FULTON COUNTY SCHOOL
EMPLOYEES' PENSION FUND

(a component unit of the Fulton County Board of Education, Georgia)

ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT

FOR THE FISCAL YEARS ENDED
JUNE 30, 2023 AND 2022

Fulton County School Employees' Pension Fund
(a component unit of the Fulton County Board of Education, Georgia)
Annual Financial Report
For the Fiscal Years Ended June 30, 2023 and 2022

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MAULDIN & JENKINS
CPAs & ADVISORS

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Superintendent and Members of the Board of Trustees of the Fulton County School Employees' Pension Fund
Atlanta, Georgia

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Opinion

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the **Fulton County School Employees' Pension Fund** (the "Fund"), a component unit of the Fulton County Board of Education, as of and for the fiscal years ended June 30, 2023 and 2022, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Fund's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Fulton County School Employees' Pension Fund as of June 30, 2023 and 2022, and the changes in its financial position for the fiscal years then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Basis for Opinion

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

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 Fund's ability to continue as a going concern for twelve months beyond the financial statement date, including any currently known information that may raise substantial doubt shortly thereafter.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

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

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

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Fund'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 Fund'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 (on pages 5 through 8), the Schedule of Employer Contributions (on page 21), the Schedule of Changes in the School System's Net Pension Liability and Related Ratios (on page 22), and the Schedule of Investment Returns (on page 22) 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 auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

Supplementary Information

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the Fund's basic financial statements. The accompanying Comparative Schedule of Investments and Comparative Schedule of Administrative Expenses 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 auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the Comparative Schedule of Investments and Comparative Schedule of Administrative Expenses are fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the basic financial statements as a whole.

Other Reporting Required by *Government Auditing Standards*

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated December 1, 2023 on our consideration of the Fund'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 Fund'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 Fund's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Mauldin & Jenkins, LLC

Atlanta, Georgia
December 1, 2023

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

Within this section of the Fulton County School Employees' Pension Fund (the "Pension Fund") annual financial report, the Pension Fund's management is pleased to provide this narrative discussion and analysis of the financial activities of the Pension Fund for the fiscal years ended June 30, 2023 and 2022.

The pension plan administers the retirement Plan for eligible covered employees and retirees of Fulton County School Board, (the "Board"). All assets of the Plan are invested in a single trust fund. The fund exists solely to pay for the benefit promises made to retired and active members of the Plan. The Pension Fund's financial performance is discussed and analyzed within the context of the accompanying financial statements and disclosures following this section.

Financial Highlights

- The Pension Fund's assets exceeded its liabilities by $497,393,243 (net position) at June 30, 2023 and by $460,853,794 (net position) at June 30, 2022.
- The cash and investments increased in fiscal year 2023 from $461,633,685 to $496,162,788 and decreased from $542,244,783 to $461,633,685 in fiscal year 2022.
- In fiscal year 2023, the fair value of investments increased $33,976,921, and in fiscal year 2022, the fair value decreased $86,550,195.

The above financial highlights are explained in more detail in the "financial analysis" section of this document.

Overview of the Financial Statements

This Management's Discussion and Analysis document introduces the Pension Fund's basic financial statements. The basic financial statements include: (1) a comparative statement of fiduciary net position and (2) a comparative statement of changes in fiduciary net position. Notes to the basic financial statements support these statements. The Pension Fund also includes in this report additional information to supplement the basic financial statements.

Statement of Fiduciary Net Position

The statement of fiduciary net position presents the net position restricted for pensions at a given point in time. This statement is presented on page 9.

Statement of Changes in Fiduciary Net Position

The statement of changes in fiduciary net position indicates the additions and deductions to the Plan assets during the specified periods. This statement is presented on page 10.

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements

The accompanying notes to the basic financial statements provide information essential for understanding the data provided in the basic financial statement by providing significant accounting policies, a description of the Plan, investment assets and liabilities, contributions and benefit enhancements.

The notes to the basic financial statements begin on page 11 of this report.

Required Supplementary Information

The required supplementary information includes three schedules and related note disclosures. The "Schedule of Employer Contributions" provides historical trend information about the actuarially determined contributions of the Board and the contributions made by the Board in relation to the actuarially determined amount. The "Schedule of Changes in the School System's Net Pension Liability (Asset) and Related Ratios" provides historical trend information about the changes in the net pension liability. The "Schedule of Investment Returns" reports the historical trend of annual money-weighted rate of return, net of investments, for the Pension Fund. This "Schedule of Changes in the School System's Net Pension Liability (Asset) and Related Ratios" and the "Schedule of Investment Returns" will be expanded until ten years of data is presented. This information is found on pages 21 and 22.

Other Supplementary Information

Additional supplementary information includes a comparative schedule of investments and a comparative schedule of administrative expenses. This information is found on pages 23 and 24.

