

### LOWNDES COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION VALDOSTA, GEORGIA

ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2013 (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 Atlanta, Georgia 30334-8400

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

May 1, 2014

Honorable Nathan Deal, Governor Members of the General Assembly Members of the State Board of Education and Superintendent and Members of the Lowndes County Board of Education

#### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Ladies and Gentlemen:

#### 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 (Exhibits A through I) of the Lowndes County Board of Education, as of and for the year ended June 30, 2013, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Board'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 of 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 previously present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Lowndes County Board of Education, as of June 30, 2013, and the respective changes in financial position thereof 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 2013, the Lowndes County Board of Education adopted new accounting guidance, Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 63, *Financial Reporting of Deferred Outflows of Resources, Deferred Inflows of Resources, and Net Position.* Our opinion is not modified with respect to this matter.

#### Other Matters

#### Required Supplementary Information

Management has omitted the Management's Discussion and Analysis that accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require to be presented to supplement the basic Such missing information, although not a part of the basic financial financial statements. 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. Our opinion on the basic financial statements is not affected by this missing information. Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances -Budget and Actual, as presented on page 27, 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 regarding the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We 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 Lowndes County Board of Education's basic financial statements. The accompanying supplementary information, consisting of Schedules 2 through 5, 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 U. S. Office of Management and Budget Circular A-133, *Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations,* and is 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 as a whole.

#### Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated May 1, 2014, on our consideration of the Lowndes County Board of Education'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 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 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 Lowndes County Board of Education'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,

Breg & Briggin

Greg S. Griffin State Auditor

GSG:as 2013ARL-11



	-	GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES
ASSETS .		
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$	12,102,963.25
Investments		9,450,552.11
Accounts Receivable, Net		
Taxes		2,352,465.76
State Government		6,307,473.51
Federal Government		1,075,282.77
Other		210,317.76
Inventories		219,945.67
Prepaid Items		4,002.76
Capitalized Bond and Other Debt Issuance Costs		144,652.88
Other Current Assets		850.00
Capital Assets, Non-Depreciable		36,010,947.37
Capital Assets, Depreciable (Net of Accumulated Depreciation)	-	151,574,262.47
Total Assets	\$_	219,453,716.31
<u>LIABILITIES</u>		
Accounts Payable	\$	2,437,422.47
Salaries and Benefits Payable		10,504,837.04
Payroll Withholdings Payable		332,080.57
Interest Payable		629,516.77
Contracts Payable		67,666.28
Retainages Payable		7,518.47
Deposits and Deferred Revenues		220,920.02
Long-Term Liabilities		
Due Within One Year		6,811,066.37
Due in More Than One Year	-	29,326,908.49
Total Liabilities	\$_	50,337,936.48
NET POSITION		
Net Investment in Capital Assets	\$	166,708,068.49
Restricted for		
Bus Replacement		10,045.88
Continuation of Federal Programs		1,661,397.51
Debt Service		7,899,753.23
Capital Projects		1,775,616.98
Unrestricted (Deficit)	-	-8,939,102.26
Total Net Position	\$	169,115,779.83
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#### LOWNDES COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2013

	-		
	 EXPENSES	CHARGES FOR SERVICES	
GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES			
Instruction	\$ 59,777,573.03 \$	597,603.54	
Support Services			
Pupil Services	3,314,860.26		
Improvement of Instructional Services	2,969,379.02		
Educational Media Services	1,317,081.58		
General Administration	1,056,798.05		
School Administration	4,478,934.57		
Business Administration	774,211.12		
Maintenance and Operation of Plant	7,106,873.86		
Student Transportation Services	5,070,242.05		
Central Support Services	616,149.53		
Other Support Services	149,505.27		
Operations of Non-Instructional Services			
Enterprise Operations	207,539.55		
Community Services	1,512.46		
Food Services	5,860,350.48	1,307,863.89	
Interest on Short-Term and Long-Term Debt	 1,822,136.71		
Total Governmental Activities	\$ 94,523,147.54 \$	1,905,467.43	

General Revenues

Taxes

Property Taxes

For Maintenance and Operations

Sales Taxes

Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax

For Debt Services

For Capital Projects

Other Sales Tax

Grants and Contributions not Restricted to Specific Programs

Investment Earnings

Miscellaneous

Transfers

Total General Revenues and Transfers

Change in Net Position

Net Position - Beginning of Year

Net Position - End of Year

PROGRAM REVENUES			NET (EXPENSES)
OPERATING	CAPITAL		REVENUES
GRANTS AND	GRANTS AND		AND CHANGES IN
CONTRIBUTIONS	CONTRIBUTIONS	_	NET POSITION
\$ 37,935,107.46		\$	-21,244,862.03
948,664.83			-2,366,195.43
2,292,727.61			-676,651.41
1,418,287.54			101,205.96
1,821,826.60			765,028.55
2,929,016.73			-1,549,917.84
65,276.62			-708,934.50
3,479,141.57			-3,627,732.29
1,519,889.64	\$ 457,317.00		-3,093,035.41
39,867.39			-576,282.14
66,204.10			-83,301.17
			-207,539.55
			-1,512.46
3,635,823.04			-916,663.55
		-	-1,822,136.71
\$ 56,151,833.13	\$ 457,317.00	\$	-36,008,529.98
		\$	20,655,067.49
			11,513,088.81
			672,031.12
			562,052.24
			3,710,273.82
			70,653.31
			1,306,726.17
		_	-35,484.65
		\$_	38,454,408.31
		\$	2,445,878.33
		_	166,669,901.50
		\$_	169,115,779.83

## LOWNDES COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION BALANCE SHEET GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS JUNE 30, 2013

<u>ASSETS</u>	_	GENERAL FUND	_	DISTRICT- WIDE CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND	_	DEBT SERVICE FUND	_	TOTAL
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$	9,250,779.76	¢	407.070.50	ф	2 424 210 07	ф	12,102,963.25
Investments	Ф	1,258,562.57	Ф	427,972.52 2,084,691.87	Ф	2,424,210.97 6,107,297.67	Ф	9,450,552.11
Accounts Receivable, Net								
Taxes		1,337,513.95		1,014,951.81				2,352,465.76
State Government Federal Government		6,307,473.51 1,075,282.77						6,307,473.51 1,075,282.77
Other		210,317.76						210,317.76
Inventories		219,945.67						219,945.67
Prepaid Items		4,002.76						4,002.76
Other Current Assets	-	850.00	_		_		_	850.00
Total Assets	\$_	19,664,728.75	\$_	3,527,616.20	\$_	8,531,508.64	\$_	31,723,853.59
Accounts Payable Salaries and Benefits Payable Payroll Withholdings Payable Contracts Payable	\$	1,950,578.58 10,504,837.04 332,080.57	\$	486,843.89 67.666.28	\$	0.00	\$	2,437,422.47 10,504,837.04 332,080.57 67,666.28
Retainages Payable				7,518.47				7,518.47
Deposits and Deferred Revenue	_	870,172.40	_		_		_	870,172.40
Total Liabilities	\$_	13,657,668.59	\$_	562,028.64	\$_	0.00	\$_	14,219,697.23
FUND BALANCES								
Nonspendable	\$	223,948.43					\$	223,948.43
Restricted		1,511,906.78	\$	2,965,587.56	\$	8,531,508.64		13,009,002.98
Committed		186,561.81						186,561.81
Assigned		52,819.59						52,819.59
Unassigned	=	4,031,823.55	-		-		-	4,031,823.55
Total Fund Balances	\$_	6,007,060.16	\$_	2,965,587.56	\$_	8,531,508.64	\$_	17,504,156.36
Total Liabilities and Fund Balances	\$_	19,664,728.75	\$_	3,527,616.20	\$ _	8,531,508.64	\$ _	31,723,853.59

### LOWNDES COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION RECONCILIATION OF THE GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS BALANCE SHEET TO THE STATEMENT OF NET POSITION JUNE 30, 2013

Total Fund Balances - Governmental Funds (Exhibit "C")

17,504,156.36

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 as assets in governmental funds. These assets consist of:

Land	\$ 35,891,580.22
Construction in Progress	119,367.15
Land Improvements	16,385,274.47
Buildings	162,761,231.58
Equipment	17,150,551.96
Accumulated Depreciation	-44,722,795.54

Total Capital Assets 187,585,209.84

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

649,252.38

Long-Term Liabilities, including Bonds Payable, are not due and payable in the current period and therefore are not reported as liabilities in the funds.

