



Office of the Washington State Auditor
Pat McCarthy

Financial Statements Audit Report

Freeman School District

No. 358

For the period September 1, 2022 through August 31, 2023

Published May 23, 2024

Report No. 1034846



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**Office of the Washington State Auditor
Pat McCarthy**

May 23, 2024

Board of Directors
Freeman School District No. 358
Rockford, Washington

Report on Financial Statements

Please find attached our report on Freeman School District No. 358's financial statements.

We are issuing this report in order to provide information on the District's financial activities and condition.

Sincerely,

Pat McCarthy, State Auditor
Olympia, WA

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FREEMAN SCHOOL DISTRICT #358

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SUMMARY SCHEDULE OF PRIOR AUDIT FINDINGS

Freeman School District No. 358

September 1, 2022 through August 31, 2023

This schedule presents the status of findings reported in prior audit periods.

Audit Period: September 1, 2021 through August 31, 2022	Report Reference No.: 1032576	Finding Ref. No.: 2022-001	ALN(s): 84.425
Federal Program Name and Granting Agency: COVID-19 Education Stabilization Fund U.S Department of Education		Pass-Through Agency Name: Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction	
Finding Caption: The District did not have adequate internal controls for ensuring compliance with wage rate requirements.			
Background: The District did not have adequate internal controls for ensuring compliance with federal wage rate requirements. Specifically, the District did not include required wage rate clauses in construction contracts, and did not collect, or ensure project managers collected, weekly certified payroll reports from contractors and their subcontractors to confirm they paid laborers proper prevailing wages.			
Status of Corrective Action: (check one) <input type="checkbox"/> Fully Corrected <input type="checkbox"/> Partially Corrected <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not Corrected <input type="checkbox"/> Finding is considered no longer valid			
Corrective Action Taken: <i>Should the district utilize Federal dollars on future construction projects, we will work with a Project Manager experienced with using Federal dollars on a project. In addition, the Director of Fiscal/Administrative Services will collect certified weekly payrolls from the contractors on the project.</i>			

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

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*

Freeman School District No. 358 September 1, 2022 through August 31, 2023

Board of Directors
Freeman School District No. 358
Rockford, Washington

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, the financial statements of Freeman School District No. 358, as of and for the year ended August 31, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the District's financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated May 9, 2024.

We issued an unmodified opinion on the fair presentation of the District's financial statements in accordance with its regulatory basis of accounting. We issued an adverse opinion on the fair presentation with regard to accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP) because the financial statements are prepared by the District using accounting practices prescribed by state law and the *Accounting Manual for Public School Districts in the State of Washington* (Accounting Manual) described in Note 1, which is a basis of accounting other than GAAP. The effects on the financial statements of the variances between the basis of accounting described in Note 1 and accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, although not reasonably determinable, are presumed to be material.

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 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 District's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected on a timely basis. A *significant deficiency* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described above 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 were not identified.

Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses.

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*.

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 District's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the District's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose. However,

this report is a matter of public record and its distribution is not limited. It also serves to disseminate information to the public as a reporting tool to help citizens assess government operations.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Pat McCarthy". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "P".

Pat McCarthy, State Auditor

Olympia, WA

May 9, 2024

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Freeman School District No. 358 September 1, 2022 through August 31, 2023

Board of Directors
Freeman School District No. 358
Rockford, Washington

REPORT ON THE AUDIT OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Unmodified and Adverse Opinions

We have audited the financial statements of Freeman School District No. 358, as of and for the year ended August 31, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, as listed in the financial section of our report.

Unmodified Opinion on the Regulatory Basis of Accounting (Accounting Manual)

As described in Note 1, the District has prepared these financial statements to meet the financial reporting requirements of state law and accounting practices prescribed by the *Accounting Manual for Public School Districts in the State of Washington* (Accounting Manual). Those accounting practices differ from accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP). The differences in these accounting practices are also described in Note 1.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the fund balance of Freeman School District No. 358, and its changes in fund balance, for the year ended August 31, 2023, on the basis of accounting described in Note 1.

Adverse Opinion on U.S. GAAP

The financial statements referred to above were not intended to, and in our opinion, they do not, present fairly, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, the financial position of Freeman School District No. 358, as of August 31, 2023, or the changes in financial position or cash flows thereof for the year then ended, because of the significance of the matter discussed below.

Basis for Unmodified and Adverse Opinions

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS) and *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 unmodified and adverse opinions.

Matter Giving Rise to Adverse Opinion on U.S. GAAP

Auditing standards issued by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA) require auditors to formally acknowledge when governments do not prepare their financial statements, intended for general use, in accordance with GAAP. As described in Note 1 of the financial statements, the financial statements are prepared by the District in accordance with state law using accounting practices prescribed by the Accounting Manual, which is a basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. The effects on the financial statements of the variances between the regulatory basis of accounting and accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, although not reasonably determinable, are presumed to be material and pervasive.

Matters of Emphasis

As discussed in Note 1 to the financial statements, in 2023, the District adopted new accounting guidance for presentation and disclosure for Subscription-Based Information Technology Arrangements (SBITA), as required by the Accounting Manual. Our opinion is not modified with respect to this matter.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with the financial reporting provisions of state law and the Accounting Manual described in Note 1. This includes determining that the basis of accounting is acceptable for the presentation of the financial statements in the circumstances. Management is also responsible for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the 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 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.

Performing an audit in accordance with GAAS and *Government Auditing Standards* includes the following responsibilities:

- 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; and
- 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.

Supplementary Information

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on the financial statements that collectively comprise the District's financial statements. The Schedule of Long-Term Liabilities is presented for purposes of additional analysis, as required by the prescribed Accounting Manual. This schedule is not a required part of the 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 financial statements. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the information is fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the 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 May 9, 2024 on our consideration of the District's internal control over financial reporting and on the tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is 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.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Pat McCarthy". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Pat McCarthy, State Auditor

Olympia, WA

May 9, 2024

FINANCIAL SECTION

Freeman School District No. 358 September 1, 2022 through August 31, 2023

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance – Governmental
Funds – 2023

Notes to the Financial Statements – 2023

SUPPLEMENTARY AND OTHER INFORMATION

Schedule of Long-Term Liabilities – 2023

Freeman School District No. 358

Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance - Governmental Funds

For the Year Ended August 31, 2023

	General Fund	ASB Fund	Debt Service Fund	Capital Projects Fund	Transportation Vehicle Fund	Permanent Fund	Total
REVENUES:							
Local	1,654,998.78	350,932.61	1,705,217.50	1,097,396.21	1,883.92		4,810,429.02
State	10,913,951.35		0.00	0.00	209,150.87		11,123,102.22
Federal	981,625.15		0.00	0.00	0.00		981,625.15
Other	66,912.00		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	66,912.00
TOTAL REVENUES	13,617,487.28	350,932.61	1,705,217.50	1,097,396.21	211,034.79	0.00	16,982,068.39
EXPENDITURES:							
CURRENT:							
Regular Instruction	6,892,018.27						6,892,018.27
Special Education	1,302,503.16						1,302,503.16
Vocational Education	1,216,315.12						1,216,315.12
Skill Center	0.00						0.00
Compensatory Programs	297,730.48						297,730.48
Other Instructional Programs	6,486.00						6,486.00
Federal Stimulus COVID-19	403,206.75						403,206.75
Community Services	15,834.84						15,834.84
Support Services	3,661,830.99						3,661,830.99
Student Activities/Other		345,132.41				0.00	345,132.41
CAPITAL OUTLAY:							
Sites				3,837,843.17			3,837,843.17
Building				0.00			0.00
Equipment				8,183.05			8,183.05
Instructional Technology				82,482.59			82,482.59
Energy				0.00	0.00		0.00
Transportation Equipment					120,321.02		120,321.02
Sales and Lease							0.00
Other	201,628.49						201,628.49
DEBT SERVICE:							
Principal	0.00		1,250,000.00	0.00	0.00		1,250,000.00

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this financial statement.