Financial Analysis of the Pension Fund

The Pension Fund's Plan net position at June 30, 2023 was $497,393,243; at June 30, 2022 was $460,853,794, and at June 30, 2021 was $543,471,881. The following table provides a summary of the Pension Fund's Plan net position:

Summary of Plan Net Position

	June 30,						
	2023	2022	2021	2023 Change		2022 Change	
	Amount	Amount	Amount	Amount	%	Amount	%
Assets:							
Cash	$ 1,297,583	$ 2,505,547	$ 870,626	$ (1,207,964)	-48.2%	$ 1,634,921	187.8%
Investments	494,865,205	459,128,138	541,374,157	35,737,067	7.8%	(82,246,019)	-15.2%
Receivables – other	2,319,990	2,393,853	2,241,606	(73,863)	-3.1%	152,247	6.8%
Prepaid items	-	-	-	-	-%	-	-%
Total assets	498,482,778	464,027,538	544,486,389	34,455,240	7.4%	(80,458,851)	-14.8%
Liabilities:							
Accounts payable	1,089,535	3,173,744	1,014,508	(2,084,209)	-65.7%	2,159,236	212.8%
Net position held in trust for pension benefits	$ 497,393,243	$ 460,853,794	$ 543,471,881	$ 36,539,449	7.9%	$ (82,618,087)	-15.2%

The following table provides a summary of the Pension Fund's changes in Plan net position:

Summary of Changes in Net Position

	2023	2022	2021	2023 Change Amount	2023 Change %	2022 Change Amount	2022 Change %
Revenues:							
Employer contributions	$ 24,361,659	$ 25,615,137	$ 23,974,947	$ (1,253,478)	-4.9%	$ 1,640,190	6.8%
Plan member contributions	3,568,209	3,268,136	2,642,387	300,073	9.2%	625,749	23.7%
Net investment income (loss)	46,778,272	(73,692,170)	117,791,893	120,470,442	163.5%	(191,484,063)	-162.6%
Total revenues	$ 74,708,140	$ (44,808,897)	$ 144,409,227	$ 119,517,037	266.7%	$ (189,218,124)	-131.0%
Expenses:							
Benefit payments	36,168,830	35,827,081	34,440,825	341,749	1.0%	1,386,256	4.0%
Refunds	995,669	495,035	872,574	500,634	101.1%	(377,539)	-43.3%
Administrative	1,004,192	1,487,074	903,348	(482,882)	-32.5%	583,726	64.6%
Total expenses	38,168,691	37,809,190	36,216,747	359,501	1.0%	1,592,443	4.4%
Net increase (decrease) in net position	36,539,449	(82,618,087)	108,192,480	$ 119,157,536	144.2%	$ (190,810,567)	-176.4%
Net position, beginning of fiscal year	460,853,794	543,471,881	435,279,401				
Net position, end of fiscal year	$ 497,393,243	$ 460,853,794	$ 543,471,881				

Financial Analysis of the Pension Fund's Operations

The purpose of the Pension Fund is to provide its members a primary source of lifetime retirement income relative to service at the time of retirement. It is the objective of the Plan to provide benefits in a prudent, responsible, and cost- effective manner.

The Pension Fund's net position is used to pay current and future benefits to Plan members. In fiscal year 2023, net position increased 7.9 % from 2022 and in fiscal year 2022, Plan net position decreased 15.2% from fiscal year 2021. The increase in the June 30, 2023 net position over June 30, 2022 is due to the favorable market conditions in 2023.

In fiscal year 2023, the total pension liability (before subtracting assets to retire) increased by $19,092,035 or 3.6% from 2022, as compared to an increase of $22,801,234 or 4.5% from fiscal year 2021 to 2022.

The net position liability (NPL) is the liability of the School System to employees for benefits provided through our single employer defined benefit pension plan. In fiscal year 2023, plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of the total pension liability rose from 86.27% to 89.90% due to recovery in the financial markets. In fiscal year 2022, the plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of the total pension liability fell from 106.27% to 86.27% due to a difficult year in the financial markets.

Contributions from members and the School System fell below benefit payments (including refunds) by approximately $9.2 million in fiscal year 2023, by approximately $7.4 million in fiscal year 2022, and by approximately $7.8 million in fiscal year 2021 reflecting the mature nature of the plan. In total, administrative expenses were down $482,882 from fiscal year 2022 as a result of the completion of a major accounting system upgrade in 2022.

Plan Membership

As of the most recent actuarial valuations, the membership includes 6,186 for fiscal year 2022 and 5,826 in fiscal year 2021. The current number in membership saw an increase of three-hundred sixty (360) members from fiscal year 2021 to 2022. Of the active members at June 30, 2022, 162 are teachers (9%) and 1,625 are non-teacher members (91%). Of the 1,787 active members, 468 have dependent coverage (26.2%) and 1,319 have no dependent coverage(73.8%).

Funding Status

The net position restricted for pensions is used to pay current and future benefits to Plan members. In fiscal year 2023, the net position increased 7.9% from fiscal year 2022. In fiscal year 2022, Plan net position decreased 15.2% from fiscal year 2021.

Asset Allocation

The invested assets of the Plan classified by type are as follows:

