



Financial Statements
June 30, 2023

West Fargo Public Schools

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West Fargo Public Schools
School Board and Administration List (Unaudited)
June 30, 2023

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Term Expires</u>
School Board		
Patti Stedman	President	2024
Jessica Jackson	Vice President	2026
Trisha Page	Director	2024
Dan Schaeffer	Director	2024
Jon Erickson	Director	2026
Jim Jonas	Director	2026
Jessica Jones	Director	2026
School Officials		
Beth Slette	Superintendent	
Vince Williams	Assistant Superintendent of Secondary Curriculum and Instruction	
Rachael Agre	Assistant Superintendent of Elementary Curriculum and Instruction	
Levi Bachmeier	Business Manager	
Brittnee Nikle	Human Resources Director	
Jean Luke Arel	Director of Accounting	
Alicia Severson	Board Secretary	



Independent Auditor's Report

The West Fargo School Board of
West Fargo Public Schools
West Fargo, North Dakota

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 West Fargo Public Schools ("the District"), as of and for the year ended June 30, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the District'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 the 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 (*Government Auditing Standards*). 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 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 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 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 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, schedule of employer's share of Net OPEB liability and related ratios, schedule of employer's share of Net Pension Liability and schedule of employer's contributions, budgetary comparison schedules for general fund and special reserve fund, as 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 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 District's basic financial statements. The combining fund schedules and schedule of expenditures of federal awards, as required by Title 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the basic financial statements. Such 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. The 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 combining fund schedules and the schedule of expenditures of federal awards are fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the basic financial statements as a whole.

Other Information

Management is responsible for the other information included in the annual report. The other information comprises the school board and administration list but does not include the basic financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinions on the basic financial statements do not cover the other information, and we do not express an opinion or any form of assurance thereon.

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

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated December 7, 2023, on our consideration of the 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 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 District's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Eide Sully LLP

Fargo, North Dakota
December 7, 2023

This section of Independent School District No. 6 – West Fargo Public Schools' (the District) annual financial report presents our discussion and analysis of the District's financial performance during the fiscal year that ended on June 30, 2023. Please read it in conjunction with the District's financial statements, which immediately follow this section.

Financial Highlights

Key financial highlights for the 2022-2023 fiscal year include the following:

General Fund – The overall revenues were \$183,412,589 while the overall expenditures were \$170,194,715, and net other financing uses were \$11,900,020, increasing the fund balance by \$1,317,854.

Debt Service Fund – The revenues were \$19,290,109 while the overall expenditures were \$22,283,816 and other financing sources were \$3,322,640, increasing fund balance by \$328,933.

Capital Projects Fund – The revenues were \$7,643,083 while the overall expenditures were \$22,244,700 and net other financing sources were \$8,672,219, decreasing fund balance by \$5,929,398.

Special Reserve Fund – The revenues were \$1,717,148 while the expenditures were \$0 and other financing uses were \$882,877, increasing the fund balance by \$834,271.

Food Service Fund – The revenues were \$8,934,218 while the expenditures were \$8,785,908, increasing the fund balance by \$148,310.

Co-curricular Fund – The revenues were \$458,175 while the expenditures were \$4,318,849 and other financing sources were \$3,860,674, changing the fund balance by \$0.

Overview of the Financial Statements

Government-Wide Statements

The government-wide statements report information about the District as a whole using accounting methods similar to those used by private-sector companies. The statement of net position includes all of the District's assets, deferred outflows of resources, liabilities, and deferred inflows of resources. All of the current 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 District's net position and how they have changed. Net position - the difference between the District's assets, deferred outflows of resources, liabilities, and deferred inflows of resources - is one way to measure the District's financial health or position.

Over time, increases or decreases in the District's net position is an indicator of whether its financial position is improving or deteriorating, respectively. To assess the overall health of the District you need to consider additional non-financial factors such as changes in the District's property tax base and the condition of school buildings and other facilities.

In the government-wide financial statement the District's activities are shown in one category:

Governmental Activities – All of the District's basic services are included here, such as regular and special education, transportation, administration, food service, and community education. Property taxes and state aids finance most of these activities.

Fund Financial Statements

The fund financial statements provide more detailed information about the District's funds—focusing on its most significant or “major” funds – not the District as a whole. Funds are accounting devices the District uses to keep track of specific sources of funding and spending on particular programs:

- Some funds are required by State law and by bond covenants.

- The District establishes other funds to control and manage money for particular purposes (e.g., repaying its long-term debts, building construction, food service) or to show that it is properly using revenues.

The District has two kinds of funds:

Governmental Funds – All of the District's basic services are included in governmental funds, which generally focus on (1) how cash and other financial assets that can readily be converted to cash flow in and out and (2) the balances at year-end that are available for spending. Consequently, the governmental funds statements provide a detailed short-term view that helps to determine whether there are more or fewer financial resources that can be spent in the near future to finance the District's programs. Because this information does not encompass the additional long-term focus of the district-wide statements, we provide additional information following the governmental funds statements that explains the relationship (or differences) between them.

Proprietary Fund – The District has a self-insured health plan designed as an internal service fund. The fund is used to record the premiums received, and claims paid related to the participants employed by the District's governmental funds.

Financial Analysis of the District as a Whole

Net Position

The District's combined net position was \$30,254,229 as of June 30, 2023.

Statement of Net Position
June 30, 2023 and 2022

	2023	2022
Assets		
Current and non-current assets	\$ 92,340,133	\$ 99,520,717
Capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation/amortization	386,667,484	374,239,387
Total assets	479,007,617	473,760,104
Deferred Outflows of Resources	66,693,388	44,643,347
Liabilities		
Current liabilities	14,543,942	18,764,113
Long-term liabilities	474,701,865	412,656,212
Total liabilities	489,245,807	431,420,325
Deferred Inflows of Resources	26,200,969	71,363,833
Net Position (Deficit)		
Net investment in capital assets	103,982,155	128,857,736
Restricted for specific purposes	35,921,410	40,687,604
Unrestricted	(109,649,336)	(153,926,047)
Total net position	\$ 30,254,229	\$ 15,619,293

Current assets decreased mostly due to reduced cash resulting from ongoing capital projects the District has in progress. Capital assets increased mainly as a result of completed construction and construction in progress, which showed an increase of \$22,876,909 over the previous year. The projects that were completed were the Horace High School Athletic Complex, Horace High School, Brooks Harbor Elementary, Transportation Center Fueling Stations, and various West Fargo High School upgrades. Construction in progress included the Horace Elementary, Rocking Horse Farms – Meadowlark Elementary, a paving project, and Horace High School Storage Shed.

The District's net position is segregated into three separate categories: net investment in capital assets, restricted, and unrestricted.

Net investment in capital assets (e.g., land, buildings, vehicles, equipment, improvements, construction in progress, and right to use leased/SBITA assets); less any related debt used to acquire those assets that are still outstanding. The District uses these capital assets to provide services to citizens, and consequently these assets are not available for future spending. The resources needed to repay this debt must be provided from other sources, since the capital assets themselves cannot be used to liquidate these liabilities.

Restricted net position reflects the District’s resources which are subject to external restrictions on how they must be spent in the debt service funds and for construction. The majority of this category can be attributed to the bond indentures for the remaining building projects from the bond referendum passed in 2018, with the final issuance closing in April of 2022.

Unrestricted net deficit totaling \$(109,649,336) represents the remainder of the District’s resources. The large balance was primarily due to the net pension and OPEB liability, and related deferred inflows and outflows of resources derived from pension and OPEB. The pension and OPEB obligations are long term obligations that are not likely to ever be liquidated from unrestricted net position and are not obligated out of current resources to pay upcoming obligations. Not considering the effects of pension and OPEB items, unrestricted net position would be \$40,161,259.

For the Future and Next Year’s Budget and Tax Rates

The District projects continued growth into the future. The internal enrollment projections indicate anticipated total enrollments for the next 4 years are as follows:

2022-2023 Actual	2023-2024 Observed	2024-2025 Projected	2025-2026 Projected	2026-2027 Projected
12,702	12,888	13,375	13,854	14,200

West Fargo Public Schools
Management's Discussion and Analysis
Year Ended June 30, 2023

The District's enrollment increased by 186 students from 12,702 on September 30, 2022 to 12,888 on September 20, 2023. This represents an increase of 1.46% over the prior year.

The District's total mill levy has decreased from 136.10 in 2022-2023 to 129.53 in 2023-2024. The levy is composed of 65.72 mills for general fund purposes, 35.42 mills for debt service to repay bonds for the construction of buildings, 10.00 mills for its Building Fund to maintain existing buildings and repay school construction loans, 1.00 mills for Special Assessments, 2.39 mills for tuition, 3.00 mills for the Special Reserve Fund and 12.00 mills for other purposes. The following chart provides a 5-year history of the district's mill levy, as well as levies for the upcoming 2023-2024 fiscal year.

Purpose	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-2024
General	58.29	60.40	63.16	66.26	66.15	65.72
Tuition (Grades 7 - 12)	6.04	5.48	5.45	2.99	2.90	2.39
Miscellaneous	12.00	12.00	12.00	12.00	12.00	12.00
Sinking & Interest	41.06	43.25	43.20	43.74	37.78	35.42
Special Assessments	2.92	3.13	2.64	5.17	4.27	1.00
Building	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00
Special Reserve	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00
Total	133.31	137.26	139.45	143.16	136.10	129.53

For budgeting purposes, the District includes other financing sources and uses, including transfers, in revenue and expenditure total budgets. The original General Fund budget includes estimated revenues of \$192,917,650 and appropriated expenditures of \$194,099,560, which represents a projected deficit of \$1,181,910. The School Board policy regarding General Fund Ending Balance is a preferred range of 10% - 14% for non-grant General Fund expenditures, but not less than 10%. The current projected budget would meet this policy by attaining a projected non-grant General Fund balance of 11.89%.

The following table provides a summary of the revised budget adopted by the School Board on November 27, 2023.

2023-2024 Fiscal Year
Statement of Revenue Budget, Expenditure Budget and Projected Fund Balance
Revised Budget as of November 27, 2023

Fund	Fund Account Name	Est. Beg. Balance July 1, 2023	Revenue Budget 2023-2024	Expense Budget 2023-2024	Revenue versus Expenditures	Projected Balance June 30, 2024	Fund Balance Percent
10	General Fund	\$22,797,351.89	\$177,428,290.00	\$180,311,120.00	(\$2,882,830.00)	\$19,914,521.89	11.04%
10	General Fund Grants	\$0.00	\$23,200,620.00	\$23,200,620.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%
11	Insurance Fund	\$9,676,552.23	\$22,280,880.00	\$22,280,880.00	\$0.00	\$9,676,552.23	43.43%
20	Special Reserve	\$7,678,900.00	\$1,946,290.00	\$1,935,240.00	\$11,050.00	\$7,689,950.00	397.36%
30	Building Fund	\$12,209,758.06	\$11,003,450.00	\$17,781,060.00	(\$6,777,610.00)	\$5,432,148.06	30.55%
40	Sinking & Interest	\$16,032,754.02	\$23,412,710.00	\$22,789,600.00	\$623,110.00	\$16,655,864.02	73.09%
50	Food Service	\$6,488,621.10	\$8,264,700.00	\$9,326,290.00	(\$1,061,590.00)	\$5,427,031.10	58.19%
60	Student Activities	\$1,641,671.08	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,641,671.08	0.00%
61	Co-Curricular	\$0.00	\$5,336,430.00	\$5,336,430.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%
	Grant Total - All Funds	\$76,525,608.38	\$272,873,370.00	\$282,961,240.00	(\$10,087,870.00)	\$66,437,738.38	23.48%

The funds presented above are broken out for internal tracking of student activity fund balances by the District, however, for financial reporting purposes fund 10 and fund 60 balances are combined and presented as the General Fund with the adoption of GASB 84 as of July 1, 2020.

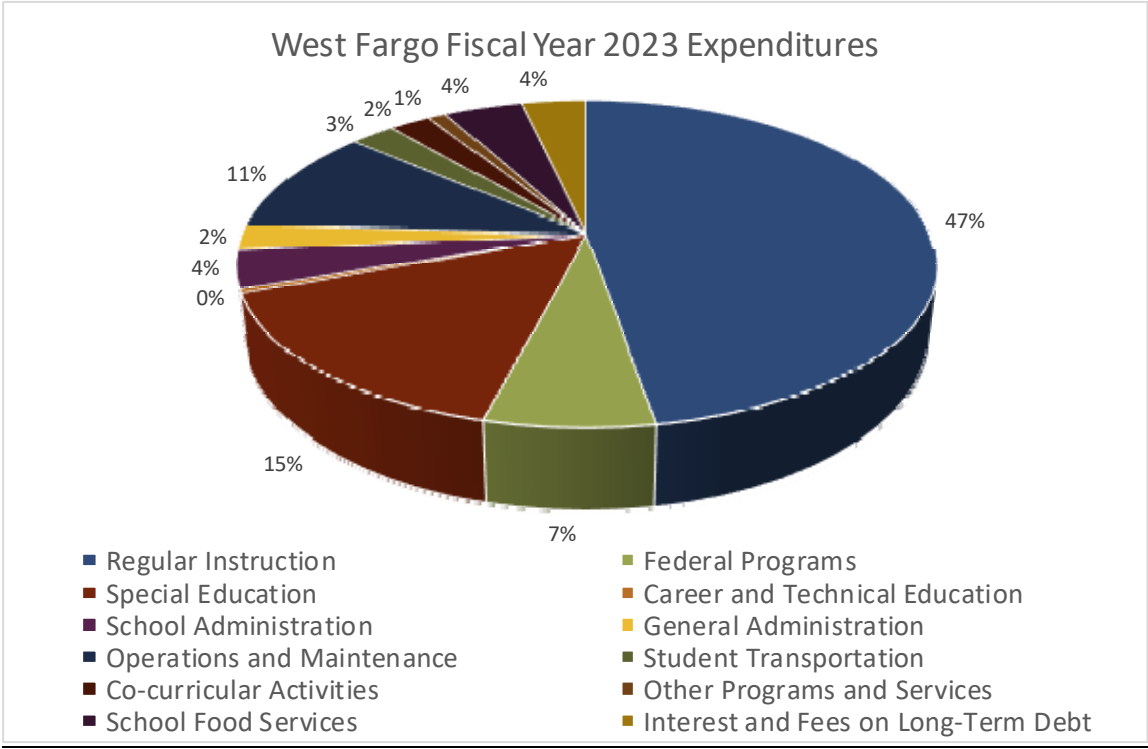
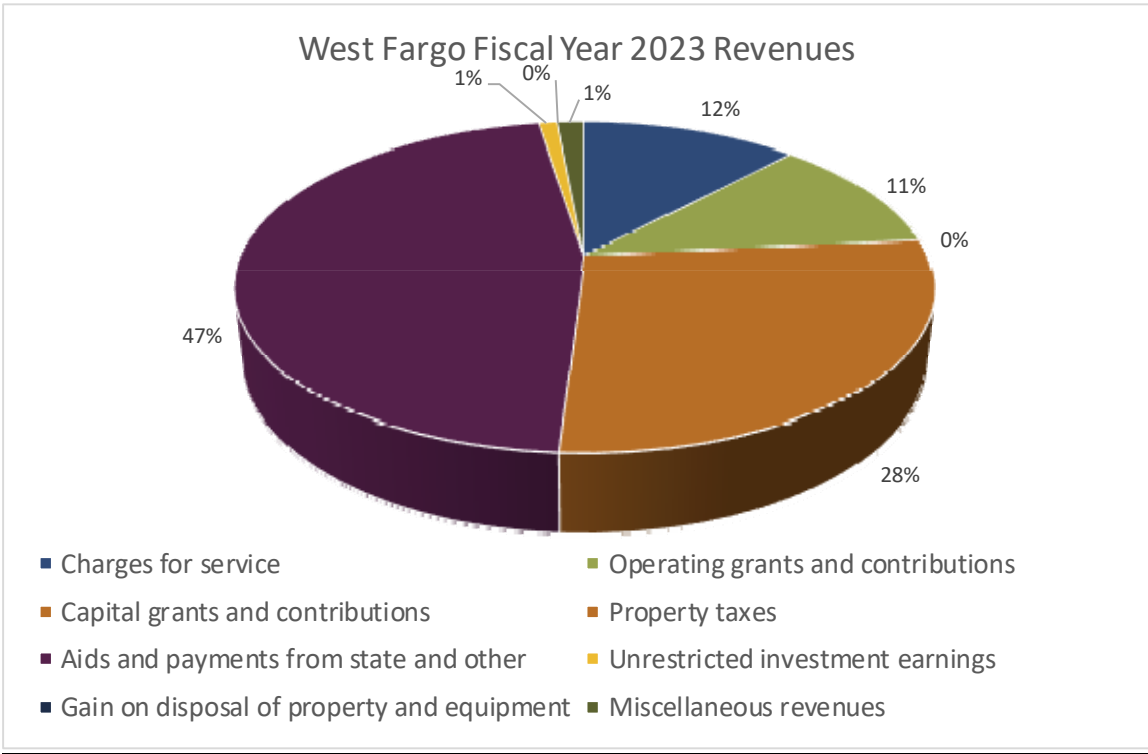
Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Position
Years Ended June 30, 2023 and 2022

	2023	2022
Revenues		
Program revenues		
Charges for service	\$ 29,542,034	\$ 27,642,418
Operating grants and contributions	27,937,597	27,956,916
Capital grants and contributions	39,553	-
General		
Property taxes	67,881,609	65,173,752
Aids and payments from state and other	114,556,538	108,298,706
Unrestricted investment earnings	2,501,587	713,701
Gain on disposal of property and equipment	9,750	46,184
Miscellaneous revenues	3,618,447	957,345
Total revenues	246,087,115	230,789,022
Expenses		
Regular Instruction	97,816,173	87,351,222
Federal Programs	13,836,849	9,921,276
Special Education	31,940,090	32,017,663
Career and Technical Education	829,357	627,574
School Administration	7,616,338	6,869,438
General Administration	4,807,261	4,483,425
Operations and Maintenance	21,615,652	19,120,225
Student Transportation	5,204,811	4,020,772
Co-curricular Activities	4,744,488	4,198,519
Other Programs and Services	2,072,016	4,384,649
School Food Services	8,945,343	7,766,201
Interest and Fees on Long-Term Debt	7,383,094	7,473,756
Health self-insurance	24,640,707	23,163,163
Total expenses	231,452,179	211,397,883
Changes in Net Position (Deficit)	14,634,936	19,391,139
Net Position (Deficit) - Beginning	15,619,293	(3,771,846)
Net Position - Ending	\$ 30,254,229	\$ 15,619,293

Changes in Net Position – The District's total revenues were \$246,087,115 for the year ended June 30, 2023. Property taxes and state formula aid accounted for 74.14% of total revenue for the year. Another 25.86% came from other program revenue and miscellaneous revenues.