Freeman School District No. 358

Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance - Governmental Funds

For the Year Ended August 31, 2023

	General Fund	ASB Fund	Debt Service Fund	Capital Projects Fund	Transportation Vehicle Fund	Permanent Fund	Total
Interest and Other Charges	0.00		408,550.00	1,466.67	0.00		410,016.67
Bond/Levy Issuance				36,250.00	0.00		36,250.00
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	13,997,554.10	345,132.41	1,658,550.00	3,966,225.48	120,321.02	0.00	20,087,783.01
REVENUES OVER (UNDER) EXPENDITURES	-380,066.82	5,800.20	46,667.50	-2,868,829.27	90,713.77	0.00	-3,105,714.62
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES) :							
Bond Sales & Refunding Bond Sales	0.00		0.00	2,036,250.00	0.00		2,036,250.00
Long-Term Financing	157,624.00			0.00	0.00		157,624.00
Transfers In	0.00		0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00
Transfers Out (GL 536)	0.00		0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00
Other Financing Uses (GL 535)	0.00		0.00	-39,521.36	0.00		-39,521.36
Other	0.00		0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00
TOTAL OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)	157,624.00		0.00	1,996,728.64	0.00	0.00	2,154,352.64
EXCESS OF REVENUES/OTHER FINANCING SOURCES OVER (UNDER) EXPENDITURES AND OTHER FINANCING USES	-222,442.82	5,800.20	46,667.50	-872,100.63	90,713.77	0.00	-951,361.98
BEGINNING TOTAL FUND BALANCE	1,094,177.28	281,799.18	1,064,876.68	1,110,930.46	174,164.98	0.00	3,725,948.58
Prior Year(s) Corrections or Restatements	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
ENDING TOTAL FUND BALANCE	871,734.46	287,599.38	1,111,544.18	238,829.83	264,878.75	0.00	2,774,586.60

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this financial statement.

FREEMAN SCHOOL DISTRICT #358
Notes to the Financial Statements
September 1, 2022 Through August 31, 2023

NOTE 1: SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The Freeman School District (District) is a municipal corporation organized pursuant to Title 28A of the Revised Code of Washington (RCW) for the purposes of providing public school services to students in grades K–12. Oversight responsibility for the District’s operations is vested with the independently elected board of directors. Management of the District is appointed by and is accountable to the board of directors. Fiscal responsibility, including budget authority and the power to set fees, levy property taxes, and issue debt consistent with provisions of state statutes, also rests with the board of directors.

The District presents governmental fund financial statements and related notes on the cash basis of accounting, except for the Debt Service Fund which is reported on the modified accrual basis of accounting, in accordance with the *Accounting Manual for Public School Districts in the State of Washington*, issued jointly by the State Auditor’s Office and the Superintendent of Public Instruction by the authority of RCW 43.09.200, RCW 28A.505.140, RCW 28A.505.010(1), and RCW 28A.505.020. This manual prescribes a financial reporting framework that differs from generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) in the following manner:

- (1) Financial transactions are recognized on a cash basis of accounting as described below.
- (2) Districtwide statements, as defined in GAAP, are not presented.
- (3) A Schedule of Long-Term Liabilities is presented as supplementary information.
- (4) Supplementary information required by GAAP is not presented.

Fund Accounting

Financial transactions of the District are reported in individual funds. Each fund uses a separate set of self-balancing accounts that comprise its assets, liabilities, fund equity, revenues, and expenditures as appropriate. All funds are considered major funds. The various funds in the report are grouped into governmental (and fiduciary) funds as follows:

Governmental Funds

General Fund

This fund is used to account for all expendable financial resources, except for those that are required to be accounted for in another fund. In keeping with the principle of having as few funds as are necessary, activities such as food services, maintenance, data processing, printing, and student transportation are included in the General Fund.

Capital Projects Funds

These funds account for financial resources that are to be used for the construction or acquisition of major capital assets. There are two funds that are considered to be of the capital projects fund type: the Capital Projects Fund and the Transportation Vehicle Fund.

Capital Projects Fund. This fund is used to account for resources set aside for the acquisition and construction of major capital assets such as land and buildings.

Transportation Vehicle Fund. This fund is used to account for the purchase, major repair, rebuilding, and debt service expenditures that relate to pupil transportation equipment.

Debt Service Fund

This fund is used to account for the accumulation of resources for and the payment of matured general long-term debt principal and interest.

Special Revenue Fund

In Washington state, the only allowable special revenue fund for school districts is the Associated Student Body (ASB) Fund. This fund is accounted for in the District's financial statements as the financial resources legally belong to the District. As a special revenue fund, amounts within the ASB Fund may only be used for those purposes that relate to the operation of the Associated Student Body of the District.

Permanent Funds

These funds are used to report resources that are legally restricted such that only earnings, and not principal, may be expended. Amounts in the Permanent Fund may only be spent in support of the District's programs and may not be used to the benefit of any individual.

Fiduciary Funds

Fiduciary funds include pension and other employee benefit trust funds, private-purpose trust funds, and custodial funds, and are used to account for assets that are held by the District in a fiduciary capacity.

Private-Purpose Trust Fund

This fund is used to account for resources that are legally held in trust by the District. The trust agreement details whether principal and interest may both be spent, or whether only interest may be spent. Money from a Private-Purpose Trust Fund may not be used to support the District's programs, and may be used to benefit individuals, private organizations, or other governments.

Measurement focus and basis of accounting and fund financial statement presentation.

Governmental fund financial statements are reported using the cash basis of accounting and measurement focus. Revenues are recognized when they are received in cash and expenditures are recognized when warrants are issued. Purchases of capital assets are expensed during the year of acquisition.

Budgets

Chapter 28A.505 RCW and Chapter 392-123 Washington Administrative Code (WAC) mandate school district budget policies and procedures. The board adopts annual appropriated budgets for all governmental funds. These budgets are appropriated at the fund level. The budget constitutes the legal authority for expenditures at that level. Appropriations lapse at the end of the fiscal period.

Budgets are adopted on the same cash basis as used for financial reporting, except for the Debt Service Fund which is accounted for on the modified accrual basis of accounting. Fund balance is budgeted as available resources and, under statute, may not be negative, unless the District enters into binding conditions with state oversight pursuant to RCW 28A.505.110.

The government's policy regarding whether to first apply restricted or unrestricted resources when an expense is incurred for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted net assets are available.

The District receives state funding for specific categorical education-related programs. Amounts that are received for these programs that are not used in the current fiscal year may be carried forward into the subsequent fiscal year, where they may be used only for the same purpose as they were originally received. When the District has such carryover, those funds are expended before any amounts received in the current year are expended.