	June 30, 2023		June 30, 2022		June 30, 2021	
Investments by Type	**Market Value**	**% of Portfolio**	**Market Value**	**% of Portfolio**	**Market Value**	**% of Portfolio**
Equity:						
Large Cap	$ 97,766,590	19.8%	$ 122,535,153	26.7%	$ 147,274,785	27.2%
Dynamic Asset Alloc.	35,702,501	7.2%	32,505,537	7.1%	40,158,251	7.4%
Small Cap	41,443,103	8.4%	31,931,675	6.9%	46,231,679	8.5%
Core Property	15,173,868	3.1%	15,396,009	3.4%	11,547,462	2.1%
Limited Partnership	594,534	0.1%	1,071,364	0.2%	5,700,330	1.0%
International Equity	138,908,695	28.1%	89,353,714	19.5%	103,793,601	19.2%
Total Equity	329,589,291	66.6%	292,793,452	63.8%	354,706,108	65.5%
Fixed Income:						
Core Fixed Income	110,859,488	22.4%	113,111,839	24.6%	122,388,312	22.6%
Opportunistic Income	14,694,923	3.0%	15,694,972	3.4%	16,019,057	3.0%
High Yield Bond	19,713,016	4.0%	19,384,211	4.2%	26,876,490	5.0%
Emerging market	20,008,486	4.0%	18,143,664	3.9%	21,384,190	3.9%
Total Fixed Income	165,275,913	33.4%	166,334,686	36.2%	186,668,049	34.5%
Total Portfolio	$ 494,865,205	100.0%	$ 459,128,138	100.0%	$ 541,374,157	100.0%

In fiscal year 2023, the total portfolio increased $35,737,067 or 7.8% and in fiscal year 2022, the total portfolio decreased $82,246,019 or 15.2%.

Investment Activities

In fiscal year 2023, the Plan reported a net investment gain of approximately $46.8 million as compared to a net investment loss in fiscal year 2022 of approximately $73.7 million.

Contacting the Pension Financial Management

This financial report is designed to provide a general overview of the Pension Fund's finances, comply with finance-related laws and regulations, and demonstrate the Pension Fund's commitment to public accountability. If you have questions about this report or would like to request additional information, contact the Treasurer of the Pension Fund at 470-254-0102.

Fulton County School Employees' Pension Fund
(a component unit of the Fulton County Board of Education, Georgia)
Comparative Statement of Fiduciary Net Position
June 30, 2023 and 2022

	2023	2022
Assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	$ 1,297,583	$ 2,505,547
Investments, at fair value:		
Mutual funds invested in domestic equities	35,702,501	32,505,537
Mutual funds invested in foreign equities	274,736,310	241,553,046
Mutual funds invested in fixed income securities	165,276,833	166,334,685
Limited partnerships equities	19,149,561	18,734,870
Receivables:		
Due from plan sponsor	2,319,990	2,387,486
Other	-	6,367
Total Assets	498,482,778	464,027,538
Liabilities		
Accounts payable	1,089,535	3,173,744
Total Liabilities	1,089,535	3,173,744
Net Position Restricted for Pension Benefits	$ 497,393,243	$ 460,853,794

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements

Fulton County School Employees' Pension Fund
(a component unit of the Fulton County Board of Education, Georgia)
Comparative Statement of Changes in Fiduciary Net Position
For the Fiscal Years Ended June 30, 2023 and 2022

	2023	2022
Additions		
Contributions:		
Employer	$ 24,361,659	$ 25,615,137
Plan members	3,568,209	3,268,136
Total contributions	27,929,868	28,883,273
Investment earnings (expenses):		
Interest and dividends	13,692,589	13,673,246
Net increase (decrease) in the fair value of investments	33,976,921	(86,550,195)
Less investment expense	(891,238)	(815,221)
Net investment earnings (expenses)	46,778,272	(73,692,170)
Total Additions	74,708,140	(44,808,897)
Deductions		
Benefit payments	36,168,830	35,827,081
Refunds	995,669	495,035
Administrative expenses	1,004,192	1,487,074
Total Deductions	38,168,691	37,809,190
Increase (Decrease) in Net Position	36,539,449	(82,618,087)
Net Position Restricted for Pension Benefits, Beginning of Fiscal Year	460,853,794	543,471,881
Net Position Restricted for Pension Benefits, End of Fiscal Year	$ 497,393,243	$ 460,853,794

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements

Fulton County School Employees' Pension Fund
(a component unit of the Fulton County Board of Education, Georgia)
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Years Ended June 30, 2023 and 2022

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The Fulton County School Employees' Pension Fund (the "Pension Fund") is a single-employer defined benefit pension plan that was established by the Fulton County Board of Education (the "School System") to provide retirement benefits to teachers (as defined by the Plan and by Georgia laws) hired before July 1, 1988 and non-teaching employees of the Fulton County Board of Education.

Note 1 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

The financial statements of the Pension Fund have been prepared in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States (GAAP) as applied to governments. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) is the accepted standard-setting body for governmental accounting and financial reporting.

The most significant of the Pension Fund's accounting policies are described below:

1-A. Reporting Entity

The Pension Fund is governed by a committee of the Board of Education, known as the "*Pension Board*." Although the Pension Fund is legally separate from the School System, the Pension Fund is reported as a part of the School System reporting entity because its primary purpose is to provide retirement benefits to the employees of the School System and because the Pension Fund is fiscally dependent on the School System.

Based upon this criterion, the Pension Fund is a fiduciary component unit of the School System. The Pension Fund reporting entity does not include any component units.

1-B. Basis of Presentation

The Pension Fund's basic financial statements consist of a statement of net position and a statement of changes in net position.

Fund Accounting - The Pension Fund uses a single fund to maintain its financial records during the year. A fund is a fiscal and accounting entity with a self-balancing set of accounts. The Pension Fund uses the fiduciary category of funds.

1-C. Measurement Focus

The fiduciary fund type is accounted for on a flow of economic resources measurement focus. All assets and all liabilities associated with the operation of this fund are included on the statements of net position. The statement of changes in net position presents increases (i.e., revenues) and decreases (i.e., expenses) in net position.

