Management Report

for

Independent School District No. 197
West St. Paul – Mendota Heights – Eagan, Minnesota

June 30, 2023

THIS PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK

MMKR
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

PRINCIPALS
Thomas A. Karnowski, CPA
Paul A. Radosevich, CPA
William J. Lauer, CPA
James H. Eichten, CPA
Aaron J. Nielsen, CPA
Victoria L. Holinka, CPA/CMA
Jaclyn M. Huegel, CPA
Kalen T. Karnowski, CPA

To the School Board and Management of
Independent School District No. 197
West St. Paul – Mendota Heights – Eagan, Minnesota

We have prepared this management report in conjunction with our audit of Independent School District No. 197's (the District) financial statements for the year ended June 30, 2023. We have organized this report into the following sections:

- Audit Summary
- Financial Trends in Public Education in Minnesota
- Financial Trends of Your District
- Accounting and Auditing Updates

We would be pleased to further discuss any of the information contained in this report or any other concerns that you would like us to address. We would also like to express our thanks for the courtesy and assistance extended to us during the course of our audit.

The purpose of this report is solely to provide those charged with governance of the District, management, and those who have responsibility for oversight of the District's financial reporting process comments resulting from our audit and information relevant to school district financing in Minnesota. Accordingly, this report is not suitable for any other purpose.

Malloy, Montague, Karnowski, Radosevich & Co., P.A.

Minneapolis, Minnesota
December 29, 2023

THIS PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK

AUDIT SUMMARY

The following is a summary of our audit work, key conclusions, and other information that we consider important or that is required to be communicated to the School Board, administration, or those charged with governance of the District.

OUR RESPONSIBILITY UNDER AUDITING STANDARDS GENERALLY ACCEPTED IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND *GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS*

We have audited the financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the District as of and for the year ended June 30, 2023. Professional standards require that we provide you with information about our responsibilities under auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and *Government Auditing Standards*, as well as certain information related to the planned scope and timing of our audit. We have communicated such information to you verbally and in our audit engagement letter. Professional standards also require that we communicate to you the following information related to our audit.

PLANNED SCOPE AND TIMING OF THE AUDIT

We performed the audit according to the planned scope and timing previously discussed and coordinated in order to obtain sufficient audit evidence and complete an effective audit.

The District is subject to a Single Audit of its federal awards expenditures for the year ended June 30, 2023, which is required to be performed in accordance with Title 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principals, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (Uniform Guidance). It was originally planned that the Single Audit would be completed and issued, along with the District's financial statement audit by December 31, 2023. Due to the significant increase in pandemic-related federal funding received by Minnesota school districts this year, the Minnesota Department of Education (MDE) has extended the due date for Single Audits to coincide with the federal deadline of March 31, 2024. The District plans to issue its audited Schedule of Federal Awards Expenditures and related reports separately by this deadline.

AUDIT OPINIONS AND FINDINGS

Based on our audit of the District's basic financial statements for the year ended June 30, 2023:

- We have issued unmodified opinions on the District's basic financial statements.
- We reported one significant deficiency involving the District's internal controls over financial reporting:

  The District continues to have a finding related to the lack of proper segregation of duties in internal controls in several areas. It should be understood that internal controls are never perfected, and those controls, which protect the District's funds from such things as fraud and accounting errors need to be continually reviewed by your management and modified as necessary.

- The results of our testing disclosed no instances of noncompliance required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards.*
- We reported one finding based on our testing of the District's compliance with Minnesota laws and regulations:

  Minnesota Statutes § 471.425, Subd. 2, requires prompt payment of local government bills within a standard payment period of 35 days from receipt for governing boards that meet at least once a month. During our audit, 10 of 40 disbursements tested were not paid within the statutory time requirement.

SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Management is responsible for the selection and use of appropriate accounting policies. The significant accounting policies used by the District are described in Note 1 of the notes to basic financial statements.

No new accounting policies were adopted and the application of existing policies was not changed during the fiscal year ended June 30, 2023.

We noted no transactions entered into by the District during the year for which there is a lack of authoritative guidance or consensus. All significant transactions have been recognized in the financial statements in the proper period.

ACCOUNTING ESTIMATES AND MANAGEMENT JUDGMENTS

Accounting estimates are an integral part of the financial statements prepared by management and are based on management's knowledge and experience about past and current events and assumptions about future events. Certain accounting estimates are particularly sensitive because of their significance to the financial statements and because of the possibility that future events affecting them may differ significantly from those expected. The most sensitive estimates affecting the financial statements were:

General education revenue and certain other revenues are computed by applying an allowance per student to the number of students served by the District. Student attendance is accumulated in a state-wide database—MARSS. Because of the complexity of student accounting and because of certain enrollment options, student information is input by other school districts and the MARSS data for the current fiscal year is not finalized until after the District has closed its financial records. General education revenue and certain other revenues are computed using preliminary information on the number of students served in the resident district and also utilizing some estimates, particularly in the area of enrollment options.

Special education state aid includes an adjustment related to tuition billings to and from other school districts for special education services, which are computed using formulas derived by the MDE. Because of the timing of the calculations, this adjustment for the current fiscal year is not finalized until after the District has closed its financial records. The impact of this adjustment on the receivable and revenue recorded for state special education aid is calculated using preliminary information available to the District.

The District has recorded a liability in the Statement of Net Position for severance benefits payable for which it is probable employees will be compensated. The "vesting method" used by the District to calculate this liability is based on assumptions involving the probability of employees becoming eligible to receive the benefits (vesting), the potential use of accumulated sick leave prior to termination, and the age at which such employees are likely to retire.

The District has recorded activity for other post-employment benefits (OPEB) and pension benefits. These obligations are calculated using actuarial methodologies primarily described in Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement Nos. 68, 74, and 75. These actuarial calculations include significant assumptions, including projected changes, healthcare insurance costs, investment returns, retirement ages, proportionate share, and employee turnover.