Long-Term Liabilities at year-end consist of:

Bonds Payable	\$	-34,775,000.00
Accrued Interest Payable		-629,516.77
Capital Leases Payable		-631,536.28
Bond Issuance Costs, Net of Amortization		144,652.88
Bond Premiums, Net of Amortization		-731,438.58
Total Long-Term Liabilities	_	

-36,622,838.75

Net Position of Governmental Activities (Exhibit "A")

\$ 169,115,779.83

### LOWNDES COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2013

	-	GENERAL FUND	DISTRICT- WIDE CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND	 DEBT SERVICE FUND	-	TOTAL
REVENUES						
Property Taxes Sales Taxes State Funds Federal Funds	\$	20,839,649.01 562,052.24 51,205,682.12 9,113,741.83	672,031.12	\$ 11,513,088.81	\$	20,839,649.01 12,747,172.17 51,205,682.12 9,113,741.83
Charges for Services Investment Earnings Miscellaneous	-	1,905,467.43 46,472.71 1,306,726.17	16,883.11	 7,297.49	_	1,905,467.43 70,653.31 1,306,726.17
Total Revenues	\$_	84,979,791.51	688,914.23	\$ 11,520,386.30	\$_	97,189,092.04
EXPENDITURES						
Current Instruction	\$	56,098,289.25	\$ 538,433.67		\$	56,636,722.92
Support Services Pupil Services Improvement of Instructional Services Educational Media Services General Administration School Administration Business Administration Maintenance and Operation of Plant Student Transportation Services Central Support Services Other Support Services Enterprise Operations Community Services Food Services Operation Capital Outlay Debt Services Principal Dues and Fees Interest		3,142,432.25 2,970,457.16 1,244,581.42 980,505.19 4,462,624.44 781,939.55 7,152,054.03 5,239,664.43 617,667.55 148,285.20 207,614.91 1,513.01 5,530,021.64 12,930.00	6,905.00 886,405.42 50,861.47 497,089.81 166,298.72	10,080,000.00 5,637.19 2,018,980.00		3,142,432.25 2,970,457.16 1,244,581.42 980,505.19 4,462,624.44 781,939.55 7,158,959.03 6,126,069.85 668,529.02 148,285.20 207,614.91 1,513.01 5,530,021.64 510,019.81 10,246,298.72 5,637.19 2,018,980.00
Total Expenditures	\$	88,590,580.03	\$ 2,145,994.09	\$ 12,104,617.19	\$	102,841,191.31
Excess of Revenues over (under) Expenditures	\$_	-3,610,788.52	-1,457,079.86	\$ -584,230.89	\$_	-5,652,099.27
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)						
Capital Leases Transfers Out	\$_	-35,484.65	797,835.00	\$ 0.00	\$	797,835.00 -35,484.65
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	\$_	-35,484.65	797,835.00	\$ 0.00	\$_	762,350.35
Net Change in Fund Balances	\$	-3,646,273.17	-659,244.86	\$ -584,230.89	\$	-4,889,748.92
Fund Balances - Beginning	-	9,653,333.33	3,624,832.42	 9,115,739.53	-	22,393,905.28
Fund Balances - Ending	\$ <u>-</u>	6,007,060.16	2,965,587.56	\$ 8,531,508.64	\$	17,504,156.36

The notes to the basic financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

#### EXHIBIT "F"

-4 889 748 92

10,675,783.15

### 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, 2013

Amounts reported for Governmental Activities in the Statement of Activities are different because: Capital Outlays are reported as expenditures in Governmental Funds. However, in the Statement of Activities, the cost of Capital Assets is allocated over their estimated useful lives as depreciation expense. In the current period, these amounts are: Capital Outlay 2.086.312.15 Depreciation Expense -4,536,984.36 Excess of Capital Outlay over Depreciation Expense -2,450,672.21 Taxes reported in the Statement of Activities that do not provide current financial resources are not reported as revenues in the funds. -184,581.52 Bond issuance costs, deferred gains on refundings and similar items when debt is first issued are reported as an expenditure in Governmental Funds, but are reported as deferred charges on the Statement of Net Position and amortized over the term of the debt, using the straight-line method. The details of this difference in the current period are as follows: Amortization of Bond Issuance Costs -109,547.65 Some of the Capital Assets acquired this year were financed with capital leases. In Governmental Funds, a capital lease arrangement is considered a source of financing, but in the Statement of Net Position, the lease obligation is -797,835.00 reported as a Long-Term Liability.

 Bond Principal Retirements
 \$ 10,080,000.00

 Capital Lease Payments
 166,298.72

 Amortized Bond Premium
 429,484.43

 Total Long-Term Debt Repayments
 429,484.43

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. These activities consist of:

Repayment of Long-Term Debt is reported as an expenditure in Governmental Funds, but the repayment reduces Long-Term Liabilities in the Statement of

Net Position. In the current year, these amounts consist of:

Total Net Change in Fund Balances - Governmental Funds (Exhibit "E")

Net Decrease in Accrued Interest on Issuance of Bonds 202,480.48

Change in Net Position of Governmental Activities (Exhibit "B") \$ 2,445,878.33

#### LOWNDES COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION STATEMENT OF FIDUCIARY NET POSITION FIDUCIARY FUNDS JUNE 30, 2013

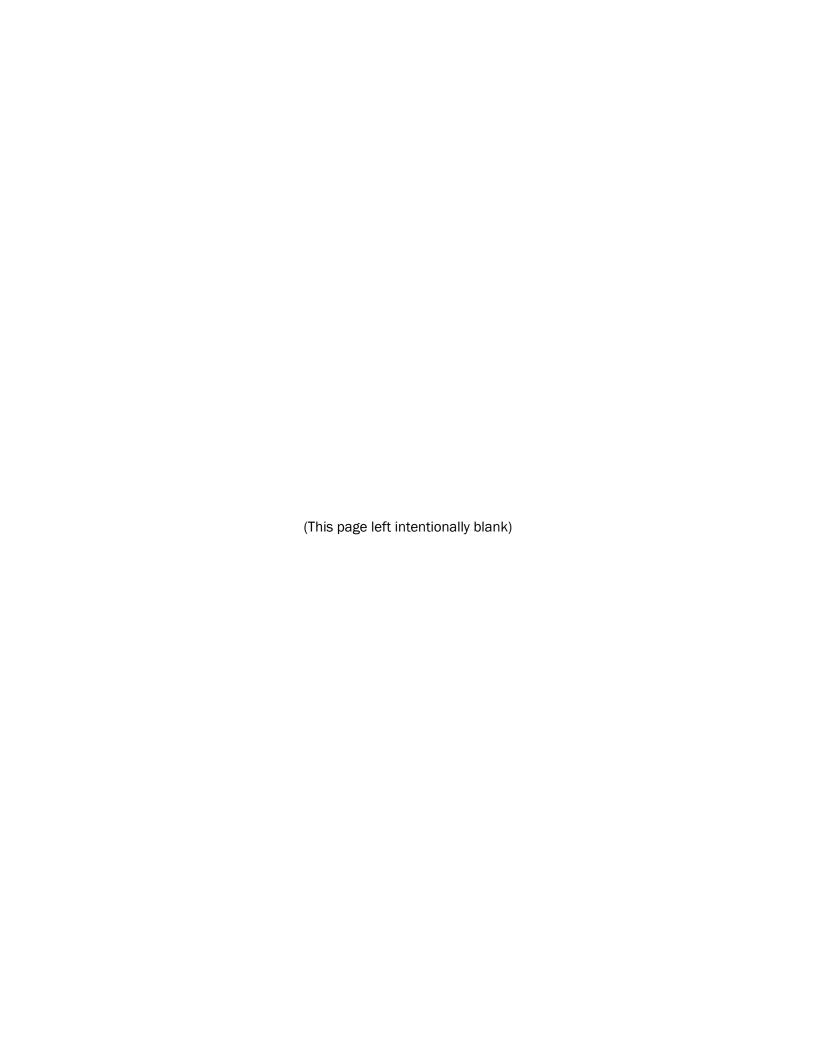
EXHIBIT "G"

