student Transportation Services	1,101,896.31	-	431,749.63	(317,706.68)
Central Support Services	4,404.64	-	292.76	(4,111.88)
Other Support Services	91,180.10	-	56,636.94	(34,543.16)
Operations of Non-Instructional Services				
Community Services	263,142.01	208,367.07	9,320.17	(45,454.77)
Food Services	934,791.10	156,137.81	728,638.37	(50,014.92)
Interest on Long-Term Debt	739,251.13	-	-	(739,251.13)
Total Governmental Activities	\$ 19,792,274.27	\$ 389,909.32	\$ 12,433,518.32	\$ 352,440.00
General Revenues				
Taxes				
Property Taxes				
				5,180,962.84
				795,418.86
Sales Taxes				
				1,083,169.19
				94,615.60
				1,049,781.00
				14,711.43
				567,389.58
				<u>8,786,048.50</u>
				2,169,641.87
				<u>(8,102,119.64)</u>
				<u>\$ (5,932,477.77)</u>

LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

EXHIBIT "C"

BALANCE SHEET
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
JUNE 30, 2023

	GENERAL FUND	CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND	DEBT SERVICE FUND	TOTAL
<u>ASSETS</u>				
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 2,271,026.79	\$ 136,395.91	\$ 1,301,829.70	\$ 3,709,252.40
Investments	1,053,607.78	-	-	1,053,607.78
Accounts Receivable, Net				
Interest	5,518.73	-	-	5,518.73
Taxes	242,559.44	-	124,540.70	367,100.14
State Government	1,552,143.34	-	-	1,552,143.34
Federal Government	1,145,190.51	-	-	1,145,190.51
Other	1,139.76	-	-	1,139.76
Inventories	6,454.97	-	-	6,454.97
	<u>6,277,641.32</u>	<u>136,395.91</u>	<u>1,426,370.40</u>	<u>7,840,407.63</u>
Total Assets	<u>\$ 6,277,641.32</u>	<u>\$ 136,395.91</u>	<u>\$ 1,426,370.40</u>	<u>\$ 7,840,407.63</u>
<u>LIABILITIES</u>				
Accounts Payable	\$ 455,750.48	-	-	\$ 455,750.48
Salaries and Benefits Payable	1,795,566.98	-	-	1,795,566.98
Payroll Withholdings Payable	151,176.53	-	-	151,176.53
Contracts Payable	79,764.75	-	-	79,764.75
Retainages Payable	34,937.50	-	-	34,937.50
Total Liabilities	<u>2,517,196.24</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,517,196.24</u>
<u>DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES</u>				
Unavailable Revenue - Property Taxes	72,013.91	-	19,907.74	91,921.65
Unavailable Revenue - Federal Funds	756,855.96	-	-	756,855.96
Total Deferred Inflows of Resources	<u>828,869.87</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>19,907.74</u>	<u>848,777.61</u>
<u>FUND BALANCES</u>				
Nonspendable	6,454.97	-	-	6,454.97
Restricted	321,678.26	-	1,406,462.66	1,728,140.92
Committed	201,064.96	136,395.91	-	337,460.87
Unassigned	2,402,377.02	-	-	2,402,377.02
Total Fund Balances	<u>2,931,575.21</u>	<u>136,395.91</u>	<u>1,406,462.66</u>	<u>4,474,433.78</u>
Total Liabilities, Deferred Inflows of Resources, and Fund Balances	<u>\$ 6,277,641.32</u>	<u>\$ 136,395.91</u>	<u>\$ 1,426,370.40</u>	<u>\$ 7,840,407.63</u>

LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
RECONCILIATION OF THE GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS BALANCE SHEET
TO THE STATEMENT OF NET POSITION
JUNE 30, 2023

EXHIBIT "D"

Total fund balances - governmental funds (Exhibit "C")	\$	4,474,433.78
Amounts reported for governmental activities in the Statement of Net Position are different because:		
Capital assets used in governmental activities are not financial resources and therefore are not reported in the funds.		
Land	\$ 198,884.17	
Construction in progress	848,281.05	
Buildings and improvements	31,132,591.06	
Equipment	4,562,792.75	
Land improvements	6,552,750.37	
Accumulated depreciation	<u>(13,285,910.18)</u>	30,009,389.22
Right-to use assets used in governmental activities are not financial resources and therefore are not reported in the funds.		
Leased equipment	\$ 123,856.18	
Accumulated amortization - Right-to-use assets	<u>(42,833.60)</u>	81,022.58
Some liabilities are not due and payable in the current period and, therefore, are not reported in the funds.		
Net pension liability	\$ (17,695,580.00)	
Net OPEB liability	<u>(9,270,369.00)</u>	(26,965,949.00)
Deferred charges or credits on debt refundings are applicable to future periods and are therefore not reported in the funds and are amortized over the life of the new debt.		
		942,000.01
Deferred outflows and inflows of resources related to pensions/OPEB are applicable to future periods and, therefore, are not reported in the funds.		
Related to pensions	\$ 8,319,002.48	
Related to OPEB	<u>(2,648,353.00)</u>	5,670,649.48
Taxes that are not available to pay for current period expenditures are deferred in the funds.		
		91,921.65
Revenues that are not available to pay current period expenditures are deferred in the funds.		
		756,855.96
Long-term liabilities, and related accrued interest, are not due and payable in the current period and therefore are not reported in the funds.		
Bonds payable	\$ (19,465,000.00)	
Accrued interest payable	(173,756.25)	
Financed purchase arrangement payable	(337,758.13)	
Lease liability payable	(73,496.29)	
Unamortized bond premiums	<u>(942,790.78)</u>	<u>(20,992,801.45)</u>
Net position of governmental activities (Exhibit "A")	\$	<u><u>(5,932,477.77)</u></u>

LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

EXHIBIT "E"

	GENERAL FUND	CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND	DEBT SERVICE FUND	TOTAL
REVENUES				
Property Taxes	\$ 5,147,767.29	\$ -	\$ 791,522.51	\$ 5,939,289.80
Sales Taxes	94,615.60	-	1,083,169.19	1,177,784.79
State Funds	10,539,063.85	-	-	10,539,063.85
Federal Funds	2,463,501.18	-	-	2,463,501.18
Charges for Services	389,909.32	-	-	389,909.32
Investment Earnings	8,073.44	50.26	6,587.73	14,711.43
Miscellaneous	567,389.58	-	-	567,389.58
Total Revenues	<u>19,210,320.26</u>	<u>50.26</u>	<u>1,881,279.43</u>	<u>21,091,649.95</u>
EXPENDITURES				
Current				
Instruction	10,584,687.90	-	-	10,584,687.90
Support Services				
Pupil Services	619,934.03	-	-	619,934.03
Improvement of Instructional Services	470,749.86	-	-	470,749.86
Educational Media Services	278,011.16	-	-	278,011.16
General Administration	313,817.72	-	-	313,817.72
School Administration	1,259,249.57	-	-	1,259,249.57
Business Administration	270,880.78	-	-	270,880.78
Maintenance and Operation of Plant	1,609,633.30	27,551.47	-	1,637,184.77
Student Transportation Services	1,504,191.38	-	-	1,504,191.38
Central Support Services	4,404.64	-	-	4,404.64
Other Support Services	58,772.24	-	-	58,772.24
Community Services	263,142.01	-	-	263,142.01
Food Services Operation	912,189.10	-	-	912,189.10
Capital Outlay	719,875.91	-	-	719,875.91
Debt Services				
Principal	74,402.39	-	810,000.00	884,402.39
Dues and Fees	-	-	4,050.00	4,050.00
Interest	10,675.77	-	735,525.00	746,200.77
Total Expenditures	<u>18,954,617.76</u>	<u>27,551.47</u>	<u>1,549,575.00</u>	<u>20,531,744.23</u>
Revenues over (under) Expenditures	<u>255,702.50</u>	<u>(27,501.21)</u>	<u>331,704.43</u>	<u>559,905.72</u>
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)				
Transfers In	-	50,000.00	-	50,000.00
Transfers Out	(50,000.00)	-	-	(50,000.00)
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	<u>(50,000.00)</u>	<u>50,000.00</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Net Change in Fund Balances	205,702.50	22,498.79	331,704.43	559,905.72
Fund Balances - Beginning	<u>2,725,872.71</u>	<u>113,897.12</u>	<u>1,074,758.23</u>	<u>3,914,528.06</u>
Fund Balances - Ending	<u>\$ 2,931,575.21</u>	<u>\$ 136,395.91</u>	<u>\$ 1,406,462.66</u>	<u>\$ 4,474,433.78</u>

LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
RECONCILIATION OF THE GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS STATEMENT OF
REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES
TO THE STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES
JUNE 30, 2023

EXHIBIT "F"

Net change in fund balances total governmental funds (Exhibit "E")	\$	559,905.72
Amounts reported for governmental activities in the Statement of Activities are different because:		
<p>Governmental funds report capital outlays as expenditures. However, in the Statement of Activities, the cost of capital assets is allocated over their estimated useful lives as depreciation expense.</p>		
Capital outlay	\$ 1,288,481.29	
Depreciation expense	(940,103.10)	
Amortization expense	<u>(24,771.24)</u>	323,606.95
<p>Taxes reported in the Statement of Activities that do not provide current financial resources are not reported as revenues in the funds.</p>		
		37,091.90
<p>Revenues that are not available to pay current period expenditures are deferred in the funds.</p>		
		756,855.96
<p>The issuance of long-term debt provides current financial resources to governmental funds, while the repayment of the principal of long-term debt consumes the current financial resources of governmental funds. Neither transaction, however, has any effect on net position. Also, governmental funds report the effect of premiums, discounts and the difference between the carrying value of refunded debt and the acquisition cost of refunded debt when debt is first issued. These amounts are deferred and amortized in the Statement of Activities.</p>		
Amortization of deferred charge on refunding of bonds	\$ (77,818.18)	
Financed purchase arrangement payments	44,098.01	
Bond principal retirements	810,000.00	
Lease liability payments	<u>30,304.38</u>	806,584.21
<p>District pension/OPEB contributions are reported as expenditures in the governmental funds when made. However, they are reported as deferred outflows of resources in the Statement of Net Position because the reported net pension/OPEB liability is measured a year before the District's report date. Pension/OPEB expense, which is the change in the net pension/OPEB liability adjusted for changes in deferred outflows and inflows of resources related to pensions/OPEB, is reported in the Statement of Activities.</p>		
Pension expense	\$ (899,360.69)	
OPEB expense	<u>496,140.00</u>	(403,220.69)
<p>Some items reported in the Statement of Activities do not require the use of current financial resources and therefore are not reported as expenditures in governmental funds.</p>		
Net decrease in accrued interest	\$ 10,206.03	
Amortization of bond premium	<u>78,611.79</u>	<u>88,817.82</u>
Change in net position of governmental activities (Exhibit "B")	\$	<u><u>2,169,641.87</u></u>

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NOTE 1: DESCRIPTION OF SCHOOL DISTRICT AND REPORTING ENTITY

Reporting Entity

The Lincoln County Board of Education (School District) was established under the laws of the State of Georgia and operates under the guidance of a board elected by the voters and a Superintendent appointed by the Board. The School District is organized as a separate legal entity and has the power to levy taxes and issue bonds. Its budget is not subject to approval by any other entity. Accordingly, the School District is a primary government and consists of all the organizations that compose its legal entity.

NOTE 2: SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The accompanying financial statements of the School District have been prepared in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) as prescribed by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB). GASB is the accepted standard-setting body for governmental accounting and financial reporting principles. The most significant of the School District's accounting policies are described below.

Basis of Presentation

The School District's basic financial statements are collectively comprised of the government-wide financial statements, fund financial statements and notes to the basic financial statements. The government-wide statements focus on the School District as a whole, while the fund financial statements focus on major funds. Each presentation provides valuable information that can be analyzed and compared between years and between governments to enhance the information's usefulness.

Government-Wide Statements:

The Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities display information about the financial activities of the overall School District. Eliminations have been made to minimize the double counting of internal activities. Governmental activities generally are financed through taxes, intergovernmental revenues, and other nonexchange transactions.

