



# **LOWNDES COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION VALDOSTA, GEORGIA**

**ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED  
JUNE 30, 2018  
(Including Independent Auditor's Reports)**



LOWNDES COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

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SECTION I  
FINANCIAL



## DEPARTMENT OF AUDITS AND ACCOUNTS

270 Washington Street, S.W., Suite 1-156  
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**Greg S. Griffin**  
STATE AUDITOR  
(404) 656-2174

March 26, 2019

The Honorable Brian P. Kemp, Governor of Georgia  
Members of the General Assembly of the State of Georgia  
Members of the State Board of Education  
and  
Superintendent and Members of the  
Lowndes County Board of Education

### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

#### Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Lowndes County Board of Education (School District), as of and for the year ended June 30, 2018, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the School District's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

#### *Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements*

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; this includes 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.

#### *Auditor's Responsibility*

Our responsibility is to express opinions on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit 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. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements 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 entity's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also

includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

### ***Opinions***

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the School District as of June 30, 2018, and the respective changes in financial position for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

### ***Emphasis of Matter***

As described in Note 2 to the financial statements, in 2018, the School District adopted new accounting guidance, Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 75, *Accounting and Financial Reporting for Postemployment Benefits Other Than Pensions*, as amended by GASB Statement No. 85, *Omnibus 2017*. The School District restated beginning net position for the effect of GASB Statement No. 75. Our opinions are not modified with respect to these matters.

### ***Other Matters***

#### *Required Supplementary Information*

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the Management's Discussion and Analysis and required supplementary information listed in the table of contents be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board, who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

#### *Other Information*

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the School District's basic financial statements. The accompanying supplementary information, as listed in the table of contents, is presented for the purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the basic financial statements. The *Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards* is presented for purposes of additional analysis as required by Title 2 U. S. Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 200, Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards, and is also not a required part of the basic financial statements.

The accompanying supplementary information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements or to the basic financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the information is fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the basic financial statements taken as a whole.

**Other Reporting Required by *Government Auditing Standards***

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated March 26, 2019 on our consideration of the School District's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the School 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 School District's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

A copy of this report has been filed as a permanent record in the office of the State Auditor and made available to the press of the State, as provided for by Official Code of Georgia Annotated section 50-6-24.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Greg S. Griffin". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Greg S. Griffin  
State Auditor

LOWNDES COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION  
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2018

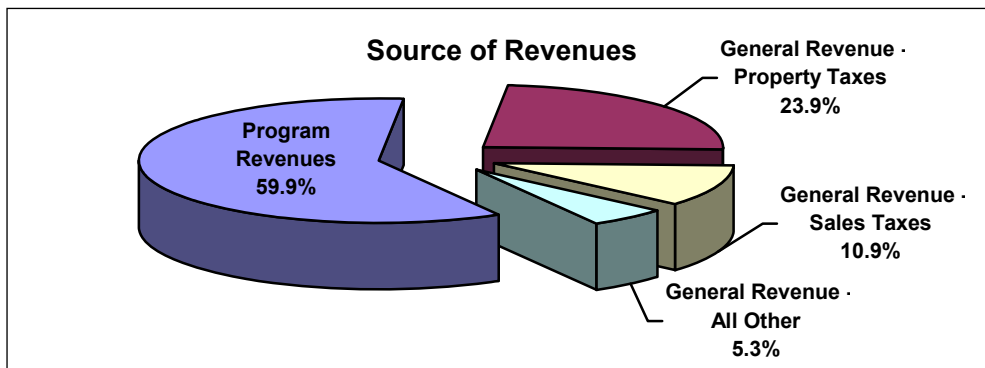
**INTRODUCTION**

The School District's financial statements for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2018 includes a series of basic financial statements that report financial information for the School District as a whole. The Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities provide financial information about all of the School District's activities and present both a short-term and long-term view of the School District's finances on a global basis. The fund financial statements provide information about all of the School District's funds. Information about these funds, such as the School District's general fund, is important in its own right, but will also give insight into the School District's overall soundness as reported in the Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities.

**FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS**

Key financial highlights for fiscal year 2018 are as follows:

- On the government-wide financial statements the School District's net position at June 30, 2018 was \$53.2 million. Net position reflects the difference between all assets and deferred outflows of resources of the School District (including capital assets, net of depreciation) and all liabilities, both short-term and long-term, and deferred inflows of resources. The net position at June 30, 2018 of \$53.2 million represented a decrease of about \$76.1 million when compared to the prior year. This change is explained in the notes to the basic financial statements with the adoption of GASB 75, *Accounting and Financial Reporting for Postemployment Benefits Other Than Pensions*.
- The School District had \$107.4 million and \$104.3 million in expenses relating to governmental activities for fiscal years ended June 30, 2018 and June 30, 2017, respectively. Only \$69.1 million and \$67.4 million of the above expenses for 2018 and 2017 were offset by program specific charges for services, grants and contributions. General revenues (primarily property and sales taxes) of \$46.3 million and \$44.0 million were adequate to provide for these programs.
- As stated above, general revenues accounted for \$46.3 million or about 40.1% of all revenues totaling \$115.4 million. Program specific revenues in the form of charges for services, grants, and contributions accounted for the balance of these revenues. (Percentages in table below are rounded to one decimal place.)





LOWNDES COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION  
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- The current ratio, which measures the Board's ability to transform current assets into cash and pay its short-term liabilities, was 3.09 and 3.23 for the fiscal years ended June 30, 2018 and June 30, 2017, respectively. Generally, a ratio greater than 2.0 is considered very financially stable.
- The Lowndes County voters passed a one percent sales tax for educational purposes (ESPLOST) for another five years (2017-2022) on March 17, 2015, collections began October 1, 2017. The voters also approved the issuance of \$50.0 million general obligation bonds that have not been issued as of June 30, 2018.
- The general fund (the primary operating fund), presented on the current financial resource basis, ended the fiscal year with \$103.6 million in revenues and \$97.9 million in expenditures. The general fund balance of \$24.4 million is an increase of almost \$5.8 million from the June 30, 2017 fund balance of \$18.6 million.

## OVERVIEW OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

This annual report consists of three parts; management's discussion and analysis (this section), the basic financial statements, including notes to the financial statements, and required supplementary information. The basic financial statements include two levels of statements that present different views of the School District. These include the government-wide and fund financial statements.

The government-wide financial statements include the Statement of Net Position and Statement of Activities. These statements provide information about the activities of the School District presenting both short-term and long-term information about the overall financial status.

The fund financial statements focus on individual parts, reporting the School District's operation in more detail. The governmental funds statements disclose how basic services are financed in the short-term as well as what remains for future spending. The fiduciary funds statements provide information about the financial relationships in which the School District acts solely as a trustee or agent for the benefit of others.

The fund financial statements reflect the School District's most significant funds. For the years ending June 30, 2018 and 2017, the general fund, the capital projects fund, and the debt service fund represent the most significant funds.

The financial statements also include notes that explain some of the information in the statements and provide more detailed data. The statements are followed by a section of required supplementary information that further explains and supports the financial statements. Additionally, other supplementary information (not required) is also presented that further supplements understanding of the financial statements.

### Government-Wide Statements

The government-wide statements report information about the School District as a whole using accounting methods similar to those used by private-sector companies. The Statement of Net Position includes all of the School District's assets and liabilities. All of the current fiscal year's revenues and expenses are accounted for in the Statement of Activities regardless of when cash is received or paid.

The two government-wide statements report the School District's net position and how it has changed. Net position, the difference between the School District's assets and deferred outflows of resources, and liabilities and deferred inflows of resources, is one way to measure the School

LOWNDES COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION  
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2018

District's overall financial health or position. Over time, increases or decreases in net position are an indication of whether its financial health is improving or deteriorating. Changes may be the result of many factors, including those not under the School District's control, such as the property tax base, facility conditions, required educational programs and other factors.

In the Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities, the School District has one distinct type of activity:

- **Governmental Activities** – All of the School District's programs and services are reported here including instruction, support services, operation and maintenance of plant, pupil transportation, food service, student activity accounts and various others.

### **Fund Financial Statements**

The School District's fund financial statements provide detailed information about the most significant funds, not the School District as a whole. Some funds are required by State law and some by bond requirements. The School District's major governmental funds are the general fund, the capital projects fund, and the debt service fund.

Governmental Funds - Most of the School District's activities are reported in governmental funds, which focus on the determination of financial position and change in financial position, not on income determination. These funds are reported using the modified accrual method of accounting, which measures cash and all other financial assets that can readily be converted to cash. The governmental fund statements provide a detailed short-term view of the School District's general government operations and the basic services it provides. Governmental fund information helps determine whether there are more or fewer financial resources that can be spent in the near future to finance educational programs. The relationship (or differences) between governmental activities (reported in the Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities) and governmental funds are reconciled to the financial statements.

Fiduciary Funds - The School District is the trustee, or fiduciary, for assets that belong to others, such as school clubs and organizations within the principals' accounts. The School District is responsible for ensuring that the assets reported in these funds are used only for their intended purposes and by those to whom the assets belong. The School District excludes these activities from the government-wide financial statements because it cannot use these assets to finance its operations.

### **FINANCIAL ANALYSIS OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT AS A WHOLE**

Net position, which is the difference between total assets and deferred outflows of resources, and total liabilities and deferred inflows of resources, is one indicator of the financial condition of the School District. When revenues exceed expenses, the result is an increase in net position. When expenses exceed revenues, the result is a decrease in net position. The relationship between revenues and expenses can be thought of as the School District's operating results. The School District's net position, as measured in the Statement of Net Position is one way to measure the School District's financial health, or financial position. Over time, increases or decreases in the School District's net position - as measured in the Statement of Activities - are one indicator of whether its financial health is improving or deteriorating. However, the School District's goal and mission is to provide success for each child's education, not to generate profits as private corporations do. For this reason, many other nonfinancial factors should be considered in assessing the overall health of the School District.

LOWNDES COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION  
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FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2018

In the case of the Lowndes County School District, assets and deferred outflows of resources exceeded liabilities and deferred inflows of resources by almost \$53.2 million at June 30, 2018. To better understand the School District's actual financial position and ability to deliver services in future periods, it is necessary to review the various components of the net position category. For example, of the \$53.2 million of net position, almost \$10.8 million was restricted for continuation of various State and Federal programs and ongoing capital projects. Accordingly, these funds were not available to meet the School District's ongoing obligations to citizens and creditors.

In addition, the School District had nearly \$175.1 million (net of related debt) invested in capital assets (e.g., land, buildings, and equipment). The School District uses these capital assets to provide educational services to students within geographic boundaries served by the School District. Because of the very nature and on-going use of the assets being reported in this component of net position, it must be recognized that this portion of the net position is *not* available for future spending.

The offsetting balance of *unrestricted net position* of (\$132.7) million is driven to a deficit due to the calculation of net position with net pension liabilities and net other post-employment benefit liabilities. These balances should be viewed in consideration with the Reconciliation of Governmental Funds Balance Sheet to the Statement of Net Position found at Exhibit "D", as well as the Fund Balance section of the Notes to the Basic Financial Statements. Otherwise, the unrestricted net position may be used to meet the School District's ongoing obligations to citizens and creditors.

LOWNDES COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION  
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2018

Table 1 provides a summary of the School District's net position for this fiscal year as compared to the prior fiscal year.

**Table 1  
Net Position**

	Governmental Activities	
	Fiscal Year 2018	Fiscal Year 2017 (1)
<b>Assets</b>		
Current and Other Assets	\$ 51,060,282	\$ 46,583,499
Capital Assets, Net	<u>178,633,576</u>	<u>175,010,078</u>
<b>Total Assets</b>	229,693,858	221,593,577
<b>Deferred Outflows of Resources</b>	<u>18,362,815</u>	<u>25,201,471</u>
<b>Total Assets and Deferred Outflows of Resources</b>	<u>248,056,673</u>	<u>246,795,048</u>
<b>Liabilities</b>		
Current and Other Liabilities	16,499,466	14,443,803
Long-Term Liabilities	<u>167,998,277</u>	<u>99,448,778</u>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	184,497,743	113,892,581
<b>Deferred Inflows of Resources</b>	<u>10,396,770</u>	<u>3,632,796</u>
<b>Total Liabilities and Deferred Inflows of Resources</b>	<u>194,894,513</u>	<u>117,525,377</u>
<b>Net Position</b>		
Net Investment in Capital Assets	175,052,176	174,825,844
Restricted	10,813,302	13,289,492
Unrestricted (Deficit)	<u>(132,703,318)</u>	<u>(58,845,665)</u>
<b>Total Net Position</b>	<u>\$ 53,162,160</u>	<u>\$ 129,269,671</u>

(1) Fiscal year 2017 balances do not reflect the effects of the restatement of net position. See Note 14 in the Notes to the Basic Financial Statements for additional information.

Total net position decreased \$76.1 million in fiscal year 2018 from the prior year, as the beginning net position was restated for GASB No. 75. The current year change in net position is detailed in Table 2 as presented below, yielding an increase of \$7.9 million over prior year.

LOWNDES COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION  
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2018

Table 2 presents changes in net position as compared to the prior fiscal year.

**Table 2**  
**Change in Net Position**

	Governmental Activities	
	Fiscal Year	Fiscal Year
	2018	2017 (1)
<b>Revenues</b>		
Program Revenues:		
Charges for Services	\$ 1,953,605	\$ 1,954,878
Operating Grants and Contributions	67,044,364	65,261,325
Capital Grants and Contributions	77,320	154,432
Total Program Revenues	<u>69,075,289</u>	<u>67,370,635</u>
General Revenues:		
Taxes		
Property Taxes		
For Maintenance and Operations	27,446,655	26,450,822
Other Taxes	91,510	74,802
Sales Taxes		
Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax		
For Debt Services	-	5,290,736
For Capital Projects	12,043,535	6,356,919
Other Sales Tax	560,800	509,441
Grants and Contributions not		
Restricted to Specific Programs	4,421,690	4,094,134
Investment Earnings	404,921	171,707
Miscellaneous	1,282,990	1,094,947
Total General Revenues	<u>46,252,101</u>	<u>44,043,508</u>
Total Revenues	<u>115,327,390</u>	<u>111,414,143</u>
<b>Program Expenses:</b>		
Instruction	69,545,876	67,063,904
Support Services		
Pupil Services	4,660,386	4,610,094
Improvement of Instructional Services	3,521,603	3,434,113
Educational Media Services	1,508,551	1,506,989
General Administration	1,031,940	1,309,306
School Administration	4,330,542	4,773,745
Business Administration	2,056,460	1,415,317
Maintenance and Operation of Plant	8,024,457	7,572,996
Student Transportation Services	5,967,552	5,517,561
Central Support Services	1,051,051	964,539
Other Support Services	155,522	118,432
Operations of Non-Instructional Services		
Enterprise Operations	183,901	167,016
Community Services	4,226	3,078
Food Services	5,230,793	5,463,389
Interest on Short-Term and Long-Term Debt	158,755	425,893
Total Expenses	<u>107,431,615</u>	<u>104,346,372</u>
Increase in Net Position	<u>\$ 7,895,775</u>	<u>\$ 7,067,771</u>

(1) Fiscal year 2017 balances do not reflect the effects of the restatement of net position. See Note 14 in the Notes to the Basic Financial Statements for additional information.