1-D. Basis of Accounting

Basis of accounting determines when transactions are recorded in the financial records and reported on the financial statements. The Pension Fund is reported on the accrual basis of accounting.

Revenues are recognized when earned and, expenses are recognized at the time they are incurred.

Employer contributions are recognized when due and employee contributions are recognized when due as deductions from the employees' payroll. Benefit payments are recognized when due and payable in accordance with the terms of the Plan. Contribution refunds are recognized when due and payable in accordance with the terms of the plan and School System procedures for termination.

Note 1 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

1-E. Assets, Liabilities, and Fund Equity

1-E-1 Cash, Cash Equivalents, and Investments

Cash and cash equivalents include amounts in demand deposits as well as short-term investments with a maturity date within three months of the date acquired by the Pension Fund.

Investments are stated at fair value and increases or decreases in the fair value during the year are recognized as a component of investment earnings.

Georgia law authorizes the Pension Fund to invest in:

- Obligations of the United States Treasury or its agencies and instrumentalities,
- Bonds of the State of Georgia and its agencies, instrumentalities and political subdivisions,
- Certificates of deposit of national or state banks that are fully insured or collateralized by United States obligations,
- Common stocks,
- Money market instruments,
- Corporate bonds and debentures, which are not in default as to principal and interest, and
- Certain alternative investments.

1-E-2 Receivables

All receivables are reported net of an allowance for uncollectibles, where applicable.

1-E-3 Fund Equity

Net Position Restricted for Pension Benefits - The net position represents the difference between total Plan assets and total Plan liabilities and is held in trust for pension benefits.

1-E-4 Estimates

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

Note 2 - Plan Description

2-A. Membership Data

All full-time School System employees who are not members of the Teachers Retirement System of Georgia (TRS) are required to participate in the Pension Fund, a mandatory and single employer defined benefit pension plan established by state statute. All full-time School System personnel employed prior to June 30, 1988 and who were transferred to TRS on July 1, 1988, retained membership in the Fund, as well as potential benefits from the Fund, although primary benefits will be from TRS. All plan participants, actuarial and fund data include these employees as members.

The Fulton County School Employees' Pension Fund Board administers the Fund. The Pension Board consists of seven voting members and one non-voting member. The school superintendent is the non-voting member. The voting members of the board include:

- The chief financial officer.
- The chief human resources officer.
- Two members nominated by the Pension Board and appointed by the School Board for four year terms who shall be former teachers or employees of the School System and participants in the Plan.
- Two members nominated by the Pension Board and appointed by the School Board for four year terms who shall be active teachers or employees of the School System and participants in the Plan.
- One member nominated by the Pension Board and appointed by the School Board for four year terms who shall be a school administrator of the School System and a participant in the Plan.

At July 1, 2022 and July 1, 2021, the dates of the two most recent actuarial valuations, there were 6,186 and 5,826 Fund participants respectively, consisting of the following:

	June 30, 2022	June 30, 2021
Active Plan participants	1,787	1,846
Inactive Plan members entitled to but not yet receiving benefits	1,465	1,018
Inactive Plan members or beneficiaries currently receiving benefits	2,934	2,962
Total participants	6,186	5,826

2-B. Plan Benefit Provisions

Benefits for members covered under the 1978 Pension Law are 2.00% of the participant's final average monthly earnings multiplied by the years of creditable service. For members covered under the 1962 Pension Law, benefits are 1.76% of the participant's final average monthly earnings multiplied by years of creditable service. The maximum monthly benefit is equal to 75.00% of final average monthly earnings. The Fund awards a 3.00% cost of living increase annually.

For normal retirement, an employee is eligible to retire at the earliest of:

- Age 65 and 10 years of service;
- Age 60 and 25 years of service;
- Age 55 and 30 years of service, if also a member of TRS; and
- 30 years of service.

Note 2 - Plan Description (Continued)

2-B. Plan Benefit Provisions (Continued)

For early retirement, an employee is eligible for early retirement at the age of 55 with 25 years of creditable service. For late retirement, the amount of benefit for a participant retiring after his or her normal retirement date is the accrued benefit as of the actual retirement date.

For general disability retirement, an employee is eligible for disability retirement benefits when he or she becomes totally disabled before becoming eligible for retirement benefits under the plan and upon completing 10 years of service. Employees disabled in the line of duty are eligible regardless of their years of service.

Only the Plan's Pension Board can make changes or amendments to the Plan benefit terms.

2-C. Funding Policy

The contribution requirements of Plan members and the School System are established in accordance with the applicable pension law. Fund members covered under the 1978 law contribute 6.60% of gross salary if beneficiary coverage is elected and 5.6% of gross salary if beneficiary is not elected. Members covered under the 1962 law contribute 6% of gross salary if beneficiary coverage is elected and 5.00% of gross salary if beneficiary coverage was not elected. Members covered under laws prior to 1962 contribute amounts prescribed in those laws.

The School System's contribution is the actuarially determined amount necessary to fund Plan benefits; the current rate is 37.00% of annual covered payroll. The contribution requirements of Plan members and the School System are established and may be amended by the Pension Board. Total contributions to the Plan for the fiscal years ended June 30, 2023, 2022, and 2021 were $24,361,659, $25,615,137, and $23,974,947, respectively.