The total cost of all programs and services was \$231,452,179. The District's expenses are predominantly related to educating and caring for students. The purely administrative activities of the District accounted for just 5.4% of total costs.

The total revenues exceeded expenses, increasing the net position by \$14,634,936 for fiscal year 2023.



General Fund

The General Fund includes the primary operations of the District in providing educational services to students from pre-kindergarten through grade 12, including pupil transportation activities, buildings and grounds, and capital outlay projects.

The following schedule presents a summary of General Fund Revenues.

	Year Ended June 30,		Amount of Increase (Decrease)	Percent Increase (Decrease)
	2023	2022		
Local Sources	\$ 45,698,240	\$ 41,993,986	\$ 3,704,254	8.8%
State Sources	116,611,167	110,292,003	6,319,164	5.7%
Federal Sources	19,740,836	15,123,773	4,617,063	30.5%
Other Sources	1,362,346	227,912	1,134,434	497.8%
Total General Fund revenues	\$ 183,412,589	\$ 167,637,674	\$ 15,774,915	9.4%

Total General Fund revenue increased by \$15,774,915 or 9.41% from the previous year. Basic general education revenue is determined by a state per student funding formula and consists of an equalized mix of property tax and state aid revenue. The mix of property tax and state aid can change significantly from year to year without any net change on revenue. The increase in Federal sources revenue was predominantly ESSER III expenditures on learning loss positions, new teachers, and tech expenditures.

The following schedule presents a summary of General Fund expenditures.

	Year Ended June 30,		Amount of Increase (Decrease)	Percent Increase (Decrease)
	2023	2022		
Salaries and Benefits	\$ 139,563,014	\$ 135,091,605	\$ 4,471,409	3.3%
Purchased Services	10,923,151	8,969,538	1,953,613	21.8%
Supplies and Materials	8,656,213	9,207,604	(551,391)	-6.0%
Capital Expenditures	5,945,414	2,771,478	3,173,936	114.5%
Debt Service	168,731	4,220	164,511	100.0%
Other Expenditures	4,938,192	3,891,176	1,047,016	26.9%
Total General Fund expenditures	\$ 170,194,715	\$ 159,935,621	\$ 10,259,094	6.4%

Total General Fund expenditures increased by \$10,259,094 or 6.41% from the previous year. The overall increase in the current fiscal year resulted from an increase in salaries and benefits related to additional staff hired and approved wage increases for existing staff. Capital expenditure costs increased as a result of additional funding available for technology purchases and new SBITAs. Supplies and materials decreased due to teacher supplies dollars being allocated at \$400 per teacher through ESSER in 2021-2022, with no similar allocation in 2022-2023.

General Fund Budgetary Highlights

The District's general fund results when compared to the final budget are:

- Actual revenues were \$2,110,839 *more than* budget due to student activity accounts being unbudgeted revenue accounts.
- Actual expenditures were \$3,650,455 *less than* budget due to open positions throughout the District as a result of the current staffing environment.

Debt Service Fund

The Debt Service Fund revenues were \$19,290,109, expenditures were \$22,283,816, and other financing sources totaled \$3,322,640. This increased fund balance by \$328,933 which is the result of a transfer in from the capital projects fund.

Capital Projects Fund

The Capital Projects Fund revenues were \$7,643,083, expenditures were \$22,244,700, and net other financing sources were \$8,672,219. Fund balance decreased by \$5,929,398. The decrease is a result of ongoing construction projects during the year.

Special Reserve Fund

The Special Reserve Fund revenues were \$1,717,148, expenditures were \$0, and transfers out were \$882,877. This increased fund balance by \$834,271. The increase is a result of additional property taxes levied during the year.

Other Non-Major Funds

The Food Service Fund incurred an increase in the fund balance of \$148,310. The increase is a result of unanticipated increases in interest income as a result in federal rate hikes. The Co-curricular Fund incurred no change in fund balance during fiscal year 2023.

Capital Assets and Debt Administration

Capital Assets

By the end of 2023, the District had invested \$480,935,070 in a broad range of capital assets, including school buildings, land, athletic facilities, school vehicles, parking lots, and computer and audio-visual equipment. Total depreciation and amortization expense for the year was \$10,359,024. Note 5 presents the detail of the District's capital assets.

Capital Assets Governmental Activities
June 30, 2023 and 2022

	2023	2022
Land	\$ 17,673,846	\$ 17,673,846
Construction in Progress	15,920,245	66,005,702
Buildings	395,180,848	335,787,023
Equipment	4,630,660	3,953,120
Vehicles	6,538,503	5,764,343
Parking Lots	3,025,533	1,970,570
Land Improvements	37,196,082	27,514,574
Right to Use Leased Equipment	11,905	11,905
Right to Use Subscription Equipment	757,448	-
Accumulated Depreciation/Amortization	(94,267,586)	(84,441,696)
Total capital assets	\$ 386,667,484	\$ 374,239,387

Long-Term Liabilities

As of June 30, 2023, the District had \$474,701,865 in outstanding long-term liabilities, of which \$16,057,428 was due within one year. Total long-term liabilities outstanding as of June 30, 2022 was \$412,656,217. The net increase of \$62,045,648 (15.04%) was attributed primarily to the increase in the Net Pension Liability and OPEB Liability totaling \$74,272,400. The remaining difference is offset by scheduled debt retirement on outstanding debt.

	2023		2022	
	Total Outstanding	Due Within One Year	Total Outstanding	Due Within One Year
Bonds				
Bond FF	\$ 272,975	\$ 135,808	\$ 407,439	\$ 134,464
Bond HH	5,000,000	-	5,000,000	-
Bond JJ	1,789,138	208,673	1,993,780	204,642
Bond LL	4,743,557	453,508	5,192,574	449,017
Bond MM	5,218,409	493,646	5,706,041	487,632
Bond NN	7,650,000	-	7,650,000	-
Bond OO	32,015,000	2,075,000	34,030,000	2,015,000
Bond PP	36,415,000	2,030,000	38,385,000	1,970,000
Bond QQ	8,850,000	385,000	9,220,000	370,000
Bond RR	30,005,000	1,375,000	31,325,000	1,320,000
Bond SS	8,740,269	436,815	9,168,464	428,194
Bond TT	54,935,000	2,265,000	57,090,000	2,155,000
Bond UU	9,235,000	675,000	9,905,000	670,000
Bond VV	40,525,000	3,035,000	42,725,000	2,200,000
Bond WW	2,945,000	110,000	3,135,000	190,000
Bond XX	5,845,000	240,000	6,250,000	405,000
Total Bonds, Gross	<u>254,184,348</u>	<u>13,918,450</u>	<u>267,183,298</u>	<u>12,998,949</u>
Bond Premium	<u>17,156,254</u>	<u>1,499,826</u>	<u>18,656,083</u>	<u>1,499,826</u>
Total Bonds, Net	<u>\$ 271,340,602</u>	<u>\$ 15,418,276</u>	<u>\$ 285,839,381</u>	<u>\$ 14,498,775</u>
Special Assessments	\$ 9,965,981	\$ 411,124	\$ 8,227,053	\$ 331,119
Lease Liability	9,164	2,195	11,297	2,133
SBITA Liability	595,784	141,646	-	-
Comp. Absences Payable	841,867	84,187	902,419	90,242
Net Pension and OPEB Liability	<u>191,948,467</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>117,676,067</u>	<u>-</u>
Total Long-Term Liabilities	<u><u>\$ 474,701,865</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 16,057,428</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 412,656,217</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 14,922,269</u></u>

Contacting the District's Financial Management

This financial report is designed to provide our parents, taxpayers, and creditors with a general overview of West Fargo Public School District's finances and to show the District's accountability for the money it receives to provide the best possible education to all students enrolled in West Fargo Public Schools. Anyone who has questions about information contained in this report or who is interested in receiving additional information is encouraged to contact Levi Bachmeier, Business Manager, West Fargo Public Schools, 207 Main Avenue West, West Fargo, ND 58078-1793; phone 701-356-2002, fax 701-356-2009, or email lbachmeier@west-fargo.k12.nd.us.

West Fargo Public Schools
Statement of Net Position
June 30, 2023

Assets	
Cash and investments	\$ 74,973,132
Restricted cash and cash equivalents	3,505,412
Receivables	
Property taxes	3,032,743
Accounts	393,388
Leases	1,645,453
Due from other governmental units	8,200,266
Asset held for resale	14,000
Prepaid items and other assets	384,083
Inventories	191,656
	<u>92,340,133</u>
Capital assets	
Non-depreciable/amortizable	
Land	17,673,846
Construction in progress	15,920,245
Depreciable/amortizable	
Buildings	395,180,848
Vehicles	6,538,503
Equipment	4,630,660
Parking lots	3,025,533
Land improvements	37,196,082
Right to use leased assets	11,905
Right to use subscription asset	757,448
Less accumulated depreciation/amortization	<u>(94,267,586)</u>
Total capital assets, net of depreciation/amortization	<u>386,667,484</u>
Total assets	<u>479,007,617</u>
Deferred Outflows of Resources	
Other postemployment benefit plan	925,462
Pension plans	65,767,926
Total deferred outflows of resources	<u>66,693,388</u>
Liabilities	
Accounts payable	3,802,086
Salaries and benefits payable	4,028,439
Retainage payable	773,798
Claims incurred but not reported	2,356,529
Interest payable	3,300,069
Unearned revenue	283,021
Long-term liabilities	
Due within one year - other than OPEB and pensions	16,057,428
Due in more than one year - other than OPEB and pensions	266,695,970
Due in more than one year - other postemployment benefits	1,728,449
Due in more than one year - net pension liability	<u>190,220,018</u>
Total liabilities	<u>489,245,807</u>
Deferred Inflows of Resources	
Other postemployment benefits plan	133,381
Leases	1,645,453
Pension plans	24,422,135
Total deferred inflows of resources	<u>26,200,969</u>
Net Position (Deficit)	
Net investment in capital assets	103,982,155
Restricted for specific purposes	35,921,410
Unrestricted	<u>(109,649,336)</u>
Total net position	<u>\$ 30,254,229</u>

West Fargo Public Schools
Statement of Activities
Year Ended June 30, 2023

Functions/Programs	Expenses	Program Revenues		Net (Expense) Revenue and Changes in Net Position
		Charges for Services	Operating Grants and Contributions	
Governmental Activities				
Regular Instruction	\$ 97,816,173	\$ 127,740	\$ 141,292	\$ -
Federal Programs	13,836,849	-	19,656,725	-
Special Education	31,940,090	346,533	638,817	-
Career and Technical Education	829,357	-	1,306,207	-
School Administration	7,616,338	-	-	-
General Administration	4,807,261	25,220	-	-
Operations and Maintenance	21,615,652	37,980	-	-
Student Transportation	5,204,811	292,319	1,131,582	-
Co-curricular Activities	4,744,488	427,864	-	39,553
Other Programs and Services	2,072,016	609,907	-	-
School Food Services	8,945,343	3,629,689	5,062,974	-
Interest and Fees on Long-Term Debt	7,383,094	-	-	-
Health self-insurance	24,640,707	24,044,782	-	-
Total governmental activities	\$ 231,452,179	\$ 29,542,034	\$ 27,937,597	\$ 39,553
General Revenues				
Property taxes, levied for general purposes				32,907,608
Property taxes, levied for tuition, technology & alternative programs				1,448,559
Property taxes, levied for miscellaneous general provisions				5,970,192
Property taxes, levied for capital projects & building purposes				7,118,647
Property taxes, levied for special reserve				1,492,548
Property taxes, levied for debt service				18,944,055
Aids and payments from the state				114,556,538
Unrestricted investment earnings				2,501,587
Gain on disposal of property and equipment				9,750
Miscellaneous revenues				3,618,447
Total general revenues				188,567,931
Changes in Net Position				14,634,936
Net Position - Beginning				15,619,293
Net Position - Ending				\$ 30,254,229

West Fargo Public Schools
Governmental Funds
Balance Sheet
June 30, 2023

	General Fund	Debt Service Fund	Capital Projects Fund	Special Reserve Fund	Other Governmental Funds	Totals
Assets						
Cash and investments	\$ 27,428,915	\$ 12,510,815	\$ 7,861,906	\$ 7,677,522	\$ 6,864,920	\$ 62,344,078
Restricted cash and cash equivalents	-	3,505,412	-	-	-	3,505,412
Receivables						
Current property taxes	1,798,336	850,718	317,128	66,561	-	3,032,743
Accounts	228,425	-	15,000	-	-	243,425
Leases	1,645,453	-	-	-	-	1,645,453
Due from other governmental units	8,136,791	-	-	-	63,475	8,200,266
Due from other funds	-	-	6,500,000	-	-	6,500,000
Asset held for resale	14,000	-	-	-	-	14,000
Prepaid items and other assets	360,687	-	23,396	-	-	384,083
Inventories	64,420	-	-	-	127,236	191,656
Total assets	\$ 39,677,027	\$ 16,866,945	\$ 14,717,430	\$ 7,744,083	\$ 7,055,631	\$ 86,061,116
Liabilities						
Due to other funds	\$ 6,500,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 6,500,000
Accounts payable	1,309,761	1,050	1,423,305	-	322,035	3,056,151
Retainage payable	-	-	773,798	-	-	773,798
Salaries and benefits payable	4,013,340	-	-	-	15,099	4,028,439
Unearned revenue	8,344	-	-	-	274,677	283,021
Total liabilities	11,831,445	1,050	2,197,103	-	611,811	14,641,409
Deferred Inflows of Resources						
Unavailable revenue-property taxes	1,761,103	833,142	310,570	65,183	-	2,969,998
Leases	1,645,453	-	-	-	-	1,645,453
Total deferred inflows of resources	3,406,556	833,142	310,570	65,183	-	4,615,451
Fund Balance						
Nonspendable	425,107	-	-	-	127,236	552,343
Restricted	-	16,032,753	12,209,757	7,678,900	-	35,921,410
Assigned	-	-	-	-	6,316,584	6,316,584
Unassigned	24,013,919	-	-	-	-	24,013,919
Total fund balance	24,439,026	16,032,753	12,209,757	7,678,900	6,443,820	66,804,256
Total liabilities, deferred inflows of resources and fund balance	\$ 39,677,027	\$ 16,866,945	\$ 14,717,430	\$ 7,744,083	\$ 7,055,631	\$ 86,061,116

West Fargo Public Schools
Governmental Funds
Reconciliation of the Balance Sheet to the Statement of Net Position
June 30, 2023

Total Fund Balances - Governmental Funds	\$ 66,804,256
<p>Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of net position is different because:</p>	
<p>Capital assets used in governmental activities are not financial resources and, therefore, are not reported in the governmental funds.</p>	
Cost of Capital Assets	480,935,070
Less Accumulated Depreciation/Amortization	(94,267,586)
<p>Internal service funds are used by the District to charge the costs of the self-insured health insurance plan. The assets and liabilities of the internal service fund are included in governmental activities in the statement of net position.</p>	
	9,676,553
<p>Delinquent property taxes are not considered available to pay for current period expenditures and, therefore, are reported as unavailable revenue in the funds.</p>	
	2,969,998
<p>Net pension obligations and OPEB are not due and payable in the current period, and therefore are not reported in the governmental funds.</p>	
	(191,948,467)
<p>Deferred outflows and inflows of resources related to pensions and OPEB plans are applicable to future periods and, therefore, are not reported in the funds.</p>	
	42,137,872
<p>Long-term liabilities applicable to the district's governmental activities are not due and payable in the current period and accordingly are not reported as fund liabilities. Interest on long-term debt is not accrued in governmental funds, but rather is recognized as an expenditure when due. All liabilities-both current and long-term are reported in the statement of net position. Balances at year end is made up of the following liabilities:</p>	
Long Term Debt, net of bond premium	(281,306,583)
Lease liability	(9,164)
SBITA liability	(595,784)
Interest Payable	(3,300,069)
Compensated Absences	(841,867)
	(434,607,307)
Total Net Position- Governmental Activities	\$ 30,254,229

West Fargo Public Schools
Governmental Funds
Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances
Year Ended June 30, 2023