LOWNDES COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION  
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2018

**Cost of Providing Services**

The Statement of Activities shows the cost of program services and the charges for services and grants offsetting these services. Table 3 shows, for governmental activities, the total cost of services and the net cost of services. Net cost of services can be defined as the total cost less fees generated by the activities and intergovernmental revenue provided for specific programs. The net cost reflects the financial burden on the School District's taxpayers by each activity as compared to the prior fiscal year.

Expenditures increased \$3.1 million, while net cost of services increased \$1.4 million from the prior fiscal year, primarily due to an increase in school district recognized pension expense, TRS expense and salary expense.

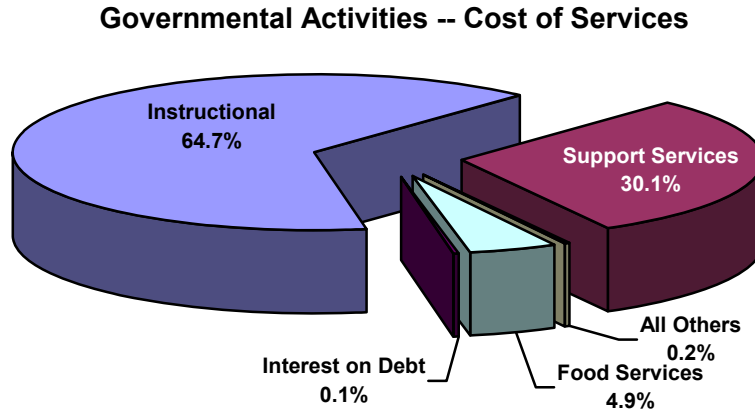
**Table 3**  
**Cost of Services**

	Total Cost of Services		Net Cost of Services	
	Fiscal	Fiscal	Fiscal	Fiscal
	Year 2018	Year 2017 (1)	Year 2018	Year 2017 (1)
Instruction	\$ 69,545,876	\$ 67,063,904	\$ 19,531,669	\$ 18,933,259
Support Services				
Pupil Services	4,660,386	4,610,094	4,040,871	3,925,926
Improvement of Instructional Services	3,521,603	3,434,113	1,374,030	1,056,382
Educational Media Services	1,508,551	1,506,989	112,471	167,454
General Administration	1,031,940	1,309,306	(825,888)	(311,285)
School Administration	4,330,542	4,773,745	1,637,581	2,180,708
Business Administration	2,056,460	1,415,317	2,022,516	1,389,920
Maintenance and Operation of Plant	8,024,457	7,572,996	4,577,984	4,151,671
Student Transportation Services	5,967,552	5,517,561	4,408,082	3,820,215
Central Support Services	1,051,051	964,539	1,023,694	942,724
Other Support Services	155,522	118,432	152,996	116,298
Operations of Non-Instructional Services				
Enterprise Operations	183,901	167,016	183,901	167,016
Community Services	4,226	3,078	4,226	3,078
Food Services	5,230,793	5,463,389	(46,561)	6,478
Interest on Short-Term and Long-Term Debt	158,755	425,893	158,755	425,893
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 107,431,615</b>	<b>\$ 104,346,372</b>	<b>\$ 38,356,327</b>	<b>\$ 36,975,737</b>

(1) Fiscal year 2017 balances do not reflect the effects of the restatement of net position. See Note 14 in the Notes to the Basic Financial Statements for additional information.

LOWNDES COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION  
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2018

The chart below shows a functional summary of the expenses made by the School District during fiscal year 2018. The percentages are rounded to one decimal place.



**FINANCIAL ANALYSIS OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT'S FUNDS**

Information about the School District's governmental funds is presented starting on Exhibit "C" of this report. Governmental funds are accounted for using the modified accrual basis of accounting. The governmental funds had total revenues of \$115.8 million and total expenditures of \$116.6 million in fiscal year 2018. Total governmental fund balances of \$34.1 million at June 30, 2018, increased about \$2.8 million from the prior year. This increase in fund balance resulted from the general fund revenues coming in slightly better than expected and well managed expenditures coming in less than budgeted.

**General Fund Budget Highlights**

The School District's budget is prepared according to Georgia Law. The most significant budgeted fund is the general fund. During the course of fiscal year 2018, the School District amended its general fund budget as needed.

The School District budget is adopted at the aggregate level and maintained at the program, function, object, and site levels to facilitate budgetary control. The budgeting systems are designed to control the total budget, but provide flexibility to meet the ongoing programmatic needs. The budgeting systems are also designed to control total site budgets but provide flexibility for site management as well.

For the general fund, the final actual revenues of \$103.6 million were about \$3.5 million more than the final budget amount of \$100.1 million. The difference \$3.5 million consisted of property tax collections coming in above budget by \$2.0 million and state funds in the amount of \$1.3 million.

The general fund's final actual expenditures of almost \$97.9 million were less than the final budget amount of \$100.1 million by roughly \$2.2 million. This variance was primarily due to actual expenditures for Instruction coming in about \$2.2 million less than the budgeted amount, other programs netted together to make up the difference.

LOWNDES COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION  
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2018

**CAPITAL ASSETS AND DEBT ADMINISTRATION**

**Capital Assets**

At fiscal year ended June 30, 2018, the School District had \$178.6 million invested in capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation, all in governmental activities. These assets are made up of a broad range of items including buildings, land, land improvements, and food service, transportation and maintenance equipment. Table 4 reflects a summary of these balances, net of accumulated depreciation, as compared to the prior fiscal year.

**Table 4  
Capital Assets at June 30  
(Net of Depreciation)**

	Governmental Activities	
	Fiscal Year 2018	Fiscal Year 2017
	Land	\$ 35,957,463
Construction In Progress	4,204,137	2,455,458
Building and Improvements	121,256,503	119,140,904
Equipment	5,942,225	5,745,119
Land Improvements	11,273,248	11,711,134
Total	\$ 178,633,576	\$ 175,010,078

Additional information about the School District's Capital Assets can be found in the Notes to the Basic Financial Statements.

**Long-Term Debt**

At June 30, 2018, the School District's only outstanding debt was \$3.5 million in energy efficiency leases. Table 5 summarizes the School District's debt as compared to the prior fiscal year.

**Table 5  
Change in Long-Term Debt**

	Governmental Activities	
	Fiscal Year 2018	Fiscal Year 2017
	Bonds Payable	\$ -
Energy Efficiency Leases	3,533,849	-
Total	\$ 3,533,849	\$ 7,545,000

On November 13, 2015, "Moody's Investors Service has affirmed the Aa3 general obligation rating of Lowndes County School District, Ga." – Moody's Rating Update 13 Nov 2015.

On February 24, 2016, "Standard & Poor's Ratings Services revised its outlook to stable from negative and affirmed its 'A+' underlying rating on Lowndes County School District, Georgia's general obligation (GO) debt. At the same time, Standard & Poor's affirmed its 'AA+' program rating, with a stable outlook, on the School District's GO debt."



LOWNDES COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION  
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2018

“The outlook revision is based on our view of the stabilization of the School District’s finances, demonstrated by a strong unaudited surplus for 2015 and positive results projected for fiscal 2016.”  
– Standard & Poor’s Ratings Direct February 24, 2016.

Further reviews by rating agencies were not warranted as bond issuances greater than \$10.0 million matured during fiscal year 2017. Additional information about the School District’s debt can be found in the Notes to the Basic Financial Statements.

### **FACTORS BEARING ON THE DISTRICT’S FUTURE**

Currently known circumstances that are expected to have a significant effect on financial position or results of operations in future years are as follows:

- The School District’s operating millage for fiscal year 2018 was 16.839, which produced about \$1.5 million per mill. The millage rate for FY19 decreased slightly to 16.541 mills, while producing an additional \$964 thousand in taxes levied. The School District’s historical growth rate is about 40-50 students per year, whereas currently an increase of about 20 FTE was realized from prior year. The School District plans to use state capital outlay entitlement funds for repairing and renovating facilities and is evaluating the future need to construct additional facilities to accommodate projected growth and reduce portable classrooms at various schools. The School District plans to fund additional capital projects with the one percent local sales tax revenue and available state capital outlay grants.
- The School District has realized improvement through sound financial management after having weathered several years of economic lull. The 2018 tax digest levy anticipates an increase of 3.81%, mainly due to growth in the School District. The School District’s state funds resulted in a \$4.7 million increase in the District’s QBE for FY 2019 as compared to FY 2018’s Mid-Term Allotment. Revenues in fiscal year 2018 from property taxes increased roughly \$1.0 million from the prior year; State Funds and Federal Funds combined for the general fund, increased by about \$2.1 million from the prior year.
- The general fund had an unassigned fund balance of \$22.5 million at June 30, 2018, which is up about \$4.9 million from the prior year. The main drivers behind the School District’s surplus were strategic budgeting with savings incentives and revenue collections coming in slightly above budget. The Board anticipates increases to health insurance costs for employees, staffing increases as enrollment grows and the increasing repair and maintenance costs to gradually be offset with updated facilities in future years. The School District will continue to be a good steward of tax dollars while providing a quality education.
- In fiscal year 2015, the School District adopted Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 68, *Accounting and Financial Reporting for Pensions* and GASB Statement No. 71, *Pension Transition for Contributions Made Subsequent to the Measurement Date* – an amendment of GASB 68. Implementation of these statements required the School District to record a charge (decrease) to the government-wide net position at July 1, 2014 for the School District’s share of the net pension liability for the pension plans administered through the Teachers Retirement System of Georgia (TRS). Readers should understand implementation of (GASB) Statement No. 68 and No. 71 will not affect the School District’s Governmental Activities Fund Statements.

LOWNDES COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION  
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2018

- In fiscal year 2018, the School District adopted Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 75, *Accounting and Financial Reporting for Postemployment Benefits Other than Pensions (OPEB)*. Implementation of this statement required the School District to record a charge (decrease) to the government-wide net position at July 1, 2017 for the School District's share of the net OPEB liability for the benefit plans administered through the State of Georgia Health Benefit Plan (SHBP). Readers should understand implementation of (GASB) Statement No. 75 will not affect the School District's Governmental Activities Fund Statements.

**CONTACTING THE SCHOOL DISTRICT'S FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT**

This financial report is designed to provide our citizens, taxpayers, investors and creditors with a general overview of the School District's finances and to show the School District's accountability for the money it receives. If you have questions about this report or need additional financial information, contact Lee Goodman, Accountant at Lowndes County Board of Education, 1592 Norman Drive, Valdosta, Georgia, 31601. You may email your questions to [leegoodman@lowndes.k12.ga.us](mailto:leegoodman@lowndes.k12.ga.us).

LOWNDES COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

LOWNDES COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION  
STATEMENT OF NET POSITION  
JUNE 30, 2018

EXHIBIT "A"

	GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES
<u>ASSETS</u>	
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 36,845,814.78
Accounts Receivable, Net	
Taxes	2,803,957.04
State Government	8,644,883.67
Federal Government	1,160,810.21
Other	1,308,967.73
Inventories	295,244.06
Other Current Assets	605.00
Capital Assets, Non-Depreciable	40,161,600.22
Capital Assets, Depreciable (Net of Accumulated Depreciation)	138,471,975.51
 Total Assets	 229,693,858.22
<u>DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES</u>	
Related to Defined Benefit Pension Plan	15,354,052.93
Related to OPEB Plan	3,008,762.00
 Total Deferred Outflows of Resources	 18,362,814.93
<u>LIABILITIES</u>	
Accounts Payable	3,028,269.44
Salaries and Benefits Payable	11,899,542.75
Contracts Payable	1,067,839.84
Retainage Payable	34,043.74
Deposits and Unearned Revenue	469,770.00
Net Pension Liability	83,116,285.00
Net OPEB Liability	81,348,143.00
Long-Term Liabilities	
Due in More Than One Year	3,533,849.00
 Total Liabilities	 184,497,742.77
<u>DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES</u>	
Related to Defined Benefit Pension Plan	3,173,436.00
Related to OPEB Plan	7,223,334.00
 Total Deferred Inflows of Resources	 10,396,770.00
<u>NET POSITION</u>	
Net Investment in Capital Assets	175,052,176.15
Restricted for	
Continuation of Federal Programs	1,100,931.97
Capital Projects	9,712,370.29
Unrestricted (Deficit)	(132,703,318.03)
 Total Net Position	 \$ 53,162,160.38

LOWNDES COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION  
STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2018

	EXPENSES	CHARGES FOR SERVICES
<u>GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES</u>		
Instruction	\$ 69,545,875.81	\$ 700,200.48
Support Services		
Pupil Services	4,660,385.71	-
Improvement of Instructional Services	3,521,603.82	-
Educational Media Services	1,508,551.53	-
General Administration	1,031,940.23	-
School Administration	4,330,541.99	-
Business Administration	2,056,459.62	-
Maintenance and Operation of Plant	8,024,456.67	-
Student Transportation Services	5,967,552.03	-
Central Support Services	1,051,050.64	-
Other Support Services	155,522.51	-
Operations of Non-Instructional Services		
Enterprise Operations	183,900.78	-
Community Services	4,225.70	-
Food Services	5,230,792.97	1,253,404.47
Interest on Short-Term and Long-Term Debt	158,755.14	-
	<u>\$ 107,431,615.15</u>	<u>\$ 1,953,604.95</u>
General Revenues		
Taxes		
Property Taxes		
For Maintenance and Operations		
Railroad Cars		
Sales Taxes		
Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax		
For Capital Projects		
Other Sales Tax		
Grants and Contributions not Restricted to Specific Programs		
Investment Earnings		
Miscellaneous		
Total General Revenues		
Change in Net Position		
Net Position - Beginning of Year (Restated)		
Net Position - End of Year		

EXHIBIT "B"