Net Pension Liability – The components of the net pension liability (asset) of the School System at June 30, 2023 and June 30, 2022 were as follows:

	June 30, 2023	June 30, 2022
Total pension liability	$ 553,282,984	$ 534,190,949
Plan fiduciary net position	497,393,243	460,853,794
Net pension liability	$ 55,889,741	$ 73,337,155
Plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of the total pension liability	89.90%	86.27%

Note 2 - Plan Description (Continued)

2-C. Funding Policy (Continued)

Actuarial Assumptions – The total pension liability at June 30, 2023 was determined by an actuarial valuation as of July 1, 2022 with update procedures performed by the actuary to roll forward to the total pension liability measured as of June 30, 2023 while the total pension liability at June 30, 2022 was determined by an actuarial valuation as of July 1, 2021 with update procedures performed by the actuary to roll forward to the total pension liability measured as of June 30, 2022. The following actuarial assumptions apply to all periods included in the measurement and did not change from the prior fiscal year:

Inflation	2.75%
Salary increases	3.50% - 5.00%
Mortality	Pub-2010 General Below Median Healthy Retiree Mortality Table set forward 2 years for females, projected generationally using scale MP-2021 for healthy retirees. The Pub-2010 General Below Median Contingent Survivors Mortality Table set back 1 year for males and set forward 2 years for females, projected generationally using scale MP-2021, is used for beneficiaries. The Pub-2010 General Mortality Table for Disabled Retirees, projected generationally using scale MP-2021, is used for disabled retirees. The Pub-2010 General Below Median Employee Mortality Table, projected generationally using scale MP-2021, is used for pre-retirement mortality.
Investment rate of return	6.95% net of investment expenses, per annum, compounded annually
Cost of living adjustments	3%

The actuarial assumptions used in the July 1, 2022 valuation were based on the results of an actuarial experience study for the period of July of 2016 – July of 2021 and a discount rate of 6.95% as adopted by the Board on August 17, 2022.

The long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments is reviewed regularly as part of experience studies prepared for the Fund. The results of the most recent experience study, presented in a report dated July 22, 2022, indicated an assumed rate of return of 6.95%.

The target asset allocation and best estimates of arithmetic real rates of return for each major asset class are summarized in the following table. The source of the information is the Fund's investment advisors SEI:

Asset Class	Target Allocation	Long-term Expected Real Rate of Return*
S&P 500 Index Fund	19.00%	7.31%
Extended Markets Index Fund	8.00%	10.08%
Dynamic Asset Allocation Fund	7.00%	9.81%
World Equity Ex-US Fund	27.00%	9.38%
Core Fixed Income Fund	23.00%	4.26%
High Yield Bond Fund	4.00%	61.13%
Opportunistic Income Fund	3.00%	3.18%
Emerging Markets Debt Fund	4.00%	7.45%
Core Property	2.50%	6.66%
Private Equity	2.50%	11.68%
Total	100.00%	

* Net of inflation of 2.75%

Note 2 - Plan Description (Continued)

2-C. Funding Policy (Continued)

Discount Rate – The discount rate used to measure the total pension liability was 6.95%. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed that employee contributions will be made at the current contribution rate and that the School System's contributions will be made at rates equal to the difference between actuarially determined contribution rates and the employee rate. Based on those assumptions, the pension plan's fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments of current active and inactive employees. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments was applied to all periods of projected benefit payments to determine the total pension liability.

Sensitivity of the Net Pension Liability (Asset) to Changes in the Discount Rate – The following presents the net pension asset of the School System, calculated using the discount rate of 6.95%, as well as the School System's net pension liability (asset) would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1% lower (i.e., 5.95%) or 1% higher (i.e., 7.95%) than the current rate:

As of June 30, 2023

	1.00% Decrease or 5.95%	Current Discount Rate 6.95%	1.00% Increase or 7.95%
Net Pension Liability	$ 113,576,903	$ 55,889,741	$ 7,140,237

As of June 30, 2022

	1.00% Decrease or 5.95%	Current Discount Rate 6.95%	1.00% Increase or 7.95%
Net Pension Liability	$ 127,967,059	$ 73,337,155	$ 27,090,143

Actuarial valuations involve estimates of the value of reported amounts and assumptions about the probability of events far into the future, and actuarially determined amounts are subject to continual revision as results are compared to past expectations and new estimates are made about the future. Actuarial calculations reflect a long-term perspective. Calculations are based on the substantive plan in effect as of June 30, 2023 and June 30, 2022 and the current sharing pattern of costs between employer and employee.

Note 3 - Other Notes

3-A. Deposits and Investments

Deposits

The Pension Fund's cash and investment policy limits deposits to demand and money market accounts and time deposits at local banks. The Pension Fund's deposits shall be secured by Federal Depositary Insurance Corporation (FDIC) coverage and/or bank pledges. State statutes require banks holding public funds to secure these funds by FDIC insurance, securities pledged at par value and surety bonds at face value in combined aggregate totaling not less than 110% of the public funds held.

Custodial Credit Risk – Deposits – The custodial credit risk for deposits is the risk that, in the event of a bank failure, the Pension Fund's deposits may not be recovered. As of June 30, 2023, all of the Pension Fund's deposits were covered either by FDIC coverage or collateralized by the financial institution or a combination of the two.