The Statement of Net Position presents the School District's assets, deferred outflows of resources, deferred inflows of resources and liabilities, with the difference reported as net position. Net position is reported in three categories as follows:

1. **Net investment in capital assets** consists of the School District's total investment in capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation, and reduced by outstanding debt obligations related to those capital assets. To the extent debt has been incurred but not yet expended for capital assets, such amounts are not included as a component of net investment in capital assets.
2. **Restricted net position** consists of resources for which the School District is legally or contractually obligated to spend in accordance with restrictions imposed by external third parties or imposed by law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation.
3. **Unrestricted net position** consists of resources not meeting the definition of the two preceding categories. Unrestricted net position often has constraints on resources imposed by management which can be removed or modified.

The Statement of Activities presents a comparison between direct expenses and program revenues for each function of the School District's governmental activities.

LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2023

EXHIBIT "G"

Direct expenses are those that are specifically associated with a program or function and, therefore, are clearly identifiable to a particular function. Indirect expenses (expenses of the School District related to the administration and support of the School District's programs, such as office and maintenance personnel and accounting) are not allocated to programs.

Program revenues include (a) charges paid by the recipients of goods or services offered by the programs and (b) grants and contributions that are restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular program. Revenues that are not classified as program revenues, including all taxes, are presented as general revenues.

Fund Financial Statements

The fund financial statements provide information about the School District's funds. Eliminations have been made to minimize the double counting of internal activities. The emphasis of fund financial statements is on major governmental funds, each displayed in a separate column.

The School District reports the following major governmental funds:

- The general fund is the School District's primary operating fund. It accounts for and reports all financial resources not accounted for and reported in another fund.
- The capital projects fund accounts for and reports financial resources including Education Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (ESPLOST) and bond proceeds that are restricted, committed or assigned for capital outlay expenditures, including the acquisition or construction of capital facilities and other capital assets.
- The debt service fund accounts for and reports financial resources that are restricted, committed, or assigned including taxes (property and sales) legally restricted for the payment of general long-term principal and interest.

Basis of Accounting

The basis of accounting determines when transactions are reported on the financial statements. The government-wide financial statements are reported using the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recorded when earned and expenses are recorded at the time liabilities are incurred, regardless of when the related cash flows take place. Nonexchange transactions, in which the School District gives (or receives) value without directly receiving (or giving) equal value in exchange, include property taxes, sales taxes, grants and donations. On an accrual basis, revenue from property taxes is recognized in the fiscal year for which the taxes are levied. Revenue from sales taxes is recognized in the fiscal year in which the underlying transaction (sale) takes place. Revenue from grants and donations is recognized in the fiscal year in which all eligibility requirements have been satisfied.

The School District uses funds to report on its financial position and the results of its operations. Fund accounting is designed to demonstrate legal compliance and to aid financial management by segregating transactions related to certain governmental functions or activities. A fund is a separate accounting entity with a self-balancing set of accounts.

LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2023

EXHIBIT "G"

Governmental funds are reported using the current financial resources measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting. Under this method, revenues are recognized when measurable and available. The School District considers certain revenues reported in the governmental funds to be available if they are collected within 60 days after year-end. The School District considers all intergovernmental revenues to be available if they are collected within 120 days after year-end. Property taxes, sales taxes and interest are considered to be susceptible to accrual. Expenditures are recorded when the related fund liability is incurred, except for principal and interest on general long-term debt, which are recognized as expenditures to the extent they have matured. Capital asset acquisitions are reported as expenditures in governmental funds. Proceeds of general long-term liabilities and acquisitions under leases are reported as other financing sources.

The School District funds certain programs by a combination of specific cost-reimbursement grants, categorical grants, and general revenues. Thus, when program costs are incurred, there are both restricted and unrestricted resources available to finance the program. It is the School District's policy to first apply grant resources to such programs, followed by cost-reimbursement grants, then general revenues.

New Accounting Pronouncements

In fiscal year 2023, the School District adopted Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 96, *Subscription-Based Information Technology Arrangements*. This statement defines subscription-based information technology arrangements and provides uniform guidance for accounting and financial reporting for transactions that meet that definition. Under this statement, a government is required to recognize a subscription liability and an intangible right-to-use asset for contracts that meet the definition of a subscription-based information technology arrangement. The adoption of this statement did not have a material impact on the School District's financial statements.

Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents consist of cash on hand, demand deposits, investments in the State of Georgia local government investment pool (Georgia Fund 1) and short-term investments with original maturities of three months or less from the date of acquisition in authorized financial institutions. Official Code of Georgia Annotated (O.C.G.A.) §45-8-14 authorizes the School District to deposit its funds in one or more solvent banks, insured Federal savings and loan associations or insured chartered building and loan associations.

Investments

The School District can invest its funds as permitted by O.C.G.A. §36-83-4. In selecting among options for investment or among institutional bids for deposits, the highest rate of return shall be the objective, given equivalent conditions of safety and liquidity.

Investments made by the School District in nonparticipating interest-earning contracts (such as certificates of deposit) and repurchase agreements are reported at cost. Participating interest-earning contracts and money market investments with a maturity at purchase of one year or less are reported at amortized cost. All other investments are reported at fair value.

For accounting purposes, certificates of deposit are classified as investments if they have an original maturity greater than three months when acquired.

LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
 NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
 JUNE 30, 2023

EXHIBIT "G"

Receivables

Receivables consist of amounts due from property and sales taxes, grant reimbursements due on Federal, State or other grants for expenditures made but not reimbursed and other receivables disclosed from information available. Receivables are recorded when either the asset or revenue recognition criteria has been met. Receivables recorded on the basic financial statements do not include any amounts which would necessitate the need for an allowance for uncollectible receivables.

Inventories

Food Inventories

On the basic financial statements, inventories of donated food commodities used in the preparation of meals are reported at their Federally assigned value and purchased foods inventories are reported at cost (calculated on the first-in, first-out basis). The School District uses the consumption method to account for inventories whereby donated food commodities are recorded as an asset and as revenue when received, and expenses/expenditures are recorded as the inventory items are used. Purchased foods are recorded as an asset when purchased and expenses/expenditures are recorded as the inventory items are used.

Capital Assets

On the government-wide financial statements, capital assets are recorded at cost where historical records are available and at estimated historical cost based on appraisals or deflated current replacement cost where no historical records exist. Donated capital assets are recorded at the acquisition value on the date donated. The cost of normal maintenance and repairs that do not add to the value of assets or materially extend the useful lives of the assets is not capitalized. The School District does not capitalize book collections or works of art.

Capital acquisition and construction are recorded as expenditures in the governmental fund financial statements at the time of purchase (including ancillary charges), and the related assets are reported as capital assets in the governmental activities column in the government-wide financial statements.

Depreciation is computed using the straight-line for all assets, except land, and is used to allocate the actual or estimated historical cost of capital assets over estimated useful lives.

Capitalization thresholds and estimated useful lives of capital assets reported in the government-wide statements are as follows:

	Capitalization Policy	Estimated Useful Life
Land	Any amount	N/A
Land Improvements	\$ 20,000.00	20 to 90 years
Buildings and Improvements	\$ 100,000.00	50 to 90 years
Equipment	\$ 5,000.00	5 to 50 years
Intangible Assets	\$ 50,000.00	5 to 50 years

LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2023

EXHIBIT "G"

Intangible Right-To-Use Assets

Leases, as a lessee, are included as intangible right-to-use assets and lease obligations on the Statement of Net Position. An intangible right-to-use asset represents the School District's right to use an underlying asset for the lease term. Lease obligations represent the School District's liability to make lease payments arising from the lease agreement. Intangible right-to-use assets and lease obligations are recognized based on the present value of lease payments over the lease term, where the initial term exceeds 12 months. Residual value guarantees and the value of an option to extend or terminate a lease are reflected to the extent it is reasonably certain to be paid or exercised. Variable payments based on future performance or usage are not included in the measurement of the lease liability. Intangible right-to-use assets are amortized using a straight-line basis over the shorter of the lease term or useful life of the underlying asset.

Capitalization thresholds of intangible right-to-use assets reported in the government-wide statements are as follows:

	Capitalization Policy
Land	\$ 100,000.00
Land Improvements	\$ 100,000.00
Buildings and Improvements	\$ 100,000.00
Equipment	\$ 100,000.00

Leases as Lessee

The School District is a lessee for noncancellable leases of copiers owned by 3rd parties.

At the commencement of a lease, the School District initially measures the lease liability at the present value of payments expected to be made during the lease term. Subsequently, the lease liability is reduced by the principal portion of lease payments made. The right-to-use lease asset is initially measured as the initial amount of the lease liability, adjusted for lease payments made at or before the lease commencement date, plus certain initial direct costs. Subsequently, the lease asset is amortized on the straight-line basis over the shorter of the useful life of the asset or the lease term.

Key estimates and judgments related to leases include how the School District determines (1) lease term and (2) lease payments:

The lease term includes the noncancellable period of the lease. Lease payments included in the measurement of the lease liability are composed of fixed payments the School District will make over the lease term.

The School District monitors changes in circumstances that would require a remeasurement of its lease and will remeasure the lease asset and lease liability if certain changes occur that are expected to significantly affect the amount of the lease liability.

Lease assets are reported with other capital assets and lease liabilities are reported with current and long-term debt on the statement of net position.

Deferred Outflows/Inflows of Resources

In addition to assets, the statement of financial position will report a separate section for deferred outflows of resources. This separate financial statement element represents a consumption of resources that applies to a future period(s) and therefore will not be recognized as an outflow of resources (expense/expenditure) until then.

In addition to liabilities, the statement of financial position will report a separate section for deferred inflows of resources. This separate financial statement element represents an acquisition of resources that applies to a future period(s) and therefore will not be recognized as an inflow of resources (revenue) until that time.

Long-Term Liabilities and Bond Discounts/Premiums

In the School District's government-wide financial statements, outstanding debt is reported as liabilities. Bond premiums and discounts and the difference between the reacquisition price and the net carrying value of refunded debt are deferred and amortized over the life of the bonds using the straight-line method. To conform to generally accepted accounting principles, bond premiums and discounts should be amortized using the effective interest method. The effect of this deviation is deemed to be immaterial to the fair presentation of the basic financial statements. Bond issuance costs are recognized as an outflow of resources in the fiscal year in which the bonds are issued.

In the governmental fund financial statements, the School District recognizes the proceeds of debt and premiums as other financing sources of the current period. Bond issuance costs are reported as debt service expenditures.

Pensions

For purposes of measuring the net pension liability, deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions, and pension expense, information about the pension plan's fiduciary net position and additions to/deductions from the plan's fiduciary net position have been determined on the same basis as they are reported by the plan. For this purpose, benefit payments (including refunds of employee contributions) are recognized when due and payable in accordance with the benefit terms. Investments are reported at fair value.

Post-Employment Benefits Other Than Pensions (OPEB)

For purposes of measuring the net OPEB liability, deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB, and OPEB expense, information about the fiduciary net position of the Georgia School Employees Post-Employment Benefit Fund (School OPEB Fund) and additions to/deductions from School OPEB Fund fiduciary net position have been determined on the same basis as they are reported by School OPEB Fund. For this purpose, benefit payments are recognized when due and payable in accordance with the benefit terms. Investments are reported at fair value.

Fund Balances

Fund balance for governmental funds is reported in classifications that comprise a hierarchy based primarily on the extent to which the government is bound to honor constraints on the specific purposes for which amounts in those funds can be spent.

LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
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EXHIBIT "G"

The School District's fund balances are classified as follows:

Nonspendable consists of resources that cannot be spent either because they are in a nonspendable form or because they are legally or contractually required to be maintained intact.

Restricted consists of resources that can be used only for specific purposes pursuant constraints either (1) externally imposed by creditors, grantors, contributors, or laws and regulations of other governments or (2) imposed by law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation.

Committed consists of resources that can be used only for specific purposes pursuant to constraints imposed by formal action of the Board. The Board is the School District's highest level of decision-making authority, and the formal action that is required to be taken to establish, modify, or rescind a fund balance commitment is a resolution approved by the Board. Committed fund balance also should incorporate contractual obligations to the extent that existing resources in the fund have been specifically committed for use in satisfying those contractual requirements.

Assigned consists of resources constrained by the School District's intent to be used for specific purposes but are neither restricted nor committed. The intent should be expressed by (1) the Board or (2) the budget or finance committee, or the Superintendent, or designee, to assign amounts to be used for specific purposes.

Unassigned consists of resources within the general fund not meeting the definition of any aforementioned category. The general fund should be the only fund that reports a positive unassigned fund balance amount. In other governmental funds, it may be necessary to report a negative unassigned fund balance.

Use of Estimates

The preparation of the financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States 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.