PROGRAM REVENUES		NET (EXPENSES)
OPERATING GRANTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS	CAPITAL GRANTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS	REVENUES AND CHANGES IN NET POSITION
\$ 49,314,006.50	\$ -	\$ (19,531,668.83)
619,514.39	-	(4,040,871.32)
2,147,573.79	-	(1,374,030.03)
1,396,081.00	-	(112,470.53)
1,857,827.83	-	825,887.60
2,692,961.41	-	(1,637,580.58)
33,944.01	-	(2,022,515.61)
3,446,472.36	-	(4,577,984.31)
1,482,150.19	77,319.58	(4,408,082.26)
27,356.28	-	(1,023,694.36)
2,526.48	-	(152,996.03)
-	-	(183,900.78)
-	-	(4,225.70)
4,023,949.47	-	46,560.97
-	-	(158,755.14)
<u>\$ 67,044,363.71</u>	<u>\$ 77,319.58</u>	<u>(38,356,326.91)</u>
		27,446,655.29
		91,509.61
		12,043,535.18
		560,800.43
		4,421,690.00
		404,920.86
		<u>1,282,989.62</u>
		<u>46,252,100.99</u>
		7,895,774.08
		<u>45,266,386.30</u>
		<u>\$ 53,162,160.38</u>

LOWNDES COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION  
BALANCE SHEET  
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS  
JUNE 30, 2018

EXHIBIT "C"

	GENERAL FUND	CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND	DEBT SERVICE FUND	TOTAL
<u>ASSETS</u>				
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 27,845,943.71	\$ 8,999,871.07	\$ -	\$ 36,845,814.78
Receivables, Net				
Taxes	1,764,911.54	1,039,045.50	-	2,803,957.04
State Government	8,644,883.67	-	-	8,644,883.67
Federal Government	1,160,810.21	-	-	1,160,810.21
Other	254,634.73	1,054,333.00	-	1,308,967.73
Inventories	295,244.06	-	-	295,244.06
Other Current Assets	605.00	-	-	605.00
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total Assets	\$ 39,967,032.92	\$ 11,093,249.57	\$ -	\$ 51,060,282.49
<u>LIABILITIES</u>				
Accounts Payable	\$ 2,749,273.74	\$ 278,995.70	\$ -	\$ 3,028,269.44
Salaries and Benefits Payable	11,899,542.75	-	-	11,899,542.75
Contracts Payable	-	1,067,839.84	-	1,067,839.84
Retainage Payable	-	34,043.74	-	34,043.74
Deposits and Unearned Revenue	469,770.00	-	-	469,770.00
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total Liabilities	15,118,586.49	1,380,879.28	-	16,499,465.77
<u>DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES</u>				
Unavailable Revenue - Property Taxes	412,650.46	-	-	412,650.46
<u>FUND BALANCES</u>				
Nonspendable	295,244.06	-	-	295,244.06
Restricted	1,097,756.97	9,712,370.29	-	10,810,127.26
Committed	263,557.68	-	-	263,557.68
Assigned	326,039.14	-	-	326,039.14
Unassigned	22,453,198.12	-	-	22,453,198.12
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total Fund Balances	24,435,795.97	9,712,370.29	-	34,148,166.26
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total Liabilities, Deferred Inflows of Resources, and Fund Balances	\$ 39,967,032.92	\$ 11,093,249.57	\$ -	\$ 51,060,282.49

LOWNDES COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION  
RECONCILIATION OF THE GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS BALANCE SHEET  
TO THE STATEMENT OF NET POSITION  
JUNE 30, 2018

EXHIBIT "D"

Total fund balances - governmental funds (Exhibit "C") \$ 34,148,166.26

Amounts reported for governmental activities in the Statement of Net Position are different because:

Capital assets used in governmental activities are not financial resources and therefore are not reported in the funds.

Land	\$	35,957,463.32	
Construction in progress		4,204,136.90	
Buildings and improvements		166,659,117.78	
Equipment		18,052,817.99	
Land improvements		17,226,971.40	
Accumulated depreciation		<u>(63,466,931.66)</u>	178,633,575.73

Some liabilities are not due and payable in the current period and, therefore, are not reported in the funds.

Net pension liability	\$	(83,116,285.00)	
Net OPEB liability		<u>(81,348,143.00)</u>	(164,464,428.00)

Deferred outflows and inflows of resources related to pensions/OPEB are applicable to future periods and, therefore, are not reported in the funds.

Related to pensions	\$	12,180,616.93	
Related to OPEB		<u>(4,214,572.00)</u>	7,966,044.93

Taxes that are not available to pay for current period expenditures are deferred in the funds.

412,650.46

Long-term liabilities are not due and payable in the current period and therefore are not reported in the funds.

Energy efficiency leases payable			<u>(3,533,849.00)</u>
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Net position of governmental activities (Exhibit "A") \$ 53,162,160.38



LOWNDES COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION  
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES  
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS  
YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2018

EXHIBIT "E"

	GENERAL FUND	CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND	DEBT SERVICE FUND	TOTAL
<u>REVENUES</u>				
Property Taxes	\$ 28,026,326.32	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 28,026,326.32
Sales Taxes	560,800.43	12,042,846.54	688.64	12,604,335.61
State Funds	62,373,944.44	-	-	62,373,944.44
Federal Funds	9,188,697.23	-	-	9,188,697.23
Charges for Services	1,953,604.95	-	-	1,953,604.95
Investment Earnings	254,873.52	150,037.23	10.11	404,920.86
Miscellaneous	1,282,989.62	-	-	1,282,989.62
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>103,641,236.51</b>	<b>12,192,883.77</b>	<b>698.75</b>	<b>115,834,819.03</b>
<u>EXPENDITURES</u>				
Current				
Instruction	62,053,017.63	2,305,563.20	-	64,358,580.83
Support Services				
Pupil Services	4,354,686.18	12,131.00	-	4,366,817.18
Improvement of Instructional Services	3,469,756.81	-	-	3,469,756.81
Educational Media Services	1,393,107.49	-	-	1,393,107.49
General Administration	1,024,853.07	-	-	1,024,853.07
School Administration	4,669,519.15	-	-	4,669,519.15
Business Administration	1,536,637.68	-	-	1,536,637.68
Maintenance and Operation of Plant	7,791,364.05	96,693.62	-	7,888,057.67
Student Transportation Services	5,256,325.66	818,801.00	-	6,075,126.66
Central Support Services	1,011,983.54	56,675.60	-	1,068,659.14
Other Support Services	99,017.62	-	-	99,017.62
Enterprise Operations	183,900.78	-	-	183,900.78
Community Services	4,225.70	-	-	4,225.70
Food Services Operation	4,809,214.72	-	-	4,809,214.72
Capital Outlay	193,962.74	7,613,495.21	-	7,807,457.95
Debt Services				
Principal	-	-	7,545,000.00	7,545,000.00
Dues and Fees	-	-	698.75	698.75
Interest	-	-	269,809.20	269,809.20
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>97,851,572.82</b>	<b>10,903,359.63</b>	<b>7,815,507.95</b>	<b>116,570,440.40</b>
Excess of Revenues over (under) Expenditures	5,789,663.69	1,289,524.14	(7,814,809.20)	(735,621.37)
<u>OTHER FINANCING SOURCES</u>				
Proceeds of Energy Savings Contract	-	3,533,849.00	-	3,533,849.00
<b>Net Change in Fund Balances</b>	<b>5,789,663.69</b>	<b>4,823,373.14</b>	<b>(7,814,809.20)</b>	<b>2,798,227.63</b>
Fund Balances - Beginning	18,646,132.28	4,888,997.15	7,814,809.20	31,349,938.63
<b>Fund Balances - Ending</b>	<b>\$ 24,435,795.97</b>	<b>\$ 9,712,370.29</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 34,148,166.26</b>

LOWNDES COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION  
RECONCILIATION OF THE GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS STATEMENT OF  
REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES  
TO THE STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES  
JUNE 30, 2018

EXHIBIT "F"

Net change in fund balances total governmental funds (Exhibit "E") \$ 2,798,227.63

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

Governmental funds report capital outlays as expenditures. However, in the Statement of Activities, the cost of capital assets is allocated over their estimated useful lives as depreciation expense.

Capital outlay	\$ 8,235,105.20	
Depreciation expense	<u>(4,589,889.15)</u>	3,645,216.05

The net effect of various miscellaneous transactions involving capital assets (i.e., sales, trade-ins, donations, and disposals) is to decrease net position. (21,718.54)

Taxes reported in the Statement of Activities that do not provide current financial resources are not reported as revenues in the funds. (488,161.42)

The issuance of long-term debt provides current financial resources to governmental funds, while the repayment of the principal of long-term debt consumes the current financial resources of governmental funds. Neither transaction, however, has any effect on net position. Also, governmental funds report the effect of premiums, discounts and the difference between the carrying value of refunded debt and the acquisition cost of refunded debt when debt is first issued. These amounts are deferred and amortized in the Statement of Activities.

Bond principal retirements	\$ 7,545,000.00	
Energy lease issued	<u>(3,533,849.00)</u>	4,011,151.00

District pension contributions are reported as expenditures in the governmental funds when made. However, they are reported as deferred outflows of resources in the Statement of Net Position because the reported net pension/OPEB liability is measured a year before the District's report date. Pension/OPEB expense, which is the change in the net pension/OPEB liability adjusted for changes in deferred outflows and inflows of resources related to pensions/OPEB, is reported in the Statement of Activities.

Pension expense	\$ (600,564.70)	
OPEB expense	<u>(1,559,430.00)</u>	(2,159,994.70)

Some items reported in the Statement of Activities do not require the use of current financial resources and therefore are not reported as expenditures in governmental funds.

Net decrease in accrued interest		<u>111,054.06</u>
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Change in net position of governmental activities (Exhibit "B") \$ 7,895,774.08

LOWNDES COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION  
STATEMENT OF FIDUCIARY NET POSITION  
FIDUCIARY FUNDS  
JUNE 30, 2018

EXHIBIT "G"

	PRIVATE PURPOSE TRUSTS	AGENCY FUNDS
<u>ASSETS</u>		
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ <u>2,238.04</u>	\$ <u>685,565.37</u>
<u>LIABILITIES</u>		
Funds Held for Others		\$ <u>685,565.37</u>
<u>NET POSITION</u>		
Held in Trust for Private Purposes	\$ <u>2,238.04</u>	

LOWNDES COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION  
STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN FIDUCIARY NET POSITION  
FIDUCIARY FUNDS  
JUNE 30, 2018

EXHIBIT "H"

	<u>PRIVATE PURPOSE TRUSTS</u>
 <u>ADDITIONS</u>	
Investment Earnings	
Interest	\$ <u>11.40</u>
 <u>DEDUCTIONS</u>	
Other Deductions	<u>-</u>
Change in Net Position	11.40
Net Position - Beginning	<u>2,226.64</u>
Net Position - Ending	\$ <u><u>2,238.04</u></u>

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## **NOTE 1: DESCRIPTION OF SCHOOL DISTRICT AND REPORTING ENTITY**

### **REPORTING ENTITY**

The Lowndes County Board of Education (School District) was established under the laws of the State of Georgia and operates under the guidance of a board elected by the voters and a Superintendent appointed by the Board. The School District is organized as a separate legal entity and has the power to levy taxes and issue bonds. Its budget is not subject to approval by any other entity. Accordingly, the School District is a primary government and consists of all the organizations that compose its legal entity.

## **NOTE 2: SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

The accompanying financial statements of the School District have been prepared in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) as prescribed by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB). GASB is the accepted standard-setting body for governmental accounting and financial reporting principles. The most significant of the School District's accounting policies are described below.

### **BASIS OF PRESENTATION**

The School District's basic financial statements are collectively comprised of the government-wide financial statements, fund financial statements and notes to the basic financial statements. The government-wide statements focus on the School District as a whole, while the fund financial statements focus on major funds. Each presentation provides valuable information that can be analyzed and compared between years and between governments to enhance the information's usefulness.

### **GOVERNMENT-WIDE STATEMENTS:**

The Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities display information about the financial activities of the overall School District, except for fiduciary activities. Eliminations have been made to minimize the double counting of internal activities. Governmental activities generally are financed through taxes, intergovernmental revenues, and other nonexchange transactions.

The Statement of Net Position presents the School District's non-fiduciary assets and liabilities, with the difference reported as net position. Net position is reported in three categories as follows:

1. **Net investment in capital assets** consists of the School District's total investment in capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation, and reduced by outstanding debt obligations related to those capital assets. To the extent debt has been incurred but not yet expended for capital assets, such amounts are not included as a component of net investment in capital assets.
2. **Restricted net position** consists of resources for which the School District is legally or contractually obligated to spend in accordance with restrictions imposed by external third parties or imposed by law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation.
3. **Unrestricted net position** consists of resources not meeting the definition of the two preceding categories. Unrestricted net position often has constraints on resources imposed by management which can be removed or modified.

The Statement of Activities presents a comparison between direct expenses and program revenues for each function of the School District's governmental activities.

Direct expenses are those that are specifically associated with a program or function and, therefore, are clearly identifiable to a particular function. Indirect expenses (expenses of the School District related to the administration and support of the School District's programs, such as office and maintenance personnel and accounting) are not allocated to programs.

Program revenues include (a) charges paid by the recipients of goods or services offered by the programs and (b) grants and contributions that are restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular program. Revenues that are not classified as program revenues, including all taxes, are presented as general revenues.

### **FUND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

The fund financial statements provide information about the School District's funds, including fiduciary funds. Eliminations have been made to minimize the double counting of internal activities. Separate financial statements are presented for governmental and fiduciary funds. The emphasis of fund financial statements is on major governmental funds, each displayed in a separate column.

The School District reports the following major governmental funds:

- The general fund is the School District's primary operating fund. It accounts for and reports all financial resources not accounted for and reported in another fund.
- The capital projects fund accounts for and reports financial resources including Education Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (ESPLOST) that are restricted, committed or assigned for capital outlay expenditures, including the acquisition or construction of capital facilities and other capital assets.
- The debt service fund accounts for and reports financial resources that are restricted, committed, or assigned including taxes (sales) legally restricted for the payment of general long-term principal and interest.

The School District reports the following fiduciary fund types:

- Private purpose trust funds are used to report all trust arrangements, other than those properly reported elsewhere, in which principal and income benefit individuals, private organizations or other governments.
- Agency funds are used to report resources held by the School District in a purely custodial capacity (assets equal liabilities) and do not involve measurement of results of operations.