Note 3 - Other Notes (Continued)

3-A. Deposits and Investments (Continued)

Investments

Pension Fund investments are managed by a separate investment policy adopted by the Pension Fund Board in compliance with state law, particularly O.C.G.A. §47-20-10 and O.C.G.A. §47-20-80. The Pension Fund assets are invested in United States Government securities, domestic common stocks, international stocks, and domestic bonds based on asset allocation ranges and performance benchmarks.

Interest Rate Risk - Interest rate risk is the risk that changes in interest rates of debt investments will adversely affect the fair value of an investment. The Pension Fund investment policy adopts the following asset mix to achieve the lowest level of risk for the Plan:

- Equity Securities between 45% and 75%.
- Fixed Income Securities between 15% and 48%.
- Alternative Investments between 0% and 5%.

As of June 30, 2023 and June 30, 2022, the Pension Fund had $494,865,205 and $459,128,138 invested in the following types of investments:

	June 30, 2023			June 30, 2022		
		Maturity Range (Time to Maturity)			Maturity Range (Time to Maturity)	
Investment Type	Fair Value	Low	High	Fair Value	Low	High
Mutual Funds, Invested in Fixed Income	$ 165,276,833	3.51	9.93	$ 166,334,685	3.91	9.55
Limited Partnerships Equities	19,149,561	n/a	n/a	18,734,870	n/a	n/a
Mutual Funds, Invested in International Equities	274,736,310	n/a	n/a	241,553,046	n/a	n/a
Mutual Funds, Invested in Domestic Equities	35,702,501	n/a	n/a	32,505,537	n/a	n/a
Total	$ 494,865,205			$ 459,128,138		

Quality Credit Risk – The Pension Fund policy prohibits investments in direct real estate, and no more than 75% (at cost) of Pension Fund assets shall be invested in equities. It is the Pension Fund's policy to limit investments in common or preferred stock of a corporation to those corporations listed on one or more of the recognized national stock exchanges in the United States, or those traded on the NASDAQ National Market as required by Georgia law. Domestic bonds are limited to those with ratings that meet or exceed Standard and Poor's BBB or Moody's Baa ratings. The policy also limits stock investments to not more than 5% of the cost of any assets of any fund in common or preferred stock of any one issuing corporation and the aggregate investment of any fund in any one issuing corporation shall not exceed 3% of the outstanding capital stock of that corporation.

On June 30, 2023 and June 30, 2022, the Pension Fund did not have debt or equity investments in any one organization other than those issued by the U.S. Government which represented greater than 5% of the Plan's net position.

The Pension Fund's investments at June 30, 2023 and June 30, 2022 are comprised of only mutual funds, money market funds and limited partnership holdings that are not rated by any of the major ratings agencies.

Note 3 - Other Notes (Continued)

3-A. Deposits and Investments (Continued)

Foreign Currency Risk - As of June 30, 2023, $274,736,310 or 55.5% of the Pension Fund's assets had exposure of foreign currency risk through investments in foreign companies. These investments had the form of US dollars invested in mutual funds with only international equity holdings. As of June 30, 2022, $241,553,046 or 52.6% of the Pension Fund's assets had exposure of foreign currency risk through investments in foreign companies. These investments had the form of US dollars invested in mutual funds with only international equity holdings.

Rate of Return - For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2023, the annual money-weighted rate of return on pension plan investments, net of pension plan investment expense, was 10.29%. The money-weighted rate of return expresses investment performance, net of investment expense, adjusted for the changing amounts actually invested. For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2022, the annual money-weighted rate of return on pension plan investments, net of pension plan investment expense, was (13.65)%. The money-weighted rate of return expresses investment performance, net of investment expense, adjusted for the changing amounts actually invested.

Long-range Expected Rate of Return - 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. The long-range expected rate of return as of June 30, 2023 and June 30, 2022 was 6.95% and 6.95%, respectively.

Fair Value Measurements – The Pension Fund categorizes its fair value measurements within the fair value hierarchy established by generally accepted accounting principles. The hierarchy is based on the valuation inputs used to measure the fair value of the asset. Level 1 inputs are quoted prices in active markets for identical assets; Level 2 inputs are significant other observable inputs; and Level 3 inputs are significant unobservable inputs. The Pension Fund has the following recurring fair value measurements as of June 30, 2023 and June 30, 2022:

As of June 30, 2023

Investment	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Fair Value
Mutual funds invested in domestic equities	$ 35,702,501	$ -	$ -	$ 35,702,501
Mutual funds invested in foreign equities	274,736,310	-	-	274,736,310
Mutual funds invested in fixed income securities	165,276,833	-	-	165,276,833
Total investments by fair value level	$ 475,715,644	$ -	$ -	475,715,644
Investments Measured at Net Asset Value (NAV)				
Private Investment fund (limited partnership) *				19,149,561
Total investments measured at NAV				19,149,561
Total investments measured at fair value				$ 494,865,205

* Of this amount, $18,555,027 fall within Level 3 of the fair value hierarchy.

Note 3 - Other Notes (Continued)

3-A. Deposits and Investments (Continued)

As of June 30, 2022

Investment	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Fair Value
Mutual funds invested in domestic equities	$ 32,505,537	$ -	$ -	$ 32,505,537
Mutual funds invested in foreign equities	241,553,046	-	-	241,553,046
Mutual funds invested in fixed income securities	166,334,685	-	-	166,334,685
Total investments by fair value level	$ 440,393,268	$ -	$ -	440,393,268
Investments Measured at Net Asset Value (NAV)				
Private Investment fund (limited partnership)				18,734,870
Total investments measured at NAV				18,734,870
Total investments measured at fair value				$ 459,128,138

The investments classified in Level 1 of the fair value hierarchy are valued using prices quoted in active markets for those securities. This includes the mutual funds invested in both equity and fixed income securities.