Additionally, the District has other restrictions placed on its financial resources. When expenditures are recorded for purposes for which a restriction or commitment of fund balance is available, those funds that are restricted or committed to that purpose are considered first before any unrestricted or unassigned amounts are expended.

The government's fund balance classifications policies and procedures.

The District classifies ending fund balance for its governmental funds into five categories.

Nonspendable Fund Balance. The amounts reported as Nonspendable are resources of the District that are not in spendable format. They are either non-liquid resources such as inventory or prepaid items, or the resources are legally or contractually required to be maintained intact.

Restricted Fund Balance. Amounts that are reported as Restricted are those resources of the District that have had a legal restriction placed on their use either from statute, WAC, or other legal requirements that are beyond the control of the board of directors. Restricted fund balance includes anticipated recovery of revenues that have been received but are restricted as to their usage.

Committed Fund Balance. Amounts that are reported as Committed are those resources of the District that have had a limitation placed upon their usage by formal action of the District's board of directors. Commitments are made either through a formal adopted board resolution or are related to a school board policy. Commitments may only be changed when the resources are used for the intended purpose or the limitation is removed by a subsequent formal action of the board of directors.

Assigned Fund Balance. In the General Fund, amounts that are reported as Assigned are those resources that the District has set aside for specific purposes. These accounts reflect tentative management plans for future financial resource use such as the replacement of equipment or the assignment of resources for contingencies. Assignments reduce the amount reported as Unassigned Fund Balance, but may not reduce that balance below zero.

In other governmental funds, Assigned fund balance represents a positive ending spendable fund balance once all restrictions and commitments are considered. These resources are only available for expenditure in that fund and may not be used in any other fund without formal action by the District's board of directors and as allowed by statute.

The Superintendent and Director of Fiscal/Administrative Services are the only persons who have the authority to create Assignments of fund balance.

Unassigned Fund Balance. In the General Fund, amounts that are reported as Unassigned are those net spendable resources of the District that are not otherwise Restricted, Committed, or Assigned, and may be used for any purpose within the General Fund.

In other governmental funds, Unassigned fund balance represents a deficit ending spendable fund balance once all restrictions and commitments are considered.

A negative Unassigned fund balance means that the legal restrictions and formal commitments of the District exceed its currently available resources.

Cash and Cash Equivalents

All of the District's cash and cash equivalents are considered to be cash on hand, demand deposits, and short-term investments with original maturities of three months or less from the date of acquisition.

Accounting and Reporting Changes

Subscription-Based Information Technology Arrangements (SBITA)

For the year ended August 31, 2023, the district implemented guidance for the presentation and disclosures of Subscription-Based Information Technology Arrangements (SBITA), as required by the School District Accounting Manual.

The district determined that there are no SBITA liabilities to present on the Schedule of Long-Term Liabilities.

NOTE 2: DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS

All of the District's bank balances are insured by the Federal Depository Insurance Corporation (FDIC) or by collateral held in a multiple financial institution collateral pool administered by the Washington Public Deposit Protection Commission (PDPC).

Statutes authorize the District to invest in (1) securities, certificates, notes, bonds, short-term securities, or other obligations of the United States, and (2) deposits in any state bank or trust company, national banking association, stock savings bank, mutual savings bank, savings and loan association, and any branch bank engaged in banking in the state in accordance with RCW 30.04.300 if the institution has been approved by the Public Deposit Protection Commission to hold public deposits and has segregated eligible collateral having a value of not less than its maximum liability.

The Spokane County Treasurer is the *ex officio* treasurer for the District and holds all accounts of the District. The District directs the County Treasurer to invest those financial resources of the District that the District has determined are not needed to meet the current financial obligations of the District.

The district's deposits and certificates of deposit are mostly covered by federal depository insurance (FDIC) or by collateral held in a multiple financial institution collateral pool administered by the Washington Public Deposit Protection Commission (PDPC).

The district's participation in the Spokane County Investment Pool is voluntary and the pool does not have a credit rating. The district reports its investment in the pool at the fair value amount, which is the same as the value of the pool per share. The fair value of the district's investment in the pool is measured using a net asset value (NAV) as determined by the pool. The pool maintains a duration of 1.34 years and weighted average maturity of 1.4 years as of 12/31/2023.

All of the District's investments during the year and at year-end were insured or registered and held by the District or its agent in the District's name.

Washington State statutes authorize the district to invest in the following types of securities:

- Certificates, notes, or bonds of the United States, its agencies, or any corporation wholly owned by the government of the United States,
- Obligations of government-sponsored corporations which are eligible as collateral for advances to member banks as determined by the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System,
- Bankers' acceptances purchased on the secondary market,
- Repurchase agreements for securities listed in the three items above, provided that the transaction is structured so that the public treasurer obtains control over the underlying securities,
- Investment deposits with qualified public depositories,

- Washington State Local Government Investment Pool, and
- County Treasurer Investment Pools.

The District’s investments as of August 31, 2023, are as follows:

Type of Investment	(District’s) own investments	Total
County Treasurer’s Investment Pool	\$2,751,785.05	\$2,751,785.05
Total	\$2,751,785.05	\$2,751,785.05

NOTE 3: SIGNIFICANT EFFECTS OF SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

In February 2020, Governor Inslee declared a state of emergency in response to the spread of a deadly new virus. In the weeks following the declaration, precautionary measures to slow the spread of the virus were ordered. These measures included closing schools, canceling public events, limiting gathering sizes, and requiring people to stay home unless they were leaving for an essential function. On April 6, 2020, the Governor closed all public and private K–12 school buildings throughout the remainder of the 2019–20 school year and continuing through the 2020-21 school year. The school district, however, continues to operate, educating students using continuous learning models.

Many of the precautionary measures put in place during the 2019–20 school year remain in effect; and are affecting the district for the 2023–24 school year in new ways.

The direct and indirect impacts of operations of the district are summarized below:

The district has experienced decreasing enrollment beginning in the 2023-24 school year and expects a continual decrease in the future. The district is reducing staffing levels starting in 2024-25 school year and changing from a 6 period day to 7 periods per day.

NOTE 4: PENSION PLANS

General Information

The Washington State Department of Retirement Systems (DRS), a department within the primary government of the state of Washington, prepares a stand-alone annual comprehensive financial report that includes financial statements and required supplementary information for each pension plan. The pension plan's basic financial statement is accounted for using the accrual basis of accounting. The measurement date of the pension plans is June 30. 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.

The school district is reporting the net pension liability in the notes and on the Schedule of Long-term Liabilities calculated as the district's proportionate allocation percentage multiplied by the total plan collective net pension liability. The DRS total collective net pension liabilities for the pension plans school districts participate in are shown here.

The Collective Net Pension Liability (Asset)

The collective net pension liability or asset for the pension plans districts participated in are reported in the following tables

The Collective Net Pension Liability or (Asset) as of June 30, 2023				
	Total Pension Liability	Plan fiduciary net position	Participating employers' net pension liability or (Asset)	Plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of the total pension liability
PERS 1	\$11,508,253,000	\$9,225,521,000	\$2,282,732,000	80.16%
SERS 2/3	\$9,283,864,000	\$9,427,008,000	(\$143,144,000)	101.54%
TRS 1	\$8,491,576,000	\$7,225,059,000	\$1,266,517,000	85.09%
TRS 2/3	\$24,937,867,000	\$25,060,682,000	(\$122,815,000)	100.49%

Detailed information about the pension plans' fiduciary net position is available in the separately issued DRS report. Copies of the report may be obtained by contacting the Washington State Department of Retirement Systems, P.O. Box 48380, Olympia, WA 98504-8380; or online at [Annual Comprehensive Financial Reports](#) or <http://www.drs.wa.gov>.