	PRIVATE PURPOSE TRUSTS	_	AGENCY FUNDS
<u>ASSETS</u>			
Cash and Cash Equivalents Investments	\$ 1,373.04 844.11	\$_	503,666.88
Total Assets	\$ 2,217.15	\$_	503,666.88
<u>LIABILITIES</u>			
Funds Held for Others	\$ 0.00	\$_	503,666.88
NET POSITION			
Held in Trust for Private Purposes	\$ 2,217.15		

#### EXHIBIT "H"

# LOWNDES COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN FIDUCIARY NET POSITION FIDUCIARY FUNDS YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2013

	-	PRIVATE PURPOSE TRUSTS
ADDITIONS		
Investment Earnings Interest	\$_	1.31
DEDUCTIONS		
Other Deductions	\$_	0.00
Change in Net Position	\$	1.31
Net Position - Beginning	-	2,215.84
Net Position - Ending	\$_	2,217.15



#### 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 school board elected by the voters and a Superintendent appointed by the Board. The Board 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

#### **BASIS OF PRESENTATION**

The School District's basic financial statements are collectively comprised of the District-wide financial statements, fund financial statements and notes to the basic financial statements of the Lowndes County Board of Education.

#### **District-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 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 statements for each category (governmental and fiduciary) are presented. 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:

- 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.
- District-wide Capital Projects Fund accounts for and reports financial resources including Education Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (ESPLOST) and Bond Proceeds that are restricted, committed or assigned to the expenditure for capital outlays, including the acquisition or construction of capital facilities and other capital assets.
- Debt Service Fund accounts for and reports financial resources that are restricted, 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 report trust arrangements under which principal and income benefit a possible selection of various graduating seniors to which may receive scholarships.
- Agency funds account for assets held by the School District as an agent for various funds, governments or individuals.

#### **BASIS OF ACCOUNTING**

The basis of accounting determines when transactions are reported on the financial statements. The District-wide governmental 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, both restricted and unrestricted resources are 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 2013, the School District adopted the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 60, *Accounting and Financial Reporting for Service Concession Arrangements*. The provisions of this Statement establish accounting and financial reporting standards for governments who enter into Service Concession Arrangements (SCA) with other governmental or nongovernmental entities. As of June 30, 2013, the School District has not entered into any arrangements that meet the qualifications to be reported as a SCA in accordance with this standard.

In fiscal year 2013, the School District adopted the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 62, *Codification of Accounting and Financial Reporting Guidance Contained in Pre-November 30, 1989 FASB and AICPA Pronouncements.* The provisions of this Statement incorporate certain accounting and financial reporting guidance into authoritative GASB literature.

In fiscal year 2013, the School District adopted the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 63, *Financial Reporting of Deferred Outflows of Resources, Deferred Inflows of Resources and Net Position.* The provisions of this Statement establish financial reporting standards for the presentation of deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources and their effects on a government's net position. The School District changed its presentation of net assets to net position for fiscal year 2013. There were no other applicable reporting changes for the School District.

#### CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

#### **Composition of Deposits**

Cash and cash equivalents consist of cash on hand, demand deposits 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 Section 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.

#### **INVESTMENTS**

#### **Composition of Investments**

Investments made by the School District in nonparticipating interest-earning contracts (such as certificates of deposit) and repurchase agreements are reported at cost. Participating interest-earning contracts and money market investments with a maturity at purchase of one year or less are reported at amortized cost. Both participating interest-earning contracts and money market investments with a maturity at purchase greater than one year and equity investments are reported at fair value. The Official Code of Georgia Annotated Section 36-83-4 authorizes the School District to invest its funds. In selecting among options for investment or among institutional bids for deposits, the highest rate of return shall be the objective, given equivalent conditions of safety and liquidity. Funds may be invested in the following:

- 1. Obligations issued by the State of Georgia or by other states,
- 2. Obligations issued by the United States government,
- 3. Obligations fully insured or guaranteed by the United States government or a United States government agency,
- 4. Obligations of any corporation of the United States government,
- 5. Prime banker's acceptances,
- 6. The Georgia Fund 1 administered by the State of Georgia, Office of the State Treasurer,
- 7. Repurchase agreements, and
- 8. Obligations of other political subdivisions of the State of Georgia.

The School District does not have a formal policy regarding investment policies that address credit risks, custodial credit risks, concentration of credit risks, interest rate risks or foreign currency risks.

#### **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.

#### **PROPERTY TAXES**

The Lowndes County Board of Commissioners adopted the property tax levy for the 2012 tax digest year (calendar year) on September 15, 2012 (levy date) based on property values as of January 1, 2012. Taxes were due on November 15, 2012 (lien date). Taxes collected within the current fiscal year or within 60 days after year-end on the 2012 tax digest are reported as revenue in the governmental funds for fiscal year 2013. 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, 2013, for maintenance and operations amounted to \$20.636,365.40.

The tax millage rate levied for the 2012 tax year (calendar year) for the Lowndes County Board of Education was as follows (a mill equals \$1 per thousand dollars of assessed value):

**School Operations** 

14.73 mills

Additionally, Title Ad Valorem Tax revenues, at the fund reporting level, amounted to \$203,283.61 during fiscal year ended June 30, 2013.

#### **SALES TAXES**

Education Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax, at the fund reporting level, during the year amounted to \$12,185,119.93 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.

#### **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 (first-in, first-out). 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.

#### **PREPAID ITEMS**

Payments made to vendors for services that will benefit periods subsequent to June 30, 2013, are recorded as prepaid items.

#### **CAPITAL ASSETS**

Capital assets purchased, including capital outlay costs, are recorded as expenditures in the fund financial statements at the time of purchase (including ancillary charges). On the District-wide financial statements, all purchased capital assets are valued 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 estimated fair market value on the date donated. Disposals are deleted at depreciated recorded cost. 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. Depreciation is computed using the straight-line method. The School District does not capitalize book collections or works of art. During the fiscal year under review, no events or changes in circumstances affecting a capital asset that may indicate impairment were known to the School District.

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

		Capitalization Policy	Estimated Useful Life
	_	Folicy	OSeiui Liie
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

Depreciation is used to allocate the actual or estimated historical cost of all capital assets over estimated useful lives, with the exception of intangible assets which are amortized.

Amortization of intangible assets such as water, timber, and mineral rights, easements, patents, trademarks, copyrights and internally generated software is computed using the straight-line method over the estimated useful lives of the assets, generally 30 years.

#### **GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS**

The School District issues general obligation bonds to provide funds for the acquisition and construction of major capital facilities. In the District-wide financial statements, bond premiums and discounts, as well as issuance costs, are deferred and amortized over the life of the bonds using the straight-line method. Bond issuance costs are reported as deferred charges and amortized over the term of the debt.

In the fund financial statements, the School District recognizes bond premiums and discounts, as well as bond issuance costs during the fiscal year bonds are issued. Premiums received on debt issuances are reported as other financing sources while discounts on debt issuances are reported as other financing uses. Issuance costs, whether or not withheld from the actual debt proceeds received, are reported as debt service expenditures. General obligation bonds are direct obligations and pledge the full faith and credit of the government. The outstanding amount of these bonds is recorded in the Statement of Net Position.

#### **NET POSITION**

The School District's net position in the District-wide Statements is classified as follows:

**Net investment in capital assets** - This represents the School District's total investment in capital assets, net of 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.

**Restricted net position** - This represents resources for which the School District is legally or contractually obligated to spend resources for bus replacement, continuation of Federal Programs, debt service, and capital projects in accordance with restrictions imposed by external third parties.

**Unrestricted net position** - Unrestricted net position represents resources derived from property taxes, sales taxes, grants and contributions not restricted to specific programs, charges for services, and miscellaneous revenues. These resources are used for transactions relating to the educational and general operations of the School District, and may be used at the discretion of the Board to meet current expenses for those purposes.

#### **FUND BALANCES**

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

**Nonspendable** – Amounts 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** – Constraints are placed on the use of resources are either (1) externally imposed conditions by creditors, grantors, contributors, or laws and regulations of other governments or (2) imposed by law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation.