The depreciation and amortization of capital assets involves estimates pertaining to useful lives.

The District's self-insured activities require recording a liability for claims incurred, but not yet reported, which are based on estimates.

We evaluated the key factors and assumptions used by management to develop the estimates discussed on the previous page in determining that they are reasonable in relation to the financial statements taken as a whole.

Certain financial statement disclosures are particularly sensitive because of their significance to financial statement users. The disclosures included in the notes to the basic financial statements related to OPEB and pension benefits are particularly sensitive, due to the materiality of the liabilities, and the large and complex estimates involved in determining the disclosures.

The financial statement disclosures are neutral, consistent, and clear.

DIFFICULTIES ENCOUNTERED IN PERFORMING THE AUDIT

We encountered no significant difficulties in dealing with management in performing and completing our audit.

CORRECTED AND UNCORRECTED MISSTATEMENTS

Professional standards require us to accumulate all known and likely misstatements identified during the audit, other than those that are clearly trivial, and communicate them to the appropriate level of management. Management has corrected all such misstatements. In addition, none of the misstatements detected as a result of audit procedures and corrected by management were material, either individually or in the aggregate, to each opinion unit's financial statements taken as a whole.

The District passed on the reporting of an audit adjustment to the financial statements for the subscription-based information technology arrangements (SBITAs) in governmental activities on the Statement of Net Position totaling $328,298. The District also passed on the reporting of an audit adjustment to the financial statements for overstating prepaid items in the General Fund Balance Sheet totaling $105,067. The District has determined that the effects of these items to be immaterial, both individually and in the aggregate, to each opinion unit's financial statements taken as a whole.

DISAGREEMENTS WITH MANAGEMENT

For purposes of this letter, a disagreement with management is a financial accounting, reporting, or auditing matter, whether or not resolved to our satisfaction, that could be significant to the financial statements or the auditor's report. We are pleased to report that no such disagreements arose during the course of our audit.

MANAGEMENT REPRESENTATIONS

We have requested certain representations from management that are included in the management representation letter dated December 29, 2023.

MANAGEMENT CONSULTATIONS WITH OTHER INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS

In some cases, management may decide to consult with other accountants about auditing and accounting matters, similar to obtaining a "second opinion" on certain situations. If a consultation involves application of an accounting principle to the District's financial statements or a determination of the type of auditor's opinion that may be expressed on those statements, our professional standards require the consulting accountant to check with us to determine that the consultant has all the relevant facts. To our knowledge, there were no such consultations with other accountants.

OTHER AUDIT FINDINGS OR ISSUES

We generally discuss a variety of matters, including the application of accounting principles and auditing standards with management each year prior to retention as the District's auditors. However, these discussions occurred in the normal course of our professional relationship and our responses were not a condition to our retention.

OTHER MATTERS

We applied certain limited procedures to the management's discussion and analysis and the pension and OPEB-related required supplementary information (RSI) that supplement the basic financial statements. Our procedures consisted of inquiries of management regarding 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 did not audit the RSI and do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the RSI.

We were engaged to report on the supplementary information and the Uniform Financial Accounting and Reporting Standards (UFARS) Compliance Table, accompanying the financial statements, which are not RSI. With respect to this supplementary information, we made certain inquiries of management and evaluated the form, content, and methods of preparing the information to determine that the information complies with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, the method of preparing it has not changed from the prior period, and the information is appropriate and complete in relation to our audit of the financial statements. We compared and reconciled the supplementary information to the underlying accounting records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves.

We were not engaged to report on the introductory section and other district information, which accompany the financial statements, but are not RSI. Such information has not been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and, accordingly, we do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on it.

FINANCIAL TRENDS IN PUBLIC EDUCATION IN MINNESOTA

This section provides some state-wide funding and financial trends in public education in Minnesota.

BASIC GENERAL EDUCATION REVENUE

The largest single funding source for Minnesota school districts is basic general education aid. Each year, the Legislature sets a basic formula allowance. Total basic general education revenue is calculated by multiplying the formula allowance by the number of pupil units for which a district is entitled to aid. Pupil units are calculated using a legislatively determined weighting system applied to average daily membership (ADM). Over the years, various modifications have been made to this calculation, including changes in weighting and special consideration for declining enrollment districts.

The table below presents a summary of the formula allowance for the past decade and as approved for the next two fiscal years. The 2023 Legislature approved per pupil increases of $275 for fiscal 2024 and $143 for fiscal 2025. The amount of the formula allowance and the percentage change from year-to-year excludes temporary funding changes, the "roll-in" of aids that were previously funded separately, and changes that may vary dependent on actions taken by individual districts. The $529 increase in 2015 was offset by changes to pupil weightings and the general education aid formula that resulted in an increase equivalent to approximately $105, or 2.00 percent, state-wide.

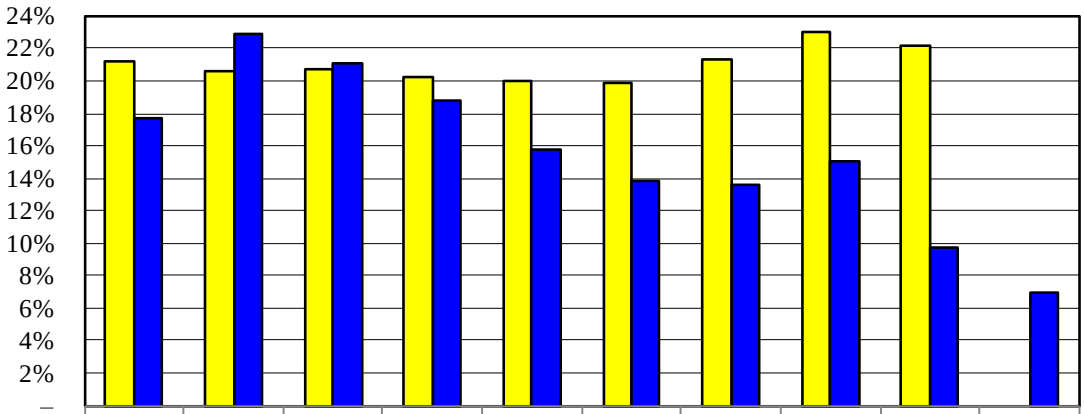
Fiscal Year Ended June 30,	Formula Allowance	
	Amount	Percent Increase
2014	$ 5,302	1.50 %
2015	$ 5,831	2.00 %
2016	$ 5,948	2.00 %
2017	$ 6,067	2.00 %
2018	$ 6,188	2.00 %
2019	$ 6,312	2.00 %
2020	$ 6,438	2.00 %
2021	$ 6,567	2.00 %
2022	$ 6,728	2.45 %
2023	$ 6,863	2.00 %
2024	$ 7,138	4.00 %
2025	$ 7,281	2.00 %