Membership Participation

Substantially all school district full-time and qualifying part-time employees participate in one of the following three contributory, multi-employer, cost-sharing statewide retirement systems

managed by DRS: Teachers' Retirement System (TRS), Public Employees' Retirement System (PERS) and School Employees' Retirement System (SERS).

Membership & Plan Benefits

Certificated employees are members of TRS. Classified employees are members of PERS (if Plan 1) or SERS. Plan 1 under the TRS and PERS programs are defined benefit pension plans whose members joined the system on or before September 30, 1977. TRS 1 and PERS 1 are closed to new entrants.

TRS Plan Information

TRS was established in 1938, and its retirement provisions are contained in Chapters 41.32 and 41.34 RCW. TRS eligibility for membership requires service as a certificated, public-school employee working in an instructional, administrative, or supervisory capacity. TRS is a cost-sharing multi-employer retirement system comprised of three separate plans for membership purposes: Plans 1 and 2 are defined benefit plans and Plan 3 is a defined benefit plan with a defined contribution component.

TRS is comprised of three separate plans for accounting purposes: Plan 1, Plan 2/3, and Plan 3. Plan 1 accounts for the defined benefits of Plan 1 members. Plan 2/3 accounts for the defined benefits of Plan 2 members and the defined benefit portion of benefits for Plan 3 members. Plan 3 accounts for the defined contribution portion of benefits for Plan 3 members. Although members can only be a member of either Plan 2 or Plan 3, the defined benefit portions of Plan 2 and Plan 3 are accounted for in the same pension trust fund. All assets of this Plan 2/3 defined benefit plan may legally be used to pay the defined benefits of any of the Plan 2 or Plan 3 members or beneficiaries, as defined by the terms of the plan. Therefore, Plan 2/3 is a single plan for accounting purposes.

TRS Plan 1 provides retirement, disability, and death benefits. Retirement benefits are calculated using 2% of the member's Average Final Compensation (AFC) times the member's years of service – up to a maximum of 60%. AFC is the average of the member's two consecutive highest-paid fiscal years.

Members are eligible for retirement at any age after 30 years of service, at the age of 60 with five years of service, or at the age of 55 with 25 years of service. Other benefits include temporary and permanent disability payments, an optional cost-of-living adjustment (COLA).

TRS Plan 2/3 provides retirement, disability and death benefits. Retirement benefits for Plan 2 are calculated using 2% of the member's Average Final Compensation (AFC) times the member's years of service. Retirement defined benefits for Plan 3 are calculated using 1% of AFC times the member's years of service. AFC is the monthly average of the member's 60 consecutive highest-paid service credit months. TRS Plan 2/3 has no cap on years of service credit.

Members are eligible for retirement with a full benefit at age 65 with at least five years of service credit. Retirement before age 65 is considered an early retirement. TRS Plan 2/3 members who have at least 20 years of service credit and are 55 years of age or older are eligible for early retirement with a reduced benefit. The benefit is reduced by a factor that varies according to age for each year before age 65. TRS Plan 2/3 retirement benefits are actuarially reduced to reflect the choice of a survivor benefit.

Other TRS Plan 2/3 benefits include a Cost-of-Living Adjustment (COLA) based on the Consumer Price Index, capped at 3% annually.

Annuities purchased with plan 3 defined contributions that are invested within the WSIB TAP are considered defined benefits. Plan 3 WSIB TAP annuities are actuarially reduced if a survivor benefit is chosen and TAP annuities include a COLA of 3% annually.

TRS Plan 3 defined contribution benefits are totally dependent on employee contributions and investment earnings on those contributions. Members are eligible to withdraw their defined contribution upon separation. Members have multiple withdrawal options, including purchase of an annuity.

PERS Plan Information

PERS was established in 1947, and its retirement benefit provisions are contained in Chapters 41.34 and 41.40 RCW. PERS is a cost-sharing, multiple-employer retirement system. PERS Plan 1 provides retirement, disability, and death benefits. Retirement benefits are determined as 2% times the member's Average Final Compensation (AFC) times the member's years of services. AFC is the average of the member's 24 highest consecutive service months. Members are eligible for retirement from active status at any age with at least 30 years of service, at age 55 with at least 25 years of service, or at age 60 with at least five years of service.

PERS Plan 1 retirement benefits are actuarially reduced if a survivor benefit is chosen. Members retiring from inactive status before age 65 may also receive actuarially reduced benefits. Other benefits include an optional Cost-of-Living Adjustment (COLA).

SERS Plan Information

SERS was established by the legislature in 1998, and the plan became effective in 2000. SERS retirement benefit provisions are established in Chapters 41.34 and 41.35 RCW. SERS members include classified employees of school districts and educational service districts. SERS is a cost-sharing, multiemployer retirement system comprised of two separate plans for membership purposes. SERS Plan 2 is a defined benefit plan and SERS Plan 3 is a defined benefit plan with a defined contribution component.

Although members can only be a member of either Plan 2 or Plan 3, the defined benefit portions of Plan 2 and Plan 3 are accounted for in the same pension trust fund. All assets of this Plan 2/3 defined benefit plan may legally be used to pay the defined benefits of any of

the Plan 2 or Plan 3 members or beneficiaries. Therefore, Plan 2/3 is a single plan for accounting purposes.

SERS provides retirement, disability, and death benefits. Retirement benefits for Plan 2 are calculated as 2% times the member's Average Final Compensation (AFC) times the member's years of service. Defined benefits for Plan 3 are calculated using 1% times the member's AFC times the member's years of service. AFC is the monthly average of the member's 60 consecutive highest-paid service credit months.

Members are eligible for retirement with a full benefit at age 65 with at least five years of service credit. Retirement before age 65 is considered an early retirement. SERS members who have at least 20 years of service credit and are 55 years of age or older are eligible for early retirement with a reduced benefit. The benefit is reduced by a factor that varies according to age for each year before age 65.

SERS Plan 2/3 retirement benefits are actuarially reduced if a survivor benefit is chosen.

Other SERS Plan 2/3 benefits include a Cost-of-Living Adjustment (COLA) based on the Consumer Price Index, capped at 3% annually.

SERS 3 defined contributions benefits are totally dependent on employee contributions and the investment earnings on those contributions. Annuities purchased with plan 3 defined contributions that are invested within the WSIB TAP are considered defined benefits. Plan 3 WSIB TAP annuities are actuarially reduced if a survivor benefit is chosen and TAP annuities include a 3% annually.

Plan Contributions

The employer contribution rates for PERS, TRS, and SERS (Plans 1, 2, and 3) and the TRS and SERS Plan 2 employee contribution rates are established by the Pension Funding Council based upon the rates set by the Legislature. The methods used to determine the contribution requirements are established under state statute in accordance with Chapters 41.40 and 41.45 RCW for PERS, Chapters 41.35 and 41.45 RCW for SERS, and Chapters 41.32 and 41.45 RCW for TRS. Employers do not contribute to the defined contribution portions of TRS Plan 3 or SERS Plan 3. Under current law the employer must contribute 100 percent of the employer-required contribution. The employee contribution rate for Plan 1 in PERS and TRS is set by statute at six percent and does not vary from year to year.