**Committed** – Amounts that can be used only for specific purposes pursuant to constraints imposed by formal action of the Board of Education. The Board of Education 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** – Amounts that are 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 of Education or (2) the budget or finance committee, or the Superintendent, or designee, to assign amounts to be used for specific purposes.

**Unassigned** – The residual classification for the General Fund. This classification represents fund balances that has not been assigned to other funds and that has not been restricted, committed, or assigned to specific purposes within the General Fund.

Fund Balances of the Governmental Funds at June 30, 2013, are as follows:

Nonspendable				
Inventories	\$	219,945.67		
Prepaid Assets		4,002.76	\$	223,948.43
Restricted	<u>-</u>	_		
Bus Replacement	\$	10,045.88		
Continuation of Federal Programs		1,501,860.90		
Capital Projects		2,965,587.56		
Debt Service		8,531,508.64		13,009,002.98
Committed		_		
School Activity Accounts				186,561.81
Assigned				
Self-Insurance				52,819.59
Unassigned				4,031,823.55
			_	
Fund Balance, June 30, 2013			\$_	17,504,156.36

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.

#### **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.

#### **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 Official Code of Georgia Annotated section 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 Schedule 1 – General Fund Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances – Budget to Actual for a detail of any over/under expenditures during the fiscal year under review.

#### **NOTE 4: DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS**

#### **COLLATERALIZATION OF DEPOSITS**

Official Code of Georgia Annotated (O.C.G.A.) Section 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 percent 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. Section 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 percent 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 formal policy for managing custodial credit risk. At June 30, 2013, the bank balances were \$13,860,788.40. The bank balances were entirely covered by Federal depository insurance or collateralized with securities held by the pledging financial institution in the School District's name.

#### CATEGORIZATION OF INVESTMENTS

At June 30, 2013, the carrying value of the School District's total investments was \$9,451,396.22, which is materially the same as fair value. This investment consisted entirely of funds invested in the Georgia Fund 1, formerly referred to as LGIP, administered by the State of Georgia, Office of the State Treasurer which 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 (Primary Liquidity Portfolio) 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 <a href="http://www.audits.ga.gov/SGD/cafr.html">http://www.audits.ga.gov/SGD/cafr.html</a>.

The Primary Liquidity Portfolio consists of Georgia Fund 1 which is not registered with the SEC as an investment company but does 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. The pool is an AAAf 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, 2013, was 43 days.

#### **NOTE 5: NON-MONETARY TRANSACTIONS**

The School District receives food commodities from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) for school breakfast and lunch programs. These commodities are recorded at their Federally assigned value. **See Note 2 - Inventories** 

#### **NOTE 6: CAPITAL ASSETS**

The following is a summary of changes in the Capital Assets during the fiscal year:

	Balances						Balances
	July 1, 2012	_	Increases		Decreases	_	June 30, 2013
Governmental Activities							
Capital Assets, Not Being Depreciated:							
Land	\$ 35,691,293.22	\$	200,287.00	\$	0.00	\$	35,891,580.22
Construction in Progress	0.00	_	119,367.15	_		_	119,367.15
Total Capital Assets Not Being Depreciated	\$ 35,691,293.22	\$_	319,654.15	\$_	0.00	\$	36,010,947.37
Capital Assets Being Depreciated							
Buildings and Improvements	\$ 162,666,731.58	\$	94,500.00	\$	0.00	\$	162,761,231.58
Equipment	15,478,393.96		1,672,158.00				17,150,551.96
Land Improvements	16,385,274.47						16,385,274.47
Less Accumulated Depreciation for:							
Buildings and Improvements	27,773,859.94		3,241,051.05				31,014,910.99
Equipment	8,904,897.43		874,109.55				9,779,006.98
Land Improvements	3,507,053.81		421,823.76				3,928,877.57
		-		_		•	
Total Capital Assets, Being Depreciated, Net	\$ 154,344,588.83	\$	-2,770,326.36	\$	0.00	\$	151,574,262.47
		_				•	
Governmental Activity Capital Assets - Net	\$ 190,035,882.05	\$	-2,450,672.21	\$	0.00	\$	187,585,209.84
		=		=		•	

Capital assets being acquired under capital leases as of June 30, 2013, are as follows:

		Governmental Activities
Equipment Less: Accumulated Depreciation	\$	797,835.00 19,833.42
	\$ .	778,001.58

Current year depreciation expense by function is as follows:

Instruction			\$	3,194,164.36
Support Services				
Pupil Services	\$	174,436.27		
Educational Media Services		73,316.59		
General Administration		77,031.92		
School Administration		18,019.50		
Business Administration		6,681.51		
Maintenance and Operation of Plant		93,263.70		
Student Transportation Services		512,798.65		
Central Support Services		4,910.89		
Other Support Services		1,280.25		961,739.28
Food Services	_		_	381,080.72
			\$	4,536,984.36

#### **NOTE 7: INTERFUND TRANSFERS**

Interfund transfers for the year ended June 30, 2013, consisted of the following:

		Transfers
	_	From
	_	General
Transfer to	_	Fund
	_	_
Agency Funds	\$	35,484.65

Transfers are used to move funds from Governmental School Activity Accounts to Agency School Activity Accounts as various expenditures are paid on-behalf of these Agency accounts.

#### **NOTE 8: RISK MANAGEMENT**

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; acts of God and unemployment compensation.

The School District has obtained commercial insurance for risk of loss associated with torts, assets, errors or omissions, and job related illness or injuries to employees. The School District has neither significantly reduced coverage for these risks nor incurred losses (settlements) which exceeded the School District's insurance coverage in any of the past three years.

The School District has elected to self-insure for all losses related to acts of God. The School District has not experienced any losses related to this risk in the past three years.

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.

Changes in the unemployment compensation claims liability during the last two fiscal years are as follows:

o. . .

				Claims and			
	Ве	eginning of Year		Changes in		Claims	End of Year
		Liability		Estimates		Paid	Liability
			-		_		_
2012	\$	7,033.81	\$	41,763.00	\$	40,485.81	\$ 8,311.00
2013	\$	8,311.00	\$	1,026.86	\$	9,337.86	\$ 0.00

The School District has purchased surety bonds to provide additional insurance coverage as follows:

Position Covered	_	Amount			
Superintendent	\$	250,000.00			
All Employees	\$	250,000.00			

#### **NOTE 9: LONG-TERM DEBT**

#### **CAPITAL LEASES**

The Lowndes County Board of Education entered into a lease agreement for the purchase of buses. This lease agreement qualifies as a capital lease for accounting purposes, and, therefore, has been recorded at the present value of the future minimum lease payments as of the date of its inception.

#### **GENERAL OBLIGATION DEBT OUTSTANDING**

General Obligation Bonds currently outstanding are as follows:

Purpose	Interest Rates	_	Amount
General Government - Series 2006 General Government - Series 2008 General Government - Series 2009	3.576% 3.520% - 3.730% 3.000% - 3.560%	\$	10,000,000.00 9,595,000.00 15,180,000.00
deficial deveriment defices 2003	3.000% 3.300%	\$	34,775,000.00

The changes in Long-Term Debt during the fiscal year ended June 30, 2013, were as follows:

	_	Governmental Activities									
		Balance						Balance		Due Within	
	-	July 1, 2012	_	Additions	Deductions		June 30, 2013		_	One Year	
G. O. Bonds	\$	44,855,000.00			\$	10,080,000.00	\$	34,775,000.00	\$	6,395,000.00	
Capital Leases		0.00	\$	797,835.00		166,298.72		631,536.28		152,973.30	
Bond Premiums Amortized	_	1,160,923.01	_			429,484.43		731,438.58		263,093.07	
	\$_	46,015,923.01	\$_	797,835.00	\$	10,675,783.15	\$	36,137,974.86	\$_	6,811,066.37	

At June 30, 2013, payments due by fiscal year which includes principal and interest for these items are as follows:

			_	Capital Leases					
			_	Principal	_	Interest			
Fiscal Year Ended June 30:									
2014			\$	152,973.30	\$	13,325.42			
2015				156,201.04		10,097.68			
2016				159,496.88		6,801.84			
2017			_	162,865.06	_	3,433.67			
Total Principal and Interest			<b>\$</b> _	631,536.28	\$.	33,658.61			
	General Obligation Debt Unamortized								
	_		oligat			Unamortized			
	_	Principal	_	Interest	-	Bond Premium			
Fiscal Year Ended June 30:									
2014	\$	6,395,000.00	\$	1,529,430.00	\$	263,093.07			
2015		6,660,000.00		1,209,680.00		263,093.07			
2016		6,940,000.00		876,680.00		176,004.50			
2017		7,235,000.00		529,680.00		29,247.95			
2018	_	7,545,000.00		269,809.20	_				
Total Principal and Interest	\$ _	34,775,000.00	\$ _	4,415,279.20	\$ _	731,438.59			

### **NOTE 10: ON-BEHALF PAYMENTS**

The School District has recognized revenues and costs in the amount of \$5,192,408.24 for health insurance and retirement contributions paid on the School District's behalf by the following State Agencies.

