
Berrien Regional Education Service Agency

**Financial Report
with Supplementary Information
June 30, 2023**

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Independent Auditor's Report

To the Board of Education
Berrien Regional Education Service Agency

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Opinions

We have audited the financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Berrien Regional Education Service Agency (the "Agency") as of and for the year ended June 30, 2023 and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise Berrien Regional Education Service Agency's basic financial statements, as listed in the table of contents.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Berrien Regional Education Service Agency as of June 30, 2023 and the respective changes in its financial position and, where applicable, its cash flows thereof 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 Agency 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 Agency's ability to continue as a going concern for 12 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.

To the Board of Education
Berrien Regional Education Service Agency

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 Agency'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 Agency'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 other required supplementary information, as identified 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, which 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 auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, 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 evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated October 23, 2023 on our consideration of Berrien Regional Education Service Agency's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, 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 Berrien Regional Education Service Agency'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 Berrien Regional Education Service Agency's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Plante & Moran, PLLC

October 23, 2023

This section of Berrien Regional Education Service Agency's (the "Agency") annual financial report presents our discussion and analysis of the Agency's financial performance during the year ended June 30, 2023. Please read it in conjunction with the Agency's financial statements, which immediately follow this section.

Using This Annual Report

This annual report consists of a series of financial statements and notes to those financial statements. These statements are organized so the reader can understand Berrien Regional Education Service Agency financially as a whole. The government-wide financial statements provide information about the activities of the whole Agency, presenting both an aggregate view of the Agency's finances and a longer-term view of those finances. The fund financial statements provide the next level of detail. For governmental activities, these statements tell how services were financed in the short term and what remains for future spending. The fund financial statements look at the Agency's operations in more detail than the government-wide financial statements by providing information about the Agency's most significant funds, the General Fund and the Special Education Fund, as well as information on the Agency's Internal Service Fund, with all other funds presented as nonmajor funds. The Agency's proprietary Internal Service Fund is reported separately from the governmental funds. This report is composed of the following elements:

Management's Discussion and Analysis (MD&A) (Required Supplementary Information)

Basic Financial Statements

Government-wide Financial Statements

Fund Financial Statements

Notes to Financial Statements

Required Supplementary Information

Budgetary Information for Major Funds

Schedule of the Agency's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability

Schedule of Pension Contributions

Schedule of the Agency's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability

Schedule of OPEB Contributions

Reporting the Agency as a Whole - Government-wide Financial Statements

One of the most important questions asked about the Agency is, "As a whole, what is the Agency's financial condition as a result of the year's activities?" The statement of net position and the statement of activities, which appear first in the Agency's financial statements, report information on the Agency as a whole and its activities in a way that helps you answer this question. We prepare these statements to include all assets, deferred outflows of resources, liabilities, and deferred inflows of resources using the accrual basis of accounting, which is similar to the accounting used by most private sector companies. All of the current year's revenue and expenses are taken into account, regardless of when cash is received or paid.

These two statements report the Agency's net position - the difference between assets plus deferred outflows of resources and liabilities plus deferred inflows of resources, as reported in the statement of net position - as one way to measure the Agency's financial health or financial position. Over time, increases or decreases in the Agency's net position, as reported in the statement of activities, are indicators of whether its financial health is improving or deteriorating. The relationship between revenue and expenses is the Agency's operating results. However, the Agency's goal is to provide services to our students, not to generate profits as commercial entities do. One must consider many other nonfinancial factors, such as the quality of the education provided and the safety of the schools, to assess the overall health of the Agency.

Berrien Regional Education Service Agency

Management's Discussion and Analysis (Continued)

The statement of net position and the statement of activities report the governmental activities for the Agency, which encompass all of the Agency's services, including instruction, support services, and food services. Property taxes, unrestricted state aid (foundation allowance revenue), and state and federal grants finance most of these activities.

Reporting the Agency's Fund Financial Statements

The Agency's fund financial statements provide detailed information about the most significant funds, not the Agency as a whole. Some funds are required to be established by state law and by bond covenants. However, the Agency establishes many other funds to help it control and manage money for particular purposes (the School Service Fund is an example) or to show that it is meeting legal responsibilities for using certain taxes, grants, and other money.

Governmental Funds

Governmental fund reporting focuses on showing how money flows into and out of funds and the balances left at year end that are available for spending. They are reported using an accounting method called modified accrual accounting, which measures cash and all other financial assets that can readily be converted to cash. The governmental fund statements provide a detailed short-term view of the operations of the Agency and the 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 the Agency's programs. We describe the relationship (or differences) between governmental activities (reported in the statement of net position and the statement of activities) and governmental funds in a reconciliation.

Proprietary Funds

Proprietary fund reporting focuses on the economic resources measurement and an accounting method called full accrual accounting. The proprietary fund statements present a long-term view of operations and the services it provides to other funds. The Agency established a proprietary fund, specifically the Internal Service Fund, to finance specific services provided to other funds of the Agency on a cost-reimbursement basis. The specific services represent health insurance benefits.

Berrien Regional Education Service Agency

Management's Discussion and Analysis (Continued)

The Agency as a Whole

Recall that the statement of net position provides the perspective of the Agency as a whole. The following table provides a summary of the Agency's net position as of June 30, 2023 and 2022:

	Governmental Activities	
	2023	2022
	(in millions)	
Assets		
Current and other assets	\$ 32.2	\$ 28.5
Capital assets	21.3	20.2
Total assets	53.5	48.7
Deferred Outflows of Resources	27.4	13.3
Liabilities		
Current liabilities	10.6	9.9
Noncurrent liabilities	0.4	0.3
Net pension liability	70.8	43.8
Net OPEB liability	4.0	2.8
Total liabilities	85.8	56.8
Deferred Inflows of Resources	14.3	28.6
Net Position (Deficit)		
Net investment in capital assets	21.3	20.2
Unrestricted	(40.5)	(43.6)
Total net position (deficit)	<u>\$ (19.2)</u>	<u>\$ (23.4)</u>

The above analysis focuses on net position. The change in net position of the Agency's governmental activities is discussed below. The Agency's net position was \$(19.2) million at June 30, 2023. Net investment in capital assets totaling \$21.3 million is the original cost less depreciation of the Agency's capital assets. The remaining amount of net position \$(40.5) million was unrestricted.

The \$(40.5) million in unrestricted net position of governmental activities represents the accumulated results of all past years' operations and the impact from adoption of GASB Statement Nos. 68 and 75 (recording the Agency's share of the net pension and OPEB liabilities from the state-managed retirement system). Unrestricted net position, when available, would enable the Agency to meet working capital and cash flow requirements and provide for future uncertainties. The operating results of the General Fund and the change in the net pension and OPEB liabilities will have significant impacts on the change in unrestricted net position from year to year. The negative unrestricted net position balance is attributed to the \$61.7 million net pension and OPEB liabilities and pension and OPEB-related activity arising from the underfunded MPSERS obligations.

Berrien Regional Education Service Agency

Management's Discussion and Analysis (Continued)

The results of this year's operations for the Agency as a whole are reported in the condensed statement of activities below, which shows the changes in net position for the years ended June 30, 2023 and 2022:

	Governmental Activities	
	2023	2022
	(in millions)	
Revenue		
Program revenue:		
Charges for services	\$ 2.2	\$ 2.1
Operating grants and contributions	37.3	33.2
General revenue:		
Property taxes	22.2	21.2
State foundation allowance	1.7	1.6
Other	2.2	0.6
Total revenue	65.6	58.7
Functions/Program Expenses		
Administration Center	39.4	35.0
Blossomland Learning Center	8.6	7.8
Lighthouse Education Center	8.0	7.1
Juvenile Center	0.8	0.7
Transportation Center	3.9	3.2
Depreciation expense (unallocated)	0.7	0.6
Total functions/program expenses	61.4	54.4
Change in Net Position	4.2	4.3
Net Position (Deficit) - Beginning of year	(23.4)	(27.7)
Net Position (Deficit) - End of year	\$ (19.2)	\$ (23.4)

As reported in the statement of activities, the cost of all of our governmental activities this year was \$61.4 million. Certain activities were partially funded from those who benefited from the programs (\$2.2 million) or by other governments and organizations that subsidized certain programs with grants and contributions (\$37.3 million). We paid for the remaining public benefit portion of our governmental activities with \$22.2 million in taxes, \$1.7 million in state foundation allowance, and other revenue (i.e., interest and general entitlements).

The Agency experienced an increase in net position of \$4.2 million.

As discussed above, the net cost shows the financial burden that was placed on the State and the Agency's taxpayers by each of these functions. Since property taxes for operations and unrestricted state aid constitute the vast majority of agency operating revenue sources, the Board of Education and administration must annually evaluate the needs of the Agency and balance those needs with state-prescribed available unrestricted resources.