The private investment fund measured at the net asset value invests primarily in venture capital investments, leveraged buyouts (LBOs), and distressed debt and equity. As of June 30, 2023 and 2022, the fund is invested in complex structures in underlying holdings, alternative investments, and items that fall within Level 3 of the fair value hierarchy. The limited partnership will continue until the dissolution of the last underlying fund or termination at the General Partner's discretion. Withdrawals, redemptions, or transfers are not permitted during the life of the partnership.

Fulton County School Employees' Pension Fund
(a component unit of the Fulton County Board of Education, Georgia)
Required Supplementary Information
Schedule of Employer Contributions
For the Last Ten Fiscal Years

Fiscal Year Ended June 30,	*Actuarially Determined Contribution*	*Actual Employer Contribution*	*Contribution Deficiency (Excess)*	*Covered Payroll*	*Contributions as a % of Covered Payroll*
2014	$ 29,179,000	$ 29,179,000	$ -	$ 73,331,881	39.79%
2015	29,385,000	29,385,000	-	67,286,403	43.67%
2016	26,319,000	26,319,000	-	65,643,933	40.09%
2017	24,333,000	24,333,000	-	63,420,099	38.37%
2018	23,193,000	23,193,000	-	58,693,797	39.52%
2019	24,236,000	24,236,000	-	57,447,417	42.19%
2020	23,060,000	23,060,000	-	53,170,394	43.37%
2021	23,974,947	23,974,947	-	54,975,801	43.61%
2022	25,615,137	25,615,137	-	54,211,930	47.25%
2023	24,361,659	24,361,659	-	65,840,706	37.00%

Notes to The Schedule:

Methods and Assumptions Used to Determine Contribution Rates:

Valuation Timing	Actuarially determined contribution rates are calculated as of June 30, two years prior to the end of the fiscal year in which the contributions are reported
Actuarial Cost Method	Entry Age Normal
Amortization Method	Level Dollar Layered, closed
Remaining Amortization Period	1 to 27 years
Asset Valuation Method	5-Year Smoothed Market
Inflation Rate	2.75%
Salary Increases	3.50% - 5.00%
Investment Rate of Return	6.95%
Cost of Living Adjustments	3%
Retirement Age	Rates Based on Age
Turnover	Rates vary by group and age
Mortality	Pub-2010 General Below Median Healthy Retiree Mortality Table set forward 2 years for females, projected generationally using scale MP-2021 for healthy retirees. The Pub-2010 General Below Median Contingent Survivors Mortality Table set back 1 year for males and set forward 2 years for females, projected generationally using scale MP-2021, is used for beneficiaries. The Pub-2010 General Mortality Table for Disabled Retirees, projected generationally using scale MP-2021, is used for disabled retirees. The Pub-2010 General Below Median Employee Mortality Table, projected generationally using scale MP-2021, is used for pre-retirement mortality.

Fulton County School Employees' Pension Fund
(a component unit of the Fulton County Board of Education, Georgia)
Required Supplementary Information
Schedule of Changes in the School System's Net Pension Liability (Asset) and Related Ratios
Fulton County School Employees Pension Plan
For the Fiscal Years Ended June 30