Property Taxes

The Lincoln County Board of Commissioners adopted the property tax levy for the 2022 tax digest year (calendar year) on September 20, 2022 (levy date) based on property values as of January 1, 2022. Taxes were due on December 20, 2022 (lien date). Taxes collected within the current fiscal year or within 60 days after year-end on the 2022 tax digest are reported as revenue in the governmental funds for fiscal year 2023. The Lincoln County Tax Commissioner bills and collects the property taxes for the School District, withholds 2.5% of taxes collected as a fee for tax collection and remits the balance of taxes collected to the School District. Property tax revenues, at the fund reporting level, during the fiscal year ended June 30, 2023, for maintenance and operations amounted to \$4,602,776.48 and for school bonds amounted to \$791,522.51.

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EXHIBIT "G"

The tax millage rates levied for the 2022 tax digest year (calendar year) for the School District were as follows (a mill equals \$1 per thousand dollars of assessed value):

School Operations	13.393	mills
School Bonds	2.300	mills
	15.693	mills

Additionally, Title Ad Valorem Tax revenues, at the fund reporting level, amounted to \$544,990.81 during fiscal year ended June 30, 2023.

Sales Taxes

Education Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (ESPLOST), at the fund reporting level, during the year amounted to \$1,083,169.19 and is to be used for capital outlay for educational purposes or debt service. This sales tax was authorized by local referendum and the sales tax must be re-authorized at least every five years.

NOTE 3: BUDGETARY DATA

The budget is a complete financial plan for the School District's fiscal year and is based upon careful estimates of expenditures together with probable funding sources. The budget is legally adopted each year for the general, debt service and capital projects funds. There is no statutory prohibition regarding over expenditure of the budget at any level. The budget for all governmental funds, except the various school activity (principal) accounts, is prepared and adopted by fund and function. The legal level of budgetary control was established by the Board at the aggregate fund level. The budget for the general fund was prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

The budgetary process begins with the School District's administration presenting an initial budget for the Board's review. The administration makes revisions as necessary based on the Board's guidelines, and a tentative budget is approved. After approval of this tentative budget by the Board, such budget is advertised at least once in a newspaper of general circulation in the locality, as well as the School District's website. At the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board after advertisement, the Board receives comments on the tentative budget, makes revisions as necessary and adopts a final budget. The approved budget is then submitted, in accordance with provisions of O.C.G.A. §20-2-167(c), to the Georgia Department of Education. The Board may increase or decrease the budget at any time during the year. All unexpended budget authority lapses at fiscal year-end.

Any position or expenditure not previously approved in the annual budget that exceeds \$10,000.00 shall require Board approval unless the Superintendent deems the position or purchase an emergency. In such case, the expenditure shall be reported to the Board at its regularly scheduled meeting. Under no circumstance is the Superintendent or other staff person authorized to spend funds that exceed the total budget without approval by the Board.

See the General Fund Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances – Budget to Actual in the Supplementary Information Section for a detail of any over/under expenditures during the fiscal year under review.

NOTE 4: DEPOSITS

Collateralization of Deposits

O.C.G.A. §45-8-12 provides that there shall not be on deposit at any time in any depository for a time longer than ten days a sum of money which has not been secured by surety bond, by guarantee of insurance, or by collateral. The aggregate of the face value of such surety bond and the market value of securities pledged shall be equal to not less than 110% of the public funds being secured after the deduction of the amount of deposit insurance. If a depository elects the pooled method (O.C.G.A. §45-8-13.1) the aggregate of the market value of the securities pledged to secure a pool of public funds shall be not less than 110% of the daily pool balance.

Acceptable security for deposits consists of any one of or any combination of the following:

- (1) Surety bond signed by a surety company duly qualified and authorized to transact business within the State of Georgia,
- (2) Insurance on accounts provided by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation,
- (3) Bonds, bills, notes, certificates of indebtedness or other direct obligations of the United States or of the State of Georgia,
- (4) Bonds, bills, notes, certificates of indebtedness or other obligations of the counties or municipalities of the State of Georgia,
- (5) Bonds of any public authority created by the laws of the State of Georgia, providing that the statute that created the authority authorized the use of the bonds for this purpose,
- (6) Industrial revenue bonds and bonds of development authorities created by the laws of the State of Georgia, and
- (7) Bonds, bills, notes, certificates of indebtedness, or other obligations of a subsidiary corporation of the United States government, which are fully guaranteed by the United States government both as to principal and interest or debt obligations issued by or securities guaranteed by the Federal Land Bank, the Federal Home Loan Bank, the Federal Intermediate Credit Bank, the Central Bank for Cooperatives, the Farm Credit Banks, the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Association, and the Federal National Mortgage Association.

Categorization of Deposits

Custodial credit risk is the risk that in the event of a bank failure, the School District's deposits may not be returned to it. The School District does not have a deposit policy for custodial credit risk. At June 30, 2023, the School District had deposits with a carrying amount of \$4,762,860.18, and a bank balance of \$4,883,160.00. The bank balances insured by Federal depository insurance were \$542,838.42 and the bank balances collateralized with securities held by the pledging financial institution's trust department or agent in the School District's name were \$4,340,321.58.

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EXHIBIT "G"

Reconciliation of cash and cash equivalents balances to carrying value of deposits:

Cash and cash equivalents		
Statement of Net Position	\$	3,709,252.40
Add:		
Deposits with original maturity of three months or more reported as investments		1,053,607.78
Total carrying value of deposits - June 30, 2023	\$	4,762,860.18

NOTE 5: CAPITAL ASSETS AND INTANGIBLE RIGHT-TO-USE ASSETS

The following is a summary of changes in the capital assets for governmental activities during the fiscal year:

	Balances July 1, 2022	Increases	Decreases	Balances June 30, 2023
Governmental Activities				
Capital Assets,				
Not Being Depreciated:				
Land	\$ 198,884.17	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 198,884.17
Construction in Progress	145,086.30	719,875.91	16,681.16	848,281.05
Total Capital Assets				
Not Being Depreciated	343,970.47	719,875.91	16,681.16	1,047,165.22
Capital Assets,				
Being Depreciated				
Buildings and Improvements	31,132,591.06	-	-	31,132,591.06
Equipment	3,977,506.21	585,286.54	-	4,562,792.75
Land Improvements	6,552,750.37	-	-	6,552,750.37
Less Accumulated				
Depreciation:				
Buildings and Improvements	8,352,235.45	631,088.83	-	8,983,324.28
Equipment	2,468,011.44	178,573.02	-	2,646,584.46
Land Improvements	1,525,560.19	130,441.25	-	1,656,001.44
Total Capital Assets,				
Being Depreciated, Net	29,317,040.56	(354,816.56)	-	28,962,224.00
Governmental Activities				
Capital Assets - Net	\$ 29,661,011.03	\$ 365,059.35	\$ 16,681.16	\$ 30,009,389.22

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Current year depreciation expense by function is as follows:

Instruction	\$		650,889.13
Support Services			
Pupil Services	\$	27,072.51	
Educational Media Services		13,919.28	
Maintenance and Operation of Plant		27,056.91	
Student Transportation Services		137,420.63	
Other Support Services		<u>30,416.77</u>	235,886.10
Food Services			<u>53,327.87</u>
	\$		<u><u>940,103.10</u></u>

The following is a summary of changes in the intangible right-to-use assets for governmental activities during the fiscal year:

	Balances <u>July 1, 2022</u>	Increase	Decrease	Balance <u>June 30, 2023</u>
Governmental Activities				
Intangible Right-to-Use Assets				
Equipment	\$ 123,856.18	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 123,856.18
Less Accumulated Amortization:				
Equipment	<u>18,062.36</u>	<u>24,771.24</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>42,833.60</u>
Governmental Activities				
Intangible Right-to-Use Assets - Net	<u>\$ 105,793.82</u>	<u>\$ (24,771.24)</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 81,022.58</u>

Current year amortization expense by function is as follows:

Instruction	\$		23,780.40
Support Services			
General Administration		<u>990.84</u>	
	\$		<u><u>24,771.24</u></u>

NOTE 6: INTERFUND TRANSFERS

Interfund transfers for the year ended June 30, 2023, consisted of the following:

		<u>Transfers From</u>	
		General	
<u>Transfers to</u>		<u>Fund</u>	
Capital Projects Fund	\$	<u>50,000.00</u>	

Transfers are used to move property tax revenues collected by the general fund to the capital projects fund as required match or supplemental funding source for capital construction projects.

**LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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EXHIBIT "G"

NOTE 7: LONG-TERM LIABILITIES

The changes in long-term liabilities during the fiscal year for governmental activities were as follows:

	Governmental Activities				
	Balance July 1, 2022	Additions	Deductions	Balance June 30, 2023	Due Within One Year
General Obligation (G.O.) Bonds	\$ 20,275,000.00	\$ -	\$ 810,000.00	\$ 19,465,000.00	\$ 1,025,000.00
Unamortized Bond Premiums	1,021,402.57	-	78,611.79	942,790.78	78,611.79
Copier Lease	103,800.67	-	30,304.38	73,496.29	31,013.42
Financed Purchase	381,856.14	-	44,098.01	337,758.13	45,090.35
	<u>\$ 21,782,059.38</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 963,014.18</u>	<u>\$ 20,819,045.20</u>	<u>\$ 1,179,715.56</u>

General Obligation Bonds

The School District's bonded debt consists of general obligation bonds that are generally callable with interest payable semiannually. Bond proceeds primarily pay for acquiring or constructing capital facilities. Bonds have also been issued to advance-refund previously issued bonds. The School District repays general obligation bonds from voter-approved property and sales taxes. General obligation bonds are direct obligations and pledge the full faith and credit of the School District.

The School District had no unused line of credit or outstanding notes from direct borrowings and direct placements related to governmental activities as of June 30, 2023. In the event the entity is unable to make the principal and interest payments using proceeds from the Education Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (ESPLOST), the debt will be satisfied from a direct annual ad valorem tax levied upon all taxable property within the School District. Additional security is provided by the State of Georgia Intercept Program which allows for state appropriations entitled to the School District to be transferred to the Debt Service Account Custodian for the payment of debt.

General obligation bonds currently outstanding are as follows:

Purpose	Interest Rates	Issue Date	Maturity Date	Amount Issued	Amount Outstanding
General Government - Refunding - Series 2015	2.0 - 5.0%	3/24/2015	4/1/2037	\$ 20,390,000.00	\$ 15,970,000.00
General Government - Refunding - Series 2016	2.0 - 3.0%	10/18/2016	4/1/2029	3,495,000.00	3,495,000.00
				<u>\$ 23,885,000.00</u>	<u>\$ 19,465,000.00</u>

**LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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EXHIBIT "G"

The following schedule details debt service requirements to maturity for the School District's total general obligation bonds payable:

<u>Fiscal Year Ended June 30:</u>	<u>General Obligation Debt</u>		<u>Unamortized</u>
	<u>Principal</u>	<u>Interest</u>	<u>Premium</u>
2024	\$ 1,025,000.00	\$ 695,025.00	\$ 78,611.79
2025	1,065,000.00	644,975.00	78,611.79
2026	1,090,000.00	610,862.50	78,611.79
2027	1,155,000.00	557,562.50	78,611.79
2028	1,185,000.00	522,912.50	78,611.79
2029 - 2033	7,070,000.00	2,057,537.50	319,682.00
2034 - 2037	6,875,000.00	696,800.00	230,049.83
Total Principal and Interest	\$ <u>19,465,000.00</u>	\$ <u>5,785,675.00</u>	\$ <u>942,790.78</u>

Leases

The School District has acquired copiers under the provisions of various contracts that convey control of the right-to-use another entity's asset for a period of time in an exchange-like transaction. These contracts are classified as leases for accounting purposes.

The following is a summary of the carrying values of intangible right-to-use assets under lease at June 30, 2023:

	<u>Governmental Activities</u>
Equipment	\$ 123,856.18
Less: Accumulated Amortization	<u>42,833.60</u>
	<u>\$ 81,022.58</u>

Leases currently outstanding are as follows:

<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Interest Rate</u>	<u>Issue Date</u>	<u>Maturity Date</u>	<u>Amount Issued</u>	<u>Amount Outstanding</u>
Leaf Copier Lease	2.315%	11/12/2021	10/12/2025	\$ <u>123,856.18</u>	\$ <u>73,496.29</u>

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EXHIBIT "G"

The following is a schedule of total lease payments:

Fiscal Year Ended June 30:	Principal	Interest
2024	\$ 31,013.42	\$ 1,374.19
2025	31,739.04	648.12
2026	10,743.83	51.87
Total Principal and Interest	\$ 73,496.29	\$ 2,074.18

Obligations Under Financed Purchases

An energy efficiency agreement dated July 20, 2020 was executed by and between the School District and BioCapital, Inc. The agreement authorized the borrowing of \$467,162.00 for the purchase of energy efficiency equipment and building modifications. Payments of the agreement shall be made from the School District's general fund.