	General Fund	Debt Service Fund	Capital Projects Fund	Special Reserve Fund	Other Governmental Funds	Totals
Revenues						
Local sources	\$ 45,698,240	\$ 18,944,055	\$ 7,118,647	\$ 1,492,548	\$ 4,098,987	\$ 77,352,477
State sources	116,611,167	-	-	-	63,982	116,675,149
Federal sources	19,740,836	-	-	-	5,051,851	24,792,687
Other sources	1,362,346	346,054	524,436	224,600	177,573	2,635,009
Total revenues	183,412,589	19,290,109	7,643,083	1,717,148	9,392,393	221,455,322
Expenditures						
Current						
Regular instruction	85,897,192	-	-	-	-	85,897,192
Federal programs	14,437,277	-	-	-	-	14,437,277
Special education instruction	29,392,633	-	-	-	-	29,392,633
Career and technical education	3,179,082	-	-	-	-	3,179,082
School administration	8,399,733	-	-	-	-	8,399,733
General administration	4,129,995	-	-	-	-	4,129,995
Operations and maintenance	12,847,619	-	353,105	-	-	13,200,724
Student transportation	3,719,769	-	-	-	-	3,719,769
Other programs and services	2,077,270	-	-	-	-	2,077,270
School food services	-	-	-	-	8,785,908	8,785,908
Co-curricular activities	-	-	-	-	4,318,849	4,318,849
Capital outlay	5,945,414	-	21,095,639	-	-	27,041,053
Debt service						
Principal	168,731	12,993,957	405,988	-	-	13,568,676
Interest	-	9,065,382	376,917	-	-	9,442,299
Fiscal charges and fees	-	224,477	13,051	-	-	237,528
Total expenditures	170,194,715	22,283,816	22,244,700	-	13,104,757	227,827,988
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures	13,217,874	(2,993,707)	(14,601,617)	1,717,148	(3,712,364)	(6,372,666)
Other Financing Sources (Uses)						
Transfer in	882,877	3,322,640	9,850,000	-	3,860,674	17,916,191
Transfer out	(13,710,674)	-	(3,322,640)	(882,877)	-	(17,916,191)
Subscriptions	757,448	-	-	-	-	757,448
Sale of property and equipment	170,329	-	-	-	-	170,329
Special assessment issuance	-	-	2,144,859	-	-	2,144,859
Total other financing sources (uses)	(11,900,020)	3,322,640	8,672,219	(882,877)	3,860,674	3,072,636
Net Change in Fund Balance	1,317,854	328,933	(5,929,398)	834,271	148,310	(3,300,030)
Fund Balance, Beginning of Year	23,121,172	15,703,820	18,139,155	6,844,629	6,295,510	70,104,286
Fund Balance, End of Year	\$ 24,439,026	\$ 16,032,753	\$ 12,209,757	\$ 7,678,900	\$ 6,443,820	\$ 66,804,256

West Fargo Public Schools

Governmental Funds

Reconciliation of the Statement of Revenues, Expenditures,
and Changes in Fund Balances to the Statement of Activities

Year Ended June 30, 2023

Net Change in Fund Balances - Total Governmental Funds \$ (3,300,030)

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

Capital outlays are reported as expenditures in governmental funds. However, in the statement of activities the cost of capital assets is allocated over their estimated useful lives as depreciation expense. This is the amount by which capital outlay exceeded depreciation/amortization expense and net disposals in the current period. 12,428,097

Revenues in the statement of activities that do not provide current financial resources are not reported as revenues in the funds. 681,660

In the statement of activities compensated absences are measured by the amounts earned during the year. In the governmental funds, however, expenditures for these items are measured by the amount of financial resources used. 60,552

In the statement of activities OPEB liabilities are measured by the amounts earned during the year. In the governmental funds, however, expenditures for these items are measured by the amount of financial resources used. (104,527)

In the statement of activities the cost of pension benefits earned net of employee contributions is reported as pension expense. In the governmental funds, however, the contributions are reported as expense. (6,862,821)

The issuance of long-term debt provides current financial resources to governmental funds, while the repayment of principle of long-term debt consumes the current financial resources of governmental funds. Neither transactions, however, has any effect on net position. Also, governmental funds report the effect of premiums when debt is first issued, whereas these amounts are deferred and amortized in the statement of activities. This amount is the net effect of these differences in the treatment of long-term debt and related items. 12,327,929

Internal service funds are used by the District to charge the costs of the self-insured health insurance pool. The net revenue of the internal service fund is reported in governmental activities. (595,924)

Change in Net Position of Governmental Activities \$ 14,634,936

West Fargo Public Schools
 Proprietary Fund
 Statement of Net Position
 June 30, 2023

	Governmental Activities - Internal Service Fund
Assets	
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 12,629,054
Accounts receivable	<u>149,963</u>
Total assets	<u>12,779,017</u>
Liabilities	
Accounts payable	745,935
Claims incurred but not reported	<u>2,356,529</u>
Total liabilities	<u>3,102,464</u>
Net position	
Unrestricted	<u><u>\$ 9,676,553</u></u>

West Fargo Public Schools
 Proprietary Fund
 Statement of Changes in Net Position
 Year Ended June 30, 2023

	Governmental Activities - Internal Service Fund
Revenues	
Health premiums	<u>\$ 24,044,782</u>
Expenses	
Health claims	21,694,020
Admin fees	<u>2,946,686</u>
Total expenses	<u>24,640,706</u>
Change in Net Position	(595,924)
Net Position, Beginning of Year	<u>10,272,477</u>
Net Position, End of Year	<u><u>\$ 9,676,553</u></u>

West Fargo Public Schools
Proprietary Fund
Statement of Cash Flows
Year Ended June 30, 2023

	Governmental Activities - Internal Service Fund
Operating Activities	
Receipts from participants	\$ 24,056,702
Payments for insurance claims and administration	(25,193,265)
Net cash used for operating activities	(1,136,563)
Cash and cash equivalents, July 1	13,765,617
Cash and cash equivalents, June 30	\$ 12,629,054
Reconciliation of Operating Loss to Net Cash used for Operating Activities	
Operating loss	\$ (595,924)
Adjustments to reconcile operating loss to net cash used for operating activities	
Changes in assets and liabilities	
Accounts receivable	11,920
Accounts payable	(593,299)
Claims incurred but not reported	40,740
Net cash used for operating activities	\$ (1,136,563)

Note 1 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

A. Organization

Independent School District No. 6, West Fargo Public Schools, West Fargo, North Dakota (the District) was formed and operates pursuant to applicable North Dakota laws and statutes. The District is governed by a School Board elected by voters of the District. The financial statements of the District have been prepared in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America as applied to governmental units. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) is the accepted standard setting body for establishing governmental accounting and financial reporting principles.

B. Reporting Entity

The accompanying financial statements include all funds, departments, agencies, boards, commissions, and other organizations that comprise the District, along with any component units.

Component units are legally separate entities for which the District (primary government) is financially accountable, or for which the exclusion of the component unit would render the financial statements of the primary government misleading. The criteria used to determine if the primary government is financially accountable for a component unit include whether or not the primary government appoints the voting majority of the potential component unit's governing body, is able to impose its will on the potential component unit, is in a relationship of financial burden or benefit with the potential component unit, or is fiscally depended upon by the potential component unit.

Based on these criteria, there are no organizations considered to be component units of the District.

C. Government-Wide Financial Statement Presentation

The government-wide financial statements (Statement of Net Position and Statement of Activities) display information about the reporting government as a whole. These statements include all the financial activities of the District. Generally, the effect of interfund activity has been removed from the government-wide financial statements.

The Statement of Activities demonstrates the degree to which the direct expenses of a given function or segment are offset by program revenues. Direct expenses are those that are clearly identifiable with a specific function or segment. Program revenues include charges to customers or applicants who purchase, use, or directly benefit from goods, services, or privileges provided by a given function or segment and grants and contributions that are restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular function or segment. Taxes and other internally directed revenues are reported as general revenues.

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 when a liability is incurred, regardless of the timing of the related cash flows. Property taxes are generally recognized as revenues in the fiscal year for which they are levied, except for amounts advance recognized in accordance with a statutory “tax shift” described later in these notes. Grants and similar items are recognized when all eligibility requirements imposed by the provider have been met.

The District applies restricted resources first when an expense is incurred for which both restricted and unrestricted resources are available. For capital assets that can be specifically identified with, or allocated to functional areas, depreciation expense is included as a direct expense in the functional areas that utilize the related capital assets. Interest on long-term debt is considered an indirect expense and is reported separately on the Statement of Activities.

D. Fund Financial Statement Presentation

Major individual governmental funds are reported as separate columns in the fund financial statements. Aggregated information for the remaining nonmajor governmental funds is reported in a single column in the fund financial statements.

Governmental fund financial statements are reported using the current financial resources measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting. Under this basis of accounting transactions are recorded in the following manner:

Revenue Recognition – Revenue is recognized when it becomes measurable and available. “Measurable” means the amount of the transaction can be determined and “available” means collectible within the current period or soon enough thereafter to be used to pay liabilities of the current period. For this purpose, the District generally considers revenues to be available if they are collected within 30 days after year-end. Grants and similar items are recognized when all eligibility requirements imposed by the provider have been met. State revenue is recognized in the year to which it applies. Federal revenue is recorded in the year in which the related expenditure is made. Proceeds of long-term debt and acquisitions under capital leases are reported as other financing sources.

Recording of Expenditures – Expenditures are generally recorded when a liability is incurred, except for principal and interest on long-term debt, severance and healthcare benefits, and compensated absences, which are recognized as expenditures to the extent they have matured. Capital asset acquisitions are included within the applicable functional areas.

Proprietary funds distinguish operating revenues and expenses from nonoperating items. Operating revenues and expenses generally result from providing services and producing and delivering goods in connection with a proprietary fund’s principal ongoing operations. The principal operating revenue of the District’s internal service fund is receipts from participants. Operating expenses for the internal service fund includes payments for insurance claims and administration. All revenues and expenses not meeting this definition are reported as nonoperating revenues and expenses.

Description of Funds

Each fund is accounted for as an independent entity. A description of the funds included in this report are as follows:

Major Governmental Funds

General Fund – This is the District’s primary operating fund. It accounts for all financial resources of the general government, except those required to be accounted for in another fund.

Debt Service Fund – This fund is used to account for financial resources to be used for payment of long-term debt principal, interest and related costs.

Capital Projects Fund – This fund is used to account for financial resources to be used for acquisition or construction of major capital facilities.

Special Reserve Fund – This fund is used to account for the accumulation of resources from the special reserve levy. The special reserve is designed to provide cash flow to the District when general fund reserves are spent. This traditionally happens at the end of December, before the next year taxes are collected. If the special reserve is not needed for cash flow, there is a provision in the law that allows the School Board to transfer up to half of the balance to the general fund to be used for any allowable purpose. In accordance with NDCC 57-19-01, the ending fund balance is limited to the amount generated by fifteen (15) mills times the taxable valuation of the District. The District has recently been using these funds to offset costs associated with the opening of new school buildings. In the first year of operation, up to 40% of the estimated costs of the new facility are transferred to the general fund and in the second year of operation, up to 20% of the estimated costs are transferred.

Proprietary Fund

Internal Service Fund – This fund accounts for medical insurance provided to other departments on a cost-reimbursement basis.

With respect to proprietary activities, the District has adopted GASB Statement No. 62 “Codification of Accounting and Financial Reporting Guidance Contained in Pre-November 30, 1989 FASB and AICPA Pronouncements.”

Amounts reported as program revenues include the following: amounts received from those who purchase, use, or directly benefit from a program; amounts received from parties outside the District that are restricted to one or more specific programs; and earnings on investments that are legally restricted for a specific program. Revenues that do not meet the previous criteria are reported as general revenues.

Proprietary funds report operating revenues and expenses separately from nonoperating items. Operating revenues and expenses generally result from providing services or producing and delivering goods in connection with a proprietary fund's principal ongoing operations. The principal operating revenues of the District's proprietary fund are charges to participants for health insurance plans. Operating expenses for proprietary funds include the cost of health insurance and administrative expenses. All revenues and expenses not meeting this definition are reported as nonoperating revenues and expenses.

E. Other Significant Accounting Policies

Budgeting

An operating budget is adopted by July 1 of each fiscal year for all governmental funds on the same modified accrual basis used to reflect actual revenues and expenditures. The superintendent is authorized to transfer budget amounts within line items; however, supplemental appropriations that amend total appropriations of any fund require a board resolution. Reported budgeted amounts are as originally adopted or as amended by board resolution. Unencumbered appropriations lapse at year-end.

Cash and Investments

Cash includes amounts in demand deposits and money market accounts. Cash equivalents on the statement of cash flows consist of certificates of deposit with a maturity of 3 months or more. Deposits must either be deposited with the Bank of North Dakota or in other financial institution situated and doing business within the state. Deposits, other than with the Bank of North Dakota, must be fully insured or bonded. In lieu of a bond, a financial institution may provide a pledge of securities equal to 110% of the uninsured balance.

Investments consist of U.S. government-backed securities stated at fair market value.

Restricted Cash and Cash Equivalents

The district has amounts held in a bond sinking fund within the Debt Service Fund. These funds will be held as restricted cash until they are used to pay off the related bonds.

Receivables

All receivables are shown net of any allowance for uncollectibles. No allowances for uncollectibles have been recorded. The only receivables not expected to be collected within one year are property taxes receivable and pledges.

Inventories

Inventories are recorded using the consumption method of accounting and consist of purchased food, supplies, and surplus commodities received from the federal government. Food and supply purchases are recorded at invoice cost, computed on a first-in, first-out method. Surplus commodities are stated at standardized costs, as determined by the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Prepaid Items

Certain payments to vendors reflect costs applicable to future accounting periods and are recorded as prepaid items in both the government-wide and fund financial statements. The cost of prepaid items is recorded as expenditures/expenses when consumed rather than when purchased.

Property Taxes

Property taxes are levied as of January 1. The property taxes attach as an enforceable lien on property on January 1 and may be paid in two installments. The first installment includes one-half of the real estate taxes and all the special assessments and the second installment is the balance of the real estate taxes. The first installment is due by March 1 and the second installment is due by October 15. A 5% discount on property taxes is allowed if all taxes and special assessments are paid by February 15. After the due dates, the bill becomes delinquent and penalties are assessed.

Taxes which remain unpaid are classified as delinquent taxes receivable. Revenue from these delinquent property taxes that is not collected within 60 days of year-end is deferred in the fund financial statements because it is not known to be available to finance the operations of the District in the current year. No allowance for uncollectible taxes is considered necessary.

Capital Assets

Capital assets are capitalized at historical cost or estimated historical cost for assets where actual historic cost is not available. Donated assets are recorded as capital assets at acquisition value at the date of donation. The District maintains a threshold level of \$20,000 or more for capitalizing capital assets. The cost of normal maintenance and repairs that do not add to the value of the asset or materially extend asset lives are not capitalized.

Capital assets are recorded in the government-wide financial statements but are not reported in the fund financial statements. Capital assets are depreciated using the straight-line method over their estimated useful lives. Since surplus assets are sold for an immaterial amount when declared as no longer needed for public school purposes by the District, no salvage value is taken into consideration for depreciation purposes. Useful lives vary from 5 to 50 years.

Capital assets not being depreciated include land and construction in progress.

Right to use leased assets are recognized at the commencement date and represent the District's right to use an underlying asset for the lease term. Right to use assets are measured at the initial value of the lease liability plus any payments made to the lessor before commencement of the lease term., less any lease incentives received at or before the commencement of the lease term, plus any initial direct costs necessary to place the asset into service. Right to use assets are amortized over the shorter of the lease term or useful life of the underlying asset using the straight-line method.

Right to use subscription IT assets are recognized at the subscription commencement date and represent the District's right to use the underlying IT asset for the subscription term. Right to use subscription IT assets are measured at the initial value of subscription liability plus any payments made to the vendor at the commencement of the subscription term, plus any capitalizable initial implementation costs necessary to place subscription asset into service. Right to use subscription IT assets are amortized over the shorter of the subscription term or useful life of the underlying asset using the straight-line method.

Long-Term Obligations

In the government-wide financial statements, long-term debt and other long-term obligations are reported as liabilities in the applicable governmental activities. Bond premiums and discounts, if material, are deferred and amortized over the life of the bonds using the straight-line method.

In the fund financial statements, governmental fund types recognize bond premiums and discounts, as well as bond issuance costs, during the current period. The face amount of debt issued is reported as other financing sources. Premiums received on debt issuances are reported as other financing sources, while discounts on debt issuances are reported as other financing uses. Issuance costs, whether or not withheld from the actual debt proceeds received, are reported as debt service expenditures and expensed when incurred.

Lease liabilities represent the District's obligation to make lease payments arising from the lease. Liabilities are recognized at the commencement date based on the present value of future lease payments expected to be made during the term. The present value of lease payments are discounted based on a borrowing rate determined by the District.

Subscription liabilities represent the District's obligation to make subscription payments arising from the subscription contract. Subscription liabilities are recognized at the subscription commencement date based on the present value of future subscription payments expected to be made during the subscription term. The present value of subscription payments are discounted based on a borrowing rate determined by the District.

Compensated Absences Payable

Vested or accumulated vacation and personal leave for qualified employees is reported in the government-wide statement of net position. Upon termination of employment with the District, compensation for unused vacation and personal leave earned and available is administered as follows:

Classified Staff – Vacation is earned by staff who work at least 30 hours per week, 12 months per year at the rate of 12, 15, 18, 21 or 24 days per year based on years of service. The employee's vacation leave that is earned between July 1 and June 30th of each fiscal year must be used by the following June 30, or it is forfeited. Compensation for all earned and available vacation is paid to the classified employee upon termination of employment with the district.

Personal leave is available to all classified employees who do not qualify for vacation leave with the exception of administrators or employees who are designated as temporary staff. Qualified employees who earn personal leave must work a regular schedule of at least nine months and earn two days (based on their assigned workday) per year of personal leave. Earned personal leave is not made available for use until the employee has been in the employ of the District for at least 60 days. Requests to use personal leave must be made two days in advance and are subject to supervisory approval. If unused, up to four days of personal leave may be carried forward into the next fiscal year. Compensation for all earned and available personal leave is paid to the classified employee upon termination of employment with the district.