### **BASIS OF ACCOUNTING**

The basis of accounting determines when transactions are reported on the financial statements. The government-wide and fiduciary fund financial statements are reported using the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recorded when earned and expenses are recorded at the time liabilities are incurred, regardless of when the related cash flows take place. Nonexchange transactions, in which the School District gives (or receives) value without directly receiving (or giving) equal value in exchange, include property taxes, sales taxes, grants and donations. On an accrual basis, revenue from property taxes is recognized in the fiscal year for which the taxes are levied. Revenue from sales taxes is recognized in the fiscal year in which the underlying transaction (sale) takes place. Revenue from grants and donations is recognized in the fiscal year in which all eligibility requirements have been satisfied.

The School District uses funds to report on its financial position and the results of its operations. Fund accounting is designed to demonstrate legal compliance and to aid financial management by segregating transactions related to certain governmental functions or activities. A fund is a separate accounting entity with a self-balancing set of accounts.

Governmental funds are reported using the current financial resources measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting. Under this method, revenues are recognized when measurable and available. The School District considers all revenues reported in the governmental funds to be available if they are collected within sixty days after year-end. The School District considers all intergovernmental revenues to be available if they are collected within 120 days after year-end. Property taxes, sales taxes and interest are considered to be susceptible to accrual. Expenditures are

recorded when the related fund liability is incurred, except for principal and interest on general long-term debt, which are recognized as expenditures to the extent they have matured. Capital asset acquisitions are reported as expenditures in governmental funds. Proceeds of general long-term liabilities and acquisitions under capital leases are reported as other financing sources.

The School District funds certain programs by a combination of specific cost-reimbursement grants, categorical grants, and general revenues. Thus, when program costs are incurred, there are both restricted and unrestricted net assets available to finance the program. It is the School District's policy to first apply grant resources to such programs, followed by cost-reimbursement grants, then general revenues.

#### **NEW ACCOUNTING PRONOUNCEMENTS**

In fiscal year 2018, the School District adopted Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 75, *Accounting and Financial Reporting for Postemployment Benefits Other than Pensions*. This statement establishes standards for recognizing and measuring liabilities, deferred outflows of resources, deferred inflows of resources, and expense/expenditures. For defined benefit OPEB, this statement identifies the methods and assumptions that are required to be used to project benefit payments, discount projected benefit payments to their actuarial present value, and attribute that present value to periods of employee service. Note disclosure and required supplementary information requirements about defined benefit OPEB also are addressed. The adoption of this statement has a significant impact on the School District's financial statements. As noted in the Restatement of Net Position note disclosure, the School District restated beginning net position for the cumulative effect of this accounting change.

In fiscal year 2018, the School District adopted Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 81, *Irrevocable Split-Interest Agreements*. This statement requires that a government that receives resources pursuant to an irrevocable split-interest agreement recognize assets, liabilities, and deferred inflows of resources at the inception of the agreement. Furthermore, this statement requires that a government recognize assets representing its beneficial interests in irrevocable split-interest agreements that are administered by a third party, if the government controls the present service capacity of the beneficial interests. This statement requires that a government recognize revenue when the resources become applicable to the reporting period. The adoption of this statement does not have a significant impact on the School District's financial statements.

In fiscal year 2018, the School District adopted Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 85, *Omnibus 2017*. The objective of this statement is to address practice issues that have been identified during implementation and application of certain GASB Statements. This statement addresses a variety of topics including issues related to blending component units, goodwill, fair value measurement and application, and postemployment benefits (pensions and other postemployment benefits [OPEB]). The adoption of this statement does not have a significant impact on the School District's financial statements.

In fiscal year 2018, the School District adopted Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 86, *Certain Debt Extinguishment Issues*. The primary objective of this statement is to improve consistency in accounting and financial reporting for in-substance defeasance of debt by providing guidance for transactions in which cash and other monetary assets acquired with only existing resources—resources other than the proceeds of refunding debt—are placed in an irrevocable trust for the sole purpose of extinguishing debt. This statement also improves accounting and financial reporting for prepaid insurance on debt that is extinguished and notes to financial statements for debt that is defeased in substance. The adoption of this statement does not have a significant impact on the School District's financial statements.



**CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS**

Cash and cash equivalents consist of cash on hand, demand deposits, investments in the State of Georgia local government investment pool (Georgia Fund 1) and short-term investments with original maturities of three months or less from the date of acquisition in authorized financial institutions. Official Code of Georgia Annotated (O.C.G.A.) §45-8-14 authorizes the School District to deposit its funds in one or more solvent banks, insured Federal savings and loan associations or insured chartered building and loan associations.

**RECEIVABLES**

Receivables consist of amounts due from property and sales taxes, grant reimbursements due on Federal, State or other grants for expenditures made but not reimbursed and other receivables disclosed from information available. Receivables are recorded when either the asset or revenue recognition criteria has been met. Receivables recorded on the basic financial statements do not include any amounts which would necessitate the need for an allowance for uncollectible receivables.

**INVENTORIES**

**Food Inventories**

On the basic financial statements, inventories of donated food commodities used in the preparation of meals are reported at their Federally assigned value and purchased foods inventories are reported at cost (calculated on the first-in, first-out basis). The School District uses the consumption method to account for inventories whereby donated food commodities are recorded as an asset and as revenue when received, and expenses/expenditures are recorded as the inventory items are used. Purchased foods are recorded as an asset when purchased and expenses/expenditures are recorded as the inventory items are used.

**CAPITAL ASSETS**

On the government-wide financial statements, capital assets are recorded at cost where historical records are available and at estimated historical cost based on appraisals or deflated current replacement cost where no historical records exist. Donated capital assets are recorded at the acquisition value on the date donated. The cost of normal maintenance and repairs that do not add to the value of assets or materially extend the useful lives of the assets is not capitalized. The School District does not capitalize book collections or works of art.

Capital acquisition and construction are recorded as expenditures in the governmental fund financial statements at the time of purchase (including ancillary charges), and the related assets are reported as capital assets in the governmental activities column in the government-wide financial statements.

Depreciation is computed using the straight-line for all assets, except land, and is used to allocate the actual or estimated historical cost of capital assets over estimated useful lives.

Capitalization thresholds and estimated useful lives of capital assets reported in the government-wide statements are as follows:

	Capitalization Policy	Estimated Useful Life
Land	Any Amount	N/A
Land Improvements	\$ 100,000.00	20 to 50 years
Buildings and Improvements	\$ 50,000.00	15 to 50 years
Equipment	\$ 25,000.00	5 to 30 years
Intangible Assets	\$ 1,000,000.00	30 years

### DEFERRED OUTFLOWS/INFLOWS OF RESOURCES

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

In addition to liabilities, the statement of financial position will report a separate section for deferred inflows of resources. This separate financial statement element represents an acquisition of resources that applies to a future period(s) and therefore will not be recognized as an inflow of resources (revenue) until that time.

### LONG-TERM LIABILITIES

In the School District's government-wide financial statements, outstanding debt is reported as liabilities. Liabilities resulting from energy efficiency leases are reported at the amount that has been drawn down from the lessor to the extent that the project has been completed.

In the governmental fund financial statements, the School District recognizes the proceeds of energy efficiency leases as other financing sources of the current period.

### PENSIONS

For purposes of measuring the net pension liability, deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions, and pension expense, information about the pension plan's fiduciary net position and additions to/deductions from the plan's fiduciary net position have been determined on the same basis as they are reported by the plan. For this purpose, benefit payments (including refunds of employee contributions) are recognized when due and payable in accordance with the benefit terms. Investments are reported at fair value.

### POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS OTHER THAN PENSIONS (OPEB)

For purposes of measuring the net OPEB liability, deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB, and OPEB expense, information about the fiduciary net position of the Georgia School Employees Postemployment Benefit Fund (School OPEB Fund) and additions to/deductions from School OPEB Fund fiduciary net position have been determined on the same basis as they are reported by School OPEB Fund. For this purpose, benefit payments are recognized when due and payable in accordance with the benefit terms. Investments are reported at fair value.

### FUND BALANCES

Fund balance for governmental funds is reported in classifications that comprise a hierarchy based primarily on the extent to which the government is bound to honor constraints on the specific purposes for which amounts in those funds can be spent.

The School District's fund balances are classified as follows:

**Nonspendable** consists of resources that cannot be spent either because they are in a nonspendable form or because they are legally or contractually required to be maintained intact.

**Restricted** consists of resources that can be used only for specific purposes pursuant constraints either (1) externally imposed by creditors, grantors, contributors, or laws and regulations of other governments or (2) imposed by law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation.

**Committed** consists of resources that can be used only for specific purposes pursuant to constraints imposed by formal action of the Board. The Board is the School District's highest level of decision-making authority, and the formal action that is required to be taken to establish, modify, or rescind a fund balance commitment is a resolution approved by the Board. Committed fund balance also should incorporate contractual obligations to the extent that existing resources in the fund have been specifically committed for use in satisfying those contractual requirements.

**Assigned** consists of resources constrained by the School District's intent to be used for specific purposes, but are neither restricted nor committed. The intent should be expressed by (1) the Board or (2) the budget or finance committee, or the Superintendent, or designee, to assign amounts to be used for specific purposes.

**Unassigned** consists of resources within the general fund not meeting the definition of any aforementioned category. The general fund should be the only fund that reports a positive unassigned fund balance amount. In other governmental funds, it may be necessary to report a negative unassigned fund balance.

### **USE OF ESTIMATES**

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

### **PROPERTY TAXES**

The Lowndes County Board of Commissioners adopted the property tax levy for the 2017 tax digest year (calendar year) on August 14, 2017 (levy date) based on property values as of January 1, 2017. Taxes were due on November 15, 2017 (lien date). Taxes collected within the current fiscal year or within 60 days after year-end on the 2017 tax digest are reported as revenue in the governmental funds for fiscal year 2018. The Lowndes County Tax Commissioner bills and collects the property taxes for the School District. Property tax revenues, at the fund reporting level, during the fiscal year ended June 30, 2018, for maintenance and operations amounted to \$27,199,388.93.

The tax millage rate levied for the 2017 tax year (calendar year) for the School District was as follows (a mill equals \$1 per thousand dollars of assessed value):

School Operations	<u>16.839</u> mills
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Additionally, Title Ad Valorem Tax revenues, at the fund reporting level, amounted to \$735,427.78 during fiscal year ended June 30, 2018.

### **SALES TAXES**

Education Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (ESPLOST), at the fund reporting level, during the year amounted to \$12,043,535.18 and is to be used for capital outlay for educational purposes or debt service. This sales tax was authorized by local referendum and the sales tax must be re-authorized at least every five years.

### **NOTE 3: BUDGETARY DATA**

The budget is a complete financial plan for the School District's fiscal year, and is based upon careful estimates of expenditures together with probable funding sources. The budget is legally adopted each year for the general, debt service, and capital projects funds. There is no statutory prohibition regarding over expenditure of the budget at any level. The budget for all governmental funds, except the various school activity (principal) accounts, is prepared and adopted by fund, function and object. The legal level of budgetary control was established by the Board at the aggregate fund level. The budget for the general fund was prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

The budgetary process begins with the School District's administration presenting an initial budget for the Board's review. The administration makes revisions as necessary based on the Board's guidelines, and a tentative budget is approved. After approval of this tentative budget by the Board, such budget is advertised at least once in a newspaper of general circulation in the locality, as well as the School District's website. At the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board after advertisement, the Board receives comments on the tentative budget, makes revisions as necessary and adopts a final budget.

The approved budget is then submitted, in accordance with provisions of O.C.G.A. §20-2-167(c), to the Georgia Department of Education. The Board may increase or decrease the budget at any time during the year. All unexpended budget authority lapses at fiscal year-end.

Any position or expenditure not previously approved in the annual budget that exceeds \$25,000.00 shall require Board approval unless the Superintendent deems the position or purchase an emergency. In such case, the expenditure shall be reported to the Board at its regularly scheduled meeting. Under no circumstance is the Superintendent or other staff person authorized to spend funds that exceed the total budget without approval by the Board.

See the General Fund Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances – Budget to Actual in the Supplementary Information Section for a detail of any over/under expenditures during the fiscal year under review.

#### **NOTE 4: DEPOSITS AND CASH EQUIVALENTS**

##### **COLLATERALIZATION OF DEPOSITS**

O.C.G.A. § 45-8-12 provides that there shall not be on deposit at any time in any depository for a time longer than ten days a sum of money which has not been secured by surety bond, by guarantee of insurance, or by collateral. The aggregate of the face value of such surety bond and the market value of securities pledged shall be equal to not less than 110% of the public funds being secured after the deduction of the amount of deposit insurance. If a depository elects the pooled method (O.C.G.A. § 45-8-13.1) the aggregate of the market value of the securities pledged to secure a pool of public funds shall be not less than 110% of the daily pool balance.

Acceptable security for deposits consists of any one of or any combination of the following:

- (1) Surety bond signed by a surety company duly qualified and authorized to transact business within the State of Georgia,
- (2) Insurance on accounts provided by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation,
- (3) Bonds, bills, notes, certificates of indebtedness or other direct obligations of the United States or of the State of Georgia,
- (4) Bonds, bills, notes, certificates of indebtedness or other obligations of the counties or municipalities of the State of Georgia,
- (5) Bonds of any public authority created by the laws of the State of Georgia, providing that the statute that created the authority authorized the use of the bonds for this purpose,
- (6) Industrial revenue bonds and bonds of development authorities created by the laws of the State of Georgia, and
- (7) Bonds, bills, notes, certificates of indebtedness, or other obligations of a subsidiary corporation of the United States government, which are fully guaranteed by the United States government both as to principal and interest or debt obligations issued by or securities guaranteed by the Federal Land Bank, the Federal Home Loan Bank, the Federal Intermediate Credit Bank, the Central Bank for Cooperatives, the Farm Credit Banks, the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Association, and the Federal National Mortgage Association.

##### **CATEGORIZATION OF DEPOSITS**

Custodial credit risk is the risk that in the event of a bank failure, the School District's deposits may not be returned to it. The School District does not have a deposit policy for custodial credit risk. At June 30, 2018, the School District had deposits with a carrying amount of \$34,094,331.92, and a bank balance of \$35,025,546.83. The bank balances insured by Federal depository insurance were \$1,049,979.30 and the bank balances collateralized with securities held by the pledging financial institution's trust department or agent in the School District's name were \$33,795,506.00.