The School District's outstanding obligations from an energy efficiency agreement related to governmental activities of \$337,758.13 contain a provision that in the event of default, the lessor may pursue all remedies available at law or in equity.

The following was acquired through the energy efficiency financed purchase and is reflected in the capital asset note at fiscal year end.

	Governmental Activities
Buildings and Improvements	\$ 450,122.00
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	30,082.02
	\$ 420,039.98

Debt currently outstanding is as follows:

Purpose	Interest Rate	Issue Date	Maturity Date	Amount Issued	Amount Outstanding
BioCapital, Inc. Energy Efficiency Agreement	2.25%	7/20/2020	7/20/2030	\$ 467,162.00	\$ 337,758.13

LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
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EXHIBIT "G"

The following is a schedule of total finance purchase payments:

Fiscal Year Ended June 30:	Principal	Interest
2024	\$ -	\$ -
2025	45,090.35	7,600.65
2026	46,105.04	6,585.96
2027	47,142.54	5,548.46
2028	48,203.41	4,487.59
2029 - 2031	151,216.79	6,856.21
Total Principal and Interest	\$ 337,758.13	\$ 31,078.87

NOTE 8: RISK MANAGEMENT

Insurance

Commercial Insurance

The School District is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to and destruction of assets; errors or omissions; job related illness or injuries to employees; and natural disasters. The School District carries commercial insurance for these risks. Settled claims resulting from these insured risks have not exceed commercial insurance coverage in any of the past three fiscal years.

Workers' Compensation

Georgia School Boards Association Workers' Compensation Fund

The School District participates in the Georgia School Boards Association Workers' Compensation Fund (the Fund), a public entity risk pool organized on July 1, 1992, to develop, implement, and administer a program to reduce the risk of loss from employee accidents. The School District pays an annual contribution to the Fund for coverage. The Fund provides statutory limits of coverage for Workers' Compensation coverage and a \$2,000,000 limit per occurrence for Employers' Liability coverage. Excess insurance coverage is provided through an agreement between the Fund and the Safety National Casualty Corporation to limit the Fund's exposure to large losses.

Unemployment Compensation

The School District is self-insured with regard to unemployment compensation claims. The School District accounts for claims within the general fund with expenses/expenditures and liability being reported when it is probable that a loss has occurred, and the amount of that loss can be reasonably estimated. The School District had no unemployment compensation claims liability during the last two fiscal years.

LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
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EXHIBIT "G"

Surety Bond

The School District purchased a surety bond to provide additional insurance coverage as follows:

Position Covered	Amount
Superintendent	\$ 50,000.00

NOTE 9: FUND BALANCE CLASSIFICATION DETAILS

The School District's financial statements include the following amounts presented in the aggregate at June 30, 2023:

Nonspendable		
Inventories	\$	6,454.97
Restricted		
Continuation of Federal Programs	\$ 321,678.26	
Debt Service	1,406,462.66	1,728,140.92
Committed		
Local Capital Outlay Projects	\$ 136,395.91	
School Activity Accounts	201,064.96	337,460.87
Unassigned		2,402,377.02
Fund Balance, June 30, 2023	\$	4,474,433.78

When multiple categories of fund balance are available for an expenditure, the School District will start with the most restricted category and spend those funds first before moving down to the next category with available funds.

It is the goal of the School District to achieve and maintain a committed, assigned, and unassigned fund balance in the general fund at fiscal year-end of not less than 15% of expenditures, not to exceed 15% of the total budget of the subsequent fiscal year, in compliance with O.C.G.A. §20-2-167(a)5. If the unassigned fund balance at fiscal year-end falls below the goal, the School District shall develop a restoration plan to achieve and maintain the minimum fund balance.

LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
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EXHIBIT "G"

NOTE 10: SIGNIFICANT COMMITMENTS

Commitments under Construction Contracts

The following is an analysis of significant outstanding construction or renovation contracts executed by the School District as of June 30, 2023:

Project	Unearned Executed Contracts (1)	Payments through June 30, 2023 (2)
Middle/High School HVAC Project	\$ 450,052.24	\$ 407,229.48
Elementary Flooring Project	79,818.75	132,941.25
	\$ 529,870.99	\$ 540,170.73

(1) The amounts described are not reflected in the basic financial statements.

(2) Payments include contracts and retainages payable at year-end.

NOTE 11: SIGNIFICANT CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

Federal Grants

Amounts received or receivable principally from the Federal government are subject to audit and review by grantor agencies. This could result in requests for reimbursement to the grantor agency for any costs which are disallowed under grant terms. Any disallowances resulting from the grantor audit may become a liability of the School District. However, the School District believes that such disallowances, if any, will be immaterial to its overall financial position.

NOTE 12: OTHER POST-EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS (OPEB)

Georgia School Personnel Post-Employment Health Benefit Fund

Plan Description: Certified teachers and non-certified public school employees of the School District as defined in §20-2-875 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated (O.C.G.A.) are provided OPEB through the School OPEB Fund - a cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit post-employment healthcare plan, reported as an employee trust fund and administered by a Board of Community Health (Board). Title 20 of the O.C.G.A. assigns the authority to establish and amend the benefit terms of the group health plan to the Board.

Benefits Provided: The School OPEB Fund provides healthcare benefits for retirees and their dependents due under the group health plan for public school teachers, including librarians, other certified employees of public schools, regional educational service agencies and non-certified public school employees. Retiree medical eligibility is attained when an employee retires and is immediately eligible to draw a retirement annuity from Employees' Retirement System (ERS), Georgia Judicial Retirement System (JRS), Legislative Retirement System (LRS), Teachers Retirement System (TRS) or Public School Employees Retirement System (PSERS). If elected, dependent coverage starts on the same day as retiree coverage. Medicare-eligible retirees are offered Standard and Premium Medicare Advantage plan options. Non-Medicare eligible retiree plan options include Health Reimbursement

LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
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Arrangement (HRA), Health Maintenance Organization (HMO) and a High Deductible Health Plan (HDHP). The School OPEB Fund also pays for administrative expenses of the fund. By law, no other use of the assets of the School OPEB Fund is permitted.

Contributions: As established by the Board, the School OPEB Fund is substantially funded on a pay-as-you-go basis; that is, annual cost of providing benefits will be financed in the same year as claims occur. Contributions to the School OPEB Fund from the School District were \$336,102.00 for the year ended June 30, 2023. Active employees are not required to contribute to the School OPEB Fund.

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

At June 30, 2023, the School District reported a liability of \$9,270,369.00 for its proportionate share of the net OPEB liability. The net OPEB liability was measured as of June 30, 2022. The total OPEB liability used to calculate the net OPEB liability was based on an actuarial valuation as of June 30, 2021. An expected total OPEB liability as of June 30, 2022 was determined using standard roll-forward techniques. The School District's proportion of the net OPEB liability was actuarially determined based on employer contributions during the fiscal year ended June 30, 2022. At June 30, 2022, the School District's proportion was 0.093610%, which was an increase of 0.000225% from its proportion measured as of June 30, 2021.

For the year ended June 30, 2023, the School District recognized OPEB expense of (\$160,038.00). At June 30, 2023, the School District reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB from the following sources:

	OPEB	
	Deferred Outflows of Resources	Deferred Inflows of Resources
Differences between expected and actual experience	\$ 370,032.00	\$ 3,643,536.00
Changes of assumptions	1,411,896.00	1,874,945.00
Net difference between projected and actual earnings on OPEB plan investments	56,547.00	-
Changes in proportion and differences between School District contributions and proportionate share of contributions	756,286.00	60,735.00
School District contributions subsequent to the measurement date	336,102.00	-
Total	\$ 2,930,863.00	\$ 5,579,216.00

LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
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School District contributions subsequent to the measurement date are reported as deferred outflows of resources and will be recognized as a reduction of the net OPEB liability in the year ended June 30, 2024. Other amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB will be recognized in OPEB expense as follows:

Year Ended June 30:	OPEB
2024	\$ (781,156.00)
2025	\$ (663,772.00)
2026	\$ (521,659.00)
2027	\$ (637,293.00)
2028	\$ (340,345.00)
Thereafter	\$ (40,230.00)

Actuarial Assumptions: The total OPEB liability as of June 30, 2022 was determined by an actuarial valuation as of June 30, 2021 using the following actuarial assumptions and other inputs, applied to all periods included in the measurement and rolled forward to the measurement date of June 30, 2022:

OPEB:

Inflation	2.50%
Salary increases	3.00% – 8.75%, including inflation
Long-term expected rate of return	7.00%, compounded annually, net of investment expense, and including inflation
Healthcare cost trend rate	
Pre-Medicare Eligible	6.50%
Medicare Eligible	5.00%
Ultimate trend rate	
Pre-Medicare Eligible	4.50%
Medicare Eligible	4.50%
Year of Ultimate trend rate	
Pre-Medicare Eligible	2029
Medicare Eligible	2023

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EXHIBIT "G"

The Plan currently uses mortality tables that vary by age, gender, and health status (i.e. disabled or not disabled) as follows:

- For TRS members: Post-retirement mortality rates for service retirements and beneficiaries were based on the Pub-2010 Teachers Headcount Weighted Below Median Healthy Retiree mortality table (ages set forward one year and adjusted 106%) with the MP-2019 Projection scale applied generationally. The rates of improvement were reduced by 20% for all years prior to the ultimate rate. Post-retirement mortality rates for disability retirements were based on the Pub-2010 Teachers Mortality Table for Disabled Retirees (ages set forward one year and adjusted 106%) with the MP-2019 Projection scale applied generationally. The rates of improvement were reduced by 20% for all years prior to the ultimate rate. The Pub-2010 Teachers Headcount Weighted Below Median Employee mortality table with ages set forward one year and adjusted 106% was used for death prior to retirement. Future improvement in mortality rates was assumed using the MP-2019 projection scale generationally. These rates of improvement were reduced by 20% for all years prior to the ultimate rate.
- For PSERS members: Pre-retirement mortality rates were based on the Pub-2010 General Employee Mortality Table, with no adjustment, with the MP-2019 Projections scale applied generationally. Post-retirement mortality rates for service retirements were based on the Pub-2010 General Healthy Annuitant Mortality Table (ages set forward one year and adjusted 101% for males and 103% for females) with the MP-2019 Projection scale applied generationally. Post-retirement mortality rates for disability retirements were based on the Pub-2010 General Disabled Mortality Table (ages set back three years for males and adjusted 103% for males and 106% for females) with the MP-2019 Projections scaled applied generationally. Post-retirement mortality rates for beneficiaries were based on the Pub-2010 General Contingent Survivor Mortality Table (ages set forward two years and adjust 104% for males and 99% for females) with the MP-2019 Project scale applied generationally.

The actuarial assumptions used in the June 30, 2021 valuation were based on the results of an actuarial experience study for the pension systems, which covered the five-year period ending June 30, 2018, with the exception of the assumed annual rate of inflation with changed from 2.75% to 2.50%, effective with the June 30, 2018 valuation.

The remaining actuarial assumptions (e.g., initial per capita costs, health care cost trends, rate of plan participation, rates of plan election, etc.) used in the June 30, 2021 valuation were based on a review of recent plan experience done concurrently with the June 30, 2021 valuation.

Projection of benefits for financial reporting purposes are based on the substantive plan (the plan as understood by the employer and plan members) and include the types of benefits provided at the time of each valuation and the historical pattern of sharing of benefit costs between the employer and plan members to that point. The actuarial methods and assumptions used include techniques that are designed to reduce the effects of short-term volatility in actuarial accrued liabilities and the actuarial value of assets, consistent with the long-term perspective of the calculation.