Licensed Staff – Personal leave is available to all licensed employees with the exception of administrators or employees who are designated as temporary staff. Employees earn two days per year (based on their assigned work day) of personal leave, with a maximum accumulation of five days. Earned personal leave is made available for use by the licensed employee immediately upon employment. Requests to use personal leave must be made 48 hours in advance and must be approved by the building principals subject to limits set forth in the master contract. If unused at the end of a fiscal year, three days of personal leave may be carried forward into the next fiscal year. Compensation for all earned and available personal leave is paid to the licensed employee upon termination of employment with the district.

Sick leave is earned by classified employees at the rate of one working day per month and by licensed employees at the rate of twelve days per contract year. The District does provide a payout of up to 45 days at \$100 per eight-hour workday for unused sick leave for employees who meet the following requirements;

1. 10 years of employment with the District
2. Employees are TFFR or PERS eligible
3. Employees declare their intention to retire no later than May 1, or four weeks in advance of the retirement date.

Unearned Revenue

The District receives grant funding from several organizations and the amount that is not spent in the fiscal year is reported as unearned revenue. In addition, the District collects prepaid food service receipts that have not been spent as of year-end. The amounts will be recognized as revenue in the subsequent fiscal year when earned.

Pensions

For purposes of measuring the net pension liability, deferred outflows/inflows of resources, and pension expense, information about the fiduciary net position of the North Dakota Public Employees Retirement System (NDPERS) and the North Dakota Teacher's Fund for Retirement (NDTFFR) and additions to/deductions from NDPERS and NDTFFR fiduciary net position have been determined on the same basis as they are reported by NDPERS and NDTFFR. 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.

Other Post-Employment Benefits (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 North Dakota Public Employees Retirement System (NDPERS), and additions to/deductions from NDPERS' fiduciary net position have been determined on the same basis as they are reported by NDPERS. For this purpose, benefit payments are recognized when due and payable in accordance with the benefit terms. Investments are reported at fair value.

Deferred Outflows and Inflows of Resources

In addition to assets, the statement of financial position will sometimes report a separate section for deferred outflows of resources. This separate financial statement element, *deferred outflows of resources*, represents a consumption of net position that applies to future period(s) and so will *not* be recognized as an outflow of resources (expense/expenditure) until then. The District has two items that qualifies for reporting in this category. It is the contributions made to pension plans and OPEB plan after the measurement date and prior to the fiscal year-end, and changes in the net pension liability and OPEB plan not included in pension expense reported in the government-wide statement of net position.

In addition to liabilities, the statement of financial position will sometimes report a separate section for deferred inflows of resources. This separate financial statement element, *deferred inflows of resources*, represents an acquisition of net position that applies to a future period(s) and so will *not* be recognized as an inflow of resources (revenue) until that time. The District has four types of items that qualify for reporting in this category. The District reports unavailable revenues from property taxes and leases receivable on the government-wide statement of net position and the governmental funds balance sheet. These amounts are deferred and recognized as an inflow of resources in the period that the amounts become available. The other two items are changes in the total other postemployment benefits liability, and net pension liability reported in the government-wide statement of net position.

Risk Management

The District is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts: theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; natural disasters; and workers' compensation for which the District carries commercial insurance. Settled claims have not exceeded this commercial coverage in any of the past three fiscal years. There were no significant reductions in the District's insurance coverage in fiscal year 2023.

Interfund Transactions

In the governmental fund statements, transactions that constitute reimbursements to a fund for expenditures initially made from it that are properly applicable to another fund, are recorded as expenditures in the reimbursing fund and as reductions of expenditures in the fund that is reimbursed. All other interfund transactions, except reimbursements, are reported as transfers. In the government-wide financial statements, interfund transactions have been eliminated.

Net Position

Net position represents the difference between (a) assets and deferred outflows of resources and (b) liabilities and deferred inflows of resources in the District's financial statements. Net investment in capital assets consists of capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation, reduced by the outstanding balances of any long-term debt attributable to the acquisition, construction, or improvement of those assets. Restricted net position consists of restricted assets reduced by liabilities and deferred inflows of resources related to those assets. Unrestricted net position is the net amount of assets, deferred outflows of resources, liabilities, and deferred inflows of resources that are not included in the determination of net investment in capital assets or the restricted component of net position.

Fund Balance

The following classifications describe the relative strength of spending constraints:

- Nonspendable fund balance amounts are comprised of funds that cannot be spent because they are either not in spendable form or are legally or contractually required to be maintained intact. They include items that are inherently unspendable, such as, but not limited to, inventories, prepaid items, long-term receivables, non-financial assets held for resale, or the permanent principal of endowment funds.
- Restricted fund balance amounts are comprised of funds that have legally enforceable constraints placed on their use that are externally imposed by resource providers or creditors (such as through debt covenants), grantors, contributors, voters, or laws or regulations of other governments, or are imposed by law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation.
- Committed fund balance amounts are comprised of unrestricted funds used for specific purposes pursuant to constraints imposed by formal action of the School Board and that remain binding unless removed by the School Board by subsequent formal action. The formal action to commit a fund balance must occur prior to fiscal year end; however, the specific amounts actually committed can be determined in the subsequent fiscal year. A committed fund balance cannot be a negative number. A majority vote of the School Board is required to commit a fund balance to a specific purpose and subsequently to remove or change any constraint so adopted by the board.
- Assigned fund balance amounts are comprised of unrestricted funds constrained by the District's intent that they be used for specific purposes, but that do not meet the criteria to be classified as restricted or committed. In funds other than the general fund, the assigned fund balance represents the remaining amount that is not restricted or committed. The assigned fund balance category will cover the portion of a fund balance that reflects the District's intended use of those resources. The action to assign a fund balance may be taken after the end of the fiscal year. An assigned fund balance cannot be a negative number. A School Board, by majority vote, may assign fund balances to be used for specific purposes when appropriate. The board also delegates the power to assign fund balances to the following: Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent. Assignments so made shall be reported to the School Board on a monthly basis, either separately or as part of ongoing reporting by the assigning party if other than the School Board.

- Unassigned fund balance amounts are comprised of funds that have legally enforceable constraints placed on their use that either are externally imposed by resource providers or creditors (such as through debt covenants), grantors, contributors, voters, or laws or regulations of other governments, or are imposed by law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation.

The first priority is to utilize the balance as restricted fund balance. Committed funds will be considered second with assigned fund balance third when expenditures are incurred for purposes for which amounts in any of those unrestricted fund balance classifications could be used like assigned or unassigned. When net position resources are available for use, it is the District's policy to use restricted first, net investment in capital assets when expenditures are incurred for those purposes, and unrestricted last.

Fund Balance Spending Policy – It is the policy of the District to spend restricted resources first, followed by unrestricted resources. It is also the policy of the District to spend unrestricted resources of funds in the following order: committed, assigned and then unassigned.

Minimum Fund Balance Policy – The School Board adopted a policy that establishes a 10-14% non-grant general fund carryover balance target to help with financial stability. The 10-14% fund balance range is a part of the budget recommendation adopted by the School Board each fiscal year. This level provides sufficient unassigned resources to avoid short-term cash flow borrowing for the District.

Budget Stabilization Policy – Replenishing deficiencies – when fund balance falls below the minimum 10 percent range, the District will replenish shortages/deficiencies using the budget strategies and timeframes described as follows.

The following budgetary strategies shall be utilized by the District to replenish funding deficiencies:

- The District will reduce recurring expenditures to eliminate any structural deficit; or
- The District will increase revenues or pursue other funding sources; or
- Some combination of the two options above.

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 revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Implementation of GASB Statement No. 96

As of July 1, 2022, the District adopted GASB Statement No. 96, *Subscription-Based Information Technology Arrangements (SBITAs)*. The implementation of this standard establishes that a SBITA results in a right to use subscription IT asset—an intangible asset – and a corresponding liability. The standard provides the capitalization criteria for outlays other than subscription payments, including implementation costs of a SBITA. The Statement requires recognition of certain SBITA assets and liabilities for SBITAs that previously were recognized as outflows of resources based on the payment provisions of the contract. As a result of these adjustments there was no effect on beginning net position. The additional disclosures required by this standard are included in Note 7.

Subsequent Events

The District has evaluated subsequent events through December 7, 2023, the date which the financial statements were available to be issued.

Note 2 - Deposits and Investments

In accordance with North Dakota statutes, the District maintains deposits at the depository banks designated by the governing board. All depositories are members of the Federal Reserve System.

Deposits must either be deposited with the Bank of North Dakota or in other financial institution situated and doing business within the state. Deposits, other than with the Bank of North Dakota, must be fully insured or bonded. In lieu of a bond, a financial institution may provide a pledge of securities equal to 110% of the deposits not covered by insurance or bonds.

Authorized collateral includes bills, notes, or bonds issued by the United States government, its agencies or instrumentalities, all bonds and notes guaranteed by the United States government, federal land bank bonds, bonds, notes, warrants, certificates of indebtedness, insured certificates of deposit, shares of investment companies registered under the Investment Companies Act of 1940, and all other forms of securities issued by the state of North Dakota, its boards, agencies or instrumentalities or by any county, city, township, school district, park district, or other political subdivision of the state of North Dakota. Whether payable from special revenues or supported by the full faith and credit of the issuing body and bonds issued by any other state of the United States or such other securities approved by the banking board.

At year end June 30, 2023, the District's carrying amount of deposits was \$44,385,356, and the bank balances totaled \$78,478,544. Of the bank balances, \$59,837,982 was covered by Federal Depository Insurance or Securities Investor Protection Corporation Insurance. The remaining bank balances that required pledges that were collateralized with securities held by the pledging financial institution's agent in the government's name.

Custodial Credit Risk – In the case of deposits, this is the risk that in the event of bank failure, the District's deposits may be lost. The District does not have an investment policy for credit risk.

Credit Risk – The District may invest idle funds as authorized in North Dakota Statutes, as follows:

- a) Bonds, treasury bills and notes, or other securities that are a direct obligation insured or guaranteed by, the treasury of the United States, or its agencies, instrumentalities, or organizations created by an act of congress.
- b) Securities sold under agreements to repurchase written by a financial institution in which the underlying securities for the agreement to repurchase are the type listed above.
- c) Certificates of deposit fully insured by the federal deposit insurance corporation.
- d) Obligations of the state.

Interest Rate Risk – The District does not have a formal deposit policy that limits maturities as a means of managing exposure to fair-value losses arising from increasing interest rates.

Concentration of Credit Risk – The District does not have a limit on the amount it may invest in any one issuer.

The following table presents the District’s deposit and investment balances at June 30, 2023:

Type	Fair Value	Investment Maturities (in Years)		
		N/A	< 1	1 - 5
Cash and Cash Equivalents				
Deposits	\$ 44,385,356	\$ 44,385,356	\$ -	\$ -
Money market	30,579,396	30,579,396	-	-
Petty cash	8,380	8,380	-	-
Investments				
Fixed income	3,505,412	-	3,505,412	-
	\$ 78,478,544	\$ 74,973,132	\$ 3,505,412	\$ -

Cash and investments are included on the basic financial statements as follows:

Cash and Investments - Statement of Net Position	\$ 74,973,132
Restricted Cash and Cash Equivalents - Statement of Net Position	3,505,412
	\$ 78,478,544

Note 3 - Fair Value of Instruments

In accordance with GASB Statement No. 72, assets, deferred outflows of resources, liabilities and deferred inflows of resources are grouped at fair value in three levels, based on the markets in which the assets and liabilities are traded, and the reliability of the assumptions used to determine fair value. These levels are:

Level 1 – Valuation is based upon quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities that the reporting entity has the ability to access at the measurement date.

Level 2 – Valuation is based upon quoted prices for similar assets or liabilities in active markets, quoted prices for identical or similar assets or liabilities in markets that are not active, and model-based valuation techniques for which all significant assumptions are observable in the market.

Level 3 – Valuation is generated from model-based techniques that use significant assumptions not observable in the market. These unobservable assumptions reflect our own estimates of assumptions that market participants would use in pricing the asset or liability. Valuation techniques include use of option pricing models, discounted cash flow models and similar techniques.

US Treasury bonds totaling \$3,505,412, were classified as Level 2 inputs as of June 30, 2023.

Note 4 - Due from Other Governmental Units

Amounts receivable from other governments as of June 30, 2023, include:

<u>Fund</u>	<u>Federal</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>Other</u>	<u>Total</u>
Major Funds				
General	\$ 6,544,188	\$ 23,406	1,569,197	\$ 8,136,791
Non-major Funds	-	-	63,475	63,475
	<u>\$ 6,544,188</u>	<u>\$ 23,406</u>	<u>\$ 1,632,672</u>	<u>\$ 8,200,266</u>

Note 5 - Capital Assets

Capital asset activity for the year ended June 30, 2023 is as follows:

	Balance July 1, 2022	Additions	Deletions	Balance June 30, 2023
Capital Assets Not Being Depreciated/Amortized				
Land	\$ 17,673,846	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 17,673,846
Construction In Progress	66,005,702	18,212,812	(68,298,269)	15,920,245
Total capital assets, not being depreciated/amortized	83,679,548	18,212,812	(68,298,269)	33,594,091
Capital Assets Being Depreciated/Amortized				
Buildings	335,787,023	59,655,597	(261,772)	395,180,848
Equipment	3,953,120	677,540	-	4,630,660
Vehicles	5,764,343	1,135,310	(361,150)	6,538,503
Parking Lots	1,970,570	1,054,963	-	3,025,533
Land Improvements	27,514,574	9,681,508	-	37,196,082
Right-To-Use Leased Equipment	11,905	-	-	11,905
Right-To-Use Subscription Equipment	-	757,448	-	757,448
Total capital assets being depreciated/amortized	375,001,535	72,962,366	(622,922)	447,340,979
Less Accumulated Depreciation/Amortization for				
Buildings	71,705,091	8,122,349	(188,476)	79,638,964
Equipment	2,992,248	303,161	-	3,295,409
Vehicles	2,919,237	442,901	(344,658)	3,017,480
Parking Lots	925,169	180,533	-	1,105,702
Land Improvements	5,899,307	1,307,832	-	7,207,139
Right-To-Use Leased Equipment	644	2,248	-	2,892
Total accumulated depreciation/amortization	84,441,696	10,359,024	(533,134)	94,267,586
Net capital assets, depreciated/amortized	290,559,839	62,603,342	(89,788)	353,073,393
Total capital assets, net	\$ 374,239,387	\$ 80,816,154	\$ (68,388,057)	\$ 386,667,484

Depreciation/amortization expense for the year ended June 30, 2023 was charged to the following functions/programs:

Regular instruction	\$ 48,861
Special education	1,162
Career and technical education	9,414
General administration	80,381
Food service	54,912
Operations and maintenance	9,271,620
Transportation	436,722
Co-Curricular	455,952
Total depreciation/amortization expense	\$ 10,359,024

Construction in progress included the Horace High School Athletic Complex, Horace High School, Horace Elementary, Rocking Horse Farms – Meadowlark Elementary, and various WFHS upgrades and pavement projects.

Note 6 - Leases

Lease Receivable

During previous years, the District entered into a lease agreement as lessor for the rent of EBS Channels to a third party. The remaining receivable for the lease was \$68,550 as of June 30, 2023. As of June 30, 2023, the balance of the deferred inflow of resources was \$68,550. The District recognized \$5,336 in lease revenue and \$664 in interest revenue during the current fiscal year related to this lease. The lease has an interest rate of 0.93%.

During previous years, the District entered into a lease agreement as lessor for the rent of classroom space to a third party. The remaining receivable for the lease was \$937,503 as of June 30, 2023. As of June 30, 2023, the balance of the deferred inflow of resources was \$937,503. The District recognized \$74,001 in lease revenue and \$9,190 in interest revenue during the current fiscal year related to this lease. The lease has an interest rate of 0.94%.

During previous years, the District entered into a lease agreement as lessor for the rent of library space to a third party. As of June 30, 2023, the District's lease receivable was \$394,012. As of June 30, 2023, the balance of the deferred inflow of resources was \$394,012. The District recognized \$109,053 in lease revenue and \$14,347 in interest revenue during the current fiscal year related to this lease. The lease has an interest rate of 3.35%.

During the current year, the District entered into a lease agreement as lessor for the rent of a wireless tower to a third party. As of June 30, 2023, the District's lease receivable was \$245,389. As of June 30, 2023, the balance of the deferred inflow of resources was \$245,389. The District recognized \$7,960 in lease revenue and \$7,040 in interest revenue during the current fiscal year related to this lease. The lease has an interest rate of 3.77%.

The future principal and interest lease receipts as of June 30, 2023, were as follows:

Years Ending June 30,	Principal	Interest
2024	\$ 205,092	\$ 29,170
2025	213,762	24,344
2026	222,911	19,122
2027	114,828	14,946
2028	93,498	13,693
2029-2033	485,674	50,281
2033-2038	240,355	21,594
2039-2041	69,333	1,246
	\$ 1,645,453	\$ 174,396

Leases Payable

During the prior years, the District entered into a five-year lease agreement as lessee for the acquisition and use of mailing machines. The District is required to make monthly principal and interest payments of \$2,090. The lease has an interest rate of 2.84%. Interest expense on the lease liability for the year ended June 30, 2023, totaled \$298.

The future principal and interest lease payments as of June 30, 2023, were as follows:

Years Ending June 30,	Principal	Interest
2024	\$ 2,195	\$ 237
2025	2,257	174
2026	2,322	109
2027	2,390	43
	\$ 9,164	\$ 563

Note 7 - Subscription-Based Information Technology Arrangements (SBITAs)

In the current year, the District entered into a SBITA contract for the use of switching and wireless network subscription licenses. As of June 30, 2023, the value of the subscription liability was \$595,784. The District is required to make annual principal and interest payments of \$161,664 through July 2027. The subscription liability was valued using a discount rate of 3.36%.