The Agency's Funds

As we noted earlier, the Agency uses funds to help it control and manage money for particular purposes. Looking at funds helps the reader consider whether the Agency is being accountable for the resources taxpayers and others provide to it and may provide more insight into the Agency's overall financial health.

As the Agency completed this year, the governmental funds reported a combined fund balance of \$18.0 million, which is an increase of \$3.9 million from last year. The primary reasons for the increase are as follows:

In the General Fund, our principal operating fund, fund balance increased from \$4.0 million last year to \$4.3 million.

Fund balance of our Special Education Fund increased from \$10.0 million last year to \$13.6 million. This increase is due mainly to a significant increase in special education funding from the State of Michigan during the year.

Berrien Regional Education Service Agency

Management's Discussion and Analysis (Continued)

General Fund and Special Education Fund Budgetary Highlights

Over the course of the year, the Agency revises its budget as it attempts to deal with unexpected changes in revenue and expenditures. State law requires that the budget be amended to ensure that expenditures do not exceed appropriations. The final amendment to the budget was adopted in June 2023. A schedule showing the Agency's original and final budget amounts compared with amounts actually paid and received is provided in the required supplementary information of these financial statements.

There were revisions made to the 2022-2023 General Fund original budget. Budgeted revenue was increased \$2.4 million due to a reallocation of state aid ISD funding. Budgeted expenses were increased by \$2.1 million due to the related expenses from the increase in funding received.

There were revisions made to the 2022-2023 Special Education Fund original budget. Budgeted revenue was increased by \$3.4 million due to the finalization of grant awards and state aid allocations. Budgeted expenses were increased by \$0.6 million due to the related expenses from the increase in funding received.

The Agency incurred expenditures in the General Fund and Special Education Fund that were in excess of the amounts budgeted, as described in Note 3.

Capital Assets and Debt Administration

Capital Assets

As of June 30, 2023, the Agency had \$21.3 million invested in a broad range of capital assets, including land, buildings, vehicles, furniture, and equipment. This amount represents a net increase (including additions, disposals, and depreciation) of approximately \$1.03 million from last year.

	Governmental Activities	
	2023	2022
Land	\$ 237,753	\$ 237,753
Construction in progress	401,144	2,069,437
Buildings and building improvements	32,406,793	29,008,104
Furniture and equipment	1,992,026	1,992,026
Total capital assets	35,037,716	33,307,320
Less accumulated depreciation	13,779,505	13,078,390
Total capital assets - Net of accumulated depreciation	\$ 21,258,211	\$ 20,228,930

This year's additions were primarily attributable to the renovation project at Blossomland Learning Center (Blossomland). We present more detailed information about our capital assets in the notes to the financial statements.

Debt

At the end of this year, the Agency had no bonds outstanding, same as the previous year.

Other obligations include accrued vacation pay and self-insurance estimated liability. We present more detailed information about our long-term liabilities in the notes to the financial statements.

Economic Factors and Next Year's Budgets and Rates

Our elected officials and administration consider many factors when setting the Agency's 2023-2024 fiscal year budget. One of the most important factors affecting the budget is state aid and property tax revenue provided to the Agency. Approximately 60 percent of total General Fund revenue is from state sources, and approximately 9 percent of total General Fund revenue is from local property taxes. Under state law, the Agency cannot assess additional property tax revenue for general operations.

Berrien Regional Education Service Agency

Management's Discussion and Analysis (Continued)

Similarly, approximately 31 percent of total Special Education Fund revenue is from state sources, and approximately 41 percent of total Special Education Fund revenue is from local property taxes. Subject to voter approval, the Agency could assess additional property tax revenue for special education operations; however, there is insufficient support from our local school districts to pursue this.

Since the Agency's revenue is heavily dependent on state funding and the health of the State's School Aid Fund, the actual revenue received depends on the State's ability to collect revenue to fund its appropriation to public school districts, intermediate school districts, and regional education service agencies and how the State determines its funding allocation to each.

Berrien Regional Education Service Agency

Statement of Net Position

June 30, 2023

	<u>Governmental Activities</u>
Assets	
Cash and investments (Note 4)	\$ 23,003,417
Receivables:	
Accounts receivable	360,638
Due from other governments	8,893,486
Inventories	12,661
Capital assets - Net (Note 6)	<u>21,258,211</u>
Total assets	53,528,413
Deferred Outflows of Resources	
Deferred pension costs (Note 10)	21,884,106
Deferred OPEB costs (Note 10)	<u>5,509,195</u>
Total deferred outflows of resources	27,393,301
Liabilities	
Accounts payable	3,602,632
Accrued payroll and other liabilities	4,213,037
Unearned revenue (Note 5)	2,713,566
Noncurrent liabilities:	
Due within one year (Note 8)	170,000
Due in more than one year (Note 8)	237,510
Net pension liability (Note 10)	70,809,546
Net OPEB liability (Note 10)	<u>4,034,487</u>
Total liabilities	85,780,778
Deferred Inflows of Resources	
Revenue in support of pension contributions made subsequent to the report date (Note 10)	5,214,884
Deferred pension costs (Note 10)	636,057
Deferred OPEB costs (Note 10)	<u>8,453,821</u>
Total deferred inflows of resources	<u>14,304,762</u>
Net Position (Deficit)	
Net investment in capital assets	21,258,211
Unrestricted	<u>(40,422,037)</u>
Total net position (deficit)	<u><u>\$ (19,163,826)</u></u>

Berrien Regional Education Service Agency

Statement of Activities

Year Ended June 30, 2023

Functions/Programs	Program Revenue			Governmental
	Expenses	Charges for Services	Operating Grants and Contributions	Activities
				Net (Expense) Revenue and Changes in Net Position
Primary government - Governmental activities:				
Administration Center	\$ 39,357,005	\$ 2,021,775	\$ 18,966,008	\$ (18,369,222)
Blossomland Learning Center	8,636,119	16,926	10,459,897	1,840,704
Lighthouse Education Center	7,978,008	4,762	7,068,349	(904,897)
Juvenile Center	752,814	-	801,060	48,246
Transportation Center	3,926,492	197,865	-	(3,728,627)
Depreciation expense (unallocated) (Note 6)	701,115	-	-	(701,115)
Total governmental activities	61,351,553	2,241,328	37,295,314	(21,814,911)
General revenue:				
Taxes - Property taxes levied for general purposes				22,229,224
State aid not restricted to specific purposes				1,675,695
Interest and investment earnings				483,069
Other				1,696,120
Total general revenue				26,084,108
Change in Net Position				4,269,197
Net Position - Beginning of year				(23,433,023)
Net Position - End of year				\$ (19,163,826)

Berrien Regional Education Service Agency

Governmental Funds Balance Sheet

June 30, 2023

	General Fund	Special Education Fund	Nonmajor Fund - School Service Fund	Nonmajor Fund - Student Activities Fund	Total Governmental Funds
Assets					
Cash and investments (Note 4)	\$ 6,264,583	\$ 14,200,684	\$ -	\$ 51,320	\$ 20,516,587
Receivables:					
Accounts receivable	156,848	188,928	14,862	-	360,638
Due from other governments	3,377,345	5,510,212	5,929	-	8,893,486
Due from other funds (Note 7)	-	-	18,919	-	18,919
Inventories	4,722	6,060	1,879	-	12,661
Total assets	\$ 9,803,498	\$ 19,905,884	\$ 41,589	\$ 51,320	\$ 29,802,291
Liabilities					
Accounts payable	\$ 2,502,577	\$ 1,099,024	\$ 1,031	\$ -	\$ 3,602,632
Due to other funds (Note 7)	67,219	1,613,631	-	-	1,680,850
Accrued payroll and other liabilities	227,417	3,600,744	774	-	3,828,935
Unearned revenue (Note 5)	2,678,196	35,370	-	-	2,713,566
Total liabilities	5,475,409	6,348,769	1,805	-	11,825,983
Fund Balances					
Nonspendable - Inventories	4,722	6,060	1,879	-	12,661
Restricted:					
Special education (Note 11)	-	13,551,055	-	-	13,551,055
School service	-	-	37,905	-	37,905
Committed - Student activities	-	-	-	51,320	51,320
Assigned:					
Budgeted use of fund balance in subsequent year	120,143	-	-	-	120,143
Health and medical	250,000	-	-	-	250,000
Administrative center improvements	50,000	-	-	-	50,000
Unassigned	3,903,224	-	-	-	3,903,224
Total fund balances	4,328,089	13,557,115	39,784	51,320	17,976,308
Total liabilities and fund balances	\$ 9,803,498	\$ 19,905,884	\$ 41,589	\$ 51,320	\$ 29,802,291

See notes to financial statements.