Georgia Department of Education

Paid to the Georgia Department of Community Health For Health Insurance of Certificated Personnel In the amount of \$4.976.448.00

Paid to the Teachers' Retirement System of Georgia For Teachers' Retirement System (TRS) Employer's Cost In the amount of \$32,672.24

Office of the State Treasurer

Paid to the Public School Employees' Retirement System For Public School Employees' Retirement (PSERS) Employer's Cost In the amount of \$183,288.00

Funds paid to the Georgia Department of Community Health by the Georgia Department of Education on behalf of the School District are reported as part of the Quality Basic Education revenue allotments on Schedule 3 – Schedule of State Revenue.

### **NOTE 11: SIGNIFICANT COMMITMENTS**

The following is an analysis of significant outstanding construction or renovation contracts executed by the School District as of June 30, 2013:

	unearned
	Executed
Project	Contracts
Lowndes High School Band Room Renovation	\$ 1,023,618.85

The amount described in this note is not reflected in the basic financial statements.

### NOTE 12: SIGNIFICANT CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

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. The School District believes that such disallowances, if any, will be immaterial to its overall financial position.

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 be material to the basic financial statements.

### **NOTE 13: POST-EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS**

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

Plan Description. The Georgia School Personnel Post-employment Health Benefit Fund (School OPEB Fund) is a cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit post-employment healthcare plan that covers eligible former employees of public school systems, libraries and regional educational service agencies. The School OPEB Fund provides health insurance benefits to eligible former employees and their qualified beneficiaries through the State Employees Health Benefit Plan administered by the Department of Community Health. The Official Code of Georgia Annotated (O.C.G.A.) assigns the

authority to establish and amend the benefit provisions of the group health plans, including benefits for retirees, to the Board of Community Health (Board). The Department of Community Health, which includes the School OPEB Fund, issues a separate stand alone financial audit report and a copy can be obtained from the Georgia Department of Audits and Accounts.

Funding Policy. The contribution requirements of plan members and participating employers are established by the Board in accordance with the current Appropriations Act and may be amended by the Board. Contributions of plan members or beneficiaries receiving benefits vary based on plan election, dependent coverage, and Medicare eligibility and election. For members with fewer than five years of service as of January 1, 2013, contributions also vary based on years of service. On average, members with five years or more of service as of January 1, 2013, pay approximately 25 percent of the cost of the health insurance coverage. In accordance with the Board resolution dated December 8, 2011, for members with fewer than five years of service as of January 1, 2013, the State provides a premium subsidy in retirement that ranges from 0% for fewer than 10 years of service to 75% (but no greater than the subsidy percentage offered to active employees) for 30 or more years of service. The subsidy for eligible dependents ranges from 0% to 55% (but no greater than the subsidy percentage offered to dependents of active employees minus 20%). No subsidy is available to Medicare eligible members not enrolled in a Medicare Advantage Option. The Board of Community Health sets all member premiums by resolution and in accordance with the law and applicable revenue and expense projections. Any subsidy policy adopted by the Board may be changed at any time by Board resolution and does not constitute a contract or promise of any amount of subsidy.

Participating employers are statutorily required to contribute in accordance with the employer contribution rates established by the Board. The contribution rates are established to fund all benefits due under the health insurance plans for both active and retired employees based on projected "pay-as-you-go" financing requirements. Contributions are not based on the actuarially calculated annual required contribution (ARC) which represents a level of funding that, if paid on an ongoing basis, is projected to cover normal cost each year and amortize any unfunded actuarial liabilities (or funding excess) over a period not to exceed thirty years.

The combined active and retiree contribution rates established by the Board for employers participating in the School OPEB Fund were as follows for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2013:

For certificated teachers, librarians and regional educational service agencies and certain other eligible participants:

July 2012 - February 2013 \$912.34 per member per month
March 2013 - June 2013 \$937.34 per member per month

### For non-certificated school personnel:

July 2012 - June 2013 \$446.20 per member per month

No additional contribution was required by the Board for fiscal year 2013 nor contributed to the School OPEB Fund to prefund retiree benefits. Such additional contribution amounts are determined annually by the Board in accordance with the School plan for other post-employment benefits and are subject to appropriation.

The School District's combined active and retiree contributions to the health insurance plans, which equaled the required contribution, for the current fiscal year and the preceding two fiscal years were as follows:

	Percentage		Required
Fiscal Year	Contributed		Contribution
		_	
2013	100%	\$	8,973,455.46
2012	100%	\$	8,791,601.89
2011	100%	\$	8,374,284.06

### **NOTE 14: RETIREMENT PLANS**

### TEACHERS' RETIREMENT SYSTEM OF GEORGIA (TRS)

**Plan Description.** The TRS is a cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit plan created in 1943 by an act of the Georgia General Assembly to provide retirement benefits for qualifying employees in educational service. A Board of Trustees comprised of active and retired members and ex-officio State employees is ultimately responsible for the administration of TRS. The Teachers' Retirement System of Georgia issues a separate stand alone financial audit report and a copy can be obtained from the Georgia Department of Audits and Accounts.

On October 25, 1996, the Board created the Supplemental Retirement Benefits Plan of the Georgia Teachers' Retirement System (SRBP-TRS). SRBP-TRS was established as a qualified excess benefit plan in accordance with Section 415 of the Internal Revenue Code (IRC) as a portion of TRS. The purpose of SRBP-TRS is to provide retirement benefits to employees covered by TRS whose benefits are otherwise limited by IRC Section 415. Beginning July 1, 1997, all members and retired former members in TRS are eligible to participate in the SRBP-TRS whenever their benefits under TRS exceed the IRC Section 415 imposed limitation on benefits.

TRS provides service retirement, disability retirement, and survivor's benefits. The benefit structure of TRS is defined and may be amended by State statute. A member 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. A member is eligible for early retirement after 25 years of creditable service.

Normal retirement (pension) benefits paid to members are equal to 2% of the average of the member's two highest paid consecutive years of service, multiplied by the number of years of creditable service up to 40 years. Early retirement benefits are reduced by the lesser of one-twelfth of 7% for each month the member is below age 60 or by 7% for each year or fraction thereof by which the member has less than 30 years of service. It is also assumed that certain cost-of-living adjustments, based on the Consumer Price Index, will be made in future years. Retirement benefits are payable monthly for life. A member may elect to receive a partial lump-sum distribution in addition to a reduced monthly retirement benefit. Death, disability and spousal benefits are also available.

Funding Policy. TRS is funded by member and employer contributions as adopted and amended by the Board of Trustees. Members become fully vested after 10 years of service. If a member terminates with less than 10 years of service, no vesting of employer contributions occurs, but the member's contributions may be refunded with interest. Member contributions are limited by State law to not less than 5% or more than 6% of a member's earnable compensation. Member contributions as adopted by the Board of Trustees for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2013, were 6.00% of annual salary. Employer contributions required for fiscal year 2013 were 11.41% of annual salary as required by the June 30, 2010, actuarial valuation. The employer contribution rate will increase to 12.28% effective July 1, 2013.

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

	Percentage		Required	
Fiscal Year	Contributed	Contribution		
		_	_	
2013	100%	\$	5,540,978.64	
2012	100%	\$	4,939,079.84	
2011	100%	\$	5,097,805.16	

### PUBLIC SCHOOL EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM (PSERS)

Bus drivers, lunchroom personnel, and maintenance and custodial personnel are members of the Public School Employees' Retirement System of Georgia. The System is funded by contributions by the employees and by the State of Georgia. The School District makes no contribution to this plan.