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EXHIBIT "G"

The long-term expected rate of return on OPEB plan investments was determined using a log-normal distribution analysis in which best-estimate ranges of expected future real rates of return (expected nominal returns, net of investment expense and the assumed rate of inflation) are developed for each major asset class. These ranges are combined to produce the long-term expected rate of return by weighting the expected future real rates of return by the target asset allocation percentage and by adding expected inflation. The target allocation and best estimates of arithmetic real rates of return for each major asset class are summarized in the following table:

Asset Class	Target Allocation	Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return*
Fixed income	30.00%	2.00%
Equities	70.00%	9.40%
Total	100.00%	

* Net of inflation

Discount Rate: In order to measure the total OPEB liability for the School OPEB Fund, a single equivalent interest rate of 3.57% was used as the discount rate, as compared with last year's rate of 2.20%. The plan's fiduciary net position was projected to not be able to make all future benefit payments of current plan members. Therefore, the municipal bond rate as used for the long-term rate of return was applied to all periods of projected benefit payments to determine total OPEB liability. This is comprised mainly of the yield or index rate for 20-year tax-exempt general obligation bonds with an average rating of AAA or higher (3.54% per the Municipal Bond Index Rate). The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed that contributions from members and from the employers will be made at the current level as averaged over the last five years, adjusted for annual projected changes in headcount. Projected future benefit payments for all current plan members were projected through 2128.

Sensitivity of the School District's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate: The following presents the School District's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability calculated using the discount rate of 3.57%, as well as what the School District's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1-percentage-point lower (2.57%) or 1-percentage-point higher (4.57%) than the current discount rate:

	1% Decrease (2.57%)	Current Discount Rate (3.57%)	1% Increase (4.57%)
School District's proportionate share of the Net OPEB liability	\$ 10,485,900.00	\$ 9,270,369.00	\$ 8,240,152.00

LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
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EXHIBIT "G"

Sensitivity of the School District's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability to Changes in the Healthcare Cost Trend Rates:

The following presents the School District's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability, as well as what the School District's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability would be if it were calculated using healthcare cost trend rates that are 1-percentage-point lower or 1-percentage-point higher than the current healthcare cost trend rates:

	1% Decrease		Current Healthcare Cost Trend Rate		1% Increase
School District's proportionate share of the Net OPEB liability	\$ 7,987,531.00	\$	9,270,369.00	\$	10,846,971.00

OPEB Plan Fiduciary Net Position: Detailed information about the OPEB plan's fiduciary net position is available in the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report, which is publicly available at <https://sao.georgia.gov/statewide-reporting/acfr>.

NOTE 12: RETIREMENT PLANS

The School District participates in various retirement plans administered by the State of Georgia, as further explained below.

Teachers Retirement System of Georgia (TRS)

Plan Description: All teachers of the School District as defined in O.C.G.A. §47-3-60 and certain other support personnel as defined by O.C.G.A. §47-3-63 are provided a pension through the Teachers Retirement System of Georgia (TRS). TRS, a cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan, is administered by the TRS Board of Trustees (TRS Board). Title 47 of the O.C.G.A. assigns the authority to establish and amend the benefit provisions to the State Legislature. The Teachers Retirement System of Georgia issues a publicly available separate financial report that can be obtained at www.trsga.com/publications.

Benefits Provided: TRS provides service retirement, disability retirement, and death benefits. Normal retirement benefits are determined as 2% of the average of the employee's two highest paid consecutive years of service, multiplied by the number of years of creditable service up to 40 years. An employee is eligible for normal service retirement after 30 years of creditable service, regardless of age, or after 10 years of service and attainment of age 60. Ten years of service is required for disability and death benefits eligibility. Disability benefits are based on the employee's creditable service and compensation up to the time of disability. Death benefits equal the amount that would be payable to the employee's beneficiary had the employee retired on the date of death. Death benefits are based on the employee's creditable service and compensation up to the date of death.

Contributions: Per Title 47 of the O.C.G.A., contribution requirements of active employees and participating employers, as actuarially determined, are established and may be amended by the TRS Board. Pursuant to O.C.G.A. §47-3-63, the employer contributions for certain full-time public school support personnel are funded on behalf of the employer by the State of Georgia. Contributions are expected to finance the costs of benefits earned by employees during the year, with an additional amount to finance any unfunded accrued liability. Employees were required to contribute 6.00% of their annual pay during fiscal year 2023. The School District's contractually required contribution rate for the year ended June 30, 2023 was 19.98% of annual School District payroll, of which 19.77% of

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EXHIBIT "G"

payroll was required from the School District and 0.21% of payroll was required from the State. For the current fiscal year, employer contributions to the pension plan were \$1,563,541.48 and \$16,632.67 from the School District and the State, respectively.

Public School Employees Retirement System (PSERS)

Plan Description: PSERS is a cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan established by the Georgia General Assembly in 1969 for the purpose of providing retirement allowances for public school employees who are not eligible for membership in the Teachers Retirement System of Georgia. The ERS Board of Trustees, plus two additional trustees, administers PSERS. Title 47 of the O.C.G.A. assigns the authority to establish and amend the benefit provisions to the State Legislature. PSERS issues a publicly available financial report that can be obtained at www.ers.ga.gov/financials.

Benefits Provided: A member may retire and elect to receive normal monthly retirement benefits after completion of ten years of creditable service and attainment of age 65. A member may choose to receive reduced benefits after age 60 and upon completion of ten years of service.

Upon retirement, the member will receive a monthly benefit of \$15.75, multiplied by the number of years of creditable service. Death and disability benefits are also available through PSERS. Additionally, PSERS may make periodic cost-of-living adjustments to the monthly benefits. Upon termination of employment, member contributions with accumulated interest are refundable upon request by the member. However, if an otherwise vested member terminates and withdraws his/her member contribution, the member forfeits all rights to retirement benefits.

Contributions: The general assembly makes an annual appropriation to cover the employer contribution to PSERS on behalf of local school employees (bus drivers, cafeteria workers, and maintenance staff). The annual employer contribution required by statute is actuarially determined and paid directly to PSERS by the State Treasurer in accordance with O.C.G.A. §47-4-29(a) and 60(b). Contributions are expected to finance the costs of benefits earned by employees during the year, with an additional amount to finance any unfunded accrued liability.

Individuals who became members prior to July 1, 2012 contribute \$4 per month for nine months each fiscal year. Individuals who became members on or after July 1, 2012 contribute \$10 per month for nine months each fiscal year. The State of Georgia, although not the employer of PSERS members, is required by statute to make employer contributions actuarially determined and approved and certified by the PSERS Board of Trustees. The current fiscal year contribution was \$42,601.00.

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EXHIBIT "G"

Pension Liabilities, Pension Expense, and Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to Pensions

At June 30, 2023, the School District reported a liability of \$17,695,580.00 for its proportionate share of the net pension liability for TRS.

The TRS net pension liability reflected a reduction for support provided to the School District by the State of Georgia for certain public school support personnel. The amount recognized by the School District as its proportionate share of the net pension liability, the related State of Georgia support, and the total portion of the net pension liability that was associated with the School District were as follows:

School District's proportionate share of the net pension liability	\$	17,695,580.00
State of Georgia's proportionate share of the net pension liability associated with the School District		290,299.00
Total	\$	17,985,879.00

The net pension liability for TRS was measured as of June 30, 2022. The total pension liability used to calculate the net pension liability was based on an actuarial valuation as of June 30, 2021. An expected total pension liability as of June 30, 2022 was determined using standard roll-forward techniques. The School District's proportion of the net pension liability was based on contributions to TRS during the fiscal year ended June 30, 2022.

At June 30, 2022, the School District's TRS proportion was 0.054495%, which was an increase of 0.000432% from its proportion measured as of June 30, 2021.

At June 30, 2023, the School District did not have a PSERS liability for a proportionate share of the net pension liability because of a Special Funding Situation with the State of Georgia, which is responsible for the net pension liability of the plan. The amount of the State's proportionate share of the net pension liability associated with the School District is \$357,981.00.

The PSERS net pension liability was measured as of June 30, 2022. The total pension liability used to calculate the net pension liability was based on an actuarial valuation as of June 30, 2021. An expected total pension liability as of June 30, 2022 was determined using standard roll-forward techniques. The State's proportion of the net pension liability associated with the School District was based on actuarially determined contributions paid by the State during the fiscal year ended June 30, 2022.

For the year ended June 30, 2023, the School District recognized pension expense of \$2,509,293.00 for TRS and \$89,960.00 for PSERS and revenue of \$45,592.00 for TRS and \$89,960.00 for PSERS. The revenue is support provided by the State of Georgia. For TRS the State of Georgia support is provided only for certain support personnel.

LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
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EXHIBIT "G"

At June 30, 2023, the School District reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions from the following sources:

	TRS	
	Deferred Outflows of Resources	Deferred Inflows of Resources
Differences between expected and actual experience	\$ 734,548.00	\$ 92,110.00
Changes of assumptions	2,663,749.00	-
Net difference between projected and actual earnings on pension plan investments	3,476,678.00	-
Changes in proportion and differences between School District contributions and proportionate share of contributions	129,271.00	156,675.00
School District contributions subsequent to the measurement date	1,563,541.48	-
Total	\$ 8,567,787.48	\$ 248,785.00

The School District contributions subsequent to the measurement date for TRS are reported as deferred outflows of resources and will be recognized as a reduction of the net pension liability in the year ended June 30, 2024. Other amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions will be recognized in pension expense as follows:

Year Ended June 30:	TRS
2024	\$ 1,770,791.00
2025	\$ 1,386,015.00
2026	\$ 1,056,472.00
2027	\$ 2,542,183.00

LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
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EXHIBIT "G"

Actuarial Assumptions: The total pension liability as of June 30, 2022 was determined by an actuarial valuation as of June 30, 2021, using the following actuarial assumptions, applied to all periods included in the measurement:

Teachers Retirement System:

Inflation	2.50%
Salary increases	3.00% – 8.75%, average, including inflation
Investment rate of return	6.90%, net of pension plan investment expense, including inflation
Post-retirement benefit increases	1.50% semi-annually

Post-retirement mortality rates for service retirements and beneficiaries were based on the Pub-2010 Teachers Headcount Weighted Below Median Healthy Retiree mortality table (ages set forward one year and adjusted 106%) with the MP-2019 Projection scale applied generationally. The rates of improvement were reduced by 20% for all years prior to the ultimate rate. Post-retirement mortality rates for disability retirements were based on the Pub-2010 Teachers Mortality Table for Disabled Retirees (ages set forward one year and adjusted 106%) with the MP-2019 Projection scale applied generationally. The rates of improvement were reduced by 20% for all years prior to the ultimate rate. The Pub-2010 Teachers Headcount Weighted Below Median Employee mortality table with ages set forward one year and adjusted 106% as used for death prior to retirement. Future improvement in mortality rates was assumed using the MP-2019 projection scale generationally. These rates of improvement were reduced by 20% for all years prior to the ultimate rate.

The actuarial assumptions used in the June 30, 2021 valuation were based on the results of an actuarial experience study for the period July 1, 2013 – June 30, 2018, with the exception of the investment rate of return and payroll growth assumption.

Public School Employees Retirement System:

Inflation	2.50%
Salary increases	N/A
Investment rate of return	7.00%, net of pension plan investment expense, including inflation
Post-retirement benefit increases	1.50% semi-annually

LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
 NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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EXHIBIT "G"

Mortality rates are as follows:

- The Pub-2010 General Employee Table, with no adjustments, projected generationally with the MP-2019 scale is used for both males and females while in active service.
- The Pub-2010 Family of Tables projected generationally with the MP-2019 Scale and with further adjustments are used for post-retirement mortality assumptions as follows:

<u>Participant Type</u>	<u>Membership Table</u>	<u>Set Forward (+)/ Setback (-)</u>	<u>Adjustment to Rates</u>
Service Retirees	General Healthy Below-Median Annuitant	Male: +2; Female: +2	Male: 101%; Female: 103%
Disability Retirees	General Disabled	Male: -3; Female: 0	Male: 103%; Female: 106%
Beneficiaries	General Below-Median Contingent Survivors	Male: +2; Female: +2	Male: 104%; Female: 99%

The actuarial assumptions used in the June 30, 2021 valuation were based on the results of an actuarial experience study for the period July 1, 2014 – June 30, 2019.