During the fiscal year, the District recorded \$3,756 in interest expense for the subscription liability. Remaining principal and interest payments on subscriptions are as follows:

Years Ending June 30,	Principal	Interest
2024	\$ 141,646	\$ 20,018
2025	146,405	15,259
2026	151,324	10,340
2027	156,409	5,255
	\$ 595,784	\$ 50,872

Note 8 - Long-Term Liabilities

Changes in long-term liabilities during the year ended June 30, 2023 are as follows:

	Balance July 1, 2022	Additions	Deletions	Balance June 30, 2023	Due Within One Year
Bonds Payable	\$ 267,183,297	\$ -	\$ 12,998,949	\$ 254,184,348	\$ 13,918,450
Lease Liability	11,297	-	2,133	9,164	2,195
SBITA Liability	-	757,448	161,664	595,784	141,646
Special Assessments Payable	8,227,052	2,144,859	405,930	9,965,981	411,124
Unamortized Premium on Bond Issuance	18,656,080	-	1,499,826	17,156,254	1,499,826
Compensated Absences	902,419	14,299	74,851	841,867	84,187
	<u>\$ 294,980,145</u>	<u>\$ 2,916,606</u>	<u>\$ 15,143,353</u>	<u>\$ 282,753,398</u>	<u>\$ 16,057,428</u>

Following is a summary of outstanding debt as of June 30, 2023:

<u>General Obligation and Lease Revenue Bonds</u>	<u>Final</u>	<u>Interest Rate</u>	<u>Original Principal</u>	<u>Outstanding Balance</u>
Limited Tax School Building Bonds, Series 2010B	6/22	5.75%	\$ 5,000,000	\$ 5,000,000
General Obligation State School Construction Bonds, Series 2005	6/21	1.00%	2,500,000	272,975
General Obligation State School Construction Bonds, Series 2011B	5/33	4.00%	2,260,000	1,789,138
School Building Bonds Limited Tax, Series 2013/2015	5/33	1.23%	9,400,000	5,218,409
General Obligation State School Construction Bonds, Series 2013D	5/33	1.00%	9,040,000	4,743,557
General Obligation School Building Bonds, Series 2015B	5/35	3.00%	7,650,000	7,650,000
General Obligation School Building Bonds, Series 2016A	5/36	2.00%- 4.00%	45,000,000	32,015,000
General Obligation School Building Refunding Bonds, Series 2017	8/36	2.00%- 3.25%	45,450,000	36,415,000
Limited Tax School Building Bonds, Series 2018	8/38	4.00%- 5.00%	10,155,000	8,850,000
General Obligation School Building Bonds, Series 2019	8/38	4.00%- 5.00%	33,400,000	30,005,000
General Obligation State School Construction Fund Bonds, Series 2020A	6/40	2.00%	10,000,000	8,740,269
General Obligation School Building Bonds, Series 2020B	8/39	3.00%- 5.00%	59,145,000	54,935,000
General Obligation Special Assessment Prepayment Bonds 2020C	8/35	2.25%- 4.00%	10,515,000	9,235,000
General Obligation Refunding Bonds 2021	8/31	2.00%- 5.00%	42,725,000	40,525,000
General Obligation School Building Bonds, Series 2022A	6/42	2.00%- 3.00%	3,135,000	2,945,000
Limited Tax School Building Bonds, Series 2022B	6/40	2.00%- 3.00%	6,250,000	5,845,000
				<u>\$ 254,184,348</u>

Bonds Payable – These are for the acquisition and betterment of school sites and facilities, as well as facility improvements. Payments are made out of the debt service fund.

Special Assessments Payable added during 2023 totaling \$2,144,859. Total special assessments outstanding as of June 30, 2023 totaled \$9,965,981, and represent special assessment taxes levied by the City of Fargo, ND, City of West Fargo, ND, City of Horace, ND, and the City of Harwood, ND against the District for the district’s share of the benefit derived from city funded improvements. The special assessments payable are due in varying annual installments through 2046 with interest at 2.60% to 4.50%. Principal and interest payments are made by the capital projects fund.

Lease liability payments are made out of the general fund. See Note 6 for additional information on leases.

Subscription liability payments are made out of the general fund. See Note 7 for additional information on IT subscriptions.

Compensated Absences Payable – This amount consists of unused vacation and personal leave as discussed in Note 1. These expenses are paid out of the general fund.

Remaining principal and interest payments on long-term debt are as follows:

Years Ending June 30,	Bonds Payable		Special Assessment payable		Unamortized Bond	Total	
	Principal	Interest	Principal	Interest	Premium	Principal	Interest
2024	\$ 13,918,450	\$ 8,629,692	\$ 411,124	\$ 400,912	\$ 1,499,826	\$ 14,329,574	\$ 9,030,604
2025	14,598,262	8,050,755	416,507	384,276	1,499,826	15,014,769	8,435,031
2026	15,214,925	7,438,778	422,087	367,442	1,499,826	15,637,012	7,806,220
2027	20,994,138	6,814,416	427,872	350,405	1,498,201	21,422,010	7,164,821
2028	16,783,738	5,866,541	433,869	333,155	1,498,201	17,217,607	6,199,696
2029 - 2033	93,152,892	19,904,256	2,263,730	1,399,113	5,649,917	95,416,622	21,303,369
2034 - 2038	65,296,022	7,090,208	2,287,003	937,569	3,644,343	67,583,025	8,027,777
2039 - 2043	14,225,921	421,970	2,367,415	471,692	366,114	16,593,336	893,662
2044 - 2046	-	-	936,374	60,452	-	936,374	60,452
	<u>\$ 254,184,348</u>	<u>\$ 64,216,616</u>	<u>\$ 9,965,981</u>	<u>\$ 4,705,016</u>	<u>\$ 17,156,254</u>	<u>\$ 264,150,329</u>	<u>\$ 68,921,632</u>

Note 9 - Interfund Receivables, Payables, and Transfers

The following is a reconciliation of transfers in and transfers out as reported in the government fund financial statements for the year ended June 30, 2023:

Fund	Transfers In	Transfers Out
Major Funds		
General	\$ 882,877	\$ (13,710,674)
Debt Service	3,322,640	-
Capital Projects	9,850,000	(3,322,640)
Special Reserve	-	(882,877)
Non-major Funds	3,860,674	-
	\$ 17,916,191	\$ (17,916,191)

As of June 30, 2023, the general fund transferred \$3,860,674 to the co-curricular fund to cover their expenditures. The general fund transferred \$9,850,000 to the capital projects fund to cover their expenditures. The capital projects fund transferred \$3,322,640 to the debt service fund to cover debt payments. The special reserve fund transferred \$882,877 to the general fund to cover revenue shortfalls, but was lower than anticipated in the budget due to ESSER funding received and reduced costs throughout the District related to travel, supplies, and other expenses during quarantine and the significant amount of remote classes.

The District's interfund balances as of June 30, 2023 included \$6,500,000 owed by the General Fund to the Capital Projects fund for the new Meadowlark Elementary School for construction costs.

Note 10 - Defined Benefit Pension Plans

Substantially all employees of the District are required by state law to belong to defined benefit, multi-employer, cost-sharing pension plans administered by the North Dakota Public Employees Retirement System (NDPERS) or the Teachers Fund for Retirement (TFFR), both of which are administered on a state-wide basis.

For the year ended June 30, 2023, the District reported its proportionate share of deferred outflows of resources, net pension liabilities, deferred inflows of resources, and pension expense for each of the plans as follows:

	Deferred Outflows of Resources	Net Pension Liability	Deferred Inflows of Resources	Pension Expense (Income)
NDPERS	\$ 35,496,456	\$ 51,907,555	\$ 20,729,261	\$ 7,192,498
TFFR	30,271,470	138,312,463	3,692,874	11,274,912
Total all plans	\$ 65,767,926	\$ 190,220,018	\$ 24,422,135	\$ 18,467,410

1. General Information about the TFFR Pension Plan

North Dakota Teachers' Fund for Retirement (TFFR)

The following brief description of TFFR is provided for general information purposes only. Participants should refer to NDCC Chapter 15-39.1 for more complete information.

TFFR is a cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan covering all North Dakota public teachers and certain other teachers who meet various membership requirements. TFFR provides for pension, death and disability benefits. The cost to administer the TFFR plan is financed by investment income and contributions.

Responsibility for administration of the TFFR benefits program is assigned to a seven-member Board of Trustees (Board). The Board consists of the State Treasurer, the Superintendent of Public Instruction, and five members appointed by the Governor. The appointed members serve five-year terms which end on June 30 of alternate years. The appointed Board members must include two active teachers, one active school administrator, and two retired members. The TFFR Board submits any necessary or desirable changes in statutes relating to the administration of the fund, including benefit terms, to the Legislative Assembly for consideration. The Legislative Assembly has final authority for changes to benefit terms and contribution rates.

Pension Benefits

For purposes of determining pension benefits, members are classified within one of three categories. Tier 1 grandfathered and Tier 1 non-grandfathered members are those with service credit on file as of July 1, 2008. Tier 2 members are those newly employed and returning refunded members on or after July 1, 2008.

Tier 1 Grandfathered

A Tier 1 grandfathered member is entitled to receive unreduced benefits when three or more years of credited service as a teacher in North Dakota have accumulated, the member is no longer employed as a teacher and the member has reached age 65, or the sum of age and years of service credit equals or exceeds 85. TFFR permits early retirement from ages 55 to 64, with benefits actuarially reduced by 6% per year for every year the member's retirement age is less than 65 years or the date as of which age plus service equal 85. In either case, benefits may not exceed the maximum benefits specified in Section 415 of the Internal Revenue Code.

Pension benefits paid by TFFR are determined by NDCC Section 15-39.1-10. Monthly benefits under TFFR are equal to the three highest annual salaries earned divided by 36 months and multiplied by 2.00% times the number of service credits earned. Retirees may elect payment of benefits in the form of a single life annuity, 100% or 50% joint and survivor annuity, ten or twenty-year term certain annuity, partial lump-sum option or level income with Social Security benefits. Members may also qualify for benefits calculated under other formulas.

Tier 1 Non-grandfathered

A Tier 1 non-grandfathered member is entitled to receive unreduced benefits when three or more years of credited service as a teacher in North Dakota have accumulated, the member is no longer employed as a teacher and the member has reached age 65, or has reached age 60 and the sum of age and years of service credit equals or exceeds 90. TFFR permits early retirement from ages 55 to 64, with benefits actuarially reduced by 8% per year from the earlier of age 60/Rule of 90 or age 65. In either case, benefits may not exceed the maximum benefits specified in Section 415 of the Internal Revenue Code.

Pension benefits paid by TFFR are determined by NDCC Section 15-39.1-10. Monthly benefits under TFFR are equal to the three highest annual salaries earned divided by 36 months and multiplied by 2.00% times the number of service credits earned. Retirees may elect payment of benefits in the form of a single life annuity, 100% or 50% joint and survivor annuity, ten or twenty-year term certain annuity, partial lump-sum option or level income with Social Security benefits. Members may also qualify for benefits calculated under other formulas.

Tier 2

A Tier 2 member is entitled to receive unreduced benefits when five or more years of credited service as a teacher in North Dakota have accumulated, the member is no longer employed as a teacher and the member has reached age 65, or has reached age 60 and the sum of age and years of service credit equals or exceeds 90. TFFR permits early retirement from ages 55 to 64, with benefits actuarially reduced by 8% per year from the earlier of age 60/Rule of 90 or age 65. In either case, benefits may not exceed the maximum benefits specified in Section 415 of the Internal Revenue Code.

Pension benefits paid by TFFR are determined by NDCC Section 15-39.1-10. Monthly benefits under TFFR are equal to the five highest annual salaries earned divided by 60 months and multiplied by 2.00% times the number of service credits earned. Retirees may elect payment of benefits in the form of a single life annuity, 100% or 50% joint and survivor annuity, ten or twenty-year term certain annuity, partial lump-sum option or level income with Social Security benefits. Members may also qualify for benefits calculated under other formulas.

Death and Disability Benefits

Death benefits may be paid to a member's designated beneficiary. If a member's death occurs before retirement, the benefit options available are determined by the member's vesting status prior to death. If a member's death occurs after retirement, the death benefit received by the beneficiary (if any) is based on the retirement plan the member selected at retirement.

An active member is eligible to receive disability benefits when: (a) a total disability lasting 12 months or more does not allow the continuation of teaching, (b) the member has accumulated five years of credited service in North Dakota, and (c) the Board of Trustees of TFFR has determined eligibility based upon medical evidence. The amount of the disability benefit is computed by the retirement formula in NDCC Section 15-39.1-10 without consideration of age and uses the member's actual years of credited service. There is no actuarial reduction for reason of disability retirement.

Member and Employer Contributions

Member and employer contributions paid to TFFR are set by NDCC Section 15-39.1-09. Every eligible teacher in the State of North Dakota is required to be a member of TFFR and is assessed at a rate of 11.75% of salary as defined by NDCC Section 15-39.1-04. Every governmental body employing a teacher must also pay into TFFR a sum equal to 12.75% of the teacher's salary. Member and employer contributions will be reduced to 7.75% each when the fund reaches 100% funded ratio on an actuarial basis.

A vested member who terminates covered employment may elect a refund of contributions paid plus 6% interest or defer payment until eligible for pension benefits. A non-vested member who terminates covered employment must claim a refund of contributions paid before age 70½. Refunded members forfeit all service credits under TFFR. These service credits may be repurchased upon return to covered employment under certain circumstances, as defined by the NDCC.

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

At June 30, 2023, the District reported a liability of \$138,312,463 for its proportionate share of the net pension liability. The net pension liability was measured as of June 30, 2022, and the total pension liability used to calculate the net pension liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of that date. The district's proportion of the net pension liability was based on the district's share of covered payroll in the pension plan relative to the covered payroll of all participating TFFR employers. At June 30, 2022, the District's proportion was 9.4991% which was an increase from 9.3148% from its proportion measured as of June 30, 2021.

For the year ended June 30, 2023, the district recognized net pension expense of \$11,274,912. At June 30, 2023, the district 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
Differences Between Expected and Actual Economic Experience	\$ 596,046	\$ 3,692,874
Changes in Actuarial Assumptions	2,812,452	-
Difference Between Projected and Actual Investment Earnings	10,359,804	-
Change in Proportion and Differences Between Contributions Made and District's Proportionate Share of Contributions	6,571,705	-
District's Contributions to TFFR Subsequent to the Measurement Date	9,931,463	-
Total	\$ 30,271,470	\$ 3,692,874

The \$9,931,463 reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions resulting from district contributions subsequent to the measurement date 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:

Years Ended June 30,	Pension Expense Amount
2024	\$ 3,988,027
2025	2,211,617
2026	43,544
2027	9,214,132
2028	488,399
Thereafter	701,414

Actuarial Assumptions

The total pension liability in the July 1, 2022 actuarial valuation was determined using the following actuarial assumptions, applied to all periods included in the measurement:

Assumptions	TFFR
Inflation	2.30%
Salary Increases	3.80% to 14.80%, varying by service, including inflation and productivity
Investment Rate of Return	7.25%, net of investment expenses, including inflation
Cost-Of-Living Adjustments	None

For active and inactive members, mortality rates were based on the PubT-2010 Employee table, projected with generational improvement using Scale MP-2019. For healthy retirees, mortality rates were based on 104% of the PubT-2010 Retiree table for retirees and to 95% of the PubT-2010 Contingent Survivor table for beneficiaries, both projected with generational improvement using Scale MP-2019. For disability retirees, mortality rates were based on the PubNS-2010 Non-Safety Disabled Mortality table projected with generational improvement using Scale MP-2019.

The actuarial assumptions used were based on the results of an actuarial experience study dated March 19, 2020. They are the same as the assumptions used in the July 1, 2022, funding actuarial valuation for TFFR.

The TFFR Board is responsible for establishing investment policy for the fund assets under NDCC 15-39.1-05.2. Benefit payments are projected to occur over a long period of time. This allows TFFR to adopt a long-term investment horizon and asset allocation policy for the management of fund assets. Asset allocation policy is critical because it defines the basic risk and return characteristics of the investment portfolio. Asset allocation targets are established using an asset-liability analysis designed to assist the Board in determining an acceptable volatility target for the fund and an optimal asset allocation policy mix. This asset-liability analysis considers both sides of the plan balance sheet, utilizing both quantitative and qualitative inputs, in order to estimate the potential impact of various asset class mixes on key measures of total plan risk, including the resulting estimated impact of funded status and contribution rates.

The long-term expected rate of return on pension 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 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. Best estimates of arithmetic real rates of return for each major asset class included in the pension plan's target asset allocation as of July 1, 2021 are summarized in the following table:

Asset Class	Target Allocations	Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return
Global Equity	55%	6.6%
Global Fixed Income	26%	0.4%
Global Real Assets	18%	4.6%
Cash Equivalents	1%	-1.1%
	100%	

Discount Rate

The discount rate used to measure the total pension liability was 7.25% percent as of June 30, 2022. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumes that member and employer contributions will be made at rates equal to those based on the July 1, 2022, Actuarial Valuation Report. For this purpose, only employer contributions that are intended to fund benefits of current plan members and their beneficiaries are included. Projected employer contributions that are intended to fund the service costs of future plan members and their beneficiaries, as well as projected contributions from future plan members, are not included. Based on those assumptions, the pension plan's fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments for current plan members as of July 1, 2022. 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 as of June 30, 2022.

Sensitivity of the District’s Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability to Changes in the Discount rate.

The following presents the Employer's proportionate share of the net pension liability calculated using the discount rate of 7.25 percent, as well as what the Employer's proportionate share of the net pension liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1-percentage-point lower (6.25 percent) or 1-percentage-point higher (8.25 percent) than the current rate:

	<u>1% Decrease in Discount Rate</u>	<u>Discount Rate</u>	<u>1% Increase in Discount Rate</u>
TFFR Discount Rate	6.25%	7.25%	8.25%
District’s Proportionate Share of the TFFR Net Pension Liability	\$ 190,028,642	\$ 138,312,463	\$ 95,420,408

Pension Plan Fiduciary Net Position

Detailed information about the pension plan’s fiduciary net position is available in the separately issued TFFR financial report. TFFR’s Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) is located at www.nd.gov/rio/sib/publications/cafr/default.htm.