### **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.

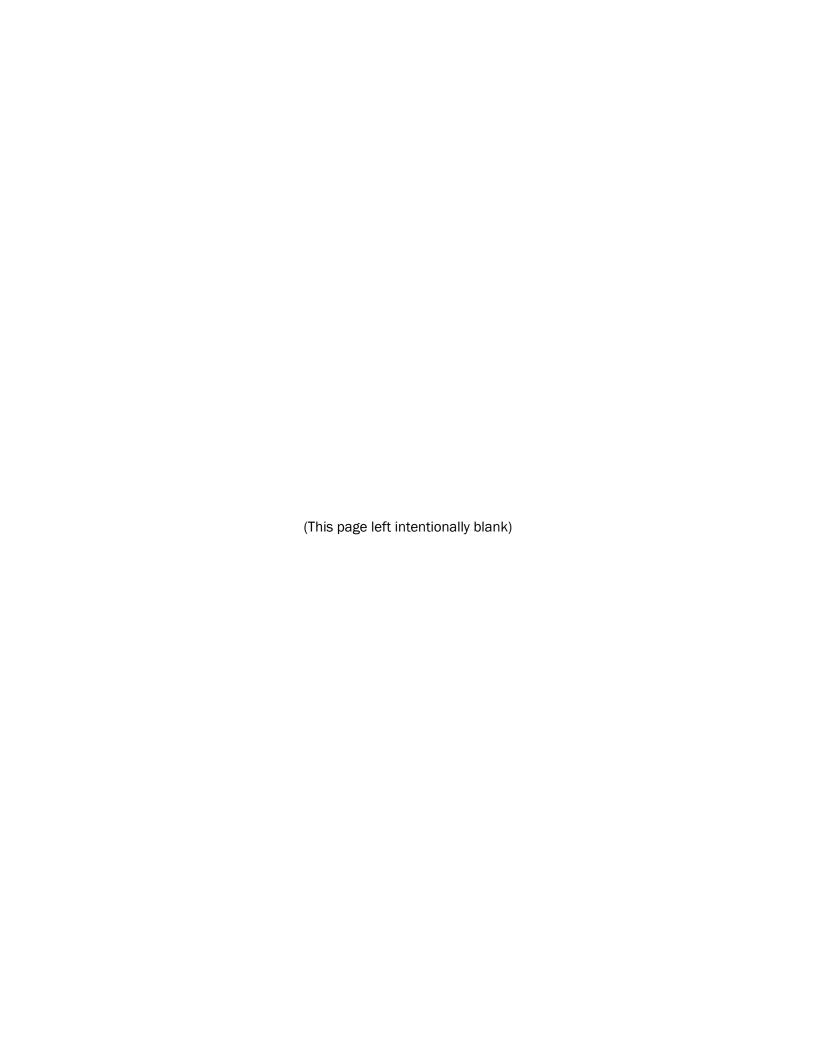
The Board selected Metlife, Valic, Hartford, ABC Planmember Services, and Aspire as the providers of these plans. For each employee covered under PSERS, the Board began contributing to the plan an amount equal to 6 percent of the employee's base pay. In fiscal year 2012, the Board's contribution method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

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

	Percentage		Required	
Fiscal Year	Contributed	_	Contribution	
2013	100%	\$	2,528,108.96	
2012	100%	\$	2,560,034.65	
2011	100%	\$	3,237,320.89	



### LOWNDES COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION GENERAL FUND

### SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES BUDGET AND ACTUAL

YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2013

		NONAPPROPRIATED BUDGETS			ACTUAL		VARIANCE	
	_	ORIGINAL (1)		FINAL (1)		AMOUNTS		OVER/UNDER
	_							
REVENUES								
Property Taxes	\$	19.150.000.00	\$	19,150,000.00	\$	20,839,649.01	\$	1,689,649.01
Sales Taxes	,	250,000.00	•	250,000.00	•	562,052.24	•	312,052.24
State Funds		50,562,355.00		57,894,167.00		51,205,682.12		-6,688,484.88
Federal Funds		10,328,036.00		9,947,911.56		9,113,741.83		-834,169.73
Charges for Services		2,311,608.00		2,311,608.00		1,905,467.43		-406,140.57
Investment Earnings		42,778.00		42,778.00		46,472.71		3,694.71
Miscellaneous		421,169.00		119,969.00		1,306,726.17		1,186,757.17
	_	,	-		-	, , , , , ,	-	
Total Revenues	\$_	83,065,946.00	\$_	89,716,433.56	\$_	84,979,791.51	\$_	-4,736,642.05
<u>EXPENDITURES</u>								
Current								
Instruction	\$	56,724,950.00	\$	56,345,117.00	\$	56,098,289.25	\$	246,827.75
Support Services								
Pupil Services		2,960,230.00		2,886,042.00		3,142,432.25		-256,390.25
Improvement of Instructional Services		2,735,348.00		3,091,965.00		2,970,457.16		121,507.84
Educational Media Services		1,259,997.00		1,259,997.00		1,244,581.42		15,415.58
General Administration		827,881.00		840,676.00		980,505.19		-139,829.19
School Administration		4,307,189.00		4,287,324.00		4,462,624.44		-175,300.44
Business Administration		767,720.00		817,720.00		781,939.55		35,780.45
Maintenance and Operation of Plant		6,833,688.00		6,846,211.00		7,152,054.03		-305,843.03
Student Transportation Services		4,339,145.00		4,810,695.00		5,239,664.43		-428,969.43
Central Support Services		566,586.00		569,586.00		617,667.55		-48,081.55
Other Support Services		79,255.00		95,775.00		148,285.20		-52,510.20
Enterprise Operations						207,614.91		-207,614.91
Community Services						1,513.01		-1,513.01
Food Services Operation		2,497,907.00		5,829,922.56		5,530,021.64		299,900.92
Capital Outlay	_		_		_	12,930.00	_	-12,930.00
Total Expenditures	\$	83,899,896.00	\$	87,681,030.56	\$	88,590,580.03	\$	-909,549.47
·	· -		-		-		-	
Excess of Revenues over (under) Expenditures	\$_	-833,950.00	\$_	2,035,403.00	\$_	-3,610,788.52	\$_	-5,646,191.52
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)								
Operating Transfers To Other Funds					\$	-35,484.65	\$	-35,484.65
Sale or Compensation For Loss of Fixed Assets	\$	5,000.00	\$	5,000.00	·	,	·	-5,000.00
	· –	2,000.00	· -	-,	-		-	
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	\$_	5,000.00	\$_	5,000.00	\$_	-35,484.65	\$_	-40,484.65
Net Change in Fund Balances	\$	-828,950.00	\$	2,040,403.00	\$	-3,646,273.17	\$	-5,686,676.17
Fund Balances - Beginning		9,653,333.33	_	9,653,333.33	_	9,653,333.33	_	0.00
	_				_		_	
Fund Balances - Ending	\$_	8,824,383.33	\$_	11,693,736.33	\$_	6,007,060.16	\$_	-5,686,676.17

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 \$508,808.73 and \$559,885.02, 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.

See notes to the basic financial statements.

### LOWNDES COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2013

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	N/A	(2)
National School Lunch Program	*	10.555	N/A	\$ 5,310,553.16 (1)
Total Child Nutrition Cluster				\$ 5,310,553.16
Pass-Through From Georgia Department of Education Food Services				
Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program		10.582	N/A	27,054.24
			,	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
Total U. S. Department of Agriculture				\$ 5,337,607.40
Education, U. S. Department of				
Impact Aid Cluster				
Direct		04.044		(2)
Impact Aid		84.041		(3)
Special Education Cluster				
Pass-Through From Georgia Department of Education				
Special Education				
Grants to States		84.027	N/A	\$ 2,274,478.73
Preschool Grants		84.173	N/A	96,446.00
Total Special Education Cluster				\$ 2,370,924.73
Title I, Part A Cluster				
Pass-Through From Georgia Department of Education				
Title I Grants to Local Educational Agencies	*	84.010	N/A	\$ 2,126,237.77
Other Programs				
Pass-Through From Georgia Department of Education				
Career and Technical Education - Basic Grants to States		84.048	N/A	\$ 97,062.00
Education for Homeless Children and Youth		84.196	N/A	34,743.00
Education Jobs Fund		84.410	N/A	3,944.00
English Language Acquisition Grants Improving Teacher Quality State Grants	*	84.365 84.367	N/A N/A	37,729.27 403,070.72
Migrant Education - State Grant Program		84.011	N/A	103,868.61
Total Other Programs				\$ 680,417.60
Total U. S. Department of Education				\$5,177,580.10
Defense, U. S. Department of Direct				
Department of the Army				
R.O.T.C. Program				(4)
Total Expenditures of Federal Awards				\$ 10,515,187.50

N/A = Not Available

### LOWNDES COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2013

#### Notes to the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards

- (1) Includes the Federally assigned value of donated commodities for the Food Donation Program in the amount of \$236,290.63.
- (2) Expenditures for the funds earned on the School Breakfast Program (\$755,848.36) were not maintained separately and are included in the 2013 National School Lunch Program.
- (3) Funds earned on the Impact Aid Program, in the amount of \$258,532.64, do not require reporting of expenditures.
- (4) Expenditures on this program of were supported by \$55,091.45 in Federal assistance.