Berrien Regional Education Service Agency

Governmental Funds

Reconciliation of the Balance Sheet to the Statement of Net Position

June 30, 2023

Fund Balances Reported in Governmental Funds	\$ 17,976,308
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 are not reported in the funds:	
Cost of capital assets	35,037,716
Accumulated depreciation	<u>(13,779,505)</u>
Net capital assets used in governmental activities	21,258,211
Some employee fringe benefits are payable over a long period of years and do not represent a claim on current financial resources; therefore, they are not reported as fund liabilities:	
Employee compensated absences	(237,510)
Net pension liability and related deferred inflows and outflows	(49,561,497)
Net OPEB liability and related deferred inflows and outflows	(6,979,113)
Revenue in support of pension contributions made subsequent to the measurement date is reported as a deferred inflow of resources in the statement of net position and is not reported in the funds	(5,214,884)
Internal service funds are included as part of governmental activities	<u>3,594,659</u>
Net Position (Deficit) of Governmental Activities	<u>\$ (19,163,826)</u>

Berrien Regional Education Service Agency

Governmental Funds

Statement of Revenue, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances

Year Ended June 30, 2023

	General Fund	Special Education Fund	Nonmajor Fund - School Service Fund	Nonmajor Fund - Student Activities Fund	Total Governmental Funds
Revenue					
Local sources	\$ 4,184,313	\$ 24,794,426	\$ 94,358	\$ 42,750	\$ 29,115,847
State sources	10,639,970	15,640,497	6,693	-	26,287,160
Federal sources	2,129,557	8,760,343	192,591	-	11,082,491
Governmental - Intergovernmental	888,468	536,150	-	-	1,424,618
Total revenue	17,842,308	49,731,416	293,642	42,750	67,910,116
Expenditures - Current					
Administrative Center	17,871,357	22,186,885	-	27,952	40,086,194
Blossomland Learning Center	-	8,761,881	241,207	-	9,003,088
Lighthouse Education Center	-	8,113,297	118,804	-	8,232,101
Juvenile Center	-	780,318	-	-	780,318
Transportation Center	-	4,080,192	-	-	4,080,192
Capital outlay	-	1,848,266	-	-	1,848,266
Total expenditures	17,871,357	45,770,839	360,011	27,952	64,030,159
Excess of Revenue (Under) Over Expenditures	(29,049)	3,960,577	(66,369)	14,798	3,879,957
Other Financial Sources (Uses)					
Transfers in (Note 7)	400,000	-	75,000	-	475,000
Transfers out (Note 7)	(75,000)	(400,000)	-	-	(475,000)
Total other financing sources (uses)	325,000	(400,000)	75,000	-	-
Net Change in Fund Balances	295,951	3,560,577	8,631	14,798	3,879,957
Fund Balances - Beginning of year	4,032,138	9,996,538	31,153	36,522	14,096,351
Fund Balances - End of year	\$ 4,328,089	\$ 13,557,115	\$ 39,784	\$ 51,320	\$ 17,976,308

Berrien Regional Education Service Agency

Governmental Funds Reconciliation of the Statement of Revenue, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances to the Statement of Activities

Year Ended June 30, 2023

Net Change in Fund Balances Reported in Governmental Funds	\$ 3,879,957
Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of activities are different because:	
Governmental funds report capital outlays as expenditures; however, in the statement of activities, these costs are allocated over their estimated useful lives as depreciation:	
Capitalized capital outlay	1,730,396
Depreciation expense	<u>(701,115)</u>
Total	1,029,281
Revenue in support of pension contributions made subsequent to the measurement date	(2,289,367)
Some employee costs (pension, OPEB, and compensated absences) do not require the use of current financial resources and, therefore, are not reported as expenditures in the governmental funds	2,374,124
Internal service funds are included as part of governmental activities	<u>(724,798)</u>
Change in Net Position of Governmental Activities	<u><u>\$ 4,269,197</u></u>

Berrien Regional Education Service Agency

**Proprietary Fund
Statement of Net Position**

June 30, 2023

Internal Service
Fund

Assets

Current assets:

Cash and investments (Note 4)

\$ 2,486,830

Due from other funds (Note 7)

1,661,931

Total assets

4,148,761

Liabilities

Current liabilities:

Accrued liabilities

384,102

Self-insurance estimated liability (Note 9)

170,000

Total liabilities

554,102

Net Position - Unrestricted

\$ 3,594,659

Berrien Regional Education Service Agency

Proprietary Fund
Statement of Revenue, Expenses, and Changes in Net Position

Year Ended June 30, 2023

	<u>Internal Service Fund</u>
Operating Revenue - Charges to other funds	\$ 4,607,481
Operating Expenses	
Health benefits - Insurance and administration	876,053
Health benefits - Claims	<u>4,458,391</u>
Total operating expenses	<u>5,334,444</u>
Operating Loss	(726,963)
Nonoperating Revenue - Interest and investment earnings	<u>2,165</u>
Change in Net Position	(724,798)
Net Position - Beginning of year	<u>4,319,457</u>
Net Position - End of year	<u><u>\$ 3,594,659</u></u>

Berrien Regional Education Service Agency

Proprietary Fund Statement of Cash Flows

Year Ended June 30, 2023

	<u>Internal Service Fund</u>
Cash Flows from Operating Activities	
Receipts from other funds	\$ 4,908,011
Payments to vendors	<u>(5,198,130)</u>
Net cash and investments used in operating activities	(290,119)
Cash Flows Provided by Investing Activities - Interest income	<u>2,165</u>
Net Decrease in Cash and Investments	(287,954)
Cash and Investments - Beginning of year	<u>2,774,784</u>
Cash and Investments - End of year	<u>\$ 2,486,830</u>
Reconciliation of Operating Loss to Net Cash and Investments from Operating Activities	
Operating loss	\$ (726,963)
Adjustments to reconcile operating loss to net cash from operating activities - Changes in assets and liabilities:	
Due from other funds	300,530
Accounts payable	(3,500)
Accrued liabilities	141,720
Self-insurance estimated liability	<u>(1,906)</u>
Total adjustments	<u>436,844</u>
Net cash and investments used in operating activities	<u>\$ (290,119)</u>

June 30, 2023

Note 1 - Nature of Business

Berrien Regional Education Service Agency (the "Agency") is an educational service agency in the state of Michigan that provides educational services to students.

Note 2 - Significant Accounting Policies

Accounting and Reporting Principles

Berrien Regional Education Service Agency follows accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP), as applicable to governmental units. Accounting and financial reporting pronouncements are promulgated by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB). The following is a summary of the significant accounting policies used by the Agency:

Reporting Entity

The Agency is governed by an elected five-member Board of Education. In accordance with governmental accounting principles, there are no separate legal entities appropriate to be reported within these financial statements.

Report Presentation

Governmental accounting principles require that financial reports include two different perspectives - the government-wide perspective and the fund-based perspective. The government-wide financial statements (i.e., the statement of net position and the statement of activities) report information on all of the nonfiduciary activities of the primary government. The government-wide financial statements are presented on the economic resources measurement focus and the full accrual basis of accounting. Property taxes are recognized as revenue in the year for which they are levied. Grants and similar items are recognized as revenue as soon as all eligibility requirements imposed by the provider have been met. The statements also present a schedule reconciling these amounts to the modified accrual-based presentation found in the fund-based statements.

The statement of activities demonstrates the degree to which the direct expenses of a given function or segment are offset by program revenue. Direct expenses are those that are clearly identifiable with a specific function or segment. Program revenue includes: (1) charges to customers or applicants for goods, services, or privileges provided and (2) operating grants and contributions. Taxes, intergovernmental payments, and other items not properly included among program revenue are reported instead as general revenue.

As a general rule, the effect of interfund activity has been removed from these statements.

Separate financial statements are provided for governmental funds and proprietary funds. Major individual governmental funds are reported as separate columns in the fund financial statements.

Fund Accounting

The Agency accounts for its various activities in several different funds in order to demonstrate accountability for how we have spent certain resources; separate funds allow us to show the particular expenditures for which specific revenue was used. The various funds are aggregated into the following fund types:

Governmental Funds

Governmental funds include all activities that provide general governmental services that are not business-type activities. This includes the General Fund, special revenue funds, debt service funds, capital project funds, and permanent funds. The Agency reports the following funds as major governmental funds:

- The General Fund is the primary operating fund because it accounts for all financial resources used to provide government services other than those specifically assigned to another fund.

Note 2 - Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

- The Special Education Fund, a special revenue fund, is used to record all transactions associated with special education programs administered by the Agency, as well as payments to local districts within the Agency to fund special education activities. These programs are funded primarily by taxes, state aid categoricals, Medicaid funding, and federal grants.

Additionally, the Agency reports the following nonmajor governmental fund type:

- Special revenue funds are used to account for the proceeds of specific revenue sources that are restricted or committed to expenditure for specified purposes. The Agency's special revenue funds include the School Service and the Student Activities funds. The main sources of revenue for the School Service Fund are food sales to students and grants from the state and federal governments. Revenue sources for the Student Activities Fund include fundraising revenue and donations earned and received by student groups. Any operating deficit generated by these activities is the responsibility of the General Fund.