The employer and employee contribution rates for all plans were effective as of September 1, 2022. PERS contribution rates changed on July 1, 2023. The pension plan contribution rates (expressed as a percentage of covered payroll) for fiscal year 2023 are listed below:

	From this date	Through this date	Member rate	Employer rate	
PERS 1	7/1/2022	6/30/2023	6.00%	10.39%	
PERS 1	7/1/2023	8/31/2023	6.00%	9.39%	
SERS 2	9/1/2022	8/31/2023	7.76%	11.79%	
SERS 3	9/1/2022	8/31/2023	*	11.79%	**
TRS 1	9/1/2022	8/31/2023	6.00%	14.69%	
TRS 2	9/1/2022	8/31/2023	8.05%	14.69%	
TRS 3	9/1/2022	8/31/2023	*	14.69%	**
<i>Note: The Employer rates include .0018 DRS administrative expense.</i>					
* – TRS and SERS Plan 3 Employee Contribution Variable from 5% to 15% based on rate selected by the employee member.					
** – TRS and SERS Plan 2/3 Employer Contributions for defined benefit portion only.					

The School District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability (Asset)

At June 30, 2023, the school district reported a total liability of **\$1,108,973** for its proportionate shares of the individual plans' collective net pension liability and **\$173,337** for its proportionate shares of net pension assets. Proportions of net pension amounts are based on annual contributions for each of the employers participating in the DRS administered plans. At June 30, 2023 the district's proportionate share of each plan's net pension liability is reported below:

June 30, 2023	PERS 1	SERS 2/3	TRS 1	TRS 2/3
District's Annual Contributions	\$75,274	\$153,152	\$365,127	\$459,759
Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability (Asset)	\$252,162	(\$89,891)	\$856,811	(\$83,446)

At June 30, 2023, the school district's percentage of the proportionate share of the collective net pension amount was as follows and the change in the allocation percentage from the prior period is illustrated below.

Change in Proportionate Shares	PERS 1	SERS 2/3	TRS 1	TRS 2/3
Current year proportionate share	.011047%	.062798%	.067651%	.067945%
Prior year proportionate share	.010810%	.058440%	.066289%	.066109%
Net difference percentage	.000237%	.004357%	.001362%	.001836%

Actuarial Assumptions

The total pension liabilities for TRS 1, TRS 2/3, PERS 1 and SERS 2/3 were determined by actuarial valuation as of June 30, 2022, with the results rolled forward to June 30, 2023, using the following actuarial assumptions, applied to all prior periods included in the measurement:

Inflation	2.75% total economic inflation, 3.25% salary inflation
Salary increases	In addition to the base 3.25% salary inflation assumption, salaries are also expected to grow by promotions and longevity.
Investment rate of return	7.00%

Mortality Rates

Mortality rates used in the plans were developed using the Society of Actuaries' Pub.H-2010 Mortality rates, which vary by member status as the base table. OSA applies age offsets for each system to better tailor the mortality rates to the demographics of each plan. OSA applied the long-term MP-2017 generational improvement scale to project mortality rates for every year after the 2010 base table. The actuarial assumptions used in the June 30, 2021, valuation were based on the results of the *2013–2018 Demographic Experience Study Report and the 2021 Economic Experience Study*. Additional assumptions for subsequent events and law changes are current as of the 2021 actuarial valuation report.

Long-term Expected Rate of Return

OSA selected a 7.00% long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments using a building-block method. In selecting the assumptions, OSA reviewed the historical experience data, considered the historical conditions that produced past annual investment returns, and considered Capital Market Assumptions (CMAs) and simulated expected investment returns the Washington State Investment Board (WSIB) provided.

The CMAs contain three pieces of information for each class of assets the WSIB currently invest in:

- Expected annual return
- Standard deviation of the annual return
- Correlations between the annual returns of each asset class with every other asset class

WSIB uses the CMAs and their target asset allocation to simulate future investment returns over various time horizons.

The expected future rates of return are developed by the WSIB for each major asset class.

Best estimates of arithmetic real rates of return for each major asset class included in the pension plans' target asset allocation as of June 30, 2023, are summarized in the following table:

TRS 1, TRS 2/3, PERS 1, and SERS 2/3		
Asset Class	Target Allocation	% Long-term Expected Real Rate of Return
Fixed Income	20.00%	1.50%
Tangible Assets	7.00%	4.70%
Real Estate	18.00%	5.40%
Global Equity	32.00%	5.90%
Private Equity	23.00%	8.90%

The inflation component used to create the above table was 2.20% and represents WSIB's long-term estimate of broad economic inflation consistent with their 2021 CMAs.

Discount Rate

The discount rate used to measure the total pension liability was 7.00%. To determine the discount rate, an asset sufficiency test was completed to test whether the pension plan's fiduciary net position was sufficient to make all projected future benefit payments of current plan members.

Based on the assumptions described in the DRS Certification Letter, the pension plan's fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments of current plan members. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return, a 7.00% on pension plan investments was applied to determine the total pension liability or (asset).

Sensitivity of the Net Pension Liability (Asset)

The following table presents the Freeman School District's proportionate share of the collective net pension liability or asset calculated using the discount rate of 7.00%, as well as what the net pension liability or asset would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1 percentage-point lower (6.00%) or 1 percentage-point higher (8.00%) than the current rate. Amounts are calculated using the school district's specific allocation percentage, by plan, to determine the proportionate share of the collective net pension liability or asset.

Sensitivity of the Net Pension Liability or Asset to Changes in the Discount Rate			
	1% Decrease (6.00%)	Current Discount Rate (7.00%)	1% Increase (8.00%)
PERS 1	\$3,189,149,000	\$2,282,732,000	\$1,491,643,000
Allocation Percentage	.011047%	.011047%	.011047%
Proportionate Share	\$352,289	\$252,162	\$164,774
SERS 2/3	\$1,168,408,000	(\$143,144,000)	(\$1,224,160,000)
Allocation Percentage	.062798%	.062798%	.062798%
Proportionate Share	\$733,733	(\$89,891)	(\$768,743)
TRS 1	\$1,927,853,000	\$1,266,517,000	\$688,424,000
Allocation Percentage	.067651%	.067651%	.067651%
Proportionate Share	\$1,304,212	\$856,811	\$465,726
TRS 2/3	\$3,965,509,000	(\$122,815,000)	(\$3,446,561,000)
Allocation Percentage	.067945%	.067945%	.067945%
Proportionate Share	\$2,694,353	(\$83,446)	(\$2,341,755)

NOTE 5: ANNUAL OTHER POST-EMPLOYMENT BENEFIT COST AND NET OPEB OBLIGATIONS

The state, through the Health Care Authority (HCA), administers a defined benefit other post-employment benefit (OPEB) plan that is not administered through a qualifying trust. The Public Employees Benefits Board (PEBB), created within the HCA, is authorized to design benefits, and determine the terms and conditions of employee and retired employee participation and coverage, including establishment of eligibility criteria for both active and retired employees. Benefits purchased by PEBB include medical, dental, life insurance and long-term disability insurance.

The relationship between the PEBB OPEB plan and its member employers and their employees and retirees is not formalized in a contract or plan document. Rather, the benefits are provided in accordance with a substantive plan. A substantive plan is one, which the employers and plan members understand the plan terms. This understanding is based on communications between the HCA, employers and plan members, and historical pattern of practice with regards to sharing of benefit costs.