2. PENSION PLANS - ND PERS

General Information about the NDPERS Pension Plan

North Dakota Public Employees Retirement System (NDPERS) (Main System)

The following brief description of NDPERS is provided for general information purposes only. Participants should refer to NDCC Chapter 54-52 for more complete information.

NDPERS is a cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan that covers substantially all employees of the State of North Dakota, its agencies and various participating political subdivisions. NDPERS provides for pension, death and disability benefits. The cost to administer the plan is financed through the contributions and investment earnings of the plan.

Responsibility for administration of the NDPERS defined benefit pension plan is assigned to a Board comprised of nine members. The Board consists of a Chairman, who is appointed by the Governor; one member appointed by the Attorney General; one member appointed by the State Health Officer; three members elected by the active membership of the NDPERS system, one member elected by the retired public employees and two members of the legislative assembly appointed by the chairman of the legislative management.

Pension Benefits

Benefits are set by statute. NDPERS has no provisions or policies with respect to automatic and ad hoc post-retirement benefit increases. Member of the Main System are entitled to unreduced monthly pension benefits beginning when the sum of age and years of credited service equal or exceed 85 (Rule of 85), or at normal retirement age (65). For members hired on or after January 1, 2016 the Rule of 85 was replaced with the Rule of 90 with a minimum age of 60. The monthly pension benefit is equal to 2.00% of their average monthly salary, using the highest 36 months out of the last 180 months of service, for each year of service. For members hired on or after January 1, 2020 the 2.00% multiplier was replaced with a 1.75% multiplier. The plan permits early retirement at ages 55-64 with three or more years of service.

Members may elect to receive the pension benefits in the form of a single life, joint and survivor, term-certain annuity, or partial lump sum with ongoing annuity. Members may elect to receive the value of their accumulated contributions, plus interest, as a lump sum distribution upon retirement or termination, or they may elect to receive their benefits in the form of an annuity. For each member electing an annuity, total payment will not be less than the members' accumulated contributions plus interest.

Death and Disability Benefits

Death and disability benefits are set by statute. If an active member dies with less than three years of service for the Main System, a death benefit equal to the value of the member's accumulated contributions, plus interest, is paid to the member's beneficiary. If the member has earned more than three years of credited service for the Main System, the surviving spouse will be entitled to a single payment refund, life-time monthly payments in an amount equal to 50% of the member's accrued normal retirement benefit, or monthly payments in an amount equal to the member's accrued 100% Joint and Survivor retirement benefit if the member had reached normal retirement age prior to date of death. If the surviving spouse dies before the member's accumulated pension benefits are paid, the balance will be payable to the surviving spouse's designated beneficiary.

Eligible members who become totally disabled after a minimum of 180 days of service, receive monthly disability benefits equal to 25% of their final average salary with a minimum benefit of \$100. To qualify under this section, the member has to become disabled during the period of eligible employment and apply for benefits within one year of termination. The definition for disabled is set by the NDPERS in the North Dakota Administrative Code.

Refunds of Member Account Balance

Upon termination, if a member of the Main System is not vested (is not 65 or does not have three years of service), they will receive the accumulated member contributions and vested employer contributions, plus interest, or may elect to receive this amount at a later date. If the member has vested, they have the option of applying for a refund or can remain as a terminated vested participant. If a member terminated and withdrew their accumulated member contribution and is subsequently reemployed, they have the option of repurchasing their previous service.

Member and Employer Contributions

Member and employer contributions paid to NDPERS are set by statute and are established as a percent of salaries and wages. Member contribution rates are 7% and employer contribution rates are 7.12% of covered compensation. For members hired on or after January 1, 2020 member contribution rates are 7% and employer contribution rates are 8.26% of covered compensation.

The member's account balance includes the vested employer contributions equal to the member's contributions to an eligible deferred compensation plan. The minimum member contribution is \$25, and the maximum may not exceed the following:

1 to 12 months of service	Greater of one percent of monthly salary or \$25
13 to 24 months of service	Greater of two percent of monthly salary or \$25
25 to 36 months of service	Greater of three percent of monthly salary or \$25
Longer than 36 months of service	Greater of four percent of monthly salary or \$25

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

At June 30, 2023, the District reported a liability of \$51,907,555 for its proportionate share of net pension liability. The net pension liability was measured as of June 30, 2022, and the total pension liability used to calculate the net pension liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of that date. The district's proportion of the net pension liability was based on the district's share of covered payroll in the Main System pension plan relative to the covered payroll of all participating Main System employers. At June 30, 2022, the district's proportion was 1.8023%, which is an increase from 1.7929% as of June 30, 2021.

For the year ended June 30, 2023, the District recognized net pension expense of \$1,792,498. At June 30, 2023, the district 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
Differences Between Expected and Actual Economic Experience	\$ 270,766	\$ 991,524
Changes in Actuarial Assumptions	31,041,482	19,244,001
Difference Between Projected and Actual Investment Earnings	1,899,805	-
Change in Proportion and Differences Between Contributions Made and District's Proportionate Share of Contributions	605,077	493,736
District's Contributions to NDPERS Subsequent to the Measurement Date	<u>1,679,326</u>	<u>-</u>
Total	<u>\$ 35,496,456</u>	<u>\$ 20,729,261</u>

The \$1,679,326 reported as deferred outflows of resources related to pensions resulting from district contributions subsequent to the measurement date 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.

Years Ended June 30,	Pension Expense Amount
2024	\$ 3,867,454
2025	4,253,293
2026	140,443
2027	4,826,679

Actuarial Assumptions

The total pension liability in the July 1, 2022 actuarial valuation was determined using the following actuarial assumptions, applied to all periods included in the measurement:

Assumptions	NDPERS
Inflation	2.25% per year
Salary Increases	3.50% to 17.75% including inflation
Investment Rate of Return	7.00%, net of investment expenses
Cost-of-living adjustments	None

For active members, inactive members and healthy retirees, mortality rates were based on the Sex-distinct Pub-2010 table for General Employees, with scaling based on actual experience. Respective corresponding tables were used for healthy retirees, disabled retirees, and active members. Mortality rates are projected from 2010 using the MP-2019 scale.

The long-term expected rate of return on pension 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 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. Best estimates of arithmetic real rates of return for each major asset class included in the Fund's target asset allocation are summarized in the following table:

Asset Class	Target Allocations	Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return
Domestic Equity	30%	5.75%
International Equity	21%	6.45%
Private Equity	7%	9.20%
Domestic Fixed Income	23%	0.34%
Global Real Assets	19%	4.35%
Cash Equivalents	0%	0.00%
	100%	

Discount Rate

For PERS, GASB Statement No. 67 includes a specific requirement for the discount rate that is used for the purpose of the measurement of the Total Pension Liability. This rate considers the ability of the System to meet benefit obligations in the future. To make this determination, employer contributions, employee contributions, benefit payments, expenses and investment returns are projected into the future. The current employer and employee fixed rate contributions are assumed to be made in each future year. The Plan Net Position (assets) in future years can then be determined and compared to its obligation to make benefit payments in those years. In years where assets are not projected to be sufficient to meet benefit payments, which is the case for the PERS plan, the use of a municipal bond rate is required.

The Single Discount Rate (SDR) is equivalent to applying these two rates to the benefits that are projected to be paid during the different time periods. The SDR reflects (1) the long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments (during the period in which the fiduciary net position is projected to be sufficient to pay benefits) and (2) a tax-exempt municipal bond rate based on an index of 20-year general obligation bonds with an average AA credit rating as of the measurement date (to the extent that the contributions for use with the long-term expected rate of return are not met).

For the purpose of this valuation, the expected rate of return on pension plan investments is 7.00%; the municipal bond rate is 1.92%; and the resulting Single Discount Rate is 7.00%.

Sensitivity of the District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability to Changes in the Discount rate

The following presents the Employer's proportionate share of the net pension liability calculated using the discount rate of 7.00 percent, as well as what the Employer's proportionate share of the net pension liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1-percentage-point lower (6.00 percent) or 1-percentage-point higher (8.00 percent) than the current rate:

	1% Decrease in Discount Rate	Discount Rate	1% Increase in Discount Rate
NDPERS Discount Rate	6.00%	7.00%	8.00%
District's Proportionate Share of the NDPERS Net Pension Liability	\$ 68,514,402	\$ 51,907,555	\$ 38,273,908

Pension Plan Fiduciary Net Position

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

NDPERS issues a publicly available financial report that includes financial statements and required supplementary information for PERS. That report may be obtained on the internet at www.nd.gov/ndpers, or by writing to NDPERS at PO Box 1657, Bismarck, ND 58502.

Note 11 - Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB) – ND PERS

General Information about the OPEB Plan

North Dakota Public Employees Retirement System OPEB Plan

The following brief description of NDPERS is provided for general information purposes only. Participants should refer to NDAC Chapter 71-06 for more complete information.

NDPERS OPEB plan is a cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit OPEB plan that covers members receiving retirement benefits from the PERS, the HPRS, and Judges retired under Chapter 27-17 of the North Dakota Century Code a credit toward their monthly health insurance premium under the state health plan based upon the member's years of credited service. Effective July 1, 2015, the credit is also available to apply towards monthly premiums under the state dental, vision and long-term care plan and any other health insurance plan. . Effective August 1, 2019 the benefit may be used for any eligible health, prescription drug plan, dental, vision, or long term care plan premium expense. The Retiree Health Insurance Credit Fund is advance-funded on an actuarially determined basis.

Responsibility for administration of the NDPERS defined benefit OPEB plan is assigned to a Board comprised of nine members. The Board consists of a Chairman, who is appointed by the Governor; one member appointed by the Attorney General; one member appointed by the State Health Officer; three members elected by the active membership of the NDPERS system, one member elected by the retired public employees and two members of the legislative assembly appointed by the chairman of the legislative management.

OPEB Benefits

The employer contribution for the PERS, the HPRS and the Defined Contribution Plan is set by statute at 1.14% of covered compensation. The employer contribution for employees of the state board of career and technical education is 2.99% of covered compensation for a period of eight years ending October 1, 2015. Employees participating in the retirement plan as part-time/temporary members are required to contribute 1.14% of their covered compensation to the Retiree Health Insurance Credit Fund. Employees purchasing previous service credit are also required to make an employee contribution to the Fund. The benefit amount applied each year is shown as "prefunded credit applied" on the Statement of Changes in Plan Net Position for the OPEB trust funds. Beginning January 1, 2020, members first enrolled in the NDPERS Main System and the Defined Contribution Plan on or after that date will not be eligible to participate in RHIC. Therefore, RHIC will become for the most part a closed plan. There were no other benefit changes during the year.

Retiree health insurance credit benefits and death and disability benefits are set by statute. There are no provisions or policies with respect to automatic and ad hoc post-retirement benefit increases. Employees who are receiving monthly retirement benefits from the PERS, the HPRS, the Defined Contribution Plan, the Chapter 27-17 judges or an employee receiving disability benefits, or the spouse of a deceased annuitant receiving a surviving spouse benefit or if the member selected a joint and survivor option are eligible to receive a credit toward their monthly health insurance premium under the state health plan.

Effective July 1, 2015, the credit is also available to apply towards monthly premiums under the state dental, vision and long-term care plan and any other health insurance plan. Effective August 1, 2019 the benefit may be used for any eligible health, prescription drug plan, dental, vision, or long term care plan premium expense. The benefits are equal to \$5.00 for each of the employee's, or deceased employee's years of credited service not to exceed the premium in effect for selected coverage. The retiree health insurance credit is also available for early retirement with reduced benefits.

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

At June 30, 2023, the District reported a liability of \$1,728,449 for its proportionate share of net OPEB liability. The net OPEB liability was measured as of June 30, 2022, and the total OPEB liability used to calculate the net OPEB liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of that date. The district's proportion of the net OPEB liability was based on the district's share of covered payroll in the OPEB plan relative to the covered payroll of all participating OPEB employers. At June 30, 2022, the district's proportion was 1.44%, which was a decrease from its proportion of 1.52% measured as of June 30, 2021.

For the year ended June 30, 2023, the District recognized OPEB expense of \$270,856. At June 30, 2023, the district 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
Differences Between Expected and Actual Experience	\$ 40,976	\$ 14,864
Changes in Assumptions	435,376	-
Difference Between Projected and Actual Investment Earnings	232,730	-
Change in Proportion and Differences Between Contributions Made and District's Proportionate Share of Contributions	51,281	118,517
Employer Contributions Subsequent to the Measurement Date	165,099	-
	\$ 925,462	\$ 133,381

The \$165,099 reported as deferred outflows of resources related to OPEB resulting from district contributions subsequent to the measurement date 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 OPEBs will be recognized in OPEB expense as follows.

Years Ended June 30,	Pension Expense Amount
2024	\$ 164,387
2025	152,238
2026	126,921
2027	183,436

Actuarial Assumptions

The total OPEB liability in the July 1, 2022 actuarial valuation was determined using the following actuarial assumptions, applied to all periods included in the measurement:

Inflation	2.25%
Salary Increases	Not applicable
Investment rate of return	6.50%, net of investment expenses
Cost of living adjustment	None

For active members, inactive members and healthy retirees, mortality rates were based on the MortalityPub-2010 Healthy Retiree Mortality table (for General Employees), sex-distinct, with rates multiplied by 103% for males and 101% for females. Pub-2010 Disabled Retiree Mortality table (for General Employees), sex-distinct, with rates multiplied by 117% for males and 112% for females. Pub-2010 Employee Mortality table (for General Employees), sex-distinct, with rates multiplied by 92% for both males and females. Mortality rates are projected from 2010 using the MP-2019 scale.

The long-term expected investment rate of return assumption for the RHIC fund was determined using a building-block method in which best-estimate ranges of expected future real rates of return (expected returns, net of RHIC 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. Estimates of arithmetic real rates of return, for each major asset class included in the RHIC's target asset allocation as of July 1, 2022 are summarized in the following table:

Asset Class	Target Allocations	Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return
Board US Equity	39%	5.75%
Fixed Income	35%	0.22%
International Equity	26%	6.00%
	100%	

Discount Rate

The discount rate used to measure the total OPEB liability was 5.39%. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed plan member and statutory/Board approved employer contributions will be made at rates equal to those based on the July 1, 2022 actuarial valuation reports. For this purpose, only employer contributions that are intended to fund benefits of current RHIC members and their beneficiaries are included. Projected employer contributions that are intended to fund the service costs of future plan members and their beneficiaries are not included. Based on those assumptions, the RHIC fiduciary net position was projected to be sufficient to make all projected future benefit payments of current plan members. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on RHIC investments was applied to all periods of projected benefit payments to determine the total OPEB liability.

Sensitivity of the District’s Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability to Changes in the Discount rate

The following presents the net OPEB liability of the Plans as of June 30, 2022, calculated using the discount rate of 5.39%, as well as what the RHIC net OPEB liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1-percentage-point lower (4.39 percent) or 1-percentage-point higher (6.39 percent) than the current rate:

	<u>1% Decrease in Discount Rate</u>	<u>Discount Rate</u>	<u>1% Increase in Discount Rate</u>
Discount Rate	4.39%	5.39%	6.39%
Net OPEB Liability	\$ 2,206,262	\$ 1,728,449	\$ 1,327,339

Note 12 - Commitments and Contingencies

Federal Revenue

Amounts received or receivable from federal and state agencies are subject to agency audit and adjustment. Any disallowed claims, including amounts already collected, may constitute a liability of the applicable funds. The amount, if any, of funds which may be disallowed by the agencies cannot be determined at this time although the District expects such amounts, if any, to be immaterial.

Contingencies

The District has the usual and customary legal claims pending at year-end. Although the outcomes of these lawsuits are not presently determinable, the District believes that the resolution of these matters will not have a material adverse effect on its financial position.

Management and Sponsorship Agreements

The District has two sponsorship agreements with Essentia Health in place. The first is a sports medicine services sponsorship agreement in which the District receives \$160,000 annually through July 1, 2028. The second sponsorship agreement relates to the West Fargo Sports Arena main rink which the District receives \$37,500 annually through July 1, 2032. Future receipts include the following:

Years Ending June 30,	
2024	\$ 197,500
2025	197,500
2026	197,500
2027	197,500
2028	197,500
2029-2032	150,000
	\$ 1,137,500

Commitments

In addition, the district has the following commitments specific to retainage as of June 30, 2023.

Project	Total Contract with Change Orders	Total Completed	Retainage Payable	Remaining Balance
Horace Elementary	\$ 3,331,078	\$ 349,405	\$ 20,840	\$ 3,002,513
Rocking Horse Farms - Meadowlark Elementary	20,905,706	14,687,731	742,069	6,960,044
HHS Storage Shed	72,418	19,069	-	53,349
2023 Pavement Improvement Project	1,210,079	90,242	10,889	1,130,726
	\$ 25,519,281	\$ 15,146,447	\$ 773,798	\$ 11,146,632

Construction costs are reported as construction in progress with estimated completion dates between September 2023 through February 2024.

Note 13 - Tax Abatements

Cass County and certain political subdivisions within the county can negotiate property tax abatement agreements with individuals and various commercial entities/businesses. Cass County and the political subdivisions within have the following types of tax abatement agreements with various individuals and commercial entities at December 31, 2022 and effective through June 30, 2023.

The District will state individually the parties who received a benefit of the reduction in taxes of 20% or greater when compared to the total reduction of taxes for all tax abatement programs.

New and Expanding Business

Businesses that are primarily industrial, commercial, retail or service are eligible for property tax incentives for new and expanding businesses if they meet state requirements (NDCC 40.57.1-03) and the guidelines stated below.

The following criteria are only guidelines.