Proprietary Funds

The Agency's Internal Service Fund is used to account for the self-insured benefits. Costs are charged to the other funds on a cost-reimbursement basis.

Interfund Activity

During the course of operations, the Agency has activity between funds for various purposes. Any residual balances outstanding at year end are reported as due from/to other funds and advances to/from other funds. While these balances are reported in fund financial statements, certain eliminations are made in the preparation of the government-wide financial statements. Balances between the funds included in governmental activities (i.e., the governmental and internal service funds) are eliminated so that only the net amount is included as internal balances in the governmental activities column.

Furthermore, certain activity occurs during the year involving transfers of resources between funds. In fund financial statements, these amounts are reported at gross amounts as transfers in/out. While reported in fund financial statements, certain eliminations are made in the preparation of the government-wide financial statements. Transfers between the funds included in governmental activities are eliminated so that only the net amount is included as transfers in the governmental activities column.

Basis of Accounting

The governmental funds use the current financial resources measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting. This basis of accounting is intended to better demonstrate accountability for how the government has spent its resources.

Expenditures are reported when the goods are received or the services are rendered. Capital outlays are reported as expenditures (rather than as capital assets) because they reduce the ability to spend resources in the future; conversely, employee benefit costs that will be funded in the future (such as pension and retiree health care-related costs or sick and vacation pay) are not counted until they come due for payment. In addition, debt service expenditures, claims, and judgments are recorded only when payment is due.

Revenue is not recognized until it is collected or collected soon enough after the end of the year that it is available to pay for obligations outstanding at the end of the year. For this purpose, the Agency considers amounts collected within 60 days of year end to be available for recognition. Revenue not meeting this definition is classified as a deferred inflow of resources.

Proprietary funds use the economic resources measurement focus and the full accrual basis of accounting. Revenue is recorded when earned, and expenses are recorded when a liability is incurred, regardless of the timing of related cash flows.

Note 2 - Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

Specific Balances and Transactions

Cash and Investments

Cash and investments include cash on hand, demand deposits, and short-term investments with a maturity of three months or less when acquired. Investments are stated at fair value except for the investment in MILAF MAX Class, which is valued at amortized cost. Pooled investment income from the General Fund and Special Education Fund is generally allocated to each fund using a weighted average of balance for the principal.

Inventories

Inventories are valued at cost on a first-in, first-out basis. Inventories of governmental funds are recorded as expenditures when consumed rather than when purchased.

Capital Assets

Capital assets, which include land, buildings, equipment, and vehicles, are reported in the applicable column in the government-wide financial statements. Capital assets are defined by the Agency as assets with an initial individual cost of more than \$5,000 and an estimated useful life in excess of one year. Such assets are recorded at historical cost or estimated historical cost if purchased or constructed. Donated capital assets are recorded at estimated acquisition value at the date of donation. Costs of normal repair and maintenance that do not add to the value or materially extend asset life are not capitalized. The Agency does not have infrastructure-type assets.

Buildings, building additions, furniture, and other equipment are depreciated using the straight-line method over the following useful lives:

	<u>Depreciable Life</u>
Building and building additions	15 to 50 years
Furniture and other equipment	5 to 10 years

Long-term Obligations

In the government-wide financial statements, long-term debt and other long-term obligations are reported as liabilities in the statement of net position.

Deferred Outflows/Inflows of Resources

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

The Agency reports deferred outflows related to deferred pension and OPEB costs.

In addition to liabilities, the statement of net position and/or balance sheet will sometimes report a separate section for deferred inflows of resources. This separate financial statement element represents an acquisition of net position that applies to future periods and will not be recognized as an inflow of resources (revenue) until that time.

The Agency reports deferred inflows related to revenue in support of pension contributions made subsequent to the measurement date and deferred pension and OPEB costs.

Note 2 - Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

Net Position

Net position of the Agency is classified in two components. Net investment in capital assets consists of capital assets net of accumulated depreciation and is reduced by the current balances of any outstanding borrowings used to finance the purchase or construction of those assets. Unrestricted net position is the remaining net position that does not meet the definition of invested in capital.

Net Position Flow Assumption

The Agency will sometimes fund outlays for a particular purpose from both restricted and unrestricted resources. In order to calculate the amounts to report as restricted net position and unrestricted net position in the government-wide financial statements, a flow assumption must be made about the order in which the resources are considered to be applied. It is the Agency's policy to consider restricted net position to have been depleted before unrestricted net position is applied.

Fund Balance Flow Assumptions

The Agency will sometimes fund outlays for a particular purpose from both restricted and unrestricted resources (the total of committed, assigned, and unassigned fund balance). In order to calculate the amounts to report as restricted, committed, assigned, and unassigned fund balance in the governmental fund financial statements, a flow assumption must be made about the order in which the resources are considered to be applied. It is the Agency's policy to consider restricted fund balance to have been depleted before using any of the components of unrestricted fund balance. Furthermore, when the components of unrestricted fund balance can be used for the same purpose, committed fund balance is depleted first, followed by assigned fund balance. Unassigned fund balance is applied last.

Fund Balance Policies

Fund balance of governmental funds is reported in various categories based on the nature of any limitations requiring the use of resources for specific purposes. The Agency itself can establish limitations on the use of resources through either a commitment (committed fund balance) or an assignment (assigned fund balance).

The committed fund balance classification includes amounts that can be used only for the specific purposes determined by a formal action of the Agency's highest level of decision-making authority. The Board of Education is the highest level of decision-making authority for the Agency that can, by adoption of a resolution prior to the end of the fiscal year, commit fund balance. Once adopted, the limitation imposed by the resolution remains in place until a similar action is taken (the adoption of another resolution) to remove or revise the limitation.

Amounts in the assigned fund balance classification are intended to be used by the Agency for specific purposes but do not meet the criteria to be classified as committed. The Agency has by resolution authorized the superintendent and assistant superintendent to assign fund balance. The Board of Education may also assign fund balance as it does when appropriating fund balance to cover a gap between estimated revenue and appropriations in the subsequent year's appropriated budget. Unlike commitments, assignments generally exist only temporarily. In other words, an additional action does not normally have to be taken for the removal of an assignment. Conversely, as discussed above, an additional action is essential to either remove or revise a commitment.

Property Tax Revenue

Properties are assessed as of December 31, and the related property taxes become a lien on July 1 of the following year. Tax collections are forwarded to the Agency as collected by the assessing municipalities through March 1, at which time they are considered delinquent and added to county tax rolls. Any delinquent taxes collected by the county are remitted to the Agency by June 30. The Agency considers all receivables to be fully collectible; accordingly, no allowance for uncollectible amounts is recorded.

Note 2 - Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

Grants and Contributions

The Agency receives federal, state, and local grants, as well as contributions from individuals and private organizations. Revenue from grants and contributions (including contributions of capital assets) is recognized when all eligibility requirements, including time requirements, are met. Grants and contributions may be restricted for either specific operating purposes or for capital purposes. Amounts that are unrestricted or that are restricted to a specific operating purpose are reported as nonoperating revenue. Amounts restricted to capital acquisitions are reported after nonoperating revenue and expenses.

Pension and Other Postemployment Benefit (OPEB) Plans

For the purpose of measuring the net pension and net OPEB liabilities, deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to each plan, and pension and OPEB expense, information about the fiduciary net position of the Michigan Public School Employees' Retirement System (MPERS) and additions to/deductions from the MPERS fiduciary net position have been determined on the same basis as they are reported by MPERS. MPERS uses the economic resources measurement focus and the full accrual basis of accounting. Contribution revenue is recorded as contributions are due, pursuant to legal requirements. Benefit payments (including refunds of employee contributions) are recognized as expenses when due and payable in accordance with the plan benefit terms. Related plan investments are reported at fair value.

Compensated Absences

The liability for compensated absences reported in the government-wide statements consists of earned but unused accumulated vacation pay. A liability for this amount is reported in governmental funds as it comes due for payment. The liability has been calculated using the vesting method, in which leave amounts for both employees who are currently eligible to receive termination payments at normal retirement age and other employees who are expected to become eligible in the future to receive such payments upon normal retirement are included.

Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenue and expenses during the period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Upcoming Accounting Pronouncement

In June 2022, the Governmental Accounting Standards Board issued Statement No. 101, *Compensated Absences*, which updates the recognition and measurement guidance for compensated absences under a unified model. This statement requires that liabilities for compensated absences be recognized for leave that has not been used and leave that has been used but not yet paid in cash or settled through noncash means and establishes guidance for measuring a liability for leave that has not been used. It also updates disclosure requirements for compensated absences. The provisions of this statement are effective for the Agency's financial statements for the year ending June 30, 2025.

Subsequent Events

The financial statements and related disclosures include evaluation of events up through and including October 23, 2023, which is the date the financial statements were available to be issued.