Major Programs are identified by an asterisk (\*) in front of the CFDA number.

The School District did not provide Federal Assistance to any Subrecipient.

The accompanying schedule of expenditures of Federal awards includes the Federal grant activity of the Lowndes County Board of Education and is presented on the modified accrual basis of accounting which is the basis of accounting used in the presentation of the fund financial statements.

51,205,682.12

	GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPE
GENCY/FUNDING	GENERAL FUND
GRANTS	
Bright From the Start:	
Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning	
Pre-Kindergarten Program \$	1,210,218.64
Education, Georgia Department of	
Quality Basic Education (1)	
Direct Instructional Cost	
Kindergarten Program	3,664,152.00
Kindergarten Program - Early Intervention Program	198,841.00
Primary Grades (1-3) Program	8,013,256.00
Primary Grades - Early Intervention (1-3) Program	720,802.00
Upper Elementary Grades (4-5) Program	3,601,664.00
Upper Elementary Grades - Early Intervention (4-5) Program	651,568.00
Middle School (6-8) Program	6,923,969.00
High School General Education (9-12) Program	5,545,116.00
Vocational Laboratory (9-12) Program	1,801,002.00
Students with Disabilities	7,470,590.00
Gifted Student - Category VI	1,652,697.00
Remedial Education Program	73,704.00
Alternative Education Program	529,609.00
English Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL)	307,426.00
Media Center Program	1,149,170.00
20 Days Additional Instruction	350,942.00
Staff and Professional Development	211,796.00
Indirect Cost	
Central Administration	1,447,828.00
School Administration	2,051,838.00
Facility Maintenance and Operations	2,641,147.00
Amended Formula Adjustment	-7,483,192.00
Categorical Grants	,, -
Pupil Transportation	
Regular	1,005,990.00
Nursing Services	169,676.00
Education Equalization Funding Grant	3,941,865.00
Other State Programs	-,- :=,
Food Services	140,228.00
GNETS State Grant	2,064,621.00
Math and Science Supplements	78,565.73
Move On When Ready Grant	400.00
Preschool Handicapped Program	195,003.00
Pupil Transportation - State Bonds	457,317.00
Teachers' Retirement	32,672.24
Vocational Education	201,912.51
Office of the State Treasurer	
Public School Employees' Retirement	183,288.00

(1) Payments to the Georgia Department of Community Health by the Georgia Department of Education on behalf of the School District in the amount of \$4,976,448.00 are included as part of the Quality Basic Education revenue allotments above.

### LOWNDES COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION SCHEDULE OF APPROVED LOCAL OPTION SALES TAX PROJECTS YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2013

	_	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
SPLOST III PROJECTS  (a) 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		28,280,186.54 \$	19,891,464.64 \$	179,637.81 \$	19,711,826.83 \$	19,891,464.64 \$	0.00	Completed
(b) the acquisition of technology equipment, security and safety equipment textbooks, band and other musical instruments, vocational equipment and physical education and athletic equipment		13,395,877.83	7,766,581.83	357,112.70	7,409,469.13	7,766,581.83	0.00	Completed
(c) the acquisition of school vehicles, including, but not limited to, school buses and maintenance vehicles and equipment		6,152,180.93	1,938,226.36	261,139.72	1,677,086.64	1,938,226.36	0.00	Completed
(d) the acquisition of any property necessary and desirable therefore, both real and personal		5,457,579.86	6,185,668.81	200,287.00	5,985,381.81	6,185,668.81	0.00	Completed
(e) the repayment of general obligation debt incurred through temporary loans for capital outlay project expenses	_							
Projects	\$_	53,285,825.16 \$	35,781,941.64 \$	998,177.23 \$	34,783,764.41 \$	35,781,941.64 \$	0.00	
SPLOST IV PROJECTS  (a) Retiring previously incurred general obligation debt of the School District	\$	39,200,000.00 \$	39,200,000.00 \$	10,080,000.00 \$	0.00 \$	0.00 \$	0.00	June 2018
(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	11,386,586.00	75,184.75				June 2018
(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 2018
(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	274,797.11				June 2018
(e) the acquisition of school vehicles, including, but not limited to, school buses and maintenance vehicles and equipment		5,400,000.00	5,400,000.00					June 2018
(f) the acquisition of any property necessar and desirable therefore, both real and personal	ry							
(g) the repayment of general obligation debt incurred through temporary loans for capital outlay project expenses	=							
Projects	\$_	94,875,000.00 \$	66,319,436.00 \$	10,429,981.86 \$	0.00 \$	0.00 \$	0.00	
	\$	148,160,825.16 \$	102,101,377.64 \$	11,428,159.09 \$	34,783,764.41 \$	35,781,941.64 \$	0.00	

### LOWNDES COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION SCHEDULE OF APPROVED LOCAL OPTION SALES TAX PROJECTS YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2013

- (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
 \$ 12,272,729,92

 Current Year
 2,018,980.00

 Total
 \$ 14,291,709,92

## LOWNDES COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION GENERAL FUND - QUALITY BASIC EDUCATION PROGRAMS (QBE) ALLOTMENTS AND EXPENDITURES - BY PROGRAM YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2013

ALLOTMENTS FROM GEORGIA

	DEPARTMENT OF			ELIGIBLE OBE PROGRAM COSTS				
DESCRIPTION		EDUCATION (1) (2) (3)		SALARIES		OPERATIONS	TOTAL	
Direct Instructional Programs								
Kindergarten Program	\$	4,189,711.00	\$	3,933,982.81	\$	46,370.15 \$	3,980,352.96	
Kindergarten Program-Early Intervention Program		229,854.00		186,315.06		722.10	187,037.16	
Primary Grades (1-3) Program		9,164,485.00		8,850,589.43		215,793.46	9,066,382.89	
Primary Grades-Early Intervention (1-3) Program		847,412.00		819,565.80		3,457.01	823,022.81	
Upper Elementary Grades (4-5) Program		4,160,682.00		4,726,404.16		101,017.51	4,827,421.67	
Upper Elementary Grades-Early Intervention (4-5)		753,664.00		631,409.71		1,908.12	633,317.83	
Middle Grades (6-8) Program						12,827.70	12,827.70	
Middle School (6-8) Program		7,969,504.00		8,606,872.33		167,625.55	8,774,497.88	
High School General Education (9-12) Program		6,391,675.00		7,944,113.88		255,529.77	8,199,643.65	
Vocational Laboratory (9-12) Program		2,079,919.00		1,720,723.46		162,210.71	1,882,934.17	
Students with Disabilities		8,556,771.00						
Category I				178,715.61		4,899.74	183,615.35	
Category II				479,116.24		4,727.22	483,843.46	
Category III				6,641,580.64		57,248.73	6,698,829.37	
Category IV				153,681.87		11,752.58	165,434.45	
Category V						403.99	403.99	
Gifted Student - Category VI		1,887,375.00		1,091,311.44		7,879.24	1,099,190.68	
Remedial Education Program		105,229.00		8,932.33		869.12	9,801.45	
Alternative Education Program		609,778.00		756,825.38		2,590.89	759,416.27	
English Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL)		348,711.00		433,167.22	_		433,167.22	
TOTAL DIRECT INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAMS	\$	47,294,770.00	\$	47,163,307.37	\$	1,057,833.59 \$	48,221,140.96	
Media Center Program		1,317,260.00		1,167,347.15		73,143.38	1,240,490.53	
Staff and Professional Development		243,270.00		17,924.66	_	52,424.62	70,349.28	
TOTAL QBE FORMULA FUNDS	\$	48,855,300.00	\$	48,348,579.18	\$	1,183,401.59 \$	49,531,980.77	

<sup>(1)</sup> Comprised of State Funds plus Local Five Mill Share.