General Criteria – The governing body of the city or county may grant a partial or complete exemption from ad valorem taxation on all buildings, structure, fixtures, and improvements used in or necessary to the operation of a project for period not exceeding five years from the date of commencement of project operations. The governing body may also grant a partial or complete exemption from ad valorem taxation on buildings, structures, fixtures, and improvements used in or necessary to the operation of a project that produces or manufactures a product from agricultural commodities for all or part of the sixth year through the tenth year from the date of commencement of project operations. As a result of agreements made by the county and city, the District had a reduction in taxes as noted.

Reduction in taxes due to agreements with other entities – \$157,588.

Public Charity Exemption

Public charities are eligible for property tax incentives if they meet state requirements (NDCC 57-02-08(8)) and the guidelines stated below. The following criteria are only guidelines.

All buildings belonging to institutions of public charity, including public hospitals and nursing homes licensed pursuant to section 23-16-01 under the control of religious or charitable institutions, used wholly or in part for public charity, together with the land actually occupied by such institutions not leased or otherwise used with a view to profit. The exemption provided by this subsection includes any dormitory, dwelling, or residential-type structure, together with necessary land on which such structure is located, owned by a religious or charitable organization recognized as tax exempt under section 501(c)(3) of the United States Internal Revenue Code which is occupied by members of said organization who are subject to a religious vow of poverty and devote and donate substantially all of their time to the religious or charitable activities of the owner.

Exemption Criteria – Property exempt if the qualified facility is used wholly or in part for public charity, together with the land occupied by such institutions not leased or otherwise used with a view to profit.

As a result of agreements made by the county and city, the District had a reduction in taxes as noted.

Reduction in taxes due to agreements with other entities – \$2,058,297.

Single Family Residence

Single family property owners are eligible for property tax incentives for the specified property that meet state requirements (NDCC 57-02-08(35) and NDCC 57-02-08(42)). General Criteria -- Up to one hundred fifty thousand dollars of the true and full value of all new single-family and condominium and townhouse residential property, exclusive of the land on which it is situated, is exempt from taxation for the first two taxable years after the taxable year in which construction is completed and the residence is owned and occupied for the first time if all the following conditions are met:

- a. The governing body of the city, for property within city limits, or the governing body of the county, for property outside city limits, has approved the exemption of the property by resolution. A resolution adopted under this subsection may be rescinded or amended at any time. The governing body of the city or county may limit or impose conditions upon exemptions under this subsection, including limitations on the time during which an exemption is allowed.
- b. Special assessments and taxes on the property upon which the residence is situated are not delinquent.

As a result of agreements made by the county and city, the District had a reduction in taxes as noted.

Reduction in taxes due to agreements with other entities – \$911,091.

Childhood Service Exemption

A governing body may grant a property tax exemption for the portion of fixtures, buildings, and improvements, used primarily to provide early childhood services by a corporation, limited liability company, or organization licensed under NDCC 50-11.1 or used primarily as an adult day care center. (NDCC 57-02-08(36)).

This exemption is not available for property used as a residence.

As a result of agreements made by the county and city, the District had a reduction in taxes as noted.

Reduction in taxes due to agreements with other entities – \$98,901.

Commercial and Residential

Commercial and residential property are eligible for property tax incentives if they meet state requirements (NDCC 57-05.2-03) and the guidelines stated below. The following criteria are only guidelines.

Under NDCC 57-02.2-03 improvements to commercial and residential buildings and structures as defined in this chapter may be exempt from assessment and taxation for up to five years from the date of commencement of making the improvements, if the exemption is approved by the governing body of the city, for property within city limits, or the governing body of the county, for property outside city limits. The governing body of the city or county may limit or impose conditions upon exemptions under this section, including limitations on the time during which an exemption is allowed. A resolution adopted by the governing body of the city or county under this section may be rescinded or amended at any time. The exemption provided by this chapter shall apply only to that part of the valuation resulting from the improvements which is over and above the assessed valuation, exclusive of the land, placed upon the building or structure for the last assessment period immediately preceding the date of commencement of the improvements. Any person, corporation, limited liability company, association, or organization owning real property and seeking an exemption under this chapter shall file with the assessor a certificate setting out the facts upon which the claim for exemption is based. The assessor shall determine whether the improvements qualify for the exemption based on the resolution of the governing body of the city or county, and if the assessor determines that the exemption should apply, upon approval of the governing body, the exemption is valid for the prescribed period and shall not terminate upon the sale or exchange of the property but shall be transferable to subsequent owners. If the certificate is not filed as herein provided, the assessor shall regard the improvements as nonexempt and shall assess them as such.

As a result of agreements made by the county and city, the District had a reduction in taxes as noted.

Reduction in taxes due to agreements with other entities – \$71,115.

Note 14 - Health Self-Insurance

The District is self-insured with respect to health, vision, and dental insurance costs. Terms of the plan include a stop-loss prevention of \$200,000, which limits the District’s liability. The following is the activity for the year ended June 30, 2023:

Claims incurred but not reported at beginning of year	\$ 2,315,789
Claims incurred	21,727,086
Claims paid	<u>(21,686,346)</u>
Claims incurred but not reported at end of year	<u>\$ 2,356,529</u>

Note 15 - Fund Balance

	<u>General</u>	<u>Debt Service</u>	<u>Capital Projects</u>	<u>Special Reserve</u>	<u>Other Government Funds</u>	<u>Totals</u>
Nonspendable						
Prepaid items	\$ 360,687	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 360,687
Inventories	64,420	-	-	-	127,236	191,656
Total nonspendable	<u>425,107</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>127,236</u>	<u>552,343</u>
Restricted						
Capital Projects	-	-	12,209,757	-	-	12,209,757
Debt service	-	16,032,753	-	-	-	16,032,753
Special reserve	-	-	-	7,678,900	-	7,678,900
Total restricted	<u>-</u>	<u>16,032,753</u>	<u>12,209,757</u>	<u>7,678,900</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>35,921,410</u>
Assigned						
Food service	-	-	-	-	6,316,584	6,316,584
Unassigned						
	<u>24,013,919</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>24,013,919</u>
Total fund balance	<u><u>\$ 24,439,026</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 16,032,753</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 12,209,757</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 7,678,900</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 6,443,820</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 66,804,256</u></u>



Required Supplementary Information
June 30, 2023

West Fargo Public Schools

West Fargo Public Schools
 Schedule of Employers Share of Net OPEB Liability and Related Ratios
 June 30, 2023

Schedule of Employers Share of Net OPEB Liability*

NDPERS - OPEB	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019
School District's Proportion of the net OPEB Liability	1.44%	1.52%	1.71%	1.73%	1.61%
School District's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability	\$ 1,728,449	\$ 843,195	\$ 1,442,065	\$ 1,387,313	\$ 1,270,877
School District's Covered Payroll	\$ 14,866,663	\$ 16,529,033	\$ 19,542,516	\$ 19,273,761	\$ 17,657,070
School District's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability as a Percentage of its Covered Payroll	11.63%	5.10%	7.38%	7.20%	7.20%
Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total OPEB Liability	56.28%	76.63%	63.38%	63.13%	61.89%

Schedule of Employer Contributions – ND Public Employees Retirement System, Last 10 Fiscal Years*

NDPERS - OPEB	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019
Statutory Required Contribution	\$ 214,080	\$ 250,591	\$ 222,785	\$ 224,154	\$ 207,107
Contributions in Relation to the Statutory Required Contribution	\$ 186,783	\$ 207,135	\$ 230,282	\$ 228,300	\$ 202,783
Contribution Deficiency	\$ 27,297	\$ 43,456	\$ (7,498)	\$ (4,146)	\$ 4,324
School District's Covered Payroll	\$ 14,866,663	\$ 16,529,033	\$ 19,542,516	\$ 19,273,761	\$ 17,657,070
Contributions as a Percentage of Covered Payroll	1.26%	1.25%	1.18%	1.18%	1.15%

*GASB Statements No. 75 require ten years of information to be presented in this table. However, until a full 10-year trend is compiled, the District will present information for those years for which information is available.

**Schedule of Employer's Share of Net Pension Liability
Last 10 Fiscal Years***

Pension Plan	Measurement Date	Employer's Proportion of the Net Pension Liability (Asset)	Employer's Proportionate Share (Amount) of the Net Pension Liability (Asset) (a)	State's Proportionate Share (Amount) of the Net Pension Liability Associated With District (b)	Total (d) (a+b)	Employer's Covered Payroll (e)	Employer's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability (Asset) as a Percentage of its Covered-Payroll (a/e)	Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total Pension Liability
ND TFFR	6/30/2022	9.4991%	\$ 138,312,463	N/A	\$ 138,312,463	\$ 74,749,890	185.03%	75.7%
ND TFFR	6/30/2021	9.3148%	\$ 98,145,580	N/A	\$ 98,145,580	\$ 71,788,903	136.71%	75.7%
ND TFFR	6/30/2020	9.2159%	\$ 141,049,476	N/A	\$ 141,049,476	\$ 67,254,429	209.73%	63.4%
ND TFFR	6/30/2019	9.1924%	\$ 126,602,640	N/A	\$ 126,602,640	\$ 64,487,314	196.32%	65.5%
ND TFFR	6/30/2018	8.9054%	\$ 118,696,763	N/A	\$ 118,696,763	\$ 60,539,948	196.06%	65.5%
ND TFFR	6/30/2017	8.7003%	\$ 119,500,250	N/A	\$ 119,500,250	\$ 58,724,231	203.49%	63.2%
ND TFFR	6/30/2016	8.2426%	\$ 120,758,557	N/A	\$ 120,758,557	\$ 53,554,062	225.49%	59.2%
ND TFFR	6/30/2015	7.8251%	\$ 102,340,701	N/A	\$ 102,340,701	\$ 48,132,439	212.62%	62.1%
ND PERS	6/30/2022	1.8023%	\$ 51,907,555	N/A	\$ 51,907,555	\$ 21,971,550	236.25%	78.3%
ND PERS	6/30/2021	1.7929%	\$ 18,687,292	N/A	\$ 18,687,292	\$ 20,302,509	92.04%	78.3%
ND PERS	6/30/2020	1.8346%	\$ 57,715,399	N/A	\$ 57,715,399	\$ 20,211,108	285.56%	48.9%
ND PERS	6/30/2019	1.8529%	\$ 21,717,833	N/A	\$ 21,717,833	\$ 19,440,026	111.72%	71.7%
ND PERS	6/30/2018	1.7188%	\$ 29,005,866	N/A	\$ 29,005,866	\$ 17,657,066	164.27%	63.5%
ND PERS	6/30/2017	1.6500%	\$ 26,521,108	N/A	\$ 26,521,108	\$ 16,844,034	157.45%	62.0%
ND PERS	6/30/2016	1.5483%	\$ 15,089,332	N/A	\$ 15,089,332	\$ 15,602,834	96.71%	70.5%
ND PERS	6/30/2015	1.4262%	\$ 15,089,332	N/A	\$ 15,089,332	\$ 12,705,578	118.76%	77.2%

*GASB Statement No. 68 requires ten years of information to be presented in this table. However, until a full 10-year trend is compiled, the District will present information for those years for which information is available.

**Schedule of Employer's Contributions
Last 10 Fiscal Years***

Pension Plan	Fiscal Year Ending	Statutorily Required Contribution (a)	Contributions in Relation to the Statutorily Required Contribution (b)	Contribution Deficiency (Excess) (a-b)	Covered Payroll (d)	Contributions as a Percentage of Covered Payroll (b/d)
ND TFFR	6/30/2023	\$ 9,931,463	\$ 9,931,463	\$ -	\$ 77,893,770	12.75%
ND TFFR	6/30/2022	\$ 9,533,579	\$ 9,533,579	\$ -	\$ 74,749,890	12.75%
ND TFFR	6/30/2021	\$ 9,154,170	\$ 9,154,170	\$ -	\$ 71,788,903	12.75%
ND TFFR	6/30/2020	\$ 8,574,923	\$ 8,574,923	\$ -	\$ 67,254,249	12.75%
ND TFFR	6/30/2019	\$ 8,222,133	\$ 8,222,133	\$ -	\$ 64,487,314	12.75%
ND TFFR	6/30/2018	\$ 7,487,341	\$ 7,487,341	\$ -	\$ 60,539,948	12.37%
ND TFFR	6/30/2017	\$ 6,828,144	\$ 6,828,144	\$ -	\$ 58,724,231	11.63%
ND TFFR	6/30/2016	\$ 6,136,591	\$ 6,136,591	\$ -	\$ 53,554,062	11.46%
ND PERS	6/30/2023	\$ 1,575,768	\$ 1,625,401	\$ -	\$ 20,921,801	7.77%
ND PERS	6/30/2022	\$ 1,628,635	\$ 1,628,635	\$ -	\$ 21,971,550	7.41%
ND PERS	6/30/2021	\$ 1,532,862	\$ 1,532,862	\$ -	\$ 20,302,509	7.55%
ND PERS	6/30/2020	\$ 1,438,250	\$ 1,438,250	\$ -	\$ 20,211,108	7.12%
ND PERS	6/30/2019	\$ 1,383,309	\$ 1,383,309	\$ -	\$ 19,440,026	7.12%
ND PERS	6/30/2018	\$ 1,257,183	\$ 1,257,183	\$ -	\$ 17,657,066	7.12%
ND PERS	6/30/2017	\$ 1,199,295	\$ 1,199,295	\$ -	\$ 16,844,034	7.12%
ND PERS	6/30/2016	\$ 1,110,922	\$ 1,110,922	\$ -	\$ 15,602,834	7.12%

*GASB Statement No. 68 requires ten years of information to be presented in this table. However, until a full 10-year trend is compiled, the District will present information for those years for which information is available.

Changes of Assumptions

North Dakota Teachers' Fund for Retirement (TFFR)

Amounts reported in 2021 and later reflect the following actuarial assumption changes based on the results of an actuarial experience study dated March 19, 2020.

- Investment return assumption lowered from 7.25% to 7.00%;
- Inflation assumption lowered from 2.30% to 2.25%;
- Rates of turnover, retirement and disability were changed to better reflect anticipated future experience;

North Dakota Public Employees Retirement System (NDPERS)

Net Pension Liability Changes of Benefit Terms

The interest rate earned on member contributions decreased from 6.50 percent to 6.00 percent effective January 1, 2023 (based on the adopted decrease in the investment return assumption). New Main System members who are hired on or after January 1, 2020, will have a benefit multiplier of 1.75 percent (compared to the current benefit multiplier of 2.00 percent). The fixed employer contribution for new members of the Main System will increase from 7.12 percent to 8.26 percent. For members who terminate after December 31, 2019, final average salary is the higher of the final average salary calculated on December 31, 2019, or the average salary earned in the three highest periods of twelve consecutive months employed during the last 180 months of employment. There have been no other changes in plan provisions since the previous actuarial valuation as of July 1, 2020.

Net Pension Liability Changes of Assumptions

All actuarial assumptions and the actuarial cost method are unchanged from the last actuarial valuation as of July 1, 2020.

OPEB Changes of Benefit Terms

Beginning January 1, 2020, members first enrolled in the NDPERS Main System and the Defined Contribution Plan on or after that date will not be eligible to participate in RHIC. Therefore, RHIC will become for the most part a closed plan. There have been no other changes in plan provisions since the previous actuarial valuation as of July 1, 2020.

OPEB Changes of Assumptions

All actuarial assumptions and the actuarial cost method are unchanged from the last actuarial valuation as of July 1, 2020.

West Fargo Public Schools
 Budgetary Comparison Schedule – General Fund
 June 30, 2023

	Original Budget	Final Budget	Actual	Variance with Final Budget
Revenues				
Local sources	\$ 44,018,790	\$ 45,286,370	\$ 45,698,240	\$ 411,870
State sources	117,435,930	116,985,280	116,611,167	(374,113)
Federal sources	15,786,070	18,730,100	19,740,836	1,010,736
Other sources	300,000	300,000	1,362,346	1,062,346
Total revenues	177,540,790	181,301,750	183,412,589	2,110,839
Expenditures				
Regular instruction	106,426,300	103,421,820	85,897,192	17,524,628
Federal programs	11,410,530	13,388,430	14,437,277	(1,048,847)
Special education instruction	21,914,510	21,838,280	29,392,633	(7,554,353)
Career and technical education	2,129,270	2,216,400	3,179,082	(962,682)
School administration	5,364,880	5,374,880	8,399,733	(3,024,853)
General administration	3,677,070	3,753,660	4,129,995	(376,335)
Operations and maintenance	10,055,830	10,056,550	12,847,619	(2,791,069)
Student transportation	3,579,960	3,582,100	3,719,769	(137,669)
Other programs and services	1,781,910	1,988,620	2,077,270	(88,650)
Debt service				
Principal	-	-	168,731	(168,731)
Capital outlay	11,653,050	8,224,430	5,945,414	2,279,016
Total expenditures	177,993,310	173,845,170	170,194,715	3,650,455
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures	(452,520)	7,456,580	13,217,874	5,761,294
Other Financing Sources (Uses)				
Transfer out	(3,963,480)	(10,776,980)	(13,710,674)	(2,933,694)
Transfer in	1,791,030	882,880	882,877	(3)
Subscriptions	-	-	757,448	757,448
Sale of property and equipment	-	240,000	170,329	(69,671)
Total other financing uses	(2,172,450)	(9,654,100)	(11,900,020)	(2,245,920)
Net Change in Fund Balance	\$ (2,624,970)	\$ (2,197,520)	1,317,854	\$ 3,515,374
Fund Balance, Beginning of Year			23,121,172	
Fund Balance, End of Year			<u>\$ 24,439,026</u>	

West Fargo Public Schools
 Budgetary Comparison Schedule – Special Reserve Fund
 June 30, 2023

	<u>Original Budget</u>	<u>Final Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Variance with Final Budget</u>
Revenues				
Local sources	\$ 1,491,030	\$ 1,535,780	\$ 1,492,548	\$ (43,232)
Other sources	<u>40,000</u>	<u>40,000</u>	<u>224,600</u>	<u>184,600</u>
Total revenues	<u>1,531,030</u>	<u>1,575,780</u>	<u>1,717,148</u>	<u>141,368</u>
Other Financing Uses				
Transfer out	<u>(1,791,030)</u>	<u>(882,880)</u>	<u>(882,877)</u>	<u>3</u>
Net Change in Fund Balance	<u>\$ (260,000)</u>	<u>\$ 692,900</u>	834,271	<u>\$ 141,371</u>
Fund Balance, Beginning of Year			<u>6,844,629</u>	
Fund Balance, End of Year			<u>\$ 7,678,900</u>	

The District adopts an annual budget for all fund. The budget is prepared on the modified accrual basis of accounting. Before July 1, the proposed budget is presented to the School Board for review. Annual budgets are adopted based on object (such as salaries, benefits, purchased services, and supplies) while the GAAP Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances is based on function (such as Regular Instruction, Federal Programs, and Special Education). This difference in reporting causes function variances between budgetary basis and GAAP basis due to benefits expenditures, which are budgeted for in total rather than by function. The total revenues and total expenditures in the budgetary basis are equal to the totals in the GAAP basis of reporting. All annual appropriations lapse at fiscal year end. The actual revenues, expenditures, and transfers for the year ended June 30, 2023, have been compared to the District's budget for the year where applicable. Variances in parentheses are unfavorable and indicate revenues are less than budget or expenditures are greater than budget. The budget is adopted through passage of a resolution. Any revisions that alter total expenditures of any fund must be approved by the School Board.