Note 3 - Stewardship, Compliance, and Accountability

Budgetary Information

Annual budgets are adopted on a basis consistent with generally accepted accounting principles and state law for the General Fund and all special revenue funds. All annual appropriations lapse at fiscal year end. The budget document presents information by program. The legal level of budgetary control adopted by the governing body (i.e., the level at which expenditures may not legally exceed appropriations) is the program level. State law requires the Agency to have its budget in place by July 1. Expenditures in excess of amounts budgeted are a violation of Michigan law. State law permits districts to amend their budgets during the year. During the year, the budget was amended in a legally permissible manner.

Encumbrance accounting is employed in governmental funds. Encumbrances (e.g., purchase orders and contracts) are not tracked during the year. Budget appropriations are considered to be spent once the goods are delivered or the services rendered.

Excess of Expenditures Over Appropriations in Budgeted Funds

During the year, the Agency incurred expenditures that were in excess of the amounts budgeted, as follows:

	Budget	Actual
General Fund - Transfers out	\$ -	\$ 75,000
Special Education Fund - Blossomland Learning Center	8,226,810	8,761,881
Special Education Fund - Lighthouse	7,964,769	8,113,297
Special Education Fund - Juvenile Center	715,948	780,318
Special Education Fund - Transportation Center	3,602,900	4,080,192
Special Education Fund - Transfers out	-	400,000

Note 4 - Deposits and Investments

State statutes and the Agency's investment policy authorize the Agency to make deposits in the accounts of federally insured banks, credit unions, and savings and loan associations that have offices in Michigan. The Agency is allowed to invest in U.S. Treasury or agency obligations, U.S. government repurchase agreements, bankers' acceptances, certificates of deposit, commercial paper rated prime at the time of purchase that matures no more than 270 days after the date of purchase, mutual funds, and investment pools that are composed of authorized investment vehicles. The Agency's deposits are in accordance with statutory authority.

The Agency has designated three financial institutions for the deposit of its funds.

There are no limitations or restrictions on participant withdrawals for the investment pools that are recorded at amortized cost except for a 14-day redemption limitation on MILAF MAX Class funds.

The Agency's cash and investments are subject to several types of risk, which are examined in more detail below:

Custodial Credit Risk of Bank Deposits

Custodial credit risk is the risk that, in the event of a bank failure, the Agency's deposits may not be returned to it. The Agency's investment policy requires that financial institutions be evaluated and only those with an acceptable risk level be used for the Agency's deposits for custodial credit risk. At year end, the Agency had bank deposits of approximately \$11,866,000 (certificates of deposit and checking and savings accounts) that were uninsured and uncollateralized. The Agency believes that, due to the dollar amounts of cash deposits and the limits of FDIC insurance, it is impractical to insure all deposits.

Note 4 - Deposits and Investments (Continued)

Custodial Credit Risk of Investments

Custodial credit risk is the risk that, in the event of the failure of the counterparty, the Agency will not be able to recover the value of its investments or collateral securities that are in the possession of an outside party. The Agency's investment policy states that risk will be minimized by diversifying the investment portfolio so that the impact of potential losses from any one type of security or issuer will be minimized. At June 30, 2023, the Agency does not have investments with custodial credit risk.

Interest Rate Risk

Interest rate risk is the risk that the value of investments will decrease as a result of a rise in interest rates. The Agency's investment policy does not restrict investment maturities other than commercial paper, which can only be purchased with a 270-day maturity. The Agency's policy minimized interest rate risk by requiring the structuring of the investment portfolio so that securities mature to meet cash requirements for ongoing operations, thereby avoiding the need to sell securities in the open market, and investing operating funds primarily in shorter-term securities, liquid asset funds, money market mutual funds, or similar investment pools and limiting the average maturity in accordance with the Agency's cash requirements.

Credit Risk

State law limits investments in commercial paper to the top two ratings issued by nationally recognized statistical rating organizations. The Agency's investment policy does not further limit its investment choices.

At year end, the investments and their credit quality ratings are as follows:

Investment	Fair Value	Rating	Rating Organization
Michigan Liquid Asset Fund - MAX Class	\$ 11,251,523	AAAm	S&P

Concentration of Credit Risk

The Agency places no limit on the amount the Agency may invest in any one issuer. The Agency's policy minimized concentration of credit risk by requiring diversification of the investment portfolio so that the impact of potential losses from any one type of security or issuer will be minimized.

Foreign Currency Risk

Foreign currency risk is the risk that an investment denominated in the currency of a foreign country could reduce its U.S. dollar value as a result of changes in foreign currency exchange rates. State law and the Agency's investment policy prohibit investments in foreign currency.

Note 5 - Unavailable/Unearned Revenue

Governmental funds report unavailable revenue in connection with receivables for revenue that is not considered to be available to liquidate liabilities of the current period. Governmental funds also report unearned revenue recognition in connection with resources that have been received but not yet earned.

At June 30, 2023, the Agency had no unavailable revenue and \$2,713,566 of unearned revenue related to grant and categorical aid payment received prior to meeting all eligibility requirements.

June 30, 2023

Note 6 - Capital Assets

Capital asset activity of the Agency's governmental activities was as follows:

Governmental Activities

	Balance July 1, 2022	Reclassifications	Additions	Disposals	Balance June 30, 2023
Capital assets not being depreciated:					
Land	\$ 237,753	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 237,753
Construction in progress	2,069,437	(1,959,185)	290,892	-	401,144
Subtotal	2,307,190	(1,959,185)	290,892	-	638,897
Capital assets being depreciated:					
Facility - Administration Center	5,046,447	-	-	-	5,046,447
Facility - Blossomland Learning Center	17,876,727	1,959,185	1,439,504	-	21,275,416
Facility - Lighthouse Education Center	4,110,603	-	-	-	4,110,603
Facility - Building Trades Center	402,422	-	-	-	402,422
Facility - Transportation Center	1,571,905	-	-	-	1,571,905
Furniture and equipment	1,992,026	-	-	-	1,992,026
Subtotal	31,000,130	1,959,185	1,439,504	-	34,398,819
Accumulated depreciation:					
Facility - Administration Center	3,614,546	-	105,175	-	3,719,721
Facility - Blossomland Learning Center	4,945,509	-	459,603	-	5,405,112
Facility - Lighthouse Education Center	1,669,279	-	86,394	-	1,755,673
Facility - Building Trades Center	152,919	-	8,049	-	160,968
Facility - Transportation Center	723,022	-	36,858	-	759,880
Furniture and equipment	1,973,115	-	5,036	-	1,978,151
Subtotal	13,078,390	-	701,115	-	13,779,505
Net capital assets being depreciated	17,921,740	1,959,185	738,389	-	20,619,314
Net governmental activities capital assets	<u>\$ 20,228,930</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 1,029,281</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 21,258,211</u>

Depreciation expense was not charged to activities, as the Agency's assets benefit multiple activities, and allocation is impractical.

Note 7 - Interfund Receivables, Payables, and Transfers

The composition of interfund balances is as follows:

Fund Due To	Fund Due From		
	General Fund	Special Education Fund	Total
Internal Service Fund	\$ 48,300	\$ 1,613,631	\$ 1,661,931
School Service Fund	18,919	-	18,919
Total	\$ 67,219	\$ 1,613,631	\$ 1,680,850

The Internal Service Fund interfund receivables from the General Fund and Special Education Fund relate to services provided by the Internal Service Fund.

Interfund transfers reported in the fund financial statements are composed of the following:

Paying Fund (Transfer Out)	Receiving Fund (Transfer In)	Amount
Special Education Fund	General Fund	\$ 400,000
General Fund	School Services Fund	75,000

The transfer to the General Fund was for indirect costs for operating the special education programs. The operating transfer to the School Services Fund was made to cover the costs of agency programs that were in excess of revenue generated from those activities.

Note 8 - Long-term Liabilities

Long-term liability activity for the year ended June 30, 2023 can be summarized as follows:

	Beginning Balance	Additions	Reductions	Ending Balance	Due within One Year
Compensated absences	\$ 163,068	\$ 74,442	\$ -	\$ 237,510	\$ -
Self-insurance estimated liability	171,906	4,458,391	(4,460,297)	170,000	170,000
Total governmental activities	\$ 334,974	\$ 4,532,833	\$ (4,460,297)	\$ 407,510	\$ 170,000

Compensated absences attributable to the governmental activities will be liquidated primarily by the General Fund. The self-insurance estimated liability will generally be liquidated through the Agency's Internal Service Fund.