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At June 30, 2018, \$180,061.53 of the School District's bank balance was exposed to custodial credit risk as follows:

Uninsured and Uncollateralized	\$	-
Uninsured with collateral held by the pledging financial institution		-
Uninsured with collateral held by the pledging financial institution's trust department or agent but not in the School District's name		<u>180,061.53</u>
Total	\$	<u><u>180,061.53</u></u>

Reconciliation of cash and cash equivalents balances to carrying value of deposits:

Cash and cash equivalents		
Statement of Net Position	\$	36,845,814.78
Statement of Fiduciary Net Position		<u>687,803.41</u>
Total cash and cash equivalents		37,533,618.19
Less:		
Cash on hand		2,000.00
Investment pools reported as cash and cash equivalents		
Georgia Fund 1		<u>3,437,286.27</u>
Total carrying value of deposits - June 30, 2018	\$	<u><u>34,094,331.92</u></u>

**CATEGORIZATION OF CASH EQUIVALENTS**

The School District reported cash equivalents of \$3,437,286.27 in Georgia Fund 1, a local government investment pool. Georgia Fund 1 is not registered with the SEC as an investment company and does not operate in a manner consistent with the SEC's Rule 2a-7 of the Investment Company Act of 1940. The investment is valued at the pool's share price, \$1.00 per share, which approximates fair value. The pool is an AAf rated investment pool by Standard and Poor's. The weighted average maturity of Georgia Fund 1 may not exceed 60 days. The weighted average maturity for Georgia Fund 1 on June 30, 2018, was 10 days.

Georgia Fund 1, administered by the State of Georgia, Office of the State Treasurer, is not required to be categorized since the School District did not own any specific identifiable securities in the pool. The investment policy of the State of Georgia, Office of the State Treasurer for the Georgia Fund 1, does not provide for investment in derivatives or similar investments. Additional information on the Georgia Fund 1 is disclosed in the State of Georgia Comprehensive Annual Financial Report. This audit can be obtained from the Georgia Department of Audits and Accounts at [www.audits.ga.gov/SGD/CAFR.html](http://www.audits.ga.gov/SGD/CAFR.html).

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**NOTE 5: CAPITAL ASSETS**

The following is a summary of changes in the capital assets for governmental activities during the fiscal year:

	Balances July 1, 2017	Increases	Decreases	Balances June 30, 2018
Governmental Activities				
Capital Assets, Not Being Depreciated:				
Land	\$ 35,957,463.32	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 35,957,463.32
Construction in Progress	2,455,458.07	4,204,136.90	2,455,458.07	4,204,136.90
Total Capital Assets Not Being Depreciated	38,412,921.39	4,204,136.90	2,455,458.07	40,161,600.22
Capital Assets Being Depreciated				
Buildings and Improvements	161,242,953.49	5,416,164.29	-	166,659,117.78
Equipment	17,403,287.38	1,070,262.08	420,731.47	18,052,817.99
Land Improvements	17,226,971.40	-	-	17,226,971.40
Less Accumulated Depreciation for:				
Buildings and Improvements	42,102,049.49	3,300,565.48	-	45,402,614.97
Equipment	11,658,168.88	851,436.90	399,012.93	12,110,592.85
Land Improvements	5,515,837.07	437,886.77	-	5,953,723.84
Total Capital Assets, Being Depreciated, Net	136,597,156.83	1,896,537.22	21,718.54	138,471,975.51
Governmental Activity Capital Assets - Net	\$ 175,010,078.22	\$ 6,100,674.12	\$ 2,477,176.61	\$ 178,633,575.73

The capital assets above include significant amounts of construction in progress which have been valued at estimated historical cost. The estimated historical cost was based on normal costing.

Current year depreciation expense by function is as follows:

Instruction		\$ 3,216,150.05
Support Services		
Pupil Services	\$ 189,019.46	
Educational Media Services	70,664.86	
General Administration	84,024.66	
School Administration	18,019.50	
Business Administration	7,059.99	
Maintenance and Operation of Plant	98,840.26	
Student Transportation Services	575,069.35	
Central Support Services	1,229.21	
Other Support Services	1,280.25	1,045,207.54
Food Services		328,531.56
		\$ 4,589,889.15

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**NOTE 6: LONG-TERM LIABILITIES**

The changes in long-term liabilities during the fiscal year for governmental activities, were as follows:

	Governmental Activities				
	Balance July 1, 2017	Additions	Deductions	Balance June 30, 2018	Due Within One Year
General Obligation Bonds	\$ 7,545,000.00	\$ -	\$ 7,545,000.00	\$ -	\$ -
Energy Efficiency Leases	-	3,533,849.00	-	3,533,849.00	-
	<u>\$ 7,545,000.00</u>	<u>\$ 3,533,849.00</u>	<u>\$ 7,545,000.00</u>	<u>\$ 3,533,849.00</u>	<u>\$ -</u>

**GENERAL OBLIGATION DEBT OUTSTANDING**

The School District has no outstanding bonded debt, which would typically consist of various issues of general obligation bonds that are generally noncallable with interest payable semiannually. Bond proceeds primarily pay for acquiring or constructing capital facilities. The School District repays general obligation bonds from voter-approved sales taxes. General obligation bonds are direct obligations and pledge the full faith and credit of the School District.

Of the total amount originally authorized, \$50,000,000.00 remains unissued.

**OBLIGATIONS UNDER ENERGY EFFICIENCY LEASES**

An energy efficiency lease agreement dated May 9, 2018 was executed by and between the School District, the lessee, and Ameris Bank, the lessor. The agreement authorized the borrowing of \$10,032,031.00 for the purchase of energy efficiency equipment, machinery, supplies, building modifications and other energy saving items. Payments of the lease shall be made from the School District's capital projects fund.

Debt currently outstanding is as follows:

Purpose	Interest Rate	Issue Date	Maturity Date	Amount Issued	Amount Outstanding
Energy Savings Contract	3.58%	5/9/2018	5/1/2034	\$ 3,533,849.00	\$ 3,533,849.00

The following is a schedule of total energy efficiency lease payments:

Fiscal Year Ended June 30:	Principal	Interest
2019	\$ -	\$ 105,835.46
2020	182,063.16	126,511.79
2021	188,581.02	119,993.93
2022	195,332.22	113,242.73
2023	202,325.11	106,249.84
2024 - 2028	1,125,601.56	417,273.19
2029 - 2033	1,342,036.17	200,838.58
2034	297,909.76	10,665.19
Total Principal and Interest	<u>\$ 3,533,849.00</u>	<u>\$ 1,200,610.71</u>



**NOTE 7: RISK MANAGEMENT**

**INSURANCE**

**Commercial Insurance**

The School District is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to and destruction of assets; errors or omissions; job related illness or injuries to employees; and natural disasters. Except as described below, the School District carries commercial insurance for these risks. Settled claims resulting from these insured risks have not exceeded commercial insurance coverage in any of the past three fiscal years.

**UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION**

The School District is self-insured with regard to unemployment compensation claims. In connection with this program, a self-insurance reserve has been established within the general fund by the School District. The School District accounts for claims within the general fund with expenses/expenditures and liability being reported when it is probable that a loss has occurred, and the amount of that loss can be reasonably estimated. The School District had no unemployment claims in the past two fiscal years.

**SURETY BOND**

The School District purchased a surety bond to provide additional insurance coverage as follows:

<u>Position Covered</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Superintendent	\$ 25,000.00

**NOTE 8: FUND BALANCE CLASSIFICATION DETAILS**

The School District's financial statements include the following amounts presented in the aggregate at June 30, 2018:

Nonspendable			
Inventories		\$	295,244.06
Restricted			
Continuation of Federal Programs	\$	866,096.97	
Capital Projects		9,712,370.29	
Other		<u>231,660.00</u>	10,810,127.26
Committed			
School Activity Accounts			263,557.68
Assigned			
Self-Insurance			326,039.14
Unassigned			<u>22,453,198.12</u>
Fund Balance, June 30, 2018		\$	<u><u>34,148,166.26</u></u>

When multiple categories of fund balance are available for expenditure, the School District will start with the most restricted category and spend those funds first before moving down to the next category with available funds.

**NOTE 9: BROADBAND SPECTRUM LEASE**

Effective June 17, 2008, the School District entered into a 10-year lease agreement with Utopian Wireless Corporation, now Spectrum Holdings, for the lease of excess spectrum capacity on Education Broadband Service licenses currently held by School District. These licenses were granted to the



School District by the Federal Communications Commission. The lease agreement requires monthly lease payments over the term of the lease, of which \$9,000.00 was recognized during fiscal year 2018 as a general revenue on the Statement of Activities.

**NOTE 10: SIGNIFICANT COMMITMENTS**

**OPERATING LEASES**

The School District leases copiers under the provisions of one or more long-term lease agreements classified as operating leases for accounting purposes. Rental expenditures under the terms of the operating leases totaled \$166,950.00 for governmental activities for the year ended June 30, 2018.

The following future minimum lease payments were required under operating leases at June 30, 2018:

<u>Year Ending</u>	<u>Governmental Funds</u>
2019	\$ 166,950.00
2020	166,950.00
2021	<u>166,950.00</u>
Total	<u>\$ 500,850.00</u>

**NOTE 11: SIGNIFICANT CONTINGENT LIABILITIES**

**FEDERAL GRANTS**

Amounts received or receivable principally from the Federal government are subject to audit and review by grantor agencies. This could result in requests for reimbursement to the grantor agency for any costs which are disallowed under grant terms. Any disallowances resulting from the grantor audit may become a liability of the School District. However, the School District believes that such disallowances, if any, will be immaterial to its overall financial position.

**LITIGATION**

The School District is a defendant in various legal proceedings pertaining to matters incidental to the performance of routine School District operations. The ultimate disposition of these proceedings is not presently determinable, but is not believed to have a material adverse effect on the financial condition of the School District.

**NOTE 12: OTHER POST-EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS (OPEB)**

**GEORGIA SCHOOL PERSONNEL POST-EMPLOYMENT HEALTH BENEFIT FUND**

**Plan Description:** Certified teachers and non-certified public school employees of the School District as defined in §20-2-875 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated (O.C.G.A.) are provided OPEB through the School OPEB Fund - a cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit postemployment healthcare plan, reported as an employee trust fund and administered by a Board of Community Health (Board). Title 20 of the O.C.G.A. assigns the authority to establish and amend the benefit terms of the group health plan to the Board.

**Benefits Provided:** The School OPEB Fund provides healthcare benefits for retirees and their dependents due under the group health plan for public school teachers, including librarians, other certified employees of public schools, regional educational service agencies and non-certified public school employees. Retiree medical eligibility is attained when an employee retires and is immediately eligible to draw a retirement annuity from Employees' Retirement System (ERS), Georgia Judicial Retirement System (JRS), Legislative Retirement System (LRS), Teachers Retirement System (TRS) or Public School Employees Retirement System (PSERS). If elected, dependent coverage starts on the

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same day as retiree coverage. Medicare-eligible retirees are offered Standard and Premium Medicare Advantage plan options. Non-Medicare eligible retiree plan options include Health Reimbursement Arrangement (HRA), Health Maintenance Organization (HMO) and a High Deductible Health Plan (HDHP). The School OPEB Fund also pays for administrative expenses of the fund. By law, no other use of the assets of the School OPEB Fund is permitted.

**Contributions:** As established by the Board, the School OPEB Fund is substantially funded on a pay-as-you-go basis; that is, annual cost of providing benefits will be financed in the same year as claims occur. Contributions to the School OPEB Fund from the School District were \$2,984,969.00 for the year ended June 30, 2018. Active employees are not required to contribute to the School OPEB Fund.

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

At June 30, 2018, the School District reported a liability of \$81,348,143.00 for its proportionate share of the net OPEB liability. The net OPEB liability was measured as of June 30, 2017. The total OPEB liability used to calculate the net OPEB liability was based on an actuarial valuation as of June 30, 2016. An expected total OPEB liability as of June 30, 2017 was determined using standard roll-forward techniques. The School District's proportion of the net OPEB liability was actuarially determined based on employer contributions during the fiscal year ended June 30, 2017. At June 30, 2017, the School District's proportion was 0.578992%, which was a decrease of 0.008191% from its proportion measured as of June 30, 2016.

For the year ended June 30, 2018, the School District recognized OPEB expense of \$4,544,399.00. At June 30, 2018, the School District reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB from the following sources:

	OPEB	
	Deferred Outflows of Resources	Deferred Inflows of Resources
Changes of assumptions	\$ -	\$ 6,194,454.00
Net difference between projected and actual earnings on OPEB plan investments	23,793.00	-
Changes in proportion and differences between School District contributions and proportionate share of contributions	-	1,028,880.00
School District contributions subsequent to the measurement date	2,984,969.00	-
Total	\$ 3,008,762.00	\$ 7,223,334.00

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School District contributions subsequent to the measurement date of \$2,984,969.00 are reported as deferred outflows of resources and will be recognized as a reduction of the net OPEB liability in the year ended June 30, 2019. Other amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB will be recognized in OPEB expense as follows:

Year Ended June 30:	OPEB
2019	\$ (1,293,212.00)
2020	\$ (1,293,212.00)
2021	\$ (1,293,212.00)
2022	\$ (1,293,212.00)
2023	\$ (1,299,160.00)
2024	\$ (727,533.00)

**Actuarial assumptions:** The total OPEB liability as of June 30, 2017 was determined by an actuarial valuation as of June 30, 2016 using the following actuarial assumptions and other inputs, applied to all periods included in the measurement and rolled forward to the measurement date of June 30, 2017:

**OPEB:**

Inflation	2.75%
Salary increases	
ERS	3.25% - 7.00%, including inflation
JRS	4.50%, including inflation
LRS	None
TRS	3.25 – 9.00%, including inflation
PSERS	N/A
Long-term expected rate of return	3.88%, compounded annually, net of investment expense, and including inflation
Healthcare cost trend rate	
Pre-Medicare Eligible	7.75%
Medicare Eligible	5.75%
Ultimate trend rate	
Pre-Medicare Eligible	5.00%
Medicare Eligible	5.00%
Year of Ultimate trend rate	2022

Mortality rates were based on the RP-2000 Combined Mortality Table for Males or Females, as appropriate, with adjustments for mortality improvements based on Scale BB as follows:

- For ERS, JRS and LRS members: The RP-2000 Combined Mortality Table projected to 2025 with projection scale BB and set forward 2 years or both males and females is used for the period after service retirement and for dependent beneficiaries. The RP-2000 Disabled Mortality Table projected to 2025 with projection scale BB and set back 7 years for males and set forward 3 years for females is used for the period after disability retirement.

LOWNDES COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION  
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- For TRS members: The RP-2000 White Collar Mortality Table projected to 2025 with projection scale BB (set forward 1 year for males) is used for death after service retirement and beneficiaries. The RP-2000 Disabled Mortality Table projected to 2025 with projection scale BB (set forward two years for males and four years for females) is used for death after disability retirement.
- For PSERS members: The RP-2000 Blue-Collar Mortality Table projected to 2025 with projection scale BB (set forward 3 years for males and 2 years for females) is used for the period after service retirement and for beneficiaries of deceased members. The RP-2000 Disabled Mortality Table projected to 2025 with projection scale BB (set forward 5 years for both males and females) is used for the period after disability retirement.