Budgetary control is maintained by fund, by expenditure category level within each program. Also inherent in this controlling function is the management philosophy that the existence of a particular item or appropriation in the approved budget does not automatically mean that it will be spent. The budget process has flexibility in that, where need has been properly demonstrated, an adjustment can be made within the department budget by the School Board. Therefore, there is a constant review process and expenditures are not approved until it has been determined that (1) adequate funds were appropriated, (2) the expenditure is still necessary, and (3) funds are available. Budgeted amounts are as originally adopted or as amended by the School Board. Budgeted expenditure appropriations lapse at year end. The school board made several supplemental budgetary appropriations throughout the year.



Combining Fund Schedules
June 30, 2023

West Fargo Public Schools

West Fargo Public Schools
 Nonmajor Governmental Funds
 Combining Balance Sheet
 June 30, 2023

	Food Service	Co-Curricular	Totals
Assets			
Cash and investments	\$ 6,817,585	\$ 47,335	\$ 6,864,920
Receivables			
Due from other governmental units	63,475	-	63,475
Inventories	127,236	-	127,236
	<u>\$ 7,008,296</u>	<u>\$ 47,335</u>	<u>\$ 7,055,631</u>
Liabilities			
Accounts payable	\$ 274,700	\$ 47,335	\$ 322,035
Salaries and benefits payable	15,099	-	15,099
Unearned revenue	274,677	-	274,677
	<u>564,476</u>	<u>47,335</u>	<u>611,811</u>
Fund Balance			
Nonspendable	127,236	-	127,236
Assigned	6,316,584	-	6,316,584
	<u>6,443,820</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>6,443,820</u>
Total fund balance	<u>6,443,820</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>6,443,820</u>
Total liabilities and fund balance	<u>\$ 7,008,296</u>	<u>\$ 47,335</u>	<u>\$ 7,055,631</u>

West Fargo Public Schools
 Nonmajor Governmental Funds
 Combining Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance
 Year Ended June 30, 2023

	<u>Food Service</u>	<u>Co-Curricular</u>	<u>Totals</u>
Revenues			
Local sources	\$ 3,640,812	\$ 458,175	\$ 4,098,987
State sources	63,982	-	63,982
Federal sources	5,051,851	-	5,051,851
Other sources	177,573	-	177,573
Total revenues	<u>8,934,218</u>	<u>458,175</u>	<u>9,392,393</u>
Expenditures			
School food services	8,785,908	-	8,785,908
Co-curricular activities	-	4,318,849	4,318,849
Total expenditures	<u>8,785,908</u>	<u>4,318,849</u>	<u>13,104,757</u>
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures	148,310	(3,860,674)	(3,712,364)
Other Financing Sources			
Transfer in	-	3,860,674	3,860,674
Net Change in Fund Balance	148,310	-	148,310
Fund Balance, Beginning of Year	<u>6,295,510</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>6,295,510</u>
Fund Balance, End of Year	<u>\$ 6,443,820</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 6,443,820</u>



Other Supplementary Information
June 30, 2023

West Fargo Public Schools

West Fargo Public Schools
Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards
Year Ended June 30, 2023

Federal Grantor/Program or Cluster Title	Federal Financial Assistance Listing	Pass-through Entity Identifying Number	Expenditures
Department of Agriculture			
<i>Passed through State Department of Public Instruction</i>			
Non-Cash Assistance (Commodities):			
Food Distribution	10.555	Unknown	\$ 715,380
Cash Assistance:			
School Breakfast Program	10.553	Unknown	746,579
National School Lunch Program	10.555	Unknown	3,027,642
Special Milk Program for Children	10.556	Unknown	1,825
COVID-19 - Summer Food Service Program for Children	10.559	Unknown	97,644
Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program	10.582	Unknown	447,808
Total Child Nutrition Cluster			\$ 5,036,878
SAE Food Nutrition	10.560	Unknown	14,973
Total Department of Agriculture			\$ 5,051,851
Department of Education			
School-Based Mental Health Services	84.184H	Unknown	216,764
<i>Passed through State Department of Public Instruction</i>			
Title I Grants to Local Educational Agencies	84.010A	Unknown	2,456,303
Title I - N&D Grant Revenue	84.010A		55,000
Total 84.010A			2,511,303
Special Education - Basic Grants to States	84.027A	Unknown	2,347,860
Special Education - Loan Forgiveness	84.027A	Unknown	40,000
COVID-19 - IDEA American Rescue Plan Allocations	84.027X	Unknown	177,938
Special Education - Preschool Grants	84.173	Unknown	49,785
Total Special Education Cluster			2,615,583
Twenty-First Century Community Learning Centers	84.287C	Unknown	600,210
ESL Language Acquisition	84.365A	Unknown	43,848
Title III Immigrant Grant	84.365A	Unknown	2,691
Total English Language Acquisition Grant			46,539
Title II Grant Part A	84.367	Unknown	851,039
Title II Science of Reading	84.367	Unknown	20,000
Total Supportive Effective Instruction State Grant			871,039
Student Support and Academic Enrichment Program	84.424A	Unknown	9,133
Education for Homeless Children and Youth	84.196A	Unknown	148,446
Striving Readers Grant	84.371C	S371C170011	849,442
Grants for State Assessments and Related Activities	84.369A	Unknown	26,927
COVID 19 - Education Stabilization Fund - ESSER	84.425D	Unknown	3,638,775
COVID 19 - Education Stabilization Fund - ESSER	84.425U	Unknown	6,093,564
COVID 19 - Education Stabilization Fund - ESSER	84.425	Unknown	3,345
Total 84.425			9,735,684
Total passed through State Department of Public Instruction			\$17,414,306
<i>Passed through State Board of Vocational Education</i>			
Career and Technical Education - Basic Grants to States	84.048A	Unknown	172,272
Total Department of Education			17,803,342
Department of Health and Human Resources			
<i>Passed through Lutheran Social Services of North Dakota</i>			
Refugee and Entrant Assistance State/Replacement Designee	93.566	Unknown	54,005
Total federal financial assistance			<u>\$ 22,909,198</u>

Note 1 - Basis of Presentation

The accompanying schedule of expenditures of federal awards (the schedule) includes the federal grant activity of the District under programs of the federal government for the year ended June 30, 2023. The information 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 District, it is not intended to and does not present the financial position or changes in net position or fund balance of the District.

Note 2 - Significant Accounting Policies

Expenditures reported in 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. No federal financial assistance has been provided to a subrecipient.

Note 3 - Indirect Cost Rate

The District has not elected to use the 10% de minimis cost rate.

Note 4 - Food Distribution

Non-monetary assistance is reported in the schedule of expenditures of federal awards at the fair market value of commodities received and disbursed. At June 30, 2023, the district had food commodities totaling \$127,236 in inventory.



Additional Reports
June 30, 2023

West Fargo Public Schools



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 West Fargo School Board of
West Fargo Public Schools
West Fargo, North Dakota

We have audited, in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States (*Government Auditing Standards*), the financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of West Fargo Public Schools (The District), as of and for the year ended June 30, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the District’s basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated December 7, 2023.

Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the District’s internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing the audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the District’s internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the 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 entity’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 and therefore, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that have not been identified. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. We did identify a certain deficiency in internal control, described in the accompanying schedule of findings and questioned costs as item 2023-001 that we consider to be a significant deficiency.

Report on Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the 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*.

District's Response to Finding

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

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

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Eide Bailly LLP".

Fargo, North Dakota
December 7, 2023



Independent Auditor’s Report on Compliance for Each Major Federal Program; Report on Internal Control over Compliance Required by the Uniform Guidance

The West Fargo School Board of
West Fargo Public Schools
West Fargo, North Dakota

Report on Compliance for Each Major Federal Program

Opinion on Each Major Federal Program

We have audited the District’s 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 District’s major federal programs for the year ended June 30, 2023. The 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 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 (*Government Auditing Standards*); 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 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 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 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 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 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 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 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 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

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.

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. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over compliance that we consider to be material weaknesses, as defined above. However, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies in internal control over compliance may exist that were not identified.

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.

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.



Fargo, North Dakota
December 7, 2023

Section I – Summary of Auditor’s Results

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Type of auditor's report issued:	Unmodified
Internal control over financial reporting:	
Material weaknesses identified	No
Significant deficiencies identified not considered to be material weaknesses	Yes
Noncompliance material to financial statements noted?	No

FEDERAL AWARDS

Internal control over major programs:	
Material weaknesses identified	No
Significant deficiencies identified not considered to be material weaknesses	None reported
Type of auditor's report issued on compliance for major programs:	Unmodified
Any audit findings disclosed that are required to be reported in accordance with Uniform Guidance 2 CFR 200.516:	No

Identification of major programs:

Name of Federal Program	Federal Financial Assistance Listing/CFDA Number
Child Nutrition Cluster	10.555, 10.553, 10.556, 10.559, 10.582
COVID 19 - Education Stabilization Fund - ESSER	84.425, 84.425D, 84.425U
Title I - Grants to LEA's	84.01A
Dollar threshold used to distinguish between Type A and Type B programs:	\$750,000
Auditee qualified as low-risk auditee?	Yes

Section II – Financial Statement Findings

**2023-001 Preparation of Financial Statements
 Significant Deficiency**

Condition – The District does not have an internal control system designed to provide for the preparation of the financial statements being audited. The auditors were requested to, and did, draft the financial statements and accompanying notes to the financial statements.

Criteria – A good system of internal accounting control contemplates an adequate system for internally preparing the District’s financial statements.

Effect – This deficiency could result in the disclosures in the financial statements to be incomplete.

Cause – The District does not have an internal control system designed to prepare the financial statements being audited.

Recommendation – It is the responsibility of management and those charged with governance to make the decision whether to accept the degree of risk associated with this condition because of cost or other considerations. A thorough review and reconciliation of accounts in each fund should take place prior to the beginning of the audit. This review should be performed at both the accounting staff and accounting supervisor levels.

Views of Responsible Officials – There is no disagreement with the audit finding.

Section III – Federal Award Findings and Questioned Costs

None



December 7, 2023

The West Fargo School Board of
West Fargo Public Schools
West Fargo, North Dakota

We have audited the financial statements of West Fargo Public Schools as of and for the year ended June 30, 2023 and have issued our report thereon dated December 7, 2023. Professional standards require that we advise you of the following matters relating to our audit.

Our Responsibility in Relation to the Financial Statement Audit under Generally Accepted Auditing Standards and *Government Auditing Standards* and our Compliance Audit under the Uniform Guidance

As communicated in our letter dated May 16, 2023, our responsibility, as described by professional standards, is to form and express an opinion about whether the financial statements that have been prepared by management with your oversight are presented fairly, in all material respects, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America and to express an opinion on whether the District complied with the types of compliance requirements described in the *OMB Compliance Supplement* that could have a direct and material effect on each of the District's major federal programs. Our audit of the financial statements does not relieve you or management of your respective responsibilities.

Our responsibility, as prescribed by professional standards, is to plan and perform our audit to obtain reasonable, rather than absolute, assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit of financial statements includes consideration of internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, as part of our audit, we considered the internal control of the District solely for the purpose of determining our audit procedures and not to provide any assurance concerning such internal control.

Our responsibility, as prescribed by professional standards as it relates to the audit of the District's major federal program compliance, is to express an opinion on the compliance for each of the District's major federal programs based on our audit of the types of compliance requirements referred to above. An audit of major program compliance includes consideration of internal control over compliance with the types of compliance requirements referred to above as a basis for designing 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 internal control over compliance. Accordingly, as a part of our major program compliance audit, we considered internal control over compliance for these purposes and not to provide any assurance on the effectiveness of the District's internal control over compliance.

We are also responsible for communicating significant matters related to the audit that are, in our professional judgment, relevant to your responsibilities in overseeing the financial reporting process. However, we are not required to design procedures for the purpose of identifying other matters to communicate to you.

We have provided our comments regarding internal controls during our audit in our 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* dated December 7, 2023. We have also provided our comments regarding compliance with the types of compliance requirements referred to above and internal controls over compliance during our audit in our Independent Auditor's Report on Compliance with Each Major Federal Program and Report on Internal Control Over Compliance Required by the Uniform Guidance dated December 7, 2023.

Planned Scope and Timing of the Audit

We conducted our audit consistent with the planned scope and timing we previously communicated to you.

Compliance with All Ethics Requirements Regarding Independence

The engagement team, others in our firm, as appropriate, our firm, and other firms utilized in the engagement, if applicable, have complied with all relevant ethical requirements regarding independence.

Qualitative Aspects of the Entity's Significant Accounting Practices

Significant Accounting Policies

Management has the responsibility to select and use appropriate accounting policies. A summary of the significant accounting policies adopted by West Fargo Public Schools is included in Note 1 to the financial statements. As described in Note 7, the District changed accounting policies related to accounting for right-to-use subscription assets to adopt the provisions of GASB Statement No. 96, *Subscription-Based Information Technology Arrangements*. Accordingly, the accounting change has been retrospectively applied to the financial statements beginning July 1, 2022. No matters have come to our attention that would require us, under professional standards, to inform you about (1) the methods used to account for significant unusual transactions and (2) the effect of significant accounting policies in controversial or emerging areas for which there is a lack of authoritative guidance or consensus.

Significant Accounting Estimates

Accounting estimates are an integral part of the financial statements prepared by management and are based on management's current judgments. Those judgments are normally based on knowledge and experience about past and current events and assumptions about future events. Certain accounting estimates are particularly sensitive because of their significance to the financial statements and because of the possibility that future events affecting them may differ markedly from management's current judgments.

The most sensitive accounting estimates affecting the financial statements are:

Management's estimate of the IBNR is based on the estimate of the ultimate cost of claims that have been reported but not settled. We evaluated the key factors and assumptions used to develop the IBNR liability in determining that it is reasonable in relation to the financial statements taken as a whole.

Management's estimate of the other post-employment benefits and net pension liability are based on actuarial assumptions in accordance with the employment contracts. We evaluated the key factors and assumptions used to develop the other post-employment benefits in determining that it is reasonable in relation to the basic financial statements taken as a whole.

Financial Statement Disclosures

Certain financial statement disclosures involve significant judgment and are particularly sensitive because of their significance to financial statement users. The financial statement disclosures are neutral, consistent, and clear.

Significant Difficulties Encountered during the Audit

We encountered no significant difficulties in dealing with management relating to the performance of the audit.

Uncorrected and Corrected Misstatements

For purposes of this communication, professional standards require us to accumulate all known and likely misstatements identified during the audit, other than those that we believe are trivial, and communicate them to the appropriate level of management. Further, professional standards require us to also communicate the effect of uncorrected misstatements related to prior periods on the relevant classes of transactions, account balances or disclosures, and the financial statements as a whole. Uncorrected misstatements or matters underlying those uncorrected misstatements could potentially cause future-period financial statements to be materially misstated, even though the uncorrected misstatements are immaterial to the financial statements currently under audit. There were no uncorrected or corrected misstatements identified as a result of our audit procedures.

Disagreements with Management

For purposes of this letter, professional standards define a disagreement with management as a matter, whether or not resolved to our satisfaction, concerning a financial accounting, reporting, or auditing matter, which could be significant to the financial statements or the auditor's report. No such disagreements arose during the course of the audit.

Circumstances that Affect the Form and Content of the Auditor's Report

For purposes of this letter, professional standards require that we communicate any circumstances that affect the form and content of our auditor's report. We did not identify any circumstances that affect the form and content of the auditor's report.

Representations Requested from Management

We have requested certain written representations from management that are included in the management representation letter dated December 7, 2023.

Management's Consultations with Other Accountants

In some cases, management may decide to consult with other accountants about auditing and accounting matters. Management informed us that, and to our knowledge, there were no consultations with other accountants regarding auditing and accounting matters.

Other Significant Matters, Findings, or Issues

In the normal course of our professional association with West Fargo Public Schools, we generally discuss a variety of matters, including the application of accounting principles and auditing standards, business conditions affecting the entity, and business plans and strategies that may affect the risks of material misstatement. None of the matters discussed resulted in a condition to our retention as West Fargo Public Schools' auditors.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the School Board and management of West Fargo Public Schools and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Eide Sallee LLP

Fargo, North Dakota