Employers participating in the plan include the state of Washington (which includes general government agencies and higher education institutions), political subdivisions and tribal governments. Additionally, the PEBB plan is available to the retirees of the K-12 school districts and ESDs. The District's retirees (approximately 32) are eligible to participate in the PEBB plan under this arrangement.

Eligibility

District members are eligible for retiree medical benefits after becoming eligible for service retirement pension benefits (either reduced or full pension benefits) Under PERS 1, 2, 3; TRS 1, 2, or 3; or SERS 2 and 3 plans.

Former members who are entitled to a deferred vested pension benefit are not eligible to receive medical and life insurance benefits after pension benefit commencement. Survivors of covered members who die are eligible for medical benefits.

Medical Benefits

Upon retirement, members are permitted to receive medical benefits. Retirees pay the following monthly rates for pre-65 medical coverage for 2023.

Members not eligible for Medicare (or enrolled in Part A only)			
Descriptions	Type of Coverage		
	Employee	Employee & Spouse	Full Family
Kaiser Permanente NW Classic	\$841.77	\$1,678.60	\$2,306.22
Kaiser Permanente NW CDHP	\$700.40	\$1,394.80	\$1,870.59
Kaiser Permanente WA Classic	\$836.57	\$1,668.20	\$2,291.92
Kaiser Permanente WA CDHP	\$699.88	\$1,393.04	\$1,869.16
Kaiser Permanente WA Sound Choice	\$715.63	\$1,426.32	\$1,959.34
Kaiser Permanente WA Value	\$764.09	\$1,523.24	\$2,092.60
UMP Classic	\$805.36	\$1,605.78	\$2,206.10
UMP Select	\$729.13	\$1,453.32	\$1,996.46
UMP CDHP	\$704.42	\$1,402.12	\$1,881.65
UMP Plus-Puget Sound High Value Network	\$766.95	\$1,528.96	\$2,100.47
UMP Plus-UW Medicine Accountable Care Network	\$766.95	\$1,528.96	\$2,100.47

Retirees enrolled in Medicare Parts A and B receive an explicit subsidy in the form of reduced premiums on Medicare supplemental plans. Retirees pay the following monthly rates.

Members enrolled in Part A and B of Medicare			
Descriptions	Type of Coverage		
	Employee	Employee & Spouse¹	Full Family¹
Kaiser Permanente NW Senior Advantage	\$176.13	\$347.32	\$974.94
Kaiser Permanente WA Medicare Plan	\$174.59	\$344.24	N/A
Kaiser Permanente WA Classic	N/A	N/A	\$967.96
Kaiser Permanente WA Sound Choice	N/A	N/A	\$877.26
Kaiser Permanente WA Value	N/A	N/A	\$913.60
UMP Classic	\$438.34	\$871.74	\$1,472.06

Note 1: Employee–Spouse and Full Family with two Medicare eligible subscribers.

Funding Policy

The School Employees Benefits Board (SEBB) Program administers health insurance and other benefits to all employees in school districts and charter schools, and union-represented employees of educational service districts in Washington. The SEBB studies, designs, and

approves comprehensive and cost-effective insurance benefit plans for school employees and establishes eligibility criteria for participation in these plans. The SEB Board is separate and independent from the Public Employees Benefits Board (PEBB).

The funding policy is based upon pay-as-you go financing.

The SEBB collects benefit premiums from all school district entities for covered employees. The premium includes a fee, established in state law. The purpose of this fee is to cover the impact of the subsidized rate of health care benefits for school retirees who elect to purchase their health care benefits through the state Health Care Authority PEBB plan. The amount collected is set forth in the state's operating budget and is subject to change on an annual basis. This amount is not actuarially determined and is not placed in a trust to pay the obligations for post-employment health care benefits.

For the fiscal year 2022-23, the Freeman School District paid \$1,730,848.00 in total to HCA-SEBB.

The District has no control over the benefits offered to retirees, the rates charged to retirees, nor the fee paid to the Health Care Authority. The District does not determine its annual required contribution, nor the net other post-employment benefit obligation associated with this plan. These amounts are not shown on the financial statements.

For further information on the results of the actuarial valuation of the employer provided subsidies associated with the state's PEBB plan, refer to the [Office of the State Actuary](#). The plan does not issue a separate report; however, additional information is included in the State of Washington Annual Comprehensive Financial Report, which is available on the [OFM](#) website

NOTE 6: LEASES

Beginning in May 2023, the Freeman School District entered into a non-cancelable 5-year lease for 8 copiers with Canon Financial for \$1,344.00 per month. (through NASPO contract) The prior copier lease ended in February 2023 in which Freeman School District leased 7 copiers through Ricoh USA, Inc. for \$1,536.04 per month. The months of March & April we were not under a lease. One copier in the Transportation department is on its own lease through Ricoh, USA Inc. and that lease falls below the districts threshold for lease reporting.

The total amount paid for leases during the school year was \$14,518.20. As of August 31, 2023, the future minimum lease payments are as follows:

Year ended August 31	Total
2024	\$16,128.00
2025	\$16,128.00
2026	\$16,128.00
2027	\$16,128.00
2028	\$10,752.00
Total	\$75,264.00

Changes in lease liabilities are presented in the accompanying Schedule of Long-Term Liabilities.

NOTE 7: OTHER SIGNIFICANT COMMITMENTS

The District has active construction projects as of August 31, 2023:

Project	Project Authorization Amount	Expended as of 8/31/23	Additional Local Funds Committed	Additional State Funds Committed
Stadium Upgrade	\$2,600,000.00	\$2,321,129.16	\$278,870.84	\$0.00
Total	\$2,600,000.00	\$2,321,129.16	\$278,870.84	\$0.00

NOTE 8: REQUIRED DISCLOSURES ABOUT CAPITAL ASSETS

The District's capital assets are insured in the amount of \$59,006,817 for fiscal year 2023. In the opinion of the District's insurance consultant, the amount is sufficient to adequately fund replacement of the District's assets.

NOTE 9: LONG-TERM DEBT

Long-Term Debt

The accompanying Schedule of Long-Term Liabilities provides more details of the outstanding debt and liabilities of the district and summarizes the district's debt transactions for year ended August 31, 2023.

The following is a summary of changes in long-term debt of the District for the fiscal year ended August 31, 2023:

Governmental activities	Balance at Sept. 1, 2022	Increases	Decreases	Balance at Aug. 31, 2023	Due within One Year
General Obligation Bonds	\$11,055,000		\$1,250,000	\$9,805,000	\$1,345,000
Limited General Obligation Bonds		\$2,036,250		\$2,036,250	\$550,801
Total	\$11,055,000	\$2,036,250	\$1,250,000	\$11,841,250	\$1,895,801

Long-term debt at August 31, 2023, are comprised of the following individual issues:

Issue Name	Amount Authorized	Annual Installments	Final Maturity	Interest Rate(s)	Amount Outstanding
General Obligation Bonds					
UTGOR 2014	\$9,995,000		12/1/2027	4%	\$7,065,000
UTGOR 2015	\$3,220,000		12/1/2028	3-4%	\$2,740,000
Limited General Obligation Bonds					
LGO 2023	\$2,036,250		6/1/2027	3.63%	\$2,036,250
Total	\$15,251,250				\$11,841,250

Debt service requirements on long-term debt as of August 31, 2023, are as follows:

Years Ending August 31	Bonds		Limited Bonds		Total
	Principal	Interest	Principal	Interest	
2024	\$1,345,000	\$362,200	\$483,930	\$66,870.54	\$2,258,000.54
2025	\$1,450,000	\$307,500	\$498,940	\$51,861.99	\$2,308,301.99
2026	\$1,565,000	\$248,450	\$517,220	\$33,586.22	\$2,364,256.22
2027	\$1,680,000	\$184,200	\$536,160	\$14,640.69	\$2,415,000.69
2028	\$1,810,000	\$114,400			\$1,924,400
2029	\$1,955,000	\$39,100			\$1,994,100
Total	\$9,805,000	\$1,255,850	\$2,036,250	\$166,959.44	\$13,264,059.44

At August 31, 2023, the District had \$1,111,544.18 available in the Debt Service Fund to service the general obligation bonds.