For fiscal 2026 and beyond, the actual increase will be equal to the Consumer Price Index-Urban (CPI-U), with a floor of 2.00 percent and a cap of 3.00 percent. CPI-U is determined based upon the prior two fourth-quarter totals. The inclusion of inflationary increases to this formula does not prevent future legislative increases from being approved.

STATE-WIDE SCHOOL DISTRICT FINANCIAL HEALTH

One of the most common and comparable statistics used to evaluate school district financial health is the unrestricted operating fund balance as a percentage of operating expenditures.

State-Wide Unrestricted Operating Fund Balance
as a Percentage of Operating Expenditures



	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
State-Wide	21.2%	20.6%	20.7%	20.3%	20.0%	19.9%	21.3%	23.0%	22.2%	–
ISD No. 197	17.7%	22.9%	21.1%	18.8%	15.8%	13.8%	13.6%	15.1%	9.7%	6.9%

Note: State-wide information is not available for fiscal 2023.

The calculation above reflects only the unrestricted fund balance of the General Fund, and the corresponding expenditures, which is the same method the state uses for the calculation of statutory operating debt. We have also included the comparable percentages for your district.

The average unrestricted fund balance as a percentage of operating expenditures maintained by Minnesota school districts decreased gradually from 21.2 percent at the end of fiscal 2014 to 19.9 percent at the end of fiscal 2019, a period of relative stability in the state's economic condition and school funding. This ratio began rising during the fiscal years impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, increasing to 23.0 percent at the end of fiscal 2021. In 2022, the state-wide ratio decreased to 22.2 percent as districts returned to more traditional learning models and program operations with the relaxation of pandemic restrictions.

The District's unrestricted operating fund balance as a percentage of operating expenditures was 6.9 percent at the end of the current year, as compared to 9.7 percent at the end of the prior year.

Having an appropriate fund balance is an important factor in assessing the District's financial health because a government, like any organization, requires a certain amount of equity to operate. It is important to review fund balance levels on an ongoing basis to ensure a sufficient equity reserve is available to support programs and cash flow of the District.

The table below shows a comparison of governmental fund revenue per ADM received by Minnesota school districts and your district. Revenues for all governmental funds are included, except for the Capital Projects – Building Construction and Post-Employment Benefits Debt Service Funds. Other financing sources, such as proceeds from sales of capital assets, insurance recoveries, bond sales, loans, and interfund transfers, are also excluded.

Governmental Funds Revenue per Student (ADM) Served

	State-Wide		Metro Area		ISD No. 197		
	2021	2022	2021	2022	2021	2022	2023
General Fund							
Property taxes	$ 2,576	$ 2,645	$ 3,411	$ 3,506	$ 3,869	$ 4,084	$ 3,890
Other local sources	438	571	323	446	284	399	404
State	10,514	10,504	10,517	10,536	10,689	10,596	11,170
Federal	992	1,335	956	1,397	987	1,545	1,237
Total General Fund	14,520	15,055	15,207	15,885	15,829	16,624	16,701
Special revenue funds							
Food Service	576	803	568	770	406	801	694
Community Service	612	731	684	836	821	904	995
Debt Service Fund	1,512	1,508	1,549	1,537	1,925	1,833	1,881
Total revenue	$ 17,220	$ 18,097	$ 18,008	$ 19,028	$ 18,981	$ 20,162	$ 20,271
ADM served per MDE School District Profiles Report (current year estimated)					5,053	5,041	5,093

Note: Excludes the Capital Projects – Building Construction and Post-Employment Benefits Debt Service Funds.

Source of state-wide and metro area data: School District Profiles Report published by the MDE

ADM used in the table above is based on enrollments consistent with those used in the MDE School District Profiles Report, which include extended time ADM, and may differ from ADM reported in other tables. Changes in enrollment also impact comparisons in the table above and on the next page when revenue and expenditures are based on fixed costs, such as debt levies and principal and interest on outstanding indebtedness.

The mix of local and state revenues vary from year-to-year primarily based on funding formulas and the state's financial condition. The mix of revenue components from district to district varies, due to factors such as the strength of property values, mix of property types, operating and bond referendums, enrollment trends, density of population, types of programs offered, and countless other criteria.

Changes in enrollment also impact comparisons in the table above and on the next page when revenues and expenditures are based on fixed costs, such as debt levies and principal and interest on outstanding indebtedness.

The District earned $103,241,953 in the governmental funds reflected above in fiscal 2023, an increase of $1,610,280 (1.6 percent) from the prior year. Total revenue per ADM served, increased by $109 per student.

Property taxes were lower as approved with the annual levy process. State sources were higher with the increase in the basic formula allowance as discussed earlier and improved funding for state special education. Federal sources in the General Fund were down with less pandemic-related funding entitlements recognized in the current year. Food service revenues decreased with the end of the federal program providing free meals for all students in the current year. Increased programming and participation contributed to the per student revenue increase in the Community Service Special Revenue Fund.