The long-term expected rate of return on TRS and PSERS pension plan investments was determined using a log-normal distribution analysis in which best-estimate ranges of expected future real rates of return (expected returns, net of pension plan investment expense and inflation) are developed for each major asset class. These ranges are combined to produce the long-term expected rate of return by weighting the expected future real rates of return by the target asset allocation percentage and by adding expected inflation. The target allocation and estimates of arithmetic real rates of return for each major asset class are summarized in the following table:

<u>Asset Class</u>	<u>TRS/PSERS Target Allocation</u>	<u>Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return*</u>
Fixed income	30.00%	0.20%
Domestic large stocks	46.30%	9.40%
Domestic small stocks	1.20%	13.40%
International developed market stocks	12.30%	9.40%
International emerging market stocks	5.20%	11.40%
Alternative	5.00%	10.50%
Total	100.00%	

* Rates shown are net of inflation

Discount Rate: The discount rate used to measure the total TRS pension liability was 6.90%. The discount rate used to measure the total and PSERS pension liability was 7.00%. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed that plan member contributions will be made at the current contribution rate and that employer and nonemployer contributions will be made at rates equal to the difference between actuarially determined contribution rates and the member rate. Based on those assumptions, the TRS and PSERS pension plans' fiduciary net position were projected to be

LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
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 JUNE 30, 2023

EXHIBIT "G"

available to make all projected 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 benefit payments to determine the total pension liability.

Sensitivity of the School District’s Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate: The following presents the School District’s proportionate share of the net pension liability calculated using the discount rate of 6.90% , as well as what the School District’s proportionate share of the net pension liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1-percentage-point lower (5.90%) or 1-percentage-point higher (7.90%) than the current rate:

Teachers Retirement System:	1% Decrease (5.90%)	Current Discount Rate (6.90%)	1% Increase (7.90%)
School District's proportionate share of the net pension liability	\$ 26,696,770.00	\$ 17,695,580.00	\$ 10,344,918.00

Pension Plan Fiduciary Net Position: Detailed information about the pension plan’s fiduciary net position is available in the separately issued TRS and PSERS financial report which is publicly available at www.trsga.com/publications and <http://www.ers.ga.gov/financials>.

NOTE 14: RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

The School District entered into business transactions with Fast Times Enterprises, a local business owned by a Board Member. The transactions were due to there not being another available source of fuel at the time of need. Total expenses of \$1,254.58 are considered insignificant and the transactions were not intended to provide profit for a board member.

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LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
 REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION
 SCHEDULE OF PROPORTIONATE SHARE OF THE NET PENSION LIABILITY
 TEACHERS RETIREMENT SYSTEM OF GEORGIA

SCHEDULE "1"

For the Year Ended June 30	School District's proportion of the Net Pension Liability (NPL)	School District's proportionate share of the NPL	State of Georgia's proportionate share of the NPL associated with the School District	Total	School District's covered payroll	School District's share of the NPL as a percentage of its covered payroll	Plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of the total pension liability
2023	0.054495%	\$ 17,695,580.00	\$ 290,299.00	\$ 17,985,879.00	\$ 7,488,623.74	236.30%	72.85%
2022	0.054063%	\$ 4,781,512.00	\$ 76,680.00	\$ 4,858,192.00	\$ 7,145,879.80	66.91%	92.03%
2021	0.053469%	\$ 12,952,285.00	\$ 248,053.00	\$ 13,200,338.00	\$ 6,994,757.62	185.17%	77.01%
2020	0.055217%	\$ 11,873,148.00	\$ 207,071.00	\$ 12,080,219.00	\$ 6,856,261.43	173.17%	78.56%
2019	0.056113%	\$ 10,415,775.00	\$ 180,238.00	\$ 10,596,013.00	\$ 6,790,899.11	153.38%	80.27%
2018	0.058022%	\$ 10,783,567.00	\$ 148,125.00	\$ 10,931,692.00	\$ 6,753,813.16	159.67%	79.33%
2017	0.056955%	\$ 11,750,452.00	\$ 123,993.00	\$ 11,874,445.00	\$ 6,313,260.35	186.12%	76.06%
2016	0.058355%	\$ 8,883,969.00	\$ 91,953.00	\$ 8,975,922.00	\$ 6,233,299.53	142.52%	81.44%
2015	0.060961%	\$ 7,701,618.00	\$ 79,340.00	\$ 7,780,958.00	\$ 6,283,362.03	122.58%	84.03%

LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
 REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION
 SCHEDULE OF CONTRIBUTIONS
 TEACHERS RETIREMENT SYSTEM OF GEORGIA

SCHEDULE "2"

For the Year Ended June 30	Contractually required contribution	Contributions in relation to the contractually required contribution	Contribution deficiency (excess)	School District's covered payroll	Contribution as a percentage of covered payroll
2023	\$ 1,563,541.48	\$ 1,563,541.48	\$ -	\$ 7,910,116.75	19.77%
2022	\$ 1,458,380.17	\$ 1,458,380.17	\$ -	\$ 7,488,623.74	19.47%
2021	\$ 1,338,891.80	\$ 1,338,891.80	\$ -	\$ 7,145,879.80	18.74%
2020	\$ 1,452,113.06	\$ 1,452,113.06	\$ -	\$ 6,994,757.62	20.76%
2019	\$ 1,408,396.89	\$ 1,408,396.89	\$ -	\$ 6,856,261.43	20.54%
2018	\$ 1,122,101.43	\$ 1,122,101.43	\$ -	\$ 6,790,899.11	16.52%
2017	\$ 950,706.65	\$ 950,706.65	\$ -	\$ 6,753,813.16	14.08%
2016	\$ 891,489.74	\$ 891,489.74	\$ -	\$ 6,313,260.35	14.12%
2015	\$ 811,299.87	\$ 811,299.87	\$ -	\$ 6,233,299.53	13.02%

LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
 REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION
 SCHEDULE OF PROPORTIONATE SHARE OF THE NET PENSION LIABILITY
 PUBLIC SCHOOL EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM OF GEORGIA

SCHEDULE "3"

For the Year Ended June 30	School District's proportion of the Net Pension Liability (NPL)	School District's proportionate share of the NPL	State of Georgia's proportionate share of the NPL associated with the School District	Total	School District's covered payroll	School District's proportionate share of the NPL as a percentage of its covered payroll	Plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of the total pension liability
2023	0.00%	\$ -	\$ 357,981.00	\$ 357,981.00	\$ 680,361.11	N/A	81.21%
2022	0.00%	\$ -	\$ 34,209.00	\$ 34,209.00	\$ 591,150.94	N/A	98.00%
2021	0.00%	\$ -	\$ 233,702.00	\$ 233,702.00	\$ 564,328.44	N/A	84.45%
2020	0.00%	\$ -	\$ 219,511.00	\$ 219,511.00	\$ 549,310.87	N/A	85.02%
2019	0.00%	\$ -	\$ 226,056.00	\$ 226,056.00	\$ 563,588.13	N/A	85.26%
2018	0.00%	\$ -	\$ 191,962.00	\$ 191,962.00	\$ 503,734.56	N/A	85.69%
2017	0.00%	\$ -	\$ 237,903.00	\$ 237,903.00	\$ 468,349.34	N/A	81.00%
2016	0.00%	\$ -	\$ 159,512.00	\$ 159,512.00	\$ 482,177.43	N/A	87.00%
2015	0.00%	\$ -	\$ 137,785.00	\$ 137,785.00	\$ 507,164.76	N/A	88.29%

LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
 REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION
 SCHEDULE OF PROPORTIONATE SHARE OF THE NET OPEB LIABILITY
 SCHOOL OPEB FUND

SCHEDULE "4"

For the Year Ended June 30	School District's proportion of the Net OPEB Liability (NOL)	School District's proportionate share of the NOL	State of Georgia's proportionate share of the NOL associated with the School District	Total	School District's covered-employee payroll	School District's proportionate share of the NOL as a percentage of its covered- employee payroll	Plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of the total OPEB liability
2023	0.093610%	\$ 9,270,369.00	\$ -	\$ 9,270,369.00	\$ 7,757,839.13	119.50%	6.17%
2022	0.093385%	\$ 10,114,368.00	\$ -	\$ 10,114,368.00	\$ 7,170,618.81	141.05%	6.14%
2021	0.088527%	\$ 13,002,555.00	\$ -	\$ 13,002,555.00	\$ 6,635,847.45	195.94%	3.99%
2020	0.088789%	\$ 10,896,316.00	\$ -	\$ 10,896,316.00	\$ 6,661,399.82	163.57%	4.63%
2019	0.089485%	\$ 11,373,269.00	\$ -	\$ 11,373,269.00	\$ 5,850,816.57	194.39%	2.93%
2018	0.084446%	\$ 11,864,629.00	\$ -	\$ 11,864,629.00	\$ 5,208,713.78	227.78%	1.61%

LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
 REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION
 SCHEDULE OF CONTRIBUTIONS
 SCHOOL OPEB FUND

SCHEDULE "5"

For the Year Ended June 30	Contractually required contribution	Contributions in relation to the contractually required contribution	Contribution deficiency (excess)	School District's covered-employee payroll	Contribution as a percentage of covered-employee payroll
2023	\$ 336,102.00	\$ 336,102.00	\$ -	\$ 7,674,692.51	4.38%
2022	\$ 338,469.00	\$ 338,469.00	\$ -	\$ 7,757,839.13	4.36%
2021	\$ 347,378.00	\$ 347,378.00	\$ -	\$ 7,170,618.81	4.84%
2020	\$ 299,379.00	\$ 299,379.00	\$ -	\$ 6,635,847.45	4.51%
2019	\$ 478,188.00	\$ 478,188.00	\$ -	\$ 6,661,399.82	7.18%
2018	\$ 463,791.00	\$ 463,791.00	\$ -	\$ 5,850,816.57	7.93%
2017	\$ 440,309.00	\$ 440,309.00	\$ -	\$ 5,208,713.78	8.45%

LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
NOTES TO THE REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

SCHEDULE "6"

Teachers Retirement System

Change of benefit terms: There have been no changes in benefit terms.

Changes of assumptions: On November 18, 2015, the Board adopted recommended changes to the economic and demographic assumptions utilized by the System. Primary among the changes were the updates to rates of mortality, retirement, disability, withdrawal and salary increases. The expectation of retired life mortality was changed to RP-2000 White Collar Mortality Table with future mortality improvement projected to 2025 with the Society of Actuaries' projection scale BB (set forward one year for males).

On May 15, 2019, the Board adopted recommended changes from the smoothed valuation interest rate methodology that has been in effect since June 30, 2009, to a constant interest rate method. In conjunction with the methodology, the long-term assumed rate of return in assets (discount rate) has been changed from 7.50% to 7.25%, and the assumed annual rate of inflation has been reduced from 2.75% to 2.50%.

In 2019 and later, the expectation of retired life mortality was changed to the Pub-2010 Teacher Headcount Weighted Below Median Healthy Retiree mortality table from the RP-2000 Mortality Tables. In 2019, rates of withdrawal, retirement, disability and mortality were adjusted to more closely reflect actual experience.

On May 11, 2022, the Board adopted recommended changes to the long-term assumed rate of return and payroll growth assumption utilized by the System. The long-term assumed rate of return was changed from 7.25% to 6.90%, and the payroll growth assumption was changed from 3.00% to 2.50%.

Public School Employees Retirement System

Changes of benefit terms: There have been no changes in benefit terms.

Changes of assumptions: On December 17, 2015, the Board adopted recommended changes to the economic and demographic assumptions utilized by the System. Primary among the changes were the updates to rates of mortality, retirement and withdrawal. The expectation of retired life mortality was changed to the RP-2000 Blue Collar Mortality Table projected to 2025 with projection scale BB (set forward 3 years for males and 2 years for females).

A new funding policy was initially adopted by the Board on March 15, 2018, and most recently amended on December 17, 2020. Because of this new funding policy, the assumed investment rate of return was reduced from 7.50% to 7.40% for the June 30, 2017 actuarial valuation and further reduced from 7.40% to 7.30% for the June 30, 2018 actuarial valuation.

On December 17, 2020, the Board adopted recommended changes to the economic and demographic assumption utilized by the System based on the experience study prepared for the five-year period ending June 30, 2019. Primary among the changes were the updates to rates of mortality, retirement, disability, and withdrawal. This also included a change to the long-term assumed investment rate of return to 7.00%. These assumption changes are reflected in the calculation of the June 30, 2021 Total Pension Liability.

School OPEB Fund

Changes of benefit terms: There have been no changes in benefit terms.

Changes in assumptions:

June 30, 2020 valuation: Decremental assumptions were changed to reflect the Employees Retirement Systems experience study. Approximately 0.10% of employees are members of the Employees Retirement System.

June 30, 2019 valuation: Decremental assumptions were changed to reflect the Teachers Retirement Systems experience study.

June 30, 2018 valuation: The inflation assumption was lowered from 2.75% to 2.50%.

June 30, 2017 valuation: The participation assumption, tobacco use assumption and morbidity factors were revised.