NOTE 10: INTERFUND BALANCES AND TRANSFERS

The following table depicts interfund loan activity:

Debtor Fund	Due To	Balance at 9/1/22	Loan Activity		Balance at 8/31/123
			New Loans	Repayments	
Capital Projects	General	\$0	\$400,000	\$401,467	\$0.00
Totals		\$0	\$400,000	\$401,467	\$0.00

NOTE 11: ENTITY RISK MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

The District is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; injuries to employees; and natural disasters.

Workers Compensation Cooperative & Unemployment Cooperative

Chapter 48.62 RCW authorizes the governing body of any one or more governmental entities to form together into or join a pool or organization for the joint self-insuring to the same extent that they may individually self-insure. Separate agreements to form a workers' compensation pool and unemployment pool were made pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 39.34 RCW, the Interlocal Cooperation Act. The Northeast Washington Educational Service District Workers' Compensation Pool was formed on July 1, 1983, when school districts and Northeast Washington Service District (NEWESD) in the State of Washington joined together by signing an Interlocal Governmental Agreement to pool their self-insured losses. The NEWESD Unemployment Insurance Pool was created September 1, 2015, when school districts and NEWESD in the State of Washington joined together by signing an Agreement to pool their self-insured losses. Fifty-eight school districts and NEWESD have joined the workers' compensation pool while forty-eight school districts and NEWESD have joined the unemployment pool.

These pools are operated for the Freeman School District's benefit in lieu of the district having to make monthly premium payments to the State of Washington for industrial insurance and unemployment. Membership automatically renews each year. Even after termination, members are still responsible for contributions for unresolved claims occurring during a period when the district was a member of the pools.

The pools are governed by a board of directors which is comprised of one representative from each member district. An executive committee is elected for conducting the business affairs of each pool.

Each member's contributions to the pools are determined by an annual actuarial study. In the fiscal year ending August 31, 2023, the District made payments totaling \$80,289.50 to the workers' compensation pool and \$7,017.29 to the unemployment insurance pool.

United Schools Insurance Program

Freeman School District is a member of United Schools Insurance Program. Chapter 48.62 RCW authorizes the governing body of any one or more governmental entities to form together into or join a program or organization for the joint purchasing of insurance, and/or joint self-insuring, and/or joint hiring or contracting for risk management services to the same extent that

they may individually purchase insurance, self-insure, or hire or contract for risk management services. An agreement to form a pooling arrangement was made pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 39.34 RCW, the Inter-local Cooperation Act. The program was formed on September 1, 1985, when 29 school districts in the state of Washington joined together by signing a Joint Purchasing Agreement to pool their self-insured losses and jointly purchase insurance and administrative services. Membership as of August 31, 2023 includes 157 school districts.

The program allows members to jointly purchase insurance coverage and provide related services, such as administration, risk management, claims administration, etc. Coverage for Wrongful Acts Liability, Miscellaneous Professional Liability, and Employee Benefit Liability is on a claims-made basis. All other coverages are on an occurrence basis. The program provides the following forms of group purchased insurance coverage for its members: Property, General Liability, Automotive Liability, Wrongful Acts Liability, Crime and Cyber liability.

Liability insurance is subject to a self-insured retention of \$500,000. Members are responsible for a \$1,000 deductible for each claim (member deductibles may vary), while the program is responsible for the \$500,000 self-insured retention (SIR). Insurance carriers cover insured losses over \$501,000 to the limits of each policy. Since the program is a cooperative program, there is a joint liability among the participating members towards the sharing of the \$500,000 SIR. The program also purchases a stop loss policy with an attachment point of \$3,502,652, as an additional layer of protection for its members.

Property insurance is subject to a per-occurrence SIR of \$500,000. Members are responsible for a \$1,000 deductible for each claim (member deductibles may vary), while the program is responsible for the \$500,000 SIR. Equipment Breakdown insurance is subject to a per-occurrence pool retention of \$10,000. Members are responsible for a \$2,500 deductible each claim, while the program is responsible for the remaining \$7,500.

Privacy, Security, and Technology (Cyber) insurance is subject to a per-occurrence SIR of \$250,000. Members are responsible for a \$10,000 deductible for each claim, while the program is responsible for the remaining \$240,000.

Members contract to remain in the program for a minimum of one year, and must give notice before August 31 to terminate participation the following September 1. The Interlocal Agreement is renewed automatically each year. Even after termination, a member is still responsible for contributions to the program for any unresolved, unreported, and in-process claims for the period they were a signatory to the Joint Purchasing Agreement.

The program is fully funded by its member participants. Claims are filed by members with Clear Risk Solutions, which has been contracted to perform program administration, claims adjustment, and loss prevention for the program. Fees paid to the third-party administrator under this arrangement for the year ending August 31, 2023, were \$1,702,393.

A board of directors, consisting of nine members, is selected by the membership from six areas of the state on a staggered term basis and is responsible for conducting the business affairs of the program. The board of directors has contracted with Clear Risk Solutions to perform day-to-day administration of the program. This program has no employees.

Employee Benefit Trust Fund

On August 23, 2012, the Freeman School District Board of Directors authorized the establishment of a Trust and Agency Fund (Fund 7) with the Spokane County Treasurer to account for the District's vision and dental self-insurance programs according to Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Cod. Sec. 1100.103c(1) and Sec. 1300 as outlined in the *Accounting Manual for Public School Districts in the State of Washington*. In September, 2012 the District began accounting for the self-insured dental program through this fund. Vision self-insurance transactions will also be accounted for in this fund as soon as the assets of the Spokane County Vision Consortium-Certificated and Classified Plans are distributed. On August 27, 2012 the District submitted a Self-Insured Health and Welfare Benefit Program Application, as required by law, to the state's Department of Enterprise Services – Office of Risk Management to allow the District to provide self-insurance programs to its employees for vision and dental insurance. This application was approved on November 5, 2012. The trust was later dissolved entirely in September 2021.

NOTE 12: PROPERTY TAXES

Property tax revenues are collected as the result of special levies passed by the voters in the District. Taxes are levied on January 1. The taxpayer has the obligation of paying all taxes on April 30 or one-half then and one-half on October 31. Typically, slightly more than half of the collections are made on the April 30 date. The October 31 collection of property taxes will be recorded as revenue in the 2023–24 school year, consistent with the cash basis of accounting.