The following table reflects similar comparative data available from the MDE for all governmental fund expenditures, excluding the Capital Projects – Building Construction and Post-Employment Benefits Debt Service Funds. Other financing uses, such as bond refunding's and transfers, are also excluded.

Governmental Funds Expenditures per Student (ADM) Served

	State-Wide		Metro Area		ISD No. 197		
	2021	2022	2021	2022	2021	2022	2023
General Fund							
Administration and district support	$ 1,184	$ 1,249	$ 1,205	$ 1,300	$ 851	$ 884	$ 911
Elementary and secondary regular instruction	6,198	6,494	6,527	6,838	6,679	7,511	7,420
Vocational education instruction	197	210	179	191	117	123	118
Special education instruction	2,626	2,724	2,792	2,883	3,148	3,292	3,478
Community education instruction	–	–	–	–	12	12	13
Instructional support services	812	816	917	939	1,369	1,412	1,354
Pupil support services	1,228	1,429	1,285	1,558	1,272	1,822	1,931
Sites, buildings, and other	1,083	1,113	1,052	1,076	1,704	1,621	1,689
Total General Fund – noncapital	13,328	14,035	13,957	14,785	15,152	16,677	16,914
General Fund capital expenditures	793	876	815	897	626	409	110
Total General Fund	14,121	14,911	14,772	15,682	15,778	17,086	17,024
Special revenue funds							
Food Service	532	670	522	659	460	685	736
Community Service	610	689	682	774	837	887	964
Debt Service Fund	1,576	1,599	1,609	1,561	1,875	1,868	1,889
Total expenditures	$ 16,839	$ 17,869	$ 17,585	$ 18,676	$ 18,950	$ 20,526	$ 20,613
ADM served per MDE School District Profiles Report (current year estimated)					5,053	5,041	5,093

Note: Excludes the Capital Projects – Building Construction and Post-Employment Benefits Debt Service Funds.

Source of state-wide and metro area data: School District Profiles Report published by the MDE

Expenditure patterns also vary from district to district for various reasons. Factors affecting the comparison include the growth cycle or maturity of the District, average employee experience, availability of funding, population density, and even methods of allocating costs.

The District spent $104,970,625 in the governmental funds reflected above in fiscal 2023, an increase of $1,492,537 (1.4 percent) from the prior year. On a per student basis, this represents an increase of $87. General Fund operating expenditures, excluding capital, increased $237 per student, mainly in special education instruction ($186 per pupil) and pupil support services ($109) for salaries and benefits related to contractual increases, health insurance costs, and contracted bussing costs. These increases were partially offset by a decrease in elementary and secondary regular instruction ($91), mostly related to less grant spending. General Fund capital expenditures decreased ($299), mainly from less facility maintenance and technology-related projects in the current year.

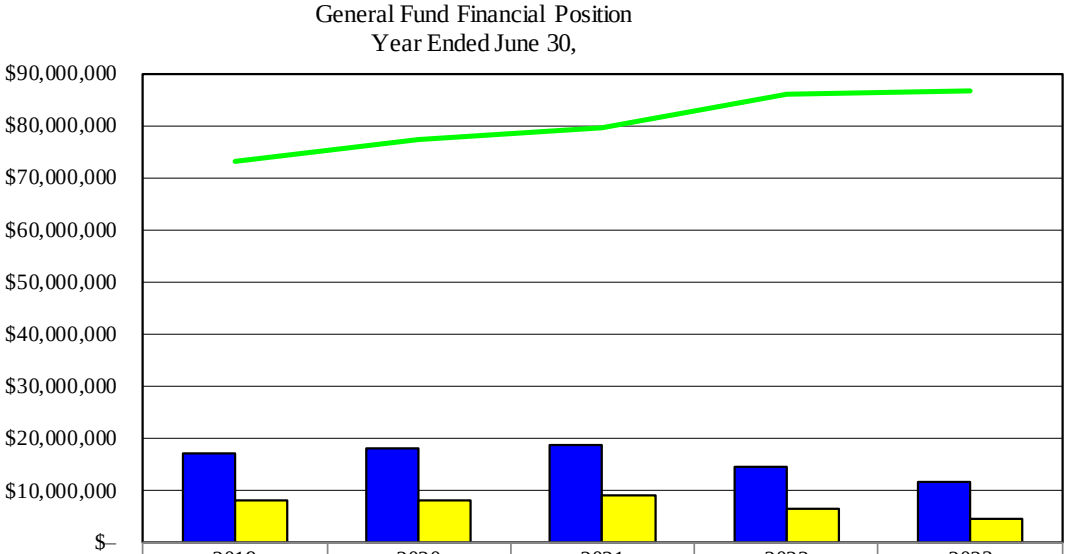
SUMMARY

The COVID-19 pandemic caused numerous financial and operational challenges for districts in recent years; creating instability in student populations, requiring numerous shifts in the delivery of educational services, and resulted in substantial new and unfamiliar federal revenue streams, to name a few. Challenges remain, with tight labor markets, inflationary increases, and the end of many federal pandemic-related funding programs. District school boards, administrators, and employees continue to manage these issues, as districts strive to provide a safe and effective learning experience for their students.

FINANCIAL TRENDS OF YOUR DISTRICT

GENERAL FUND FINANCIAL POSITION

The following graph displays the District's General Fund trends of financial position and changes in the volume of financial activity. Unrestricted fund balance and cash and investments balance are two indicators of financial health, while annual expenditures are often used to measure the size of the operation.



	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Cash and Inv.	$17,183,300	$17,932,432	$18,511,808	$14,592,528	$11,564,228
Unrestricted Fund Bal.	$7,856,180	$8,066,639	$9,042,136	$6,523,372	$4,588,965
Expenditures	$73,249,785	$77,414,890	$79,721,693	$86,136,009	$86,693,804

The District ended fiscal year 2023 with a General Fund cash balance of $11,564,228 (net of borrowing and interfund receivables and payables), a decrease of $3,028,300 from the previous year. This decline was due in part to the overall decline in fund balance. Unrestricted fund balance (consisting of any committed, assigned, or unassigned fund balances) at year-end totaled $4,588,965, a decrease of $1,934,407.