<sup>(2)</sup> Allotments do not include the impact of the State amended formula adjustment.

<sup>(3)</sup> Allotments do not include the State Health payments made by GDOE to the Department of Community Health for the certified employees.

## SECTION II COMPLIANCE AND INTERNAL CONTROL REPORTS



270 Washington Street, S.W., Suite 1-156

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

May 1, 2014

Atlanta, Georgia 30334-8400

Honorable Nathan Deal, Governor
Members of the General Assembly
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

### Ladies and Gentlemen:

We have audited, in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Lowndes County Board of Education as of and for the year ended June 30, 2013, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise Lowndes County Board of Education's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated May 1, 2014.

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

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered Lowndes County Board of Education'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 Lowndes County Board of Education's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Lowndes County Board of Education'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 and therefore, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses may exist that have not been identified. We did identify certain deficiencies in internal control, described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs as items FS-6921-13-01 and FS-6921-13-02, that we consider to be significant deficiencies.

### **Compliance and Other Matters**

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether Lowndes County Board of Education'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*.

We noted certain matters that we have reported to management of Lowndes County Board of Education in a separate letter dated May 1, 2014.

### Lowndes County Board of Education's Response to Findings

Lowndes County Board of Education's response to the findings identified in our audit is described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs. Lowndes County Board of Education's response was not subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and, accordingly, we express no opinion on it.

### Purpose of this Report

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the entity's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

Respectfully submitted,

Greg & Briggin

Greg S. Griffin State Auditor

GSG:as 2013YB-30



### **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

May 1, 2014

Honorable Nathan Deal, Governor Members of the General Assembly 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 PROGRAM AND ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER COMPLIANCE REQUIRED BY OMB CIRCULAR A-133

Ladies and Gentlemen:

### Report on Compliance for Each Major Federal Program

We have audited Lowndes County Board of Education's compliance with the types of compliance requirements described in the *OMB Circular A-133 Compliance Supplement* that could have a direct and material effect on each of its major Federal programs for the year ended June 30, 2013. Lowndes County Board of Education's major Federal programs are 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 the requirements of laws, regulations, contracts, and grants applicable to its Federal programs.

### Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on compliance for each of Lowndes County Board of Education's major Federal programs 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 OMB Circular A-133, *Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations*. Those standards and OMB Circular A-133 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 Lowndes County Board of Education'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 Lowndes County Board of Education's compliance.

### Opinion on Each Major Federal Program

In our opinion, the Lowndes County Board of Education 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 programs for the year ended June 30, 2013.

### Report on Internal Control over Compliance

Management of Lowndes County Board of Education 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 Lowndes County Board of Education's internal control over compliance with the types of requirements that could have a direct and material effect on each major Federal program to determine the auditing procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing an opinion on compliance for each major Federal program and to test and report on internal control over compliance in accordance with OMB Circular A-133, 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 Lowndes County Board of Education'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 OMB Circular A-133. Accordingly, this report is not suitable for any other purpose.

Respectfully submitted,

Breg & Diffin

Greg S. Griffin State Auditor

GSG:as 2013SA-10

### 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, 2013

### 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

### 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?Significant deficiencies identified?Yes

Noncompliance material to financial statements noted:

No

### **Federal Awards**

Internal Control over major programs:

Material weakness identified?

No

Significant deficiencies 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 OMB Circular A-133, Section 510(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 84.010 Title I, Part A Cluster

84.367 Improving Teacher Quality State Grants

Dollar threshold used to distinguish between Type A and Type B programs: \$325,057.23

Auditee qualified as low-risk auditee?

### II FINANCIAL STATEMENT FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS

Finding Control Number: FS-6921-13-01

Inadequate Controls over Financial Reporting Process

Control Category: Financial Reporting
Internal Control Impact: Significant Deficiency

### Description:

The School District did not have adequate controls in place to ensure all required activity was included in the financial statement information presented for audit.

### Criteria:

Chapter 22A Annual Financial Reporting of the Financial Management for Georgia Local Units of Administration published by the Georgia Department of Education indicates that School Districts must prepare their financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.

### Condition:

During the audit, the following correcting entries were proposed and accepted by the client to properly present the entity's financial statements, notes to the financial statements and schedules:

- On the Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances, Student Transportation Services expenditures and Other Sources – Capital Leases of \$797,835.00 were recorded to properly reflect the proceeds associated with the acquisition of buses through a capital lease in the governmental funds.
- Several balances reflected on the Reconciliation of the Governmental Funds Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances to the Statement of Activities required adjustment.
- The Capital Asset note disclosure regarding capital assets acquired under capital leases required revision.
- Several reclassification entries were proposed to enhance the financial statement presentation.
- Supplemental Schedule 1 required revision.
- Supplemental Schedule 4 required revision.

Various misstatements and misclassifications were also encountered throughout the course of the audit and were reported to management. These adjustments were not corrected by management as they were deemed immaterial to the financial statements.

### Cause:

In discussing these issues with the School District, they stated that management was not aware of the requirements to record/report the items addressed.

### **Effect or Potential Effect:**

The School District did not comply with the requirements of the Georgia Department of Education regarding financial reporting. Several adjustments were necessary in order for the School District's financial statements to be in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles.

### Recommendation:

The School District should implement controls over the financial statement reporting process to ensure that all required activity is included in the financial statement information presented for audit.

### II FINANCIAL STATEMENT FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS

### Views of Responsible Officials and Corrective Action Plans:

We concur with this finding. The Board is working to implement the recommendations of the Department of Audits. Procedures are being set up to strengthen the internal controls over the financial reporting process.

Contact Person: Lee Goodman, Comptroller

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Finding Control Number: FS-6921-13-02

Inadequate Controls over Payroll Process

Control Category: Employee Compensation Internal Control Impact: Significant Deficiency

### Description:

Our review of employee compensation revealed deficiencies in the calculation of employee salaries; the maintenance of documentation to support all amounts paid to employees; and separation of duties related to salary calculations.

### Criteria:

The School District's management is responsible for designing and maintaining internal controls that provide reasonable assurance employees are paid according to approved salary schedules.

### Condition:

Weaknesses in internal controls related to employee compensation records were noted during a review of 27 employees' salaries as follows:

- One employee was overpaid by \$4,566.99 due to the use of the incorrect certificate level as compared to the employee's actual certificate level. Entity personnel were aware of this error and continued to pay the employee at the incorrect rate.
- Two employees were underpaid by a total of \$961.62 based upon Board-approved salary schedules, and no salary calculations could be provided to support the salaries actually paid to these employees.
- One employee was underpaid by \$157.58 due to the incorrect calculation of imputed income associated with the use of a Board-owned vehicle.
- It was determined that the former Assistant Superintendent of Business and Finance calculated numerous employees' salaries rather than the Human Resources Department. Additionally, one employee tested was given a salary supplement of \$12,000.00 at the directive of the former Assistant Superintendent of Business and Finance without the Board of Education's knowledge or approval.

### II FINANCIAL STATEMENT FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS

### Cause:

Management did not implement and adequately monitor procedures to ensure that payments made to employees are based on an approved rate of pay that was adequately documented.

### Effect or Potential Effect:

Errors and/or irregularities may occur and not be detected in a timely manner.

### Recommendation:

Management should develop and implement controls to ensure that payments made to employees are based on approved rates of pay that are adequately documented in the employees' personnel file. Additionally, the School District should review this matter to determine if recovery or payment of funds are needed.

### Views of Responsible Officials and Corrective Action Plans:

We concur with this finding. The Board is working to implement the recommendations of the Department of Audits. Procedures are being set up to strengthen the internal controls over the payroll process.

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### III FEDERAL AWARD FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS

No matters were reported.