Note 9 - Risk Management

The Agency is exposed to various risks of loss related to property loss, torts, errors and omissions, and employee injuries (workers' compensation), as well as medical benefits, dental, and optical provided to employees. The Agency has purchased commercial insurance for general liability, property/casualty, and errors and omissions claims. The Agency participates in the SET-SEG (risk pool) for claims relating to workers' compensation. The Agency is partially insured for medical claims. For the year ended June 30, 2023, the Agency was uninsured for medical claims up to \$110,000 individually and \$4,747,099 in the aggregate. Settled claims relating to the commercial insurance have not exceeded the amount of insurance coverage in any of the past three fiscal years.

The shared-risk pool program in which the Agency participates operates as a common risk-sharing management program for school districts in Michigan; member premiums are used to purchase commercial excess insurance coverage and to pay member claims in excess of deductible amounts.

Note 9 - Risk Management (Continued)

The Agency estimates the liability for claims that have been incurred through the end of the fiscal year, including claims that have been reported and those that have not yet been reported. Changes in the estimated liability for the past two fiscal years were as follows:

	2023	2022
Estimated liability - Beginning of year	\$ 171,906	\$ 170,000
Estimated claims incurred, including changes in estimates	4,458,391	3,749,444
Claim payments	(4,460,297)	(3,747,538)
Estimated liability - End of year	<u>\$ 170,000</u>	<u>\$ 171,906</u>

Note 10 - Michigan Public School Employees' Retirement System

Plan Description

The Agency participates in the Michigan Public School Employees' Retirement System (the "System"), a statewide, cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit public employee retirement system governed by the State of Michigan that covers substantially all employees of the Agency. Certain agency employees also receive defined contribution retirement and health care benefits through the System. The System provides retirement, survivor, and disability benefits to plan members and their beneficiaries. The System also provides postemployment health care benefits to retirees and beneficiaries who elect to receive those benefits.

The System is administered by the Office of Retirement Services (ORS). The Michigan Public School Employees' Retirement System issues a publicly available financial report that includes financial statements and required supplemental information for the pension and postemployment health care plans. That report is available on the web at <http://www.michigan.gov/orsschools>.

Benefits Provided

Benefit provisions of the defined benefit (DB) pension plan and the postemployment health care plan are established by state statute, which may be amended. Public Act 300 of 1980, as amended, establishes eligibility and benefit provisions for the defined benefit pension plan and the postemployment health care plan.

Depending on the plan option selected, member retirement benefits are calculated as final average compensation times years of services times a pension factor ranging from 1.25 percent to 1.50 percent. The requirements to retire range from attaining the age of 46 to 60 with years of service ranging from 5 to 30 years, depending on when the employee became a member. Early retirement is computed in the same manner as a regular pension but is permanently reduced by 0.50 percent for each full and partial month between the pension effective date and the date the member will attain age 60. There is no mandatory retirement age.

Depending on the member's date of hire, MPERS offers the option of participating in the defined contribution (DC) plan that provides a 50 percent employer match (up to 3 percent of salary) on employee contributions.

Members are eligible for nonduty disability benefits after 10 years of service and for duty-related disability benefits upon hire. Disability retirement benefits are determined in the same manner as retirement benefits but are payable immediately without an actuarial reduction. The disability benefits plus authorized outside earnings are limited to 100 percent of the participant's final average compensation, with an increase of 2 percent each year thereafter.

Benefits may transfer to a beneficiary upon death and are determined in the same manner as retirement benefits but with an actuarial reduction.

Note 10 - Michigan Public School Employees' Retirement System (Continued)

Benefit terms provide for annual cost of living adjustments to each employee's retirement allowance subsequent to the employee's retirement date. The annual adjustment, if applicable, is 3 percent. Some members who do not receive an annual increase are eligible to receive a supplemental payment in those years when investment earnings exceed actuarial assumptions.

MPSERS provides medical, prescription drug, dental, and vision coverage for retirees and beneficiaries. A subsidized portion of the premium is paid by MPSERS, with the balance deducted from the monthly pension of each retiree health care recipient. Depending on the member's date of hire, this subsidized portion ranges from 80 percent to the maximum allowed by the statute.

Contributions

Public Act 300 of 1980, as amended, required the Agency to contribute amounts necessary to finance the coverage of pension benefits of active and retired members. Contribution provisions are specified by state statute and may be amended only by action of the state Legislature. Under these provisions, each school district's contribution is expected to finance the costs of benefits earned by employees during the year, with an additional amount to finance a portion of the unfunded accrued liability.

Under the OPEB plan, retirees electing this coverage contribute an amount equivalent to the monthly cost for Part B Medicare and 10 percent, or 20 percent for those not Medicare eligible, of the monthly premium amount for the health, dental, and vision coverage at the time of receiving the benefits. The MPSERS board of trustees annually sets the employer contribution rate to fund the benefits. Participating employers are required to contribute at that rate.

Under Public Act 300 of 2012, members were given the choice between continuing the 3 percent contribution to the retiree health care and keeping the premium subsidy benefit described above or choosing not to pay the 3 percent contribution and, instead, opting out of the subsidy benefit and becoming participants in the Personal Healthcare Fund (PHF), a portable tax-deferred fund that can be used to pay health care expenses in retirement. Participants in the PHF are automatically enrolled in a 2 percent employee contribution into their 457 accounts as of their transition date, earning them a 2 percent employer match into their 401(k) accounts. Members who selected this option stopped paying the 3 percent contribution to retiree health care as of the day before their transition date, and their prior contributions were deposited into their 401(k) accounts.

The Agency's contributions are determined based on employee elections. There are multiple different pension and health care benefit options included in the plan available to employees based on date of hire and the elections available at that time. Contribution rates are adjusted annually by the ORS.

The ranges of rates are as follows:

	Pension	OPEB
October 1, 2021 - September 30, 2022	13.73% - 20.14%	7.23% - 8.09%
October 1, 2022 - September 30, 2023	13.75% - 20.16%	7.21% - 8.07%

Depending on the plan selected, member pension contributions range from 0 percent up to 7.0 percent of gross wages. For certain plan members, a 4 percent employer contribution to the defined contribution pension plan is required. In addition, for certain plan members, a 3 percent employer match is provided to the defined contribution pension plan.

The Agency's required and actual pension contributions to the plan for the year ended June 30, 2023 were \$9,117,030, which includes the Agency's contributions required for those members with a defined contribution benefit. For the year ended June 30, 2023, the Agency's required and actual pensions contributions include an allocation of \$1,919,306 in revenue received from the State of Michigan and remitted to the System to fund the MPSERS unfunded actuarial accrued liability (UAAL) stabilization rate as well as \$3,295,579 of a one-time state payment received and remitted to the System for the purpose of contributing additional assets to the System.

Note 10 - Michigan Public School Employees' Retirement System (Continued)

The Agency's required and actual OPEB contributions to the plan for the year ended June 30, 2023 were \$1,657,248, which includes the Agency's contributions required for those members with a defined contribution benefit.

Net Pension Liability

At June 30, 2023, the Agency reported a liability of \$70,809,546 for its proportionate share of the net pension liability. The net pension liability was measured as of September 30, 2022, and the total pension liability used to calculate the net pension liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of September 30, 2021, which used update procedures to roll forward the estimated liability to September 30, 2022. The Agency's proportion of the net pension liability was based on a projection of its long-term share of contributions to the pension plan relative to the projected contributions of all participating reporting units, actuarially determined. At September 30, 2022 and 2021, the Agency's proportion was 0.18828 and 0.18500 percent, respectively, representing a change of 1.77 percent.

Net OPEB Liability

At June 30, 2023, the Agency reported a liability of \$4,034,487 for its proportionate share of the net OPEB liability. The net OPEB liability for fiscal year 2023 was measured as of September 30, 2022, and the total OPEB liability used to calculate the net OPEB liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of September 30, 2021, which used update procedures to roll forward the estimated liability to September 30, 2022. The Agency's proportion of the net OPEB liability was based on a projection of its long-term share of contributions to the OPEB plan relative to the projected contributions of all participating reporting units, actuarially determined. At September 30, 2022 and 2021, the Agency's proportion was 0.19048 and 0.18436 percent, respectively, representing a change of 3.32 percent.

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

For 2023, the Agency recognized pension expense of \$9,023,543, inclusive of payments to fund the MPSERS UAAL stabilization rate. At June 30, 2023, the Agency reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions from the following sources:

	Deferred Outflows of Resources	Deferred Inflows of Resources
Difference between expected and actual experience	\$ 708,343	\$ (158,323)
Changes in assumptions	12,167,617	-
Net difference between projected and actual earnings on pension plan investments	166,048	-
Changes in proportion and differences between the Agency's contributions and proportionate share of contributions	904,376	(477,734)
The Agency's contributions to the plan subsequent to the measurement date	7,937,722	-
Total	<u>\$ 21,884,106</u>	<u>\$ (636,057)</u>

Note 10 - Michigan Public School Employees' Retirement System (Continued)

The \$5,214,884 reported as deferred inflows of resources resulting from the pension portion of state aid payments received pursuant to the UAAL payment will be recognized as state appropriations revenue for the year ending June 30, 2024. Amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions will be recognized in pension expense as follows:

Years Ending	Amount
2024	\$ 3,886,313
2025	2,808,244
2026	2,474,932
2027	4,140,838
Total	<u>\$ 13,310,327</u>

In addition, the contributions subsequent to the measurement date will be included as a reduction of the net pension liability in the next year.