The following table presents the components of the General Fund's balance for the past five years:

	June 30,				
	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Nonspendable fund balances	$ 218,282	$ 210,637	$ 458,167	$ 361,665	$ 342,409
Restricted fund balances (1)	2,470,087	2,186,433	1,879,406	3,005,175	3,383,684
Unrestricted fund balances					
Assigned	477,850	–	–	1,088,076	377,604
Unassigned	7,378,330	8,066,639	9,042,136	5,435,296	4,211,361
Total fund balance	$ 10,544,549	$ 10,463,709	$ 11,379,709	$ 9,890,212	$ 8,315,058
Unrestricted (all nonrestricted) fund balances as a percentage of expenditures (excludes capital-related expenditures)	11.2%	11.5%	13.1%	8.7%	6.1%
Unassigned fund balances as a percentage of expenditures	10.1%	10.4%	11.3%	6.3%	4.9%

(1) Includes deficits in restricted fund balance accounts allowed to accumulate deficits under UFARS, which are part of unassigned fund balance on the accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America-based financial statements.

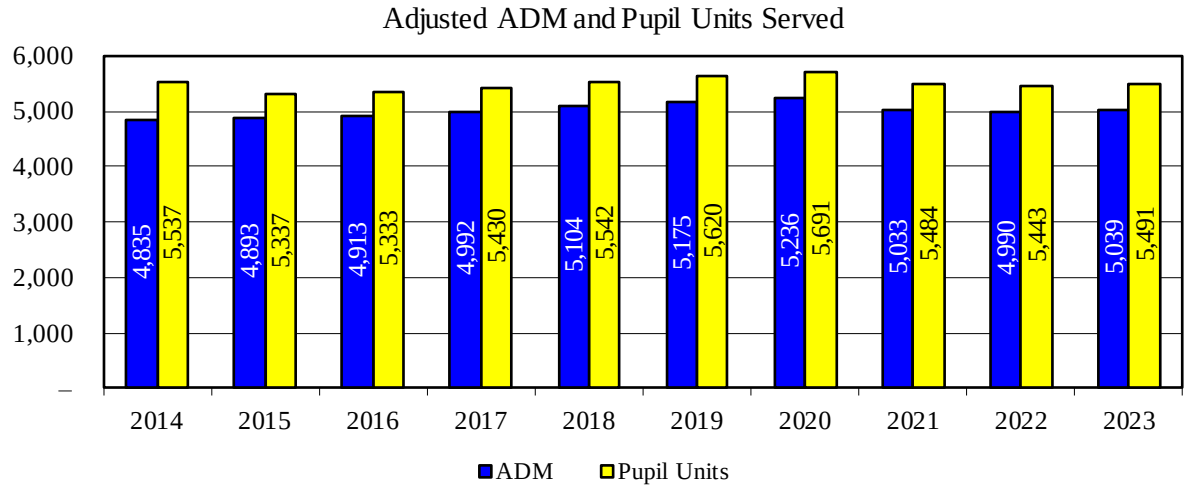
The table above reflects the total General Fund unrestricted fund balance and percentages, which differs from those used in the previous discussion of state-wide fund balances, which are based on a state formula. The resources represented by this fund balance are critical to a district's ability to maintain adequate cash flow throughout the year, to retain its programs, and to cushion against the impact of unexpected costs or funding shortfalls.

Minimum Unrestricted Fund Balance Policy

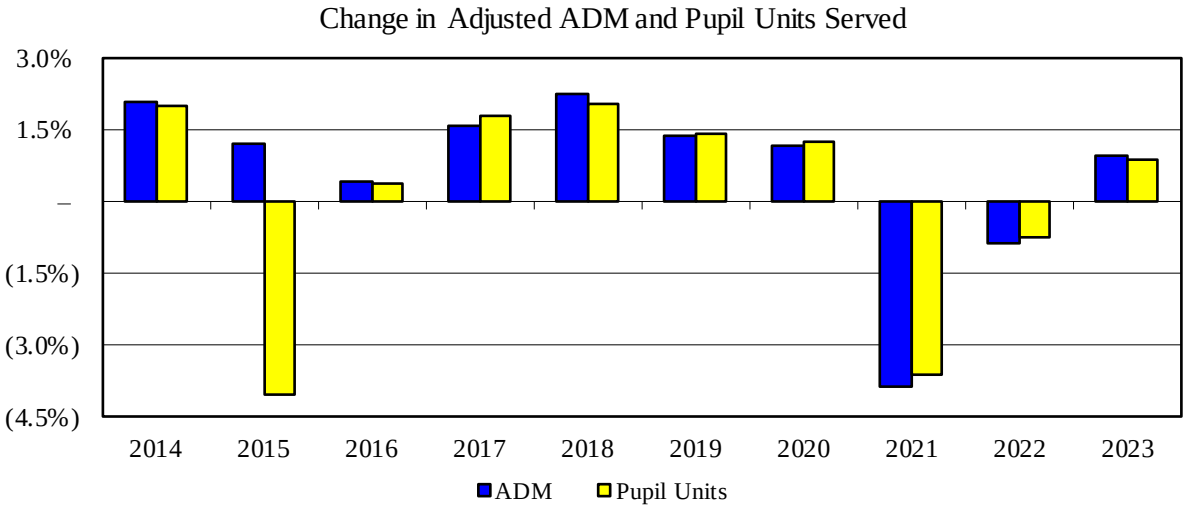
The School Board has formally adopted a fund balance policy that states the School Board will maintain an unrestricted fund balance (all fund balances not restricted) as of June 30 each year at a minimum of 8.0 percent of the District's General Fund operating expenditure budget. At June 30, 2023, the unrestricted fund balance as a percentage of current year expenditures (excluding capital-related expenditures) is 6.1 percent.