The actuarial assumptions used in the June 30, 2016 valuation were based on the results of an actuarial experience study for the pension systems, which covered the five-year period ending June 30, 2014.

Projection of benefits for financial reporting purposes are based on the substantive plan (the plan as understood by the employer and plan members) and include the types of benefits provided at the time of each valuation and the historical pattern of sharing of benefit costs between the employer and plan members to that point. The actuarial methods and assumptions used include techniques that are designed to reduce the effects of short-term volatility in actuarial accrued liabilities and the actuarial value of assets, consistent with the long-term perspective of the calculation.

Additionally, there was a change of assumptions that affected measurement of the total OPEB liability since the prior measurement date. The methodology used to determine employee and retiree participation in the School OPEB Fund is based on their current or last employer payroll location. Current and former employees of public school districts, libraries, regional educational service agencies and community colleges are allocated to the School OPEB Fund irrespective of retirement system affiliation. In addition, the discount rate increased from 3.07% to 3.58%.

The long-term expected rate of return on OPEB plan investments was determined using a log-normal distribution analysis in which best-estimate ranges of expected future real rates of return (expected nominal returns, net of investment expense and the assumed rate of inflation) are developed for each major asset class. These ranges are combined to produce the long-term expected rate of return by weighting the expected future real rates of return by the target asset allocation percentage and by adding expected inflation. The target allocation and best estimates of arithmetic real rates of return for each major asset class are summarized in the following table:

<u>Asset Class</u>	<u>Target Allocation</u>	<u>Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return*</u>
Local Government Investment Pool	100.00%	1.13%

\*Rate shown is net of the 2.75% assumed rate of inflation.

**Discount rate:** In order to measure the total OPEB liability for the School OPEB Fund, a single equivalent interest rate of 3.58% was used as the discount rate. This is comprised mainly of the yield or index rate for 20 year tax-exempt general obligation municipal bonds with an average rating of AA or higher (3.56% per the Bond Buyers Index). The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed that contributions from members and from the employer will be made at the current level as averaged over the last five years, adjusted for annual projected changes in headcount. Projected future benefit payments for all current plan members were projected through 2115. Based on these assumptions, the OPEB plan's fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make OPEB payments for inactive employees through year 2029. Therefore, the calculated discount rate of 3.58% was applied to all periods of projected benefit payments to determine the total OPEB liability.

**Sensitivity of the District's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability to changes in the discount rate:** The following presents the School District's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability calculated using the discount rate of 3.58%, as well as what the District's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1-percentage-point lower (2.58%) or 1 percentage-point higher (4.58%) than the current discount rate:

	1% Decrease (2.58%)	Current Discount Rate (3.58%)	1% Increase (4.58%)
Net OPEB Liability	\$ 96,586,348.00	\$ 81,348,143.00	\$ 69,322,113.00

**Sensitivity of the District's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability to changes in the healthcare cost trend rates:** The following presents the School District's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability, as well as what the District's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability would be if it were calculated using healthcare cost trend rates that are 1-percentage-point lower or 1-percentage-point higher than the current healthcare cost trend rates:

	1% Decrease	Current Healthcare Cost Trend Rate	1% Increase
Net OPEB Liability	\$ 67,428,342.00	\$ 81,348,143.00	\$ 99,471,701.00

**OPEB plan fiduciary net position:** Detailed information about the OPEB plan's fiduciary net position is available in the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) which is publicly available at <https://sao.georgia.gov/comprehensive-annual-financial-reports>.

**NOTE 13: RETIREMENT PLANS**

The School District participates in various retirement plans administered by the State of Georgia, as further explained below.

**TEACHERS RETIREMENT SYSTEM OF GEORGIA (TRS)**

**Plan Description:** All teachers of the School District as defined in O.C.G.A §47-3-60 and certain other support personnel as defined by §47-3-63 are provided a pension through the Teachers Retirement System of Georgia (TRS). TRS, a cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan, is administered by the TRS Board of Trustees (TRS Board). Title 47 of the O.C.G.A. assigns the authority to establish and amend the benefit provisions to the State Legislature. The Teachers Retirement System of Georgia issues a publicly available separate financial report that can be obtained at [www.trsga.com/publications](http://www.trsga.com/publications).

**Benefits Provided:** TRS provides service retirement, disability retirement, and death benefits. Normal retirement benefits are determined as 2% of the average of the employee's two highest paid consecutive years of service, multiplied by the number of years of creditable service up to 40 years. An employee is eligible for normal service retirement after 30 years of creditable service, regardless of age, or after 10 years of service and attainment of age 60. Ten years of service is required for disability and death benefits eligibility. Disability benefits are based on the employee's creditable service and compensation up to the time of disability. Death benefits equal the amount that would be payable to the employee's beneficiary had the employee retired on the date of death. Death benefits are based on the employee's creditable service and compensation up to the date of death.

**Contributions:** Per Title 47 of the O.C.G.A., contribution requirements of active employees and participating employers, as actuarially determined, are established and may be amended by the TRS Board. Pursuant to O.C.G.A. §47-3-63, the employer contributions for certain full-time public school support personnel are funded on behalf of the employer by the State of Georgia. Contributions are expected to finance the costs of benefits earned by employees during the year, with an additional

amount to finance any unfunded accrued liability. Employees were required to contribute 6% of their annual pay during fiscal year 2018. The School District's contractually required contribution rate for the year ended June 30, 2018 was 16.81% of annual School District payroll, of which 16.76% of payroll was required from the School District and 0.05% of payroll was required from the State. For the current fiscal year, employer contributions to the pension plan were \$8,724,242.93 and \$26,389.38 from the School District and the State, respectively.

**PUBLIC SCHOOL EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM (PSERS)**

**Plan description:** PSERS is a cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan established by the Georgia General Assembly in 1969 for the purpose of providing retirement allowances for public school employees who are not eligible for membership in the Teachers Retirement System of Georgia. The ERS Board of Trustees, plus two additional trustees, administers PSERS. Title 47 of the O.C.G.A. assigns the authority to establish and amend the benefit provisions to the State Legislature. PSERS issues a publicly available financial report that can be obtained at [www.ers.ga.gov/formspubs/formspubs](http://www.ers.ga.gov/formspubs/formspubs).

**Benefits provided:** A member may retire and elect to receive normal monthly retirement benefits after completion of ten years of creditable service and attainment of age 65. A member may choose to receive reduced benefits after age 60 and upon completion of ten years of service.

Upon retirement, the member will receive a monthly benefit of \$14.75, multiplied by the number of years of creditable service. Death and disability benefits are also available through PSERS. Additionally, PSERS may make periodic cost-of-living adjustments to the monthly benefits. Upon termination of employment, member contributions with accumulated interest are refundable upon request by the member. However, if an otherwise vested member terminates and withdraws his/her member contribution, the member forfeits all rights to retirement benefits.

**Contributions:** The general assembly makes an annual appropriation to cover the employer contribution to PSERS on behalf of local school employees (bus drivers, cafeteria workers, and maintenance staff). The annual employer contribution required by statute is actuarially determined and paid directly to PSERS by the State Treasurer in accordance with O.C.G.A. §47-4-29(a) and 60(b). Contributions are expected to finance the costs of benefits earned by employees during the year, with an additional amount to finance any unfunded accrued liability.

Individuals who became members prior to July 1, 2012 contribute \$4 per month for nine months each fiscal year. Individuals who became members on or after July 1, 2012 contribute \$10 per month for nine months each fiscal year. The State of Georgia, although not the employer of PSERS members, is required by statute to make employer contributions actuarially determined and approved and certified by the PSERS Board of Trustees. The current fiscal year contribution was \$224,126.00.

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

At June 30, 2018, the School District reported a liability of \$83,116,285.00 for its proportionate share of the net pension liability for TRS.

The TRS net pension liability reflected a reduction for support provided to the School District by the State of Georgia for certain public school support personnel. The amount recognized by the School District as its proportionate share of the net pension liability, the related State of Georgia support, and the total portion of the net pension liability that was associated with the School District were as follows:

School District's proportionate share of the net pension liability	\$ 83,116,285.00
State of Georgia's proportionate share of the net pension liability associated with the School District	<u>288,258.00</u>
Total	<u>\$ 83,404,543.00</u>

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The net pension liability for TRS was measured as of June 30, 2017. The total pension liability used to calculate the net pension liability was based on an actuarial valuation as of June 30, 2016. An expected total pension liability as of June 30, 2017 was determined using standard roll-forward techniques. The School District's proportion of the net pension liability was based on contributions to TRS during the fiscal year ended June 30, 2017.

At June 30, 2017, the School District's TRS proportion was 0.447215%, which was an increase of 0.001753% from its proportion measured as of June 30, 2016.

At June 30, 2018, the School District did not have a PSERS liability for a proportionate share of the net pension liability because of a Special Funding Situation with the State of Georgia, which is responsible for the net pension liability of the plan. The amount of the State's proportionate share of the net pension liability associated with the School District is \$1,155,854.00.

The PSERS net pension liability was measured as of June 30, 2017. The total pension liability used to calculate the net pension liability was based on an actuarial valuation as of June 30, 2016. An expected total pension liability as of June 30, 2017 was determined using standard roll-forward techniques. The State's proportion of the net pension liability associated with the School District was based on actuarially determined contributions paid by the State during the fiscal year ended June 30, 2017.

For the year ended June 30, 2018, the School District recognized pension expense of \$9,321,335.00 for TRS and \$232,950.00 for PSERS and revenue of (\$1,703.00) for TRS and \$232,950.00 for PSERS. The revenue is support provided by the State of Georgia. For TRS the State of Georgia support is provided only for certain support personnel.

At June 30, 2018, the School District reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions from the following sources:

	TRS	
	Deferred Outflows of Resources	Deferred Inflows of Resources
Differences between expected and actual experience	\$ 3,109,061.00	\$ 313,672.00
Changes of assumptions	1,822,012.00	-
Net difference between projected and actual earnings on pension plan investments	-	571,979.00
Changes in proportion and differences between School District contributions and proportionate share of contributions	1,698,737.00	2,287,785.00
School District contributions subsequent to the measurement date	8,724,242.93	-
Total	\$ 15,354,052.93	\$ 3,173,436.00

LOWNDES COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION  
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 JUNE 30, 2018

EXHIBIT "1"

The School District contributions subsequent to the measurement date of \$8,724,242.93 for TRS are reported as deferred outflows of resources and will be recognized as a reduction of the net pension liability in the year ended June 30, 2019. Other amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions will be recognized in pension expense as follows:

Year Ended June 30:	TRS
2019	\$ (320,480.00)
2020	\$ 3,980,120.00
2021	\$ 1,870,545.00
2022	\$ (2,130,029.00)
2023	\$ 56,218.00

**Actuarial assumptions:** The total pension liability as of June 30, 2017 was determined by an actuarial valuation as of June 30, 2016, using the following actuarial assumptions, applied to all periods included in the measurement:

**Teachers Retirement System:**

Inflation	2.75%
Salary increases	3.25% – 9.00%, average, including inflation
Investment rate of return	7.50%, net of pension plan investment expense, including inflation

Post-retirement mortality rates were based on the RP-2000 White Collar Mortality Table with future mortality improvement projected to 2025 with the Society of Actuaries' projection scale BB (set forward one year for males) for service requirements and dependent beneficiaries. The RP-2000 Disabled Mortality table with future mortality improvement projected to 2025 with Society of Actuaries' projection scale BB (set forward two years for males and four years for females) was used for the death after disability retirement. Rates of mortality in active service were based on the RP-2000 Employee Mortality Table projected to 2025 with projection scale BB.

The actuarial assumptions used in the June 30, 2016 valuation were based on the results of an actuarial experience study for the period July 1, 2009 – June 30, 2014.

**Public School Employees Retirement System:**

Inflation	2.75%
Salary increases	N/A
Investment rate of return	7.50%, net of pension plan investment expense, including inflation

Post-retirement mortality rates were based on the RP-2000 Blue-Collar Mortality Table projected to 2025 with projection scale BB (set forward 3 years for males and 2 years for females) for the period after service retirements and for dependent beneficiaries. The RP-2000 Disabled Mortality projected to 2025 with projection scale BB (set forward 5 years for both males and females) was used for death after disability retirement. There is a margin for future mortality improvement in the tables used by the System. Based on the results of the most recent experience study adopted by the Board on December 17, 2015, the numbers of expected future deaths are 9-11% less than the actual number of deaths that occurred during the study period for healthy retirees and 9-11% less than expected under the selected table for disabled retirees. Rates of mortality in active service were based on the RP-2000 Employee Mortality Table projected to 2025 with projection scale BB.



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The actuarial assumptions used in the June 30, 2016 valuation were based on the results of an actuarial experience study for the period July 1, 2009 – June 30, 2014.

The long-term expected rate of return on TRS and PSERS pension plan investments was determined using a log-normal distribution analysis in which best-estimate ranges of expected future real rates of return (expected returns, net of pension plan investment expense and inflation) are developed for each major asset class. These ranges are combined to produce the long-term expected rate of return by weighting the expected future real rates of return by the target asset allocation percentage and by adding expected inflation. The target asset allocation and best estimates of arithmetic real rates of return for each major asset class are summarized in the following table:

Asset class	TRS Target allocation	PSERS Target allocation	Long-term expected real rate of return*
Fixed income	30.00%	30.00%	(0.50)%
Domestic large stocks	39.80%	37.20%	9.00%
Domestic mid stocks	3.70%	3.40%	12.00%
Domestic small stocks	1.50%	1.40%	13.50%
International developed market stocks	19.40%	17.80%	8.00%
International emerging market stocks	5.60%	5.20%	12.00%
Alternative	-	5.00%	10.50%
Total	100.00%	100.00%	

\* Rates shown are net of the 2.75% assumed rate of inflation

**Discount rate:** The discount rate used to measure the total TRS and PSERS pension liability was 7.50%. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed that plan member contributions will be made at the current contribution rate and that employer and nonemployer contributions will be made at rates equal to the difference between actuarially determined contribution rates and the member rate. Based on those assumptions, the TRS and PSERS 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 on pension plan investments was applied to all periods of projected benefit payments to determine the total pension liability.