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

For the year ended June 30, 2023, the Agency recognized OPEB recovery of \$1,414,155.

At June 30, 2023, the Agency reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB from the following sources:

	Deferred Outflows of Resources	Deferred Inflows of Resources
Difference between expected and actual experience	\$ -	\$ (7,902,014)
Changes in assumptions	3,596,067	(292,812)
Net difference between projected and actual earnings on OPEB plan investments	315,327	-
Changes in proportionate share or difference between amount contributed and proportionate share of contributions	471,564	(258,995)
Employer contributions to the plan subsequent to the measurement date	1,126,237	-
Total	<u>\$ 5,509,195</u>	<u>\$ (8,453,821)</u>

Amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB will be recognized in OPEB expense as follows (note that employer contributions subsequent to the measurement date will reduce the net OPEB liability and, therefore, will not be included in future OPEB expense):

Years Ending	Amount
2024	\$ (1,406,304)
2025	(1,316,794)
2026	(1,222,742)
2027	(104,685)
2028	(32,061)
Thereafter	11,723
Total	<u>\$ (4,070,863)</u>

Note 10 - Michigan Public School Employees' Retirement System (Continued)

Actuarial Assumptions

The total pension liability and total OPEB liability as of September 30, 2022 are based on the results of an actuarial valuation as of September 30, 2021 and rolled forward. The total pension liability and OPEB liability were determined using the following actuarial assumptions:

Actuarial cost method		Entry age normal
Investment rate of return - Pension	6.00%	Net of investment expenses based on the groups
Investment rate of return - OPEB	6.00%	Net of investment expenses based on the groups
Salary increases	2.75% - 11.55%	Including wage inflation of 2.75%
Health care cost trend rate - OPEB	5.25% - 7.75%	Year 1 graded to 3.5% in year 15, 3.0% in year 120
Mortality basis		RP-2014 Male and Female Employee Annuitant Mortality tables, scaled 100% (retirees: 82% for males and 78% for females) and adjusted for mortality improvements using projection scale MP-2017 from 2006
Cost of living pension adjustments	3.00%	Annual noncompounded for MIP members

Assumption changes as a result of an experience study for the periods from 2012 to 2017 have been adopted by the System for use in the annual pension and OPEB valuations beginning with the September 30, 2018 valuation.

Significant assumption changes since the prior measurement date, September 30, 2021, for the pension and OPEB plan include a decrease in the discount rate used in the September 30, 2022 measurement date by 0.80 percentage points in the pension plan and 0.95 percentage points in the OPEB plan. The investment rate of return used in the September 30, 2022 measurement date decreased by 0.80 percentage points in the pension plan and 0.95 percentage points in the OPEB plan. There were no significant benefit terms changes for the pension or OPEB plans since the prior measurement date of September 30, 2021.

Discount Rate

The discount rate used to measure the total pension and OPEB liability was 6.00 percent as of September 30, 2022. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed that employee contributions will be made at the current contribution rate and that district contributions will be made at statutorily required rates.

Based on those assumptions, the pension plan's fiduciary net position and the OPEB plan's fiduciary net position were projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments of current active and inactive employees. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on pension plan and OPEB plan investments was applied to all periods of projected benefit payments to determine the total pension liability and total OPEB liability.

June 30, 2023

Note 10 - Michigan Public School Employees' Retirement System (Continued)

The long-term expected rate of return on pension plan and OPEB plan investments was determined using a building-block method in which best-estimate ranges of expected future real rates of return (expected returns, net of 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 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
Domestic equity pools	25.00 %	5.10 %
Private equity pools	16.00	8.70
International equity pools	15.00	6.70
Fixed-income pools	13.00	(0.20)
Real estate and infrastructure pools	10.00	5.30
Absolute return pools	9.00	2.70
Real return/opportunistic pools	10.00	5.80
Short-term investment pools	2.00	(0.50)
Total	100.00 %	

Long-term rates of return are net of administrative expense and inflation of 2.2 percent.

Sensitivity of the Net Pension Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate

The following presents the net pension liability of the Agency, calculated using the discount rate depending on the plan option. The following also reflects what the Agency's net pension liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1 percentage point lower or 1 percentage point higher than the current rate:

	1 Percentage Point Decrease (5.00%)	Current Discount Rate (6.00%)	1 Percentage Point Increase (7.00%)
Net pension liability of the Agency	\$ 93,442,295	\$ 70,809,546	\$ 52,159,142

Sensitivity of the Net OPEB Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate

The following presents the net OPEB liability of the Agency, calculated using the current discount rate. It also reflects what the Agency's net OPEB liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1 percentage point lower or 1 percentage point higher than the current rate:

	1 Percentage Point Decrease (5.00%)	Current Discount Rate (6.00%)	1 Percentage Point Increase (7.00%)
Net OPEB liability of the Agency	\$ 6,767,463	\$ 4,034,487	\$ 1,732,981

June 30, 2023

Note 10 - Michigan Public School Employees' Retirement System (Continued)

Sensitivity of the Net OPEB Liability to Changes in the Health Care Cost Trend Rate

The following presents the net OPEB liability of the Agency, calculated using the current health care cost trend rate. It also reflects what the Agency's net OPEB liability would be if it were calculated using a health care cost trend rate that is 1 percentage point lower or 1 percentage point higher than the current rate:

	1 Percentage Point Decrease	Current Rate	1 Percentage Point Increase
Net OPEB liability of the Agency	\$ 1,689,450	\$ 4,034,487	\$ 6,666,837

Pension Plan and OPEB Plan Fiduciary Net Position

Detailed information about the plan's fiduciary net position is available in the separately issued MPSERS financial report.

Payable to the Pension Plan and OPEB Plan

At June 30, 2023, the Agency reported a payable of \$1,362,437 and \$171,551 for the outstanding amount of contributions to the pension plan and OPEB plan, respectively, required for the year ended June 30, 2023.

Note 11 - Restricted Fund Balance

The Special Education Fund fund balance is restricted. Identified uses of the fund balance at June 30, 2023 include the following:

Administration Center improvements	\$ 50,000
Lighthouse Education Center and other capital improvements	1,784,000
Blossomland improvements	230,000
Health and medical	750,000
Projected Tax Tribunal revenue reduction	1,488,000
Special education - General	9,249,055
Total	\$ 13,551,055

Note 12 - Tax Abatements

The Agency receives reduced property tax revenue as a result of industrial facilities tax exemptions (PA 198 of 1974) and brownfield redevelopment agreements granted by cities, villages, and townships within the boundaries of the Agency. Industrial facility exemptions are intended to promote construction of new industrial facilities or to rehabilitate historical facilities; brownfield redevelopment agreements are intended to reimburse taxpayers that remediate environmental contamination on their properties.

For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2023, the Agency's property tax revenue was reduced by \$243,000 under these programs.

The Agency is reimbursed for lost revenue caused by tax abatements on the operating millage of nonhomestead properties from the State of Michigan under the School Aid formula. The Agency received approximately \$225,000 in reimbursements from the State of Michigan. There are no abatements made by the Agency.

Required Supplementary Information

Berrien Regional Education Service Agency

Required Supplementary Information Budgetary Comparison Schedule - General Fund

Year Ended June 30, 2023

	<u>Original Budget</u>	<u>Final Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Over (Under) Final Budget</u>
Revenue				
Local sources	\$ 2,686,243	\$ 3,949,030	\$ 4,184,313	\$ 235,283
State sources	10,129,485	11,358,153	10,639,970	(718,183)
Federal sources	2,245,000	2,515,958	2,129,557	(386,401)
Governmental - Intergovernmental	1,120,000	799,963	888,468	88,505
Total revenue	16,180,728	18,623,104	17,842,308	(780,796)
Expenditures - Administration center	16,807,550	18,962,920	17,871,357	(1,091,563)
Excess of Expenditures Over Revenue	(626,822)	(339,816)	(29,049)	310,767
Other Financing Sources (Uses)				
Transfers in	379,000	379,000	400,000	21,000
Transfers out	-	-	(75,000)	(75,000)
Total other financing sources	379,000	379,000	325,000	(54,000)
Net Change in Fund Balance	(247,822)	39,184	295,951	256,767
Fund Balance - Beginning of year	4,032,138	4,032,138	4,032,138	-
Fund Balance - End of year	<u><u>\$ 3,784,316</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 4,071,322</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 4,328,089</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 256,767</u></u>

Berrien Regional Education Service Agency

Required Supplementary Information Budgetary Comparison Schedule - Special Revenue Fund Special Education Fund

Year Ended June 30, 2023

	Original Budget	Final Budget	Actual	Over (Under) Final Budget
Revenue				
Local sources	\$ 22,935,261	\$ 22,892,431	\$ 24,794,426	\$ 1,901,995
State sources	12,041,755	14,675,883	15,640,497	964,614
Federal sources	8,020,000	8,687,194	8,760,343	73,149
Interdistrict sources	300,000	417,213	536,150	118,937
Total revenue	43,297,016	46,672,721	49,731,416	3,058,695
Expenditures				
Administration Center	22,252,415	22,443,065	22,186,885	(256,180)
Blossomland Learning Center	7,929,459	8,226,810	8,761,881	535,071
Lighthouse Education Center	7,554,374	7,964,769	8,113,297	148,528
Juvenile Center	737,542	715,948	780,318	64,370
Transportation Center	3,576,500	3,602,900	4,080,192	477,292
Capital outlay	1,750,000	1,468,136	1,848,266	380,130
Total expenditures	43,800,290	44,421,628	45,770,839	1,349,211
Excess of Revenue (Under) Over Expenditures	(503,274)	2,251,093	3,960,577	1,709,484
Other Financing Uses - Transfers out	-	-	(400,000)	(400,000)
Net Change in Fund Balance	(503,274)	2,251,093	3,560,577	1,309,484
Fund Balance - Beginning of year	9,996,538	9,996,538	9,996,538	-
Fund Balance - End of year	\$ 9,493,264	\$ 12,247,631	\$ 13,557,115	\$ 1,309,484

Berrien Regional Education Service Agency

Required Supplementary Information Schedule of the Agency's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability Michigan Public School Employees' Retirement System

	Last Nine Plan Years								
	Plan Years Ended September 30								
	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014
Agency's proportion of the net pension liability	0.18828 %	0.18500 %	0.18708 %	0.18647 %	0.18289 %	0.17896 %	0.16990 %	0.16345 %	0.15322 %
Agency's proportionate share of the net pension liability	\$ 70,809,546	\$ 43,800,190	\$ 64,263,617	\$ 61,751,982	\$ 54,978,743	\$ 46,375,410	\$ 42,389,501	\$ 39,921,795	\$ 33,748,120
Agency's covered payroll	\$ 18,667,845	\$ 16,786,257	\$ 16,778,820	\$ 16,517,941	\$ 15,811,809	\$ 15,281,976	\$ 15,187,371	\$ 14,117,197	\$ 12,961,515
Agency's proportionate share of the net pension liability as a percentage of its covered payroll	379.31 %	260.93 %	383.00 %	373.85 %	347.71 %	303.46 %	279.11 %	282.79 %	260.37 %
Plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of total pension liability	60.77 %	72.32 %	59.49 %	60.08 %	62.12 %	63.96 %	63.01 %	62.92 %	66.20 %

Berrien Regional Education Service Agency

Required Supplementary Information Schedule of Pension Contributions Michigan Public School Employees' Retirement System

	Last Nine Fiscal Years Years Ended June 30								
	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
Statutorily required contribution	\$ 8,844,389	\$ 6,458,776	\$ 5,671,320	\$ 5,277,914	\$ 5,003,553	\$ 4,691,250	\$ 4,228,693	\$ 3,879,929	\$ 2,990,222
Contributions in relation to the statutorily required contribution	8,844,389	6,458,776	5,671,320	5,277,914	5,003,553	4,691,250	4,228,693	3,879,929	2,990,222
Contribution Deficiency	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Agency's Covered Payroll	\$ 18,910,072	\$ 17,792,755	\$ 16,465,430	\$ 16,865,158	\$ 16,387,236	\$ 15,578,389	\$ 15,227,239	\$ 14,716,984	\$ 12,961,515
Contributions as a Percentage of Covered Payroll	46.77 %	36.30 %	34.44 %	31.29 %	30.53 %	30.11 %	27.77 %	26.36 %	23.07 %

Berrien Regional Education Service Agency

Required Supplementary Information Schedule of the Agency's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability Michigan Public School Employees' Retirement System

	Last Six Plan Years					
	Plan Years Ended September 30					
	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>
Agency's proportion of the net OPEB liability	0.19048 %	0.18436 %	0.18840 %	0.18843 %	0.18528 %	0.17879 %
Agency's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability	\$ 4,034,487	\$ 2,814,084	\$ 10,093,271	\$ 13,525,352	\$ 14,728,126	\$ 15,832,879
Agency's covered payroll	\$ 18,667,845	\$ 16,786,257	\$ 16,778,820	\$ 16,517,941	\$ 15,811,809	\$ 15,281,976
Agency's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability as a percentage of its covered payroll	21.61 %	16.76 %	60.15 %	81.88 %	93.15 %	103.60 %
Plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of total OPEB liability	83.09 %	88.87 %	59.76 %	48.67 %	43.10 %	36.53 %

Berrien Regional Education Service Agency

Required Supplementary Information
Schedule of OPEB Contributions
Michigan Public School Employees' Retirement System

	Last Six Fiscal Years					
	Years Ended June 30					
	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>
Statutorily required contribution	\$ 1,502,594	\$ 1,449,967	\$ 1,370,212	\$ 1,355,217	\$ 1,287,221	\$ 1,125,184
Contributions in relation to the statutorily required contribution	<u>1,502,594</u>	<u>1,449,967</u>	<u>1,370,212</u>	<u>1,355,217</u>	<u>1,287,221</u>	<u>1,125,184</u>
Contribution Deficiency	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>
Agency's Covered Payroll	\$ 18,910,072	\$ 17,792,755	\$ 16,465,430	\$ 16,865,158	\$ 16,387,236	\$ 15,578,389
Contributions as a Percentage of Covered Payroll	7.95 %	8.15 %	8.32 %	8.04 %	7.86 %	7.22 %

June 30, 2023

Pension Information

Ultimately, 10 years of data will be presented in both of the pension-related schedules. The number of years currently presented represents the number of years since the accounting standard requiring these schedules first became applicable.

The required contributions for the year ended June 30, 2023 include a one-time contribution of \$3,295,579, referred to as 147c(2), related to funding received from the State and remitted to the System for the purpose of contributing additional assets to the System.

Benefit Changes

There were no changes of benefit terms for each of the reported plan years ended September 30.

Changes in Assumptions

There were no significant changes of assumptions for each of the reported plan years ended September 30 except for the following:

- 2021 - The discount rate and investment rate of return used in the September 30, 2021 actuarial valuation decreased by 0.80 percentage points.
- 2019 - The discount rate used in the September 30, 2018 actuarial valuation decreased by 0.25 percentage points.
- 2018 - The discount rate used in the September 30, 2017 actuarial valuation decreased by 0.45 percentage points. The valuation also includes the impact of an updated experience study for the periods from 2012 to 2017.
- 2017 - The discount rate used in the September 30, 2016 actuarial valuation decreased by 0.50 percentage points.

OPEB Information

Ultimately, 10 years of data will be presented in both of the OPEB-related schedules. The number of years currently presented represents the number of years since the accounting standard requiring these schedules first became applicable.

Benefit Changes

There were no changes of benefit terms for each of the reported plan years ended September 30.

Changes in Assumptions

There were no significant changes of assumptions for each of the reported plan years ended September 30 except for the following:

- 2022 - The discount rate and investment rate of return used in the September 30, 2021 actuarial valuation decreased by 0.95 percentage points. This resulted in lower than projected per person health benefit costs to reduce the plan's total OPEB liability by an additional \$1.1 billion in 2022.
- 2021 - The health care cost trend rate used in the September 30, 2020 actuarial valuation increased by 0.75 percentage points for members under 65 and decreased by 1.75 percentage points for members over 65. In addition, actual per person health benefit costs were lower than projected. This reduced the plan's total OPEB liability by \$1.3 billion in 2021.
- 2020 - The health care cost trend rate used in the September 30, 2019 actuarial valuation decreased by 0.50 percentage points. This, in addition to the actual per person health benefit cost being lower than projected, reduced the plan's total OPEB liability by an additional \$1.8 billion in 2020.

Berrien Regional Education Service Agency

Notes to Required Supplementary Information (Continued)

June 30, 2023

- 2019 - The discount rate used in the September 30, 2018 actuarial valuation decreased by 0.20 percentage points. The valuation also includes the impact of an updated experience study for the periods from 2012 to 2017. This resulted in a lower than projected per person health benefit cost to reduce the plan's total OPEB liability by an additional \$1.4 billion in 2019.
- 2018 - The discount rate used in the September 30, 2017 actuarial valuation decreased by 0.35 percentage points. The valuation also includes the impact of an updated experience study for the periods from 2012 to 2017. This resulted in a lower than projected per person health benefit cost to reduce the plan's total OPEB liability by \$1.4 billion in 2018.