AVERAGE DAILY MEMBERSHIP (ADM) AND PUPIL UNITS

The following graph presents the District's adjusted ADM and pupil units served for the past 10 years:



The following graph shows the rate of change in ADM served by the District from year-to-year, along with the change in the resulting pupil units:



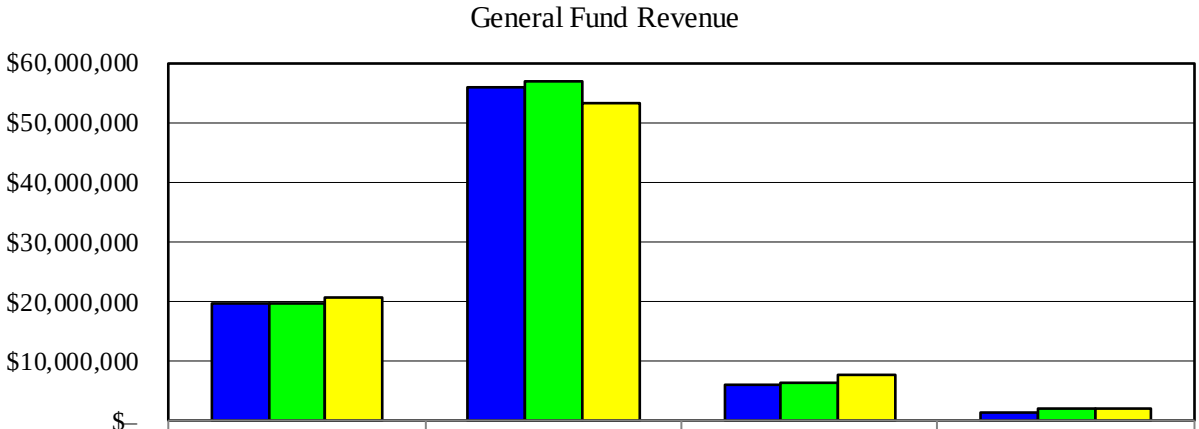
The change in pupil units for 2015 includes the effect of legislative reductions to pupil units.

ADM is a measure of students attending class, which is then converted to pupil units (the base for determining revenue) using a statutory formula. Not only is the original budget based on ADM estimates, the final audited financial statements are based on updated, but still estimated, ADM since the counts are not finalized until around January of the following year. When viewing revenue budget variances, one needs to consider these ADM changes, the impact of the prior year final adjustments which affect this year's revenue, and also the final adjustments caused by open enrollment gains and losses.

The District served an estimated ADM of 5,039 in 2023, an increase of 49 ADM (or 1.0 percent) from the prior year.

GENERAL FUND REVENUE

The following graph summarizes the District's General Fund revenue for 2023:



	Property Taxes	State Sources	Federal Sources	Other
Budget	$19,574,006	$55,899,016	$6,065,389	$1,371,100
Actual	$19,813,861	$56,889,660	$6,297,827	$2,059,863
Prior Year	$20,585,572	$53,414,413	$7,790,681	$2,009,615

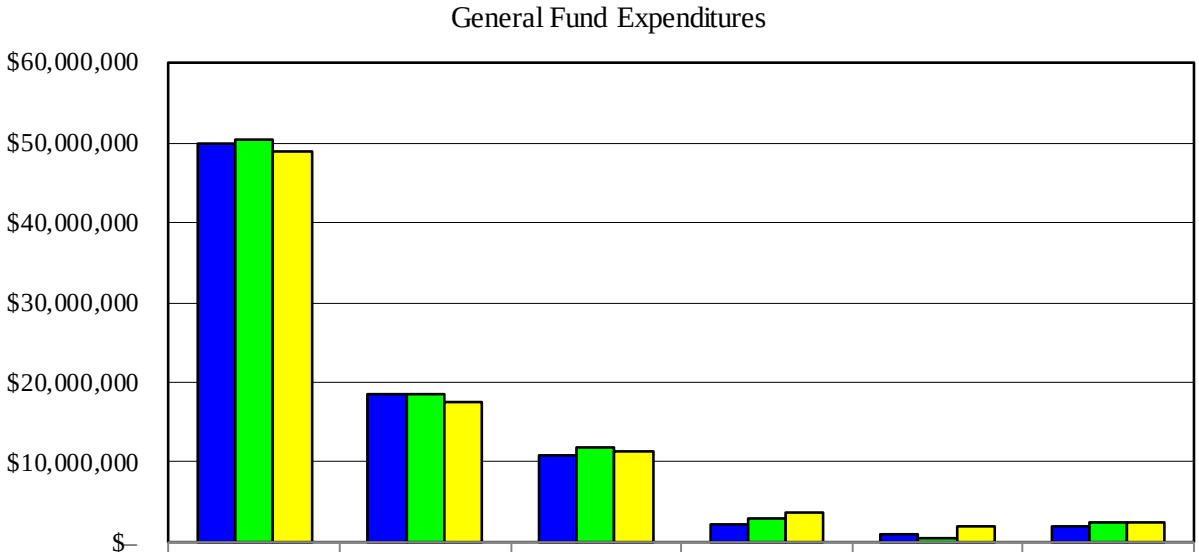
Total General Fund revenues were $85,061,211 for the year ended June 30, 2023, which was $2,151,700 (2.6 percent) over the final budget. The District experiences favorable revenue variances in all of the General Fund revenue sources. The largest variances were in state sources and other sources. State sources were $990,644 over budget, primarily due to state general education and special education aid being greater than projected. Other sources exceeded projections from fees and admissions, investment earnings, and donations.