Total Pension Liability	**2023**	**2022**	**2021**	**2020**	**2019**	**2018**	**2017**	**2016**	**2015**	**2014**
Service cost	$ 5,199,038	$ 4,707,730	$ 4,727,614	$ 4,330,953	$ 4,367,831	$ 4,381,345	$ 4,370,809	$ 4,623,790	$ 5,625,193	$ 5,091,739
Interest on total pension liability	35,834,805	34,526,006	34,257,977	34,611,275	34,127,216	32,882,506	33,036,913	32,687,981	32,346,582	31,987,391
Differences between expected and actual experience	15,222,691	5,968,380	661,154	(8,884,954)	(2,896,589)	19,226,199	(6,560,082)	(765,488)	(3,609,613)	1,959,567
Changes of assumptions or other inputs	-	13,921,234	-	-	5,974,789	-	-	-	-	-
Benefit payments, including refunds of employee contributions	(37,164,499)	(36,322,116)	(35,313,399)	(34,895,385)	(34,420,860)	(33,681,823)	(32,457,819)	(31,694,134)	(30,973,571)	(30,693,628)
Net Change in Total Pension Liability	19,092,035	22,801,234	4,333,346	(4,838,111)	7,152,387	22,808,227	(1,610,179)	4,852,149	3,388,591	8,345,069
Total Pension Liability - Beginning of Fiscal Year	534,190,949	511,389,715	507,056,369	511,894,480	504,742,093	481,933,866	483,544,045	478,691,896	475,303,305	466,958,236
Total Pension Liability - End of Fiscal Year	$ 553,282,984	$ 534,190,949	$ 511,389,715	$ 507,056,369	$ 511,894,480	$ 504,742,093	$ 481,933,866	$ 483,544,045	$ 478,691,896	$ 475,303,305
Plan Fiduciary Net Position										
Employer contributions	$ 24,361,659	$ 25,615,137	$ 23,974,947	$ 23,060,000	$ 24,236,000	$ 23,193,000	$ 24,333,000	$ 26,319,000	$ 29,385,000	$ 29,179,000
Employee contributions	3,568,209	3,268,136	2,642,387	2,731,039	2,707,928	2,572,698	2,714,675	2,684,487	2,998,844	2,700,403
Net investment income (expense)	46,778,272	(73,692,170)	117,791,893	16,035,434	21,304,499	30,806,476	44,818,599	(9,257,318)	3,277,028	61,848,328
Benefit payments, including refunds of employee contributions	(37,164,499)	(36,322,116)	(35,313,399)	(34,895,385)	(34,420,860)	(33,681,823)	(32,457,819)	(31,694,134)	(30,973,571)	(30,788,335)
Administrative expenses	(1,004,192)	(1,487,074)	(903,348)	(678,866)	(834,245)	(872,896)	(787,441)	(962,392)	(960,758)	(924,980)
Net Change in Plan Fiduciary Net Position	36,539,449	(82,618,087)	108,192,480	6,252,222	12,993,322	22,017,455	38,621,014	(12,910,357)	3,726,543	62,014,416
Total Plan Fiduciary Net Position - Beginning of Fiscal Year	460,853,794	543,471,881	435,279,401	429,027,179	416,033,857	394,016,402	355,395,388	368,305,745	364,579,202	302,564,786
Total Plan Fiduciary Net Position - End of Fiscal Year	$ 497,393,243	$ 460,853,794	$ 543,471,881	$ 435,279,401	$ 429,027,179	$ 416,033,857	$ 394,016,402	$ 355,395,388	$ 368,305,745	$ 364,579,202
School System's Net Pension Liability (Asset) - End of Fiscal Year	$ 55,889,741	$ 73,337,155	$ (32,082,166)	$ 71,776,968	$ 82,867,301	$ 88,708,236	$ 87,917,464	$ 128,148,657	$ 110,386,151	$ 110,724,103
Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total Pension Liability (Asset)	89.90%	86.27%	106.27%	85.84%	83.81%	82.43%	81.76%	73.50%	76.94%	76.70%
Covered Payroll	$ 65,840,706	$ 54,211,930	$ 54,975,801	$ 53,170,394	$ 57,447,417	$ 58,693,797	$ 63,420,099	$ 65,643,933	$ 67,286,403	$ 73,331,881
Net Pension Liability (Asset) as a Percentage of Covered Payroll	84.89%	135.28%	-58.36%	134.99%	144.25%	151.14%	138.63%	195.22%	164.05%	150.99%
Schedule of Investment Returns										
Annual money-weighted rate of return, net of investment expenses	10.29%	-13.65%	26.97%	3.78%	5.17%	7.79%	12.75%	-2.86%	1.07%	20.49%

Fulton County School Employees' Pension Fund
(a component unit of the Fulton County Board of Education, Georgia)
Comparative Schedule of Investments
June 30, 2023 and 2022

2023 and 2022 Identity of Issuer or Custodian	Investment Descriptions	Market Value 2023	Market Value 2022
SEI Private Trust Company	Dynamic Asset Allocation Fund	$ 35,702,501	$ 32,505,537
SEI Private Trust Company	Small Cap Equity	920	-
SEI Private Trust Company	Core Fixed Income Fund	110,859,488	113,111,839
SEI Private Trust Company	S&P 500 Index Fund	97,766,590	87,086,217
SEI Private Trust Company	Institutional Investment High Yield Bond Fund	19,713,016	19,384,211
SEI Private Trust Company	Extended Market Index	41,442,183	31,931,675
SEI Private Trust Company	Emerging Markets Debt	20,008,486	18,143,664
SEI Private Trust Company	Opportunistic Income Fund	14,694,923	15,694,972
SEI Private Trust Company	World Equity Fund	135,527,537	122,535,153
SEI Private Trust Company	Core Property Collective Investment Trust	15,173,868	15,396,009
SEI Private Trust Company	Global Private Assets	3,381,159	2,267,497
Invesco Partnership	Equity Limited Partnership	594,534	1,071,364
	Total	$ 494,865,205	$ 459,128,138

Fulton County School Employees' Pension Fund
(a component unit of the Fulton County Board of Education, Georgia)
Comparative Schedule of Administrative Expenses
For the Fiscal Years Ended June 30, 2023 and 2022

	2023	2022
Administrative Expenses:		
Salaries	$ 384,600	$ 307,315
Employee benefits	128,660	107,938
Professional fees	227,806	621,625
Office supplies, postage, printing and other	263,126	450,196
Total Administrative Expenses	$ 1,004,192	$ 1,487,074

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CPAs & ADVISORS

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*

To the Superintendent and Members of the Board of Trustees of the Fulton County School Employees' Pension Fund
Atlanta, Georgia

We have audited, in accordance with the 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, the financial statements of the **Fulton County School Employees' Pension Fund** (the "Pension Fund" or the "Fund"), a component unit of the Fulton County Board of Education, as of and for the fiscal years ended June 30, 2023 and 2022, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Pension Fund's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated December 1, 2023.

Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the Pension Fund's internal control over financial reporting ("internal control") as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Pension Fund's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Pension Fund'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. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that have not been identified.

Report on Compliance and Other Matters

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

Purpose of this Report

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the 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.

Mauldin & Jenkins, LLC

Atlanta, Georgia
December 1, 2023