June 30, 2015 valuation: Decremental and underlying inflation assumptions were changed to reflect to Retirement Systems' experience studies.

June 30, 2012 valuation: A data audit was performed and data collection procedures and assumptions were changed.

The discount rate was updated from 3.07% as of June 30, 2016 to 3.58% as of June 30, 2017, to 3.87% as of June 30, 2018, back to 3.58% of June 30, 2019, and to 2.22% as of June 30, 2020.

GENERAL FUND

SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES

BUDGET AND ACTUAL

YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

	NONAPPROPRIATED BUDGETS		ACTUAL AMOUNTS	VARIANCE OVER/UNDER
	ORIGINAL (1)	FINAL (1)		
REVENUES				
Property Taxes	\$ 4,844,758.00	\$ 5,140,000.00	\$ 5,147,767.29	\$ 7,767.29
Sales Taxes	120,000.00	78,000.00	94,615.60	16,615.60
State Funds	9,370,450.00	10,347,596.00	10,539,063.85	191,467.85
Federal Funds	3,563,759.00	3,339,973.00	2,463,501.18	(876,471.82)
Charges for Services	117,400.00	179,425.00	389,909.32	210,484.32
Investment Earnings	10,100.00	900.00	8,073.44	7,173.44
Miscellaneous	30,575.00	32,575.00	567,389.58	534,814.58
Total Revenues	<u>18,057,042.00</u>	<u>19,118,469.00</u>	<u>19,210,320.26</u>	<u>91,851.26</u>
EXPENDITURES				
Current				
Instruction	10,364,588.00	10,640,278.00	10,584,687.90	55,590.10
Support Services				
Pupil Services	490,659.00	526,808.00	619,934.03	(93,126.03)
Improvement of Instructional Services	523,076.00	498,653.00	470,749.86	27,903.14
Educational Media Services	273,381.00	265,660.00	278,011.16	(12,351.16)
General Administration	299,647.00	313,804.00	313,817.72	(13.72)
School Administration	1,120,322.00	1,139,805.00	1,259,249.57	(119,444.57)
Business Administration	266,815.00	266,812.00	270,880.78	(4,068.78)
Maintenance and Operation of Plant	1,728,462.00	1,764,606.00	1,609,633.30	154,972.70
Student Transportation Services	1,353,409.00	1,652,357.00	1,504,191.38	148,165.62
Central Support Services	11,395.00	10,764.00	4,404.64	6,359.36
Other Support Services	13,494.00	64,872.00	58,772.24	6,099.76
Community Services	-	-	263,142.01	(263,142.01)
Food Services Operation	878,697.00	961,560.00	912,189.10	49,370.90
Capital Outlay	955,968.00	660,292.00	719,875.91	(59,583.91)
Debt Service				
Principal	-	-	74,402.39	(74,402.39)
Interest	-	-	10,675.77	(10,675.77)
Total Expenditures	<u>18,279,913.00</u>	<u>18,766,271.00</u>	<u>18,954,617.76</u>	<u>(188,346.76)</u>
Excess of Revenues over (under) Expenditures	<u>(222,871.00)</u>	<u>352,198.00</u>	<u>255,702.50</u>	<u>(96,495.50)</u>
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES(USES)				
Other Sources	12,960.00	1,500.00	-	(1,500.00)
Other Uses	(62,960.00)	(51,500.00)	(50,000.00)	1,500.00
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	<u>(50,000.00)</u>	<u>(50,000.00)</u>	<u>(50,000.00)</u>	<u>-</u>
Net Change in Fund Balances	(272,871.00)	302,198.00	205,702.50	(96,495.50)
Fund Balances - Beginning	2,744,827.83	2,725,872.71	2,725,872.71	-
Adjustments	<u>(2,585.00)</u>	<u>(8,827.34)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>8,827.34</u>
Fund Balances - Ending	<u>\$ 2,469,371.83</u>	<u>\$ 3,019,243.37</u>	<u>\$ 2,931,575.21</u>	<u>\$ (87,668.16)</u>

Notes to the Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances Budget and Actual

(1) Original and Final Budget amounts do not include the budgeted revenues or expenditures of the various principal accounts.

The actual revenues and expenditures of the various principal accounts are \$654,414.97 and \$643,493.00, respectively.

The accompanying schedule of revenues, expenditures and changes in fund balances budget and actual is presented on the modified accrual basis of accounting which is the basis of accounting used in the presentation of the fund financial statements.

LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS
YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

SCHEDULE "8"

FUNDING AGENCY PROGRAM/GRANT	ASSISTANCE LISTING NUMBER	PASS- THROUGH ENTITY ID NUMBER	EXPENDITURES IN PERIOD
Agriculture, U. S. Department of			
Child Nutrition Cluster			
Pass-Through From Georgia Department of Education			
Food Services			
School Breakfast Program	10.553	235GA324N1199	\$ 152,881.59
National School Lunch Program	10.555	235GA324N1199	662,263.51
COVID -19 - National School Lunch Program	10.555	225GA324N1099	42,472.07
Total Child Nutrition Cluster			<u>857,617.17</u>
Other Programs			
Pass-Through From Georgia Department of Education			
Food Services			
State Administrative Expenses for Child Nutrition	10.560	235GA904N2533	3,385.66
Total U. S. Department of Agriculture			<u>861,002.83</u>
Education, U. S. Department of			
Direct			
Impact Aid	84.041A		<u>266,710.00</u>
Education Stabilization Fund			
Pass-Through From Georgia Department of Education			
COVID-19 - Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund	84.425D	S425D200012	1,024.35
COVID-19 - Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund	84.425D	S425D210012	219,615.30
COVID-19 - American Rescue Plan Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund	84.425U	S425U210012	911,318.06
COVID-19 - American Rescue Plan Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund - Homeless Children and Youth	84.425W	S425W210011	6,178.80
Total Education Stabilization Fund			<u>1,138,136.51</u>
Special Education Cluster			
Pass-Through From Georgia Department of Education			
Special Education			
Grants to States	84.027A	H027A210073	45,431.40
Grants to States	84.027A	H027A220073	277,530.60
Preschool Grants	84.173A	H173A210081	2,717.00
Preschool Grants	84.173A	H173A220081	49,930.00
COVID-19 - American Rescue Plan - Preschool	84.173X	H173X210081	2,139.43
Total Special Education Cluster			<u>377,748.43</u>
Other Programs			
Pass-Through From Georgia Department of Education			
Career and Technical Education - Basic Grants to States	84.048A	V048A220010	21,911.60
Rural and Low-Income School Program	84.358B	S358B210010	14,394.40
Rural and Low-Income School Program	84.358B	S358B220010	28,848.38
Student Support and Academic Enrichment Program	84.424A	S424A210011	3,875.00
Student Support and Academic Enrichment Program	84.424A	S424A220011	13,024.66
Supporting Effective Instruction State Grants	84.367A	S367A210001	8,408.87
Supporting Effective Instruction State Grants	84.367A	S367A220001	42,463.46
Title I Grants to Local Educational Agencies	84.010A	S010A210010-21A	92,377.94
Title I Grants to Local Educational Agencies	84.010A	S010A220010	373,778.51
Total Other Programs			<u>599,082.82</u>
Total U. S. Department of Education			<u>2,381,677.76</u>
Justice, U.S. Department of			
Direct			
Public Safety Partnership and Community Policing Grants	16.710		<u>168,632.18</u>
Total Expenditures of Federal Awards			<u>\$ 3,411,312.77</u>

LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS
YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

SCHEDULE "8"

Notes to the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards

Note 1. Basis of Presentation

The accompanying schedule of expenditures of federal awards (the "Schedule") includes the federal award activity of the Lincoln County Board of Education (the "Board") under programs of the federal government for the year ended June 30, 2023. The information in this Schedule is presented in accordance with the requirements of Title 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (Uniform Guidance). Because the Schedule presents only a selected portion of the operations of the Board, it is not intended to and does not present the financial position or changes in net position of the Board.

Note 2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Expenditures reported on the Schedule are reported on the modified accrual basis of accounting. Such expenditures are recognized following the cost principles contained in the Uniform Guidance, wherein certain types of expenditures are not allowable or are limited as to reimbursement.

Note 3. Indirect Cost Rate

The Board has elected not to use the 10-percent de minimis indirect cost rate as allowed under the Uniform Guidance.

LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
SCHEDULE OF STATE REVENUE
YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

SCHEDULE "9"

<u>AGENCY/FUNDING</u>	<u>GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPE</u>
GRANTS	<u>GENERAL FUND</u>
Bright From the Start:	
Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning	
Pre-Kindergarten Program	\$ 351,561.72
Education, Georgia Department of	
Quality Basic Education	
Direct Instructional Cost	
Kindergarten Program	339,914.00
Kindergarten Program - Early Intervention Program	196,955.00
Primary Grades (1-3) Program	817,482.00
Primary Grades - Early Intervention (1-3) Program	434,876.00
Upper Elementary Grades (4-5) Program	328,379.00
Upper Elementary Grades - Early Intervention (4-5) Program	337,094.00
Middle School (6-8) Program	867,856.00
High School General Education (9-12) Program	813,959.00
Vocational Laboratory (9-12) Program	210,248.00
Students with Disabilities	1,386,357.00
Gifted Student - Category VI	391,240.00
Remedial Education Program	255,566.00
Alternative Education Program	61,846.00
Media Center Program	158,400.00
20 Days Additional Instruction	48,517.00
Staff and Professional Development	28,070.00
Principal Staff and Professional Development	935.00
Indirect Cost	
Central Administration	423,461.00
School Administration	436,045.00
Facility Maintenance and Operations	307,795.00
Amended Formula Adjustment	303,030.00
Categorical Grants	
Pupil Transportation	
Regular	276,969.00
Nursing Services	45,946.00
Sparsity	95,580.00
Education Equalization Funding Grant	1,049,781.00
Other State Programs	
Computer Science Capacity Grant (CS4GA) Grant	7,333.50
GOLD Grant (Georgia Outdoor Learning Demonstration)	3,844.36
Food Services	26,558.00
Hygiene Products	937.00
Math and Science Supplements	2,428.60
Preschool Disability Services	31,516.00
Pupil Transportation - State Bonds	352,440.00
School Bus Alternative Fuel Incentive Funding	48,000.00
School Bus Safety Incentive Funding	4,372.00
Teachers Retirement	16,632.67
Vocational Education	27,371.00
Vocational Supervision	7,167.00
Office of the State Treasurer	
Public School Employees Retirement	42,601.00
	\$ 10,539,063.85

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LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
 SCHEDULE OF APPROVED LOCAL OPTION SALES TAX PROJECTS
 YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

SCHEDULE "10"

<u>PROJECT</u>	<u>ORIGINAL ESTIMATED COST (1)</u>	<u>CURRENT ESTIMATED COSTS (2)</u>	<u>ESTIMATED COMPLETION DATE</u>
2017-2022 SPLOST			
Paying of principal and interest on Lincoln County School District General Obligation Bonds, Series 2007 and 2009, and General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2015.	\$ 4,250,000.00	\$ 7,780,580.41	Complete
2022-2027 SPLOST			
Paying of principal and interest on Lincoln County School District General Obligation Bonds, Series 2015 and 2016, and other capital outlay projects.	<u>5,000,000.00</u>	<u>5,000,000.00</u>	6/30/2027
Total	<u>\$ 9,250,000.00</u>	<u>\$ 12,780,580.41</u>	

LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
 SCHEDULE OF APPROVED LOCAL OPTION SALES TAX PROJECTS
 YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

SCHEDULE "10"

PROJECT	AMOUNT EXPENDED IN CURRENT YEAR (3) (4) (5)	AMOUNT EXPENDED IN PRIOR YEARS (3) (4) (5)	TOTAL COMPLETION COST	EXCESS PROCEEDS NOT EXPENDED
2017-2022 SPLOST				
Paying of principal and interest on Lincoln County School District General Obligation Bonds, Series 2007 and 2009, and General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2015.	\$ 468,781.81	\$ 7,311,798.60	\$ 7,780,580.41	\$ -
2022-2027 SPLOST				
Paying of principal and interest on Lincoln County School District General Obligation Bonds, Series 2015 and 2016, and other capital outlay projects.	<u>1,076,743.19</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Total	<u>\$ 1,545,525.00</u>	<u>\$ 7,311,798.60</u>	<u>\$ 7,780,580.41</u>	<u>\$ -</u>

- (1) The School District's original cost estimate as specified in the resolution calling for the imposition of the Local Option Sales Tax.
- (2) The School District's current estimate of total cost for the projects. Includes all cost from project inception to completion.
- (3) The voters of Lincoln County approved the imposition of a 1% sales tax to fund the above projects and retire associated debt. Amounts expended for these projects may include sales tax proceeds, state, local property taxes and/or other funds over the life of the projects.
- (4) During fiscal year 2015, the Lincoln County Board of Education issued General Obligation Refunding Bond Issue 2015 to refund portions of the 2007 and 2009 Bond Issues. The amount expended in the current year includes debt service on the replacement refunding issues.
- (5) During fiscal year 2016, the Lincoln County Board of Education issued General Obligation Refunding Bond Issue 2016 to refund portions of the 2009 Bond Issue. The amount expended in the current year includes debt service on the replacement refunding issues.