General Fund total revenues were $1,260,930 more than the previous year. State sources increased $3,475,247 with the growth in students served and improved funding for basic general education and special education. Federal sources decreased by $1,492,854 in the current year, due to reduced COVID-19-related stimulus funding received in the current year. Property taxes were less than the previous year by $771,711, due to a decrease in the approved levy.

The graph above reflects the concentration of state sources (66.9 percent) followed by property taxes (23.3 percent) received to finance General Fund operations.

GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES

The following graph summarizes the District's General Fund expenditures for 2023:



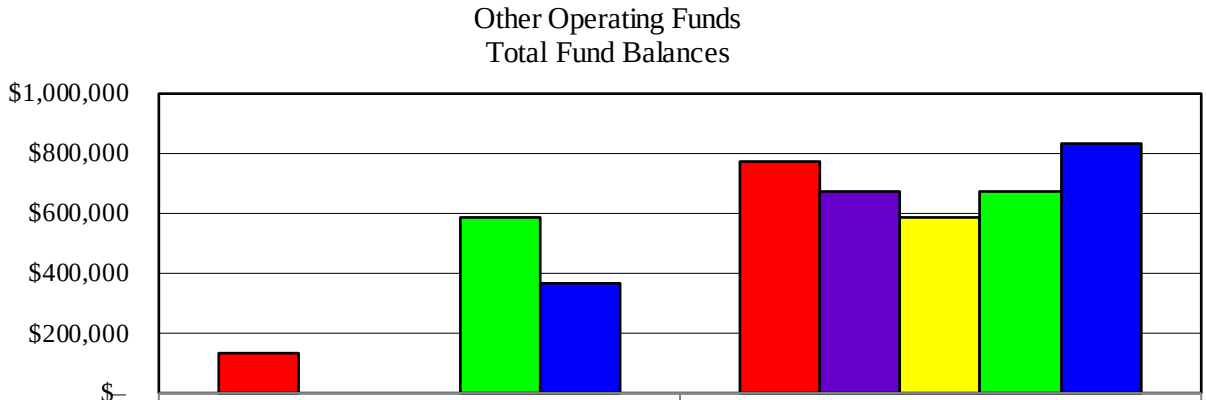
	Salaries	Employee Benefits	Purchased Services	Supplies	Capital	Other
Budget	$49,868,188	$18,580,187	$10,964,595	$2,256,994	$1,035,863	$1,928,808
Actual	$50,403,195	$18,432,708	$11,825,839	$2,990,569	$559,421	$2,482,072
Prior Year	$48,851,685	$17,464,855	$11,456,530	$3,798,045	$2,061,503	$2,503,391

Total General Fund expenditures were $86,693,804 for the year ended June 30, 2023, which was $2,059,169 (2.4 percent) over the final budget. Purchased services were over budget by $861,244, mainly for contracted bussing costs. Supplies were over budget by $733,575, mainly for spending on curriculum materials, rebranding, and technology costs.

Total General Fund expenditures were $557,795 (0.6 percent) more than the prior year. The largest increase was in salaries, which were $1,551,510 higher than the previous year, mainly due to increased staffing costs and negotiated contract increases. Offsetting that increase was a decrease in capital expenditures, which decreased $1,502,082, mainly due to the timing of projects for facility maintenance and technology projects.

OTHER FUNDS OF THE DISTRICT

The following graph shows what is referred to as the other operating funds. The remaining nonoperating funds are only included in narrative form below, since their level of fund balance can fluctuate significantly, due to such things as issuing and spending the proceeds of refunding or building bonds and, therefore, the trend of fund balance levels is not necessarily a key indicator of financial health. It does not mean that these funds cannot experience financial trouble or that their fund balances are unimportant.



	Food Service	Community Service
2019	$130,499	$774,156
2020	$–	$673,007
2021	$–	$588,576
2022	$584,501	$672,399
2023	$366,256	$831,027

Food Service Special Revenue Fund

The District's Food Service Special Revenue Fund ended fiscal 2023 with a decrease in fund balance of $218,245, compared to a budgeted decrease of $10,980. Food service revenues were $3,532,461, which was over budget by $158,061. Expenditures were $3,750,706, which was over budget by $365,326, mainly in capital outlay. The ending fund balance of $366,256 in this fund represents 9.8 percent of current year Food Service Special Revenue Fund expenditures. Participation levels were difficult to anticipate with funding changes financing school lunch programs contributing to the variances in revenues and expenditures compared to budget.

Community Service Special Revenue Fund

The District's Community Service Special Revenue Fund ended fiscal 2023 with a fund balance increase of $158,628, compared to a budgeted increase of $56,094. Revenues were $5,066,209, which were over budget by $410,400. Tuition and fees were higher than budget by $295,708 related to changes in operations post-pandemic. Expenditures were $4,907,581, which was over budget by $307,866, mainly in purchased services. The ending fund balance of $831,027 in this fund represents 16.9 percent of current year Community Service Special Revenue Fund expenditures.

Over the years, we have emphasized to our clients that food service and community service operations should be self-sustaining, and should not become an additional burden on general education funds. In addition to cost controls, financial analysis of the costs of providing programs, including overhead, is important. Fees and tuition charges should be sufficient to cover these costs, as well as potential funding shortfalls from state, federal, or property tax sources.

Capital Projects – Building Construction Fund

The Capital Projects – Building Construction Fund ended the year with a fund balance decrease of $8,591,597 related to the spend down of resources from the bonds previously issued for referendum-related and facilities maintenance projects. At June 30, 2023, the fund balance of $1,575,806 is available for long-term facilities maintenance projects.

Debt Service Fund

The funding of debt service is controlled in accordance with each outstanding debt issue's financing plan. At June 30, 2023, the entire fund balance of $2,419,474 is restricted for debt service. It is important to remember that resources of the Debt Service Fund are dedicated to the payment of outstanding debt obligations of the District.

Internal Service Fund

The District uses an internal service fund to account for health and dental insurance offered by the District to its employees as self-insured plans. At June 30, 2023, the internal service fund had $1,365,991 of net position available to pay future claims, which represents a decrease of $491,247 from the prior year. The ending net position in this fund represents 9.9 percent of current year operating expenses.