**Sensitivity of the School District's proportionate share of the net pension liability to changes in the discount rate:** The following presents the School District's proportionate share of the net pension liability calculated using the discount rate of 7.50%, as well as what the School District's proportionate share of the net pension liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1-percentage-point lower (6.50%) or 1-percentage-point higher (8.50%) than the current rate:

Teachers Retirement System:	1% Decrease (6.50%)	Current Discount Rate (7.50%)	1% Increase (8.50%)
School District's proportionate share of the net pension liability	\$ 136,403,576.00	\$ 83,116,285.00	\$ 39,219,535.00

**Pension plan fiduciary net position:** Detailed information about the pension plan's fiduciary net position is available in the separately issued TRS and PSERS financial report which is publically available at [www.trsga.com/publications](http://www.trsga.com/publications) and <http://www.ers.ga.gov/formspubs/formspubs.html>.

**DEFINED CONTRIBUTION PLAN**

In 1982, Lowndes County Board of Education began an employer paid 403(b) annuity plan for the group of employees covered under the Public School Employees Retirement System (PSERS) and Teachers Retirement System (TRS). Recognizing that PSERS and TRS were limited defined contribution and defined benefit plans which did not provide for an adequate retirement for these groups of employees, it was the Board's desire to supplement the retirement of these groups.

LOWNDES COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION  
 NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
 JUNE 30, 2018

EXHIBIT "1"

The Board selected Metlife, Valic, Hartford, ABC Planmember Services, and Aspire as the providers of these plans. For each employee covered under PSERS, the Board began contributing to the plan an amount equal to 6 percent of the employee's base pay. In fiscal year 2012, the Board's contribution method for employees covered under TRS changed. The Board now matches up to 6% of the TRS covered employee's contribution.

The employee becomes vested in the plan upon enrollment.

Funds accumulated in the employer paid accounts are only available to the employee upon termination of employment with the Lowndes County Board of Education. Funds are available for financial hardships and loans.

Employer contributions for the current fiscal year and the preceding two fiscal years are as follows:

Fiscal Year	Percentage Contributed	Required Contribution
2018	100%	\$ 2,361,879.21
2017	100%	\$ 2,250,027.55
2016	100%	\$ 2,243,920.28

**NOTE 14: RESTATEMENT OF PRIOR YEAR NET POSITION**

For fiscal year 2018, the School District made prior period adjustments due to the adoption of GASB Statement No. 75, as described in "New Accounting Pronouncements", which require the restatement of the June 30, 2017 net position in Governmental Activities. The result is a decrease in net position at July 1, 2017 of \$84,003,285.00. This change is in accordance with generally accepted accounting procedures.

Net Position, July 1, 2017 as previously reported	\$ 129,269,671.30
Prior Period Adjustment - Implementation of GASB No. 75: Net OPEB Liability (measurement date)	(87,022,199.00)
Deferred Outflows - School District's Contributions made during fiscal year 2017	3,018,914.00
Net Position, July 1, 2017, as restated	\$ 45,266,386.30

**NOTE 15: TAX ABATEMENTS**

Lowndes County enters into property tax abatement agreements with local businesses for the purpose of attracting or retaining businesses within their jurisdictions. The abatements may be granted to any business located within or promising to relocate to Lowndes County.

For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2018, Lowndes County abated property taxes due to the School District that were levied on August 14, 2017 and due on November 15, 2017 totaling \$670,932.01. Included in that amount abated, the following are individual tax abatement agreements that each exceeded 10 percent of the total amount abated:

- A 66 percent property tax abatement to a manufacturing business. The abatement amounted to \$562,193.35.
- A 59 percent property tax abatement to a manufacturing business. The abatement amounted to \$81,872.07.

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LOWNDES COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION  
 REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION  
 SCHEDULE OF PROPORTIONATE SHARE OF THE NET PENSION LIABILITY  
 TEACHERS RETIREMENT SYSTEM OF GEORGIA  
 FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30

SCHEDULE "1"

Year Ended	School District's proportion of the net pension liability	School District's proportionate share of the net pension liability	State of Georgia's proportionate share of the net pension liability associated with the School District	Total	School District's covered payroll	School District's proportionate share of the net pension liability as a percentage of its covered payroll	Plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of the total pension liability
2018	0.447215%	\$ 83,116,285.00	\$ 288,258.00	\$ 83,404,543.00	\$ 51,541,736.58	161.26%	79.33%
2017	0.445462%	\$ 91,903,778.00	\$ 404,989.00	\$ 92,308,767.00	\$ 49,081,764.17	187.25%	76.06%
2016	0.455729%	\$ 69,380,215.00	\$ 322,292.00	\$ 69,702,507.00	\$ 48,328,246.43	143.56%	81.44%
2015	0.472880%	\$ 59,742,151.00	\$ 276,425.00	\$ 60,018,576.00	\$ 48,462,201.30	123.28%	84.03%

LOWNDES COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION  
 REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION  
 SCHEDULE OF PROPORTIONATE SHARE OF THE NET PENSION LIABILITY  
 PUBLIC SCHOOLS EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM OF GEORGIA  
 FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30

SCHEDULE "2"

Year Ended	School District's proportion of the net pension liability	School District's proportionate share of the net pension liability	State of Georgia's proportionate share of the net pension liability associated with the School District	Total	School District's covered payroll	School District's proportionate share of the net pension liability as a percentage of its covered payroll	Plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of the total pension liability
2018	0.00%	\$ -	\$ 1,155,854.00	\$ 1,155,854.00	\$ 3,347,217.25	N/A	85.69%
2017	0.00%	\$ -	\$ 1,557,188.00	\$ 1,557,188.00	\$ 3,311,113.05	N/A	81.00%
2016	0.00%	\$ -	\$ 995,219.00	\$ 995,219.00	\$ 3,203,849.09	N/A	87.00%
2015	0.00%	\$ -	\$ 892,608.00	\$ 892,608.00	\$ 3,334,625.24	N/A	88.29%

LOWNDES COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION  
 REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION  
 SCHEDULE OF PROPORTIONATE SHARE OF THE NET OPEB LIABILITY  
 SCHOOL OPEB FUND  
 FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30

SCHEDULE "3"

Year Ended	School District's proportion of the net OPEB liability	School District's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability	State of Georgia's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability associated with the School District	Total	School District's covered-employee payroll	School District's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability as a percentage of its covered- employee payroll	Plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of the total OPEB liability
2018	0.578992%	\$ 81,348,143.00	\$ -	\$ 81,348,143.00	\$ 39,004,767.42	208.56%	1.61%

LOWNDES COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION  
 REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION  
 SCHEDULE OF CONTRIBUTIONS  
 TEACHERS RETIREMENT SYSTEM OF GEORGIA  
 FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30

SCHEDULE "4"

Year Ended	Contractually required contribution	Contributions in relation to the contractually required contribution	Contribution deficiency (excess)	School District's covered payroll	Contribution as a percentage of covered payroll
2018	\$ 8,724,242.93	\$ 8,724,242.93	\$ -	\$ 52,061,341.15	16.76%
2017	\$ 7,329,501.63	\$ 7,329,501.63	\$ -	\$ 51,541,736.58	14.22%
2016	\$ 6,973,246.93	\$ 6,973,246.93	\$ -	\$ 49,081,764.17	14.21%
2015	\$ 6,325,782.68	\$ 6,325,782.68	\$ -	\$ 48,328,246.43	13.09%

LOWNDES COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION  
 REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION  
 SCHEDULE OF CONTRIBUTIONS  
 SCHOOL OPEB FUND  
 FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30

SCHEDULE "5"

Year Ended	Contractually required contribution	Contributions in relation to the contractually required contribution	Contribution deficiency (excess)	School District's covered-employee payroll	Contribution as a percentage of covered-employee payroll
2018	\$ 2,984,969.00	\$ 2,984,969.00	\$ -	\$ 40,289,120.69	7.41%



**Teachers Retirement System**

**Changes of assumptions:** In 2010 and later, the expectation of retired life mortality was changed to the RP-2000 Mortality Tables rather than the 1994 Group Annuity Mortality Table, which was used prior to 2010. In 2010, rates of withdrawal, retirement, disability and mortality were adjusted to more closely reflect actual experience. In 2010, assumed rates of salary increase were adjusted to more closely reflect actual and anticipated experience.

On November 18, 2015, the Board adopted recommended changes to the economic and demographic assumptions utilized by the System. Primary among the changes were the updates to rates of mortality, retirement, disability, withdrawal and salary increases. The expectation of retired life mortality was changed to RP-2000 White Collar Mortality Table with future mortality improvement projected to 2025 with the Society of Actuaries' projection scale BB (set forward one year for males).

**Public School Employees Retirement System**

**Changes of assumptions:** In 2010 and later, the expectation of retired life mortality was changed to the RP-2000 Mortality Tables rather than the 1994 Group Annuity Mortality Table, which was used prior to 2010. In 2010, rates of withdrawal, retirement, disability and mortality were adjusted to more closely reflect actual experience.

On December 17, 2015, the Board adopted recommended changes to the economic and demographic assumptions utilized by the System. Primary among the changes were the updates to rates of mortality, retirement and withdrawal. The expectation of retired life mortality was changed to the RP-2000 Blue Collar Mortality Table projected to 2025 with projection scale BB (set forward 3 years for males and 2 years for females).

**Postemployment Benefits Other Than Pensions (OPEB)**

**Changes of benefit terms:** In June 30, 2010 actuarial valuation, there was a change of benefit terms to require Medicare-eligible recipients to enroll in a Medicare Advantage plan to receive the State subsidy.

**Changes in assumptions :** In the revised June 30, 2017 actuarial valuation, there was a change relating to employee allocation. Employees were previously allocated based on their Retirement System membership, and currently employees are allocated based on their current employer payroll location. Additionally, there were changes to the discount rate and an increase in the investment rate of return due to a longer-term investment strategy.

In the June 30, 2015 actuarial valuation, decremental and underlying inflation assumptions were changed to reflect the Retirement Systems' experience studies.

In the June 30, 2012 actuarial valuation, a data audit was performed and data collection procedures and assumptions were changed.

LOWNDES COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION  
GENERAL FUND  
SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES  
BUDGET AND ACTUAL  
YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2018

SCHEDULE "7"

	NONAPPROPRIATED BUDGETS		ACTUAL AMOUNTS	VARIANCE OVER/UNDER
	ORIGINAL (1)	FINAL (1)		
<b>REVENUES</b>				
Property Taxes	\$ 26,003,943.00	\$ 26,003,943.00	\$ 28,026,326.32	\$ 2,022,383.32
Sales Taxes	415,330.00	415,330.00	560,800.43	145,470.43
State Funds	61,127,485.00	61,093,672.00	62,373,944.44	1,280,272.44
Federal Funds	9,959,839.00	10,063,043.00	9,188,697.23	(874,345.77)
Charges for Services	1,976,462.00	1,976,462.00	1,953,604.95	(22,857.05)
Investment Earnings	34,871.00	34,871.00	254,873.52	220,002.52
Miscellaneous	538,000.00	538,000.00	1,282,989.62	744,989.62
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>100,055,930.00</b>	<b>100,125,321.00</b>	<b>103,641,236.51</b>	<b>3,515,915.51</b>
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>				
<b>Current</b>				
Instruction	64,097,688.00	64,290,828.00	62,053,017.63	2,237,810.37
Support Services				
Pupil Services	4,441,478.00	4,380,086.00	4,354,686.18	25,399.82
Improvement of Instructional Services	3,259,037.00	3,272,824.00	3,469,756.81	(196,932.81)
Educational Media Services	1,408,503.00	1,408,503.00	1,393,107.49	15,395.51
General Administration	1,166,648.00	1,192,685.00	1,024,853.07	167,831.93
School Administration	4,635,852.00	4,647,518.00	4,669,519.15	(22,001.15)
Business Administration	1,526,295.00	1,526,295.00	1,536,637.68	(10,342.68)
Maintenance and Operation of Plant	7,478,957.00	7,459,932.00	7,791,364.05	(331,432.05)
Student Transportation Services	5,576,237.00	5,517,085.00	5,256,325.66	260,759.34
Central Support Services	999,397.00	998,953.00	1,011,983.54	(13,030.54)
Other Support Services	38,726.00	3,500.00	99,017.62	(95,517.62)
Food Services Operation	5,427,112.00	5,427,112.00	4,809,214.72	617,897.28
Enterprise Operations	-	-	183,900.78	(183,900.78)
Community Services Operations	-	-	4,225.70	(4,225.70)
Capital Outlay	-	-	193,962.74	(193,962.74)
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>100,055,930.00</b>	<b>100,125,321.00</b>	<b>97,851,572.82</b>	<b>2,273,748.18</b>
Excess of Revenues over (under) Expenditures	-	-	5,789,663.69	5,789,663.69
<b>OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)</b>				
Operating Transfers From Other Funds	-	55,761.00	-	(55,761.00)
Operating Transfers To Other Funds	-	(55,761.00)	-	55,761.00
<b>Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Net Change in Fund Balances</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>5,789,663.69</b>	<b>5,789,663.69</b>
Fund Balances - Beginning	12,737,518.31	18,198,314.60	18,646,132.28	447,817.68
Fund Balances - Ending	<u>\$ 12,737,518.31</u>	<u>\$ 18,198,314.60</u>	<u>\$ 24,435,795.97</u>	<u>\$ 6,237,481.37</u>

Notes to the Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances Budget and Actual

- (1) Original and Final Budget amounts do not include the budgeted revenues or expenditures of the various principal accounts. The actual revenues and expenditures of the various principal accounts are \$444,487.52 and \$450,166.12 respectively.

The accompanying schedule of revenues, expenditures and changes in fund balances budget and actual is presented on the modified accrual basis of accounting which is the basis of accounting used in the presentation of the fund financial statements.

LOWNDES COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION  
 SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS  
 YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2018

SCHEDULE "8"

FUNDING AGENCY PROGRAM/GRANT	CFDA NUMBER	PASS- THROUGH ENTITY ID NUMBER	EXPENDITURES IN PERIOD
Agriculture, U. S. Department of Child Nutrition Cluster Pass-Through From Georgia Department of Education Food Services			
School Breakfast Program	10.553	18185GA324N1099	\$ 867,293.86
National School Lunch Program	10.555	18185GA324N1100	<u>3,906,193.24</u>
Total U. S. Department of Agriculture			<u>4,773,487.10</u>
Education, U. S. Department of Direct			
Impact Aid	84.041		<u>285,249.44</u>
Special Education Cluster Pass-Through From Georgia Department of Education Special Education			
Grants to States	84.027	H027A170073	2,104,784.67
Preschool Grants	84.173	H173A170081	<u>94,193.00</u>
Total Special Education Cluster			<u>2,198,977.67</u>
Other Programs Pass-Through From Georgia Department of Education			
Career and Technical Education - Basic Grants to States	84.048	V048A170010	106,566.00
Education for Homeless Children and Youth	84.196	S196A170011	42,163.72
English Language Acquisition Grants	84.365	S365A160010	3,657.00
English Language Acquisition Grants	84.365	S365A170010	30,285.36
Supporting Effective Instruction State Grants	84.367	S367A170001	272,671.55
Migrant Education - State Grant Program	84.011	S011A160011	10,706.00
Migrant Education - State Grant Program	84.011	S011A170011	102,325.95
Student Support and Academic Enrichment Program	84.424A	S424A170011	55,761.00
Title I Grants to Local Educational Agencies	84.010	S010A160010	114,985.00
Title I Grants to Local Educational Agencies	84.010	S010A170010	<u>1,954,359.95</u>
Total Other Programs			<u>2,693,481.53</u>
Total U. S. Department of Education			<u>5,177,708.64</u>
Defense, U. S. Department of Direct			
Department of the Air Force R.O.T.C. Program - Air Force	12. UNKNOWN		<u>83,130.40</u>
Total Expenditures of Federal Awards			<u>\$ 10,034,326.14</u>

Notes to the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards

Note 1. Basis of Presentation

The accompanying schedule of expenditures of federal awards (the "Schedule") includes the federal award activity of the Lowndes County Board of Education (the "Board") under programs of the federal government for the year ended June 30, 2018. The information in this Schedule is presented in accordance with the requirements of Title 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (Uniform Guidance). Because the Schedule presents only a selected portion of the operations of the Board, it is not intended to and does not present the financial position or changes in net position of the Board.

Note 2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Expenditures reported on the Schedule are reported on the modified accrual basis of accounting. Such expenditures are recognized following, as applicable, either the cost principles in OMB Circular A-87, *Cost Principles for State, Local, and Indian Tribal Governments*, or the cost principles contained in Title 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards*, wherein certain types of expenditures are not allowable or are limited as to reimbursement. The Board has elected not to use the 10-percent de minimis indirect cost rate as allowed under the Uniform Guidance.

LOWNDES COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION  
SCHEDULE OF STATE REVENUE  
YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2018

SCHEDULE "9"

<u>AGENCY/FUNDING</u>	GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPE
	GENERAL FUND
<b>GRANTS</b>	
Bright From the Start:	
Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning	
Pre-Kindergarten Program	\$ 1,410,850.30
Education, Georgia Department of	
Quality Basic Education	
Direct Instructional Cost	
Kindergarten Program	3,539,356.00
Kindergarten Program - Early Intervention Program	303,669.00
Primary Grades (1-3) Program	8,230,090.00
Primary Grades - Early Intervention (1-3) Program	832,524.00
Upper Elementary Grades (4-5) Program	4,082,323.00
Upper Elementary Grades - Early Intervention (4-5) Program	698,748.00
Middle School (6-8) Program	7,578,632.00
High School General Education (9-12) Program	5,617,604.00
Vocational Laboratory (9-12) Program	1,792,926.00
Students with Disabilities	8,848,085.00
Gifted Student - Category VI	1,693,356.00
Remedial Education Program	131,645.00
Alternative Education Program	495,621.00
English Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL)	398,140.00
Media Center Program	1,209,893.00
20 Days Additional Instruction	368,304.00
Staff and Professional Development	200,100.00
Principal Staff and Professional Development	2,913.00
Indirect Cost	
Central Administration	1,522,930.00
School Administration	2,133,952.00
Facility Maintenance and Operations	2,683,083.00
Mid-term Adjustment hold harmless	128,504.00
Categorical Grants	
Pupil Transportation	
Regular	1,062,133.00
Nursing Services	212,718.00
Sparsity	(863,237.00)
Education Equalization Funding Grant	4,421,690.00
Other State Programs	
Food Services	139,560.00
GNETS State Grant	2,361,265.00
Math and Science Supplements	84,151.56
Military Counselors	40,468.00
Preschool Disability Services	223,708.00
Pupil Transportation - State Bonds	77,319.58
Teacher of the Year	507.25
Teachers Retirement	26,389.38
Vocational Education	126,611.00
Vocational Supervisors	33,006.00
Georgia Student Finance Commission	
Move On When Ready Transportation Grant	(29,459.35)
Governor's Office of Student Achievement	
After School Program	60,250.91
Innovation Fund	269,488.81
Office of the State Treasurer	
Public School Employees Retirement	224,126.00
	\$ 62,373,944.44

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LOWNDES COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION  
SCHEDULE OF APPROVED LOCAL OPTION SALES TAX PROJECTS  
YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2018

SCHEDULE "10"

PROJECT	ORIGINAL ESTIMATED COST (1)	CURRENT ESTIMATED COSTS (2)	AMOUNT EXPENDED IN CURRENT YEAR (3) (4)	AMOUNT EXPENDED IN PRIOR YEARS (3) (4)	TOTAL COMPLETION COST	EXCESS PROCEEDS NOT EXPENDED	ESTIMATED COMPLETION DATE
<b>SPLOST IV PROJECTS</b>							
(a) Retiring previously incurred general obligation debt of the School District	\$ 39,200,000.00	\$ 44,855,000.00	\$ 7,545,000.00	\$ 37,310,000.00	\$ 44,955,000.00	\$ -	Completed
(b) the addition, renovation, repair and improvement to existing school buildings and facilities, including, but not limited to, all existing elementary and middle schools and Lowndes High School	39,942,150.00	15,000,000.00	7,613,495.21	7,178,392.85	-	-	June 2019
(c) planning and design of new school buildings and facilities, including, but not limited to, a new high school and a new auditorium/performing arts facility	780,000.00	780,000.00	-	-	-	-	June 2019
(d) the acquisition of technology equipment, security and safety equipment, textbooks, band and other musical instruments, vocational equipment and physical education and athletic equipment	9,552,850.00	9,552,850.00	2,285,121.94	6,389,596.50	-	-	June 2019
(e) the acquisition of school vehicles, including, but not limited to, school buses and maintenance vehicles and equipment	5,400,000.00	3,300,000.00	1,006,007.22	2,024,354.06	-	-	June 2019
(f) the acquisition of any property necessary and desirable therefore, both real and personal	-	450,000.00	76,054.84	341,260.80	-	-	June 2019
(g) the repayment of general obligation debt incurred through temporary loans for capital outlay project expenses	-	-	-	-	-	-	
<b>TOTAL SPLOST IV PROJECTS</b>	<b>94,875,000.00</b>	<b>73,937,850.00</b>	<b>18,525,679.21</b>	<b>53,243,604.21</b>	<b>44,955,000.00</b>	<b>-</b>	
<b>SPLOST V PROJECTS</b>							
(a) Retiring previously incurred general obligation debt of the School District	15,000,000.00	15,000,000.00	-	-	-	-	June 2023
(b) planning and construction of new facilities, including a fine arts facility, an elementary school and a high school	38,000,000.00	38,000,000.00	-	-	-	-	June 2023
(c) the addition, renovation, repair and improvement to existing school buildings, facilities, and grounds, including, but not limited to, all existing elementary schools, middle schools and high school	780,000.00	780,000.00	-	-	-	-	June 2023
(d) equipping and furnishing system-wide new construction, additions, and renovations	1,500,000.00	1,500,000.00	-	-	-	-	June 2023
(e) the acquisition of school vehicles, including but not limited to, school buses, maintenance vehicles and equipment	5,000,000.00	5,000,000.00	-	-	-	-	June 2023
(f) system-wide technology improvements	10,110,000.00	10,110,000.00	-	-	-	-	June 2023
(g) acquisition of security and safety equipment and/or fencing	1,500,000.00	1,500,000.00	-	-	-	-	June 2023
(h) textbooks (including e-books) and related instructional software, band and other musical instruments, vocational equipment and physical education and athletic equipment	3,500,000.00	3,500,000.00	-	-	-	-	June 2023
(i) renovations and modifications of athletic facilities, and acquisition of any property necessary and desirable for new construction, expansion and/or improvement of existing facilities, both real and personal	750,000.00	750,000.00	-	-	-	-	June 2023
<b>TOTAL SPLOST V PROJECTS</b>	<b>76,140,000.00</b>	<b>76,140,000.00</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 171,015,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 150,077,850.00</b>	<b>\$ 18,525,679.21</b>	<b>\$ 53,243,604.21</b>	<b>\$ 44,955,000.00</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	

- (1) The School District's original cost estimate as specified in the resolution calling for the imposition of the Local Option Sales Tax.
- (2) The School District's current estimate of total cost for the projects. Includes all cost from project inception to completion.
- (3) The voters of Lowndes County approved the imposition of a 1% sales tax to fund the above projects and retire associated debt. Amounts expended for these projects may include sales tax proceeds, state, local property taxes and/or other funds over the life of the projects.
- (4) In addition to the expenditures shown above, the School District has incurred interest to provide advance funding for the above projects as follows:

Prior Years	\$ 18,437,179.92
Current Year	<u>269,809.20</u>
Total	<u>\$ 18,706,989.12</u>

SECTION II

COMPLIANCE AND INTERNAL CONTROL REPORTS



## DEPARTMENT OF AUDITS AND ACCOUNTS

270 Washington Street, S.W., Suite 1-156  
Atlanta, Georgia 30334-8400

**Greg S. Griffin**  
STATE AUDITOR  
(404) 656-2174

March 26, 2019

The Honorable Brian P. Kemp, Governor of Georgia  
Members of the General Assembly of the State of Georgia  
Members of the State Board of Education  
and  
Superintendent and Members of the  
Lowndes County Board of Education

### **INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS BASED ON AN AUDIT OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS**

We have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Lowndes County Board of Education (School District), as of and for the year ended June 30, 2018, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the School District's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated March 26, 2019.

#### **Internal Control Over Financial Reporting**

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the School District's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) to determine the audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the School District's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the School 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 combination of deficiencies, in internal control, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the entity's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected on a timely basis. A *significant deficiency* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses may exist that have not been identified.



## Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the School 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 determination of financial statement amounts. 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 School 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 School District's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Greg S. Griffin". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a horizontal line extending to the right.

Greg S. Griffin  
State Auditor



# DEPARTMENT OF AUDITS AND ACCOUNTS

270 Washington Street, S.W., Suite 1-156  
Atlanta, Georgia 30334-8400

**Greg S. Griffin**  
STATE AUDITOR  
(404) 656-2174

March 26, 2019

The Honorable Brian P. Kemp, Governor of Georgia  
Members of the General Assembly of the State of Georgia  
Members of the State Board of Education  
and  
Superintendent and Members of the  
Lowndes County Board of Education

## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON COMPLIANCE FOR EACH MAJOR FEDERAL PROGRAM AND ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER COMPLIANCE REQUIRED BY THE UNIFORM GUIDANCE

### Report on Compliance for Each Major Federal Program

We have audited the Lowndes County Board of Education's (School District) compliance with the types of compliance requirements described in the *OMB Compliance Supplement* that could have a direct and material effect on each of its major federal programs for the year ended June 30, 2018. The School District's major federal program is identified in the *Summary of Auditor's Results* section of the accompanying *Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs*.

### ***Management's Responsibility***

Management is responsible for compliance with federal statutes, regulations, and the terms and conditions of its federal awards applicable to its federal programs.

### ***Auditor's Responsibility***

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on compliance for each of the School District's major federal program based on our audit of the types of compliance requirements referred to above. We conducted our audit of compliance in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America; the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States; and the audit requirements of Title 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (Uniform Guidance). Those standards and the Uniform Guidance require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether noncompliance with the types of compliance requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on a major federal program occurred. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence about the School District's compliance with those requirements and performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances.

We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion on compliance for each major federal program. However, our audit does not provide a legal determination of the School District's compliance.

### ***Opinion on Each Major Federal Program***

In our opinion, the School District complied, in all material respects, with the types of compliance requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on each of its major federal program for the year ended June 30, 2018.

### **Report on Internal Control over Compliance**

Management of the School District is responsible for establishing and maintaining effective internal control over compliance with the types of compliance requirements referred to above. In planning and performing our audit of compliance, we considered the School District's internal control over compliance with the types of requirements that could have a direct and material effect on the major federal program to determine the auditing procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing an opinion on compliance for the major federal program and to test and report on internal control over compliance in accordance with the Uniform Guidance, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control over compliance. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the School District's internal control over compliance.

*A deficiency in internal control over compliance* exists when the design or operation of a control over compliance does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, noncompliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program on a timely basis. *A material weakness in internal control over compliance* is a deficiency, or combination of deficiencies, in internal control over compliance, such that there is a reasonable possibility that material noncompliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. *A significant deficiency in internal control over compliance* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control over compliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program that is less severe than a material weakness in internal control over compliance, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control over compliance was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control over compliance that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. We did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over compliance that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses may exist that have not been identified.

The purpose of this report on internal control over compliance is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over compliance and the results of that testing based on the requirements of the Uniform Guidance. Accordingly, this report is not suitable for any other purpose.

Respectfully submitted,



Greg S. Griffin  
State Auditor

SECTION III

AUDITEE'S RESPONSE TO PRIOR YEAR FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS

LOWNDES COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION  
AUDITEE'S RESPONSE  
SUMMARY SCHEDULE OF PRIOR YEAR FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS  
YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2018

PRIOR YEAR FINANCIAL STATEMENT FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS

No matters were reported.

PRIOR YEAR FEDERAL AWARD FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS

No matters were reported.

SECTION IV

FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS

LOWNDES COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION  
SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS  
YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2018

**I SUMMARY OF AUDITOR'S RESULTS**

**Financial Statements**

Type of auditor's report issue: Governmental Activities; General Fund; Capital Projects Fund; Debt Service Fund; Aggregate Remaining Fund Information	Unmodified
Internal control over financial reporting:	
▪ Material weakness identified?	No
▪ Significant deficiency identified?	None Reported
Noncompliance material to financial statements noted:	No

**Federal Awards**

Internal Control over major programs:	
▪ Material weakness identified?	No
▪ Significant deficiency identified?	None Reported
Type of auditor's report issued on compliance for major programs: All major programs	Unmodified
Any audit findings disclosed that are required to be reported in accordance with 2 CFR 200.516(a)?	No
Identification of major programs:	
<u>CFDA Numbers</u>	<u>Name of Federal Program or Cluster</u>
10.553, 10.555	Child Nutrition Cluster
Dollar threshold used to distinguish between Type A and Type B programs:	\$750,000.00
Auditee qualified as low-risk auditee?	No

**II FINANCIAL STATEMENT FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS**

No matters were reported.

**III FEDERAL AWARD FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS**

No matters were reported.