Section II

Compliance and Internal Control Reports



**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**

The Honorable Brian P. Kemp, Governor of Georgia
Members of the General Assembly of the State of Georgia
Members of the State Board of Education
and
Dr. Samuel P. Light, Superintendent and Members of the
Lincoln County Board of Education

We have audited the financial statements of the governmental activities and each major fund of the Lincoln County Board of Education (School District) as of and for the year ended June 30, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the School District's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated March 26, 2024. We conducted our audit in accordance with the 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.

Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the School District'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 opinions on the basic financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the School District's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the School District'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 District'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 all 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 to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified.

Report on Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the School District's financial statements are free from material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the financial statements. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit, and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

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 District'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 District's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Greg S. Griffin". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Greg S. Griffin
State Auditor

March 26, 2024



INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON COMPLIANCE FOR EACH MAJOR FEDERAL PROGRAM AND ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER COMPLIANCE REQUIRED BY THE UNIFORM GUIDANCE

The Honorable Brian P. Kemp, Governor of Georgia
Members of the General Assembly of the State of Georgia
Members of the State Board of Education
and
Dr. Samuel P. Light, Superintendent and Members of the
Lincoln County Board of Education

Report on Compliance for Each Major Federal Program

Opinion on Each Major Federal Program

We have audited the Lincoln County Board of Education's (School District) compliance with the types of compliance requirements identified as subject to audit in the *OMB Compliance Supplement* that could have a direct and material effect on each of the School District's major federal programs for the year ended June 30, 2023. The School District's major federal programs are identified in the *Summary of Auditor's Results* section of the accompanying *Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs*.

In our opinion, the School District complied, in all material respects, with the compliance requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on each of its major federal programs for the year ended June 30, 2023.

Basis for Opinion on Each Major Federal Program

We conducted our audit of compliance in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS); the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States; and the audit requirements of Title 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations Part 200, Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards (Uniform Guidance). Our responsibilities under those standards and the Uniform Guidance are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance section of our report.

We are required to be independent of the School District and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with 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 opinion on compliance for each major federal program. Our audit does not provide a legal determination of the School District's compliance with the compliance requirements referred to above.

Responsibilities of Management for Compliance

Management is responsible for compliance with the requirements referred to above and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of effective internal control over compliance with the requirements of laws, statutes, regulations, rules and provisions of contracts or grant agreements applicable to the School District's federal programs.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether material noncompliance with the compliance requirements referred to above occurred, whether due to fraud or error, and express an opinion on the School District's compliance based on our audit. 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, *Government Auditing Standards*, and the Uniform Guidance will always detect material noncompliance when it exists. The risk of not detecting material noncompliance resulting from fraud is higher than for that resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Noncompliance with the compliance requirements referred to above is considered material, if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, it would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user of the report on compliance about the School District's compliance with the requirements of each major federal program as a whole.

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS, *Government Auditing Standards*, and the Uniform Guidance, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material noncompliance, 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 School District's compliance with the compliance requirements referred to above and performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances.
- Obtain an understanding of the School District's internal control over compliance relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances and to test and report on internal control over compliance in accordance with the Uniform Guidance, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the School District's internal control over compliance. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and any significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in internal control over compliance that we identified during the audit.

Report on Internal Control over Compliance

Our consideration of internal control over compliance was for the limited purpose described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance section above and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control over compliance that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies in internal control over compliance and therefore, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified. However, as discussed below, we did identify a certain deficiency in internal control over compliance that we consider to be a significant deficiency.

A deficiency in internal control over compliance exists when the design or operation of a control over compliance does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, noncompliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program on a timely basis. *A material weakness in internal control over compliance* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control over compliance, such that there is a reasonable possibility that material noncompliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. *A significant deficiency in internal control over compliance* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control over compliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program that is less severe than a material weakness in internal control over compliance, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance. We consider the deficiency in internal control over compliance described in the accompanying *Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs* in finding FA 2023-001 to be a significant deficiency.

Our audit was not designed for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control over compliance. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.

Government Auditing Standards requires the auditor to perform limited procedures on the School District's response to the internal control over compliance finding identified in our audit and described in the accompanying *Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs*. The School District's response was not subjected to the other auditing procedures applied in the audit of compliance and, accordingly, we express no opinion on the response.

The purpose of this report on internal control over compliance is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over compliance and the results of that testing based on the requirements of the Uniform Guidance. Accordingly, this report is not suitable for any other purpose.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Greg S. Griffin". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a horizontal line extending from the end.

Greg S. Griffin
State Auditor

March 26, 2024

Section III

Auditee's Response to Prior Year Findings and Questioned Costs

LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
AUDITEE'S RESPONSE
SUMMARY SCHEDULE OF PRIOR AUDIT FINDINGS
YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

PRIOR YEAR FINANCIAL STATEMENT FINDINGS

No matters were reported.

PRIOR YEAR FEDERAL AWARD FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS

No matters were reported.

Section IV

Findings and Questioned Costs

LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
 SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS
 YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

I SUMMARY OF AUDITOR'S RESULTS

Financial Statements

Type of auditor's report issued:	
Governmental Activities and Each Major Fund	Unmodified
Internal control over financial reporting:	
▪ Material weakness(es) identified?	No
▪ Significant deficiency(ies) identified?	None Reported
Noncompliance material to financial statements noted:	No

Federal Awards

Internal control over major programs:	
▪ Material weakness(es) identified?	No
▪ Significant deficiency(ies) identified?	Yes

Type of auditor's report issued on compliance for major programs:	
All major programs	Unmodified

Any audit findings disclosed that are required to be reported in accordance with 2 CFR 200.516(a)?	Yes
--	-----

Identification of major programs:

<u>Assistance Listing Number</u>	<u>Assistance Listing Program or Cluster Title</u>
10.553, 10.555	Child Nutrition Cluster
84.425	Education Stabilization Fund

Dollar threshold used to distinguish between Type A and Type B programs:	\$750,000.00
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Auditee qualified as low-risk auditee?	Yes
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LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS
YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

II FINANCIAL STATEMENT FINDINGS

No matters were reported.

III FEDERAL AWARD FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS

FA 2023-001

Controls over Wage Rate Requirements

Compliance Requirement:	Special Tests and Provisions
Internal Control Impact:	Significant Deficiency
Compliance Impact:	Nonmaterial Noncompliance
Federal Awarding Agency:	U.S. Department of Education
Pass-Through Entity:	Georgia Department of Education
AL Number and Title:	COVID – 19 - 84.425U – American Rescue Plan Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund
Federal Award Number:	S425U210012 (Year: 2021)
Questioned Costs:	None Identified

Description:

A review of construction-related expenditures charged to the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund program revealed that the School District’s internal control procedures were not operating to ensure that Wage Rate Requirements were followed appropriately.

Background Information:

On March 27, 2020, the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act was signed into law. The CARES Act was designed to mitigate the economic effects of the COVID-19 pandemic in a variety of ways, including providing additional funding for local educational agencies (LEAs) navigating the impact of the COVID-19 outbreak.

Provisions included in Title VIII of the CARES Act created the Education Stabilization Fund to provide financial resources to educational entities to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus. The CARES Act allocated \$30.75 billion, the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act allocated an additional \$81.9 billion, and the American Rescue Plan Act added \$165.1 billion in funding to the Education Stabilization Fund. Multiple Education Stabilization Fund subprograms were created and allotted funding through the various COVID-19-related legislation. Of these programs, the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) Fund was created to address the impact that COVID-19 has had, and continues to have, on elementary and secondary schools across the nation.

ESSER funding was granted to the Georgia Department of Education (GaDOE) by the U.S. Department of Education (ED). GaDOE is responsible for distributing funds to LEAs and overseeing the expenditure of funds by LEAs. ESSER funds totaling \$1,138,136.51 were expended and reported on the Lincoln County Board of Education’s Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards (SEFA) for fiscal year 2023.

LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS
YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

Criteria:

As a recipient of federal awards, the School District is required to establish and maintain effective internal control over federal awards that provides reasonable assurance of managing the federal awards in compliance with federal statutes, regulations, and the terms and conditions of the federal awards pursuant to Title 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (Uniform Guidance), Section 200.303 – Internal Controls.

Additionally, the Uniform Guidance, Appendix II to Part 200 – Contract Provisions for Non-Federal Entity Contracts Under Federal Awards, Part D addresses Davis-Bacon Act requirements and states, in part, “When required by Federal program legislation, all prime construction contracts in excess of \$2,000 awarded by non-Federal entities must include a provision for compliance with the Davis-Bacon Act (40 U.S.C. 3141-3144, and 3146-3148) as supplemented by Department of Labor regulations (29 CFR Part 5, “Labor Standards Provisions Applicable to Contracts Covering Federally Financed and Assisted Construction”). In accordance with the statute, contractors must be required to pay wages to laborers and mechanics at a rate not less than the prevailing wages specified in a wage determination made by the Secretary of Labor.”

Specifically, 29 CFR, Section 5.5 – Contract Provisions and Related Matters requires that these construction contracts contain certain clauses, including minimum wage rate requirements and the submission of certified payrolls. Provisions included in 29 CFR, Section 5.5(a)(3)(ii) state, in part, that “(A) The contractor shall submit weekly for each week in which any contract work is performed a copy of all payrolls... (B) Each payroll submitted shall be accompanied by a “Statement of Compliance,” signed by the contractor or subcontractor.”

Condition:

Our review of expenditures charged to the ESSER program revealed that the School District entered into construction contracts in excess of \$2,000, which required the School District to confirm that these contractors complied with certain Wage Rate Requirements provisions. While it was later noted that the appropriate wage rate was paid to laborers, the School District did not ensure that the contractor submitted the required certified payrolls, which includes a copy of payroll disbursements and a statement of compliance with Wage Rate Requirements, at least weekly during the construction period.

Cause:

In discussing this deficiency with management, they stated that the School District lacked adequate procedures to ensure that Wage Rate Requirements were met.

Effect:

The School District is not in compliance with the Uniform Guidance or ED guidance related to the ESSER program. Failure to ensure that appropriate provisions are included in contracts associated with construction financed in part or in whole with federal funds may expose the School District to unnecessary financial strains and shortages as ED or GaDOE may require the School District to return funds associated with these construction expenditures.

LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
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YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

Recommendation:

The School District should develop policies and procedures to ensure that all construction contracts financed by federal financial assistance reflect appropriate provisions associated with Wage Rate Requirements and that certified payrolls are obtained from contractors as necessary. Furthermore, management should develop and implement a monitoring process to ensure that controls are operating appropriately.

Views of Responsible Officials:

We concur with this finding.

Section V

Management's Corrective Action



LINCOLN COUNTY SCHOOLS



Dr. Samuel P. Light, Superintendent of Schools

CORRECTIVE ACTION PLANS - FEDERAL AWARD FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS

FA 2023-001 - Strengthen Controls over Wage Rate Requirements

Compliance Requirement: Special Tests and Provisions

Internal Control Impact: Significant Deficiency

Compliance Impact: Nonmaterial Noncompliance

Federal Awarding Agency: U.S Department of Education

Pass-Through Entity: Georgia Department of Education

AL Number and Title: COVID – 19 – 84.425U American Rescue Plan
Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund

Federal Award Number: S425U210012 (Year 2021)

Questioned Costs: None Identified

Repeat of Prior Year Finding: Not Applicable

Description:

A review of construction-related expenditures charged to the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund programs revealed that the School District's internal control procedures were not operating to ensure that Wage Rate Requirements were followed appropriately.

Corrective Action Plans:

The School District will review and update the current procedures to ensure that the Wage Rate requirements are met.

Estimated Completion Date: June 30, 2024

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Signature: _____

Title: _____