NOTE 13: JOINT VENTURES AND JOINTLY GOVERNED ORGANIZATIONS

The District is a member of the King County Director's Association (KCDA). KCDA is a purchasing cooperative designed to pool the member districts' purchasing power. The board authorized joining the association by passing a Resolution dated January 26, 1989, and has remained in the joint venture ever since. The District's current equity of \$7,058.21 is the accumulation of the annual assignment of KCDA's operating surplus based upon the percentage derived from KCDA's total sales to the District compared to all other districts applied against paid administrative fees. The District may withdraw from the joint venture and will receive its equity in ten annual allocations of merchandise or 15 annual payments.

NOTE 14: FUND BALANCE CLASSIFICATION DETAILS

The District’s financial statements include the following amounts presented in the aggregate.

	General Fund	ASB Fund	Capital Projects Fund	Debt Service Fund	Transportation Vehicle Fund
Nonspendable Fund Balance					
Inventory and Prepaid Items	\$14,902				
Restricted Fund Balance					
For Fund Purpose		\$287,599			\$264,879
For Carryover of Restricted Revenues	\$84,808				
For Carryover of Food Service Revenue	\$12,927				
For Debt Service				\$1,111,544	
Restricted from Bond Proceeds			\$238,830		
Committed Fund Balance					
Other Commitments	\$66,871				
Assigned Fund Balance					
Contingencies	\$250,000				
Unassigned Fund Balance	\$442,228				

On November 25, 2008, the Board of Directors adopted Resolution 3-2008/2009, which reserves \$130,000 per year from the maintenance and operations levy for technology. The amount of fund balance that has been set aside may be used only for that purpose. It cannot be used for any other purpose of the District.

On August 28, 2014, the Board of Directors established a minimum fund balance policy for the general fund to provide for financial stability and contingencies within the District through adoption of Resolution 6-2013/2014. The policy states the District shall maintain 3% of annual operating expenses as a minimum fund balance. Portions of fund balance that are set aside for the purpose of meeting this policy are recorded on the financial statements as a part of unassigned fund balance in the amount of \$414,680.

NOTE 15: DEFINED CONTRIBUTION PENSION AND OPEB PLANS

457 Plan – Deferred Compensation Plan

District employees have the option of participating in a deferred compensation plan as defined in §457 of the Internal Revenue Code that is administered by the state deferred compensation plan, or the District. The District does not make employer contributions to the plan.

403(b) Plan – Tax Sheltered Annuity (TSA)

The District offers a tax deferred annuity plan for its employees. The plan permits participants to defer a portion of their salary until future years under elective deferrals (employee contribution).

The District complies with IRS regulations that require school districts to have a written plan to include participating investment companies, types of investments, loans, transfers, and various requirements. The plan is administered by OMNI/TSACG. Plan assets are assets of the District employees, not the school district, and are therefore not reflected on the financial statements. For the year ended August 31, 2023, the District made \$0.00 in employer contributions to the plan.

Voluntary Employees' Benefits Association (VEBA)

VEBA Trust is a non-profit, multiple employee voluntary employees' beneficiary association authorized under Internal Revenue Code 501(c)(g). The Trust is managed by a board of trustees appointed by the Association of Washington School Principals, Washington Association of School Administrators, and Washington Association of School Business Officials. The Trust provides health reimbursement plan for employees and eligible dependents. The plan can be used to reimburse employees for qualified health expenses during employment and after retirement. The terms of the collective bargaining arrangements specify the district's employer contribution rate of \$0.00. Plan assets are assets of the District employees, not the school district, and are therefore not reflected on the financial statements. For the year ended August 31, 2023 the District made \$0.00 in matching employer contributions to the plan.

NOTE 16: TERMINATION BENEFITS

Compensated Absences

Employees earn sick leave at a rate of 12 days per year up to a maximum of one contract year.

Under the provisions of RCW 28A.400.210, sick leave accumulated by District employees is reimbursed at death or retirement at the rate of one day for each four days of accrued leave, limited to 180 accrued days. This chapter also provides for an annual buyout of an amount up to the maximum annual accumulation of 12 days. For buyout purposes, employees may accumulate such leave to a maximum of 192 days, including the annual accumulation, as of December 31 of each year.

These expenditures are recorded when paid, except termination sick leave that is accrued upon death, retirement, or upon termination provided the employee is at least 55 years of age and has sufficient years of service. Vested sick leave was computed using the termination payment method.

Vacation pay, including benefits, that is expected to be liquidated with expendable available financial resources is reported as expenditures and a fund liability of the governmental fund that will pay it.

No unrecorded liability exists for other employee benefits.

Freeman School District No. 358
Schedule of Long-Term Liabilities

For the Year Ended August 31, 2023

Description	Beginning Outstanding Debt September 1, 2022	Amount Issued / Increased	Amount Redeemed / Decreased	Ending Outstanding Debt August 31, 2023	Amount Due Within One Year
Voted Debt					
Voted Bonds	11,055,000.00	0.00	1,250,000.00	9,805,000.00	1,345,000.00
LOCAL Program Proceeds Issued in Lieu of Bonds	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Non-Voted Debt and Liabilities					
Non-Voted Bonds	0.00	2,036,250.00	0.00	2,036,250.00	483,929.50
LOCAL Program Proceeds	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Leases	10,460.97	80,640.00	15,836.97	75,264.00	16,128.00
Contracts Payable	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Claims & Judgements	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Compensated Absences	445,906.37	178,250.09	19,461.05	604,695.41	90,642.12
Long-Term Notes	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Anticipation Notes Payable	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Lines of Credit	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Other Non-Voted Debt	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Other Liabilities					
Non-Voted Notes Not Recorded as Debt	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Net Pension Liabilities:					
Net Pension Liabilities TRS 1	1,260,698.00	0.00	403,887.00	856,811.00	
Net Pension Liabilities TRS 2/3	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Net Pension Liabilities SERS 2/3	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Net Pension Liabilities PERS 1	300,982.00	0.00	48,820.00	252,162.00	
Total Long-Term Liabilities	13,073,047.34	2,295,140.09	1,738,005.02	13,630,182.41	1,935,699.62

Other postemployment benefits other than pensions (OPEB) liabilities are not presented in the Schedule of Long Term Liabilities.

ABOUT THE STATE AUDITOR'S OFFICE

The State Auditor's Office is established in the Washington State Constitution and is part of the executive branch of state government. The State Auditor is elected by the people of Washington and serves four-year terms.

We work with state agencies, local governments and the public to achieve our vision of increasing trust in government by helping governments work better and deliver higher value.

In fulfilling our mission to provide citizens with independent and transparent examinations of how state and local governments use public funds, we hold ourselves to those same standards by continually improving our audit quality and operational efficiency, and by developing highly engaged and committed employees.

As an agency, the State Auditor's Office has the independence necessary to objectively perform audits, attestation engagements and investigations. Our work is designed to comply with professional standards as well as to satisfy the requirements of federal, state and local laws. The Office also has an extensive quality control program and undergoes regular external peer review to ensure our work meets the highest possible standards of accuracy, objectivity and clarity.

Our audits look at financial information and compliance with federal, state and local laws for all local governments, including schools, and all state agencies, including institutions of higher education. In addition, we conduct performance audits and cybersecurity audits of state agencies and local governments, as well as state whistleblower, fraud and citizen hotline investigations.

The results of our work are available to everyone through the more than 2,000 reports we publish each year on our website, www.sao.wa.gov. Additionally, we share regular news and other information via an email subscription service and social media channels.

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