Post-Employment Benefits Trust Fund

The Post-Employment Benefits Trust Fund is considered a fiduciary fund, where assets are held in trust to finance OPEB payable to former employees of the District. At June 30, 2023, this fund had $5,003,548 held in trust for the payment of future OPEB benefits.

GOVERNMENT-WIDE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The District's financial statements include fund-based information that focuses on budgetary compliance, and the sufficiency of the District's current assets to finance its current liabilities. The governmental reporting model also requires the inclusion of two government-wide financial statements designed to present a clear picture of the District as a single, unified entity. These government-wide financial statements provide information on the total cost of delivering educational services, including capital assets and long-term liabilities.

Theoretically, net position represents district resources available for providing services after its debts are settled. However, those resources are not always in expendable form, or there may be restrictions on how some of those resources can be used. Therefore, this statement divides net position into three components: net investment in capital assets, restricted, and unrestricted. The following table presents a summarized reconciliation of the District's governmental fund balances to net position, and the separate components of net position for the last two years:

	June 30,		
	2023	2022	Change
Net position – governmental activities			
Total fund balances – governmental funds	$ 13,507,621	$ 23,770,451	$ (10,262,830)
Total capital assets, net of depreciation/amortization	176,514,098	174,330,030	2,184,068
Bonds, premiums, leases, and financed purchases	(144,946,926)	(151,192,449)	6,245,523
Net pension-related obligations	(54,351,211)	(65,670,815)	11,319,604
Severance and compensated absence liabilities	(590,267)	(650,851)	60,584
Net OPEB-related obligations	(6,519,223)	(6,125,138)	(394,085)
Deferred charge on debt refunding	(621,402)	(1,087,453)	466,051
Other	(446,313)	(167,255)	(279,058)
Total net position – governmental activities	$(17,453,623)	$ (26,793,480)	$ 9,339,857
Net position			
Net investment in capital assets	$ 32,521,576	$ 32,217,531	$ 304,045
Restricted	4,989,566	4,535,056	454,510
Unrestricted	(54,964,765)	(63,546,067)	8,581,302
Total net position	$(17,453,623)	$ (26,793,480)	$ 9,339,857

Some of the District's fund balances translate into restricted net position by virtue of external restrictions (statutory restrictions) or by the nature of the fund they are in (e.g., Food Service Special Revenue Fund balance can only be spent for food service program costs). The unrestricted net position category consists mainly of the General Fund unrestricted fund balances, offset against noncapital long-term obligations, such as vacation payable, severance payable, net pension, and net OPEB liabilities.

The District's increase in net investment in capital assets is due mostly to the relationship between the rate at which the District repays debt, compared to the rate the related assets are being depreciated/amortized. The increase in restricted net position is mostly related to increases in net position restricted for long-term facilities maintenance, debt service, and community service. The change in unrestricted net position includes the decline in the General Fund balance, the decline in the net position of the Internal Service Fund, and changes in the District's proportionate share of the Public Employees Retirement Association and the Teachers Retirement Association pension plan liabilities and related deferments.

ACCOUNTING AND AUDITING UPDATES

The following is a summary of Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) standards expected to be implemented in the next few years.

GASB STATEMENT NO. 100, *ACCOUNTING CHANGES AND ERROR CORRECTIONS—AN AMENDMENT OF GASB STATEMENT NO. 62*

The primary objective of this statement is to enhance accounting and financial reporting requirements for accounting changes and error corrections to provide more understandable, reliable, relevant, consistent, and comparable information for making decisions or assessing accountability.

The requirements of this statement will improve the clarity of the accounting and financial reporting requirements for accounting changes and error corrections, which will result in greater consistency in application in practice. In turn, more understandable, reliable, relevant, consistent, and comparable information will be provided to financial statement users for making decisions or assessing accountability. In addition, the display and note disclosure requirements will result in more consistent, decision useful, understandable, and comprehensive information for users about accounting changes and error corrections.

The requirements of this statement are effective for accounting changes and error corrections made in fiscal years beginning after June 15, 2023, and all reporting periods thereafter. Earlier application is encouraged.

GASB STATEMENT NO. 101, *COMPENSATED ABSENCES*

The objective of this statement is to better meet the information needs of financial statement users by updating the recognition and measurement guidance for compensated absences. That objective is achieved by aligning the recognition and measurement guidance under a unified model and by amending certain previously required disclosures.

This statement requires that liabilities for compensated absences be recognized for (1) leave that has not been used and (2) leave that has been used, but not yet paid in cash, or settled through noncash means. A liability should be recognized for leave that has not been used if (a) the leave is attributable to services already rendered, (b) the leave accumulates, and (c) the leave is more likely than not to be used for time off or otherwise paid in cash or settled through noncash means. Leave is attributable to services already rendered when an employee has performed the services required to earn the leave. Leave that accumulates is carried forward from the reporting period in which it is earned to a future reporting period during which it may be used for time off or otherwise paid or settled.

This statement requires that a liability for certain types of compensated absences—including parental leave, military leave, and jury duty leave—not be recognized until the leave commences. This statement also requires that a liability for specific types of compensated absences not be recognized until the leave is used. This statement also establishes guidance for measuring a liability for leave that has not been used, generally using an employee's pay rate as of the date of the financial statements. A liability for leave that has been used, but not yet paid or settled, should be measured at the amount of the cash payment or noncash settlement to be made. Certain salary-related payments that are directly and incrementally associated with payments for leave also should be included in the measurement of the liabilities.

With respect to financial statements prepared using the current financial resources measurement focus, this statement requires that expenditures be recognized for the amount that normally would be liquidated with expendable available financial resources.

The requirements of this statement are effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2023, and all reporting periods thereafter. Earlier application is encouraged.

THIS PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK