

ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT • FISCAL YEAR 2024

# Bulloch County Board of Education Statesboro, Georgia

Including Independent Auditor's Report



Greg S. Griffin | State Auditor

# **Bulloch County Board of Education**

Table c	of Contents	
Sectio	nl	
Financ	cial	
In	dependent Auditor's Report	
Requir	red Supplementary Information	
Ma	anagement's Discussion and Analysis	i
Exhibi	ts	
Ba	sic Financial Statements	
	Government-Wide Financial Statements	
A B	Statement of Net Position Statement of Activities	1 2
	Fund Financial Statements	
C	Balance Sheet Governmental Funds	3
D	Reconciliation of the Governmental Funds Balance Sheet to the Statement of Net Position	4
E _	Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances Governmental Funds	5
F	Reconciliation of the Governmental Funds Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances	
	to the Statement of Activities	6
G	Notes to the Basic Financial Statements	8
Sched	ules	
Requi	red Supplementary Information	
1	Schedule of Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability Teachers Retirement System of Georgia	00
2	Schedule of Contributions – Teachers Retirement System of Georgia	33 34
3	Schedule of Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability Public School Employees Retirement System of Georgia	35

- 4 Schedule of Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability
   5 Schedule of Contributions School OPEB Fund
- 6Notes to the Required Supplementary Information387Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund398Balances Budget and Actual General Fund39

# **Supplementary Information**

8	Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards	40
9	Schedule of State Revenue	42
10	Schedule of Approved Local Option Sales Tax Projects	44

# Section II

# **Compliance and Internal Control Reports**

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* 

Independent Auditor's Report on Compliance for Each Major Federal Program and on Internal Control Over Compliance Required by the Uniform Guidance

# Section III

# Auditee's Response to Prior Year Findings and Questioned Costs

Summary Schedule of Prior Audit Findings

Section IV

# **Findings and Questioned Costs**

Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs

Section I

Financial



#### **INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT**

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

# **Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements**

# **Opinions**

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities and each major fund of the Bulloch County Board of Education (School District) as of and for the year ended June 30, 2024, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the School District's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities and each major fund of the School District as of June 30, 2024, and the respective changes in financial position for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

# **Basis for Opinions**

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS) and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report.

We are required to be independent of the School District and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

# **Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements**

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the School District's ability to continue as a going concern for twelve months beyond the financial statement date, including any currently known information that may raise substantial doubt shortly thereafter.

# Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

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

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

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the School District's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- Conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the School District's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control related matters that we identified during the audit.

# **Required Supplementary Information**

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

# Supplementary Information

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

The 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 GAAS. 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 March 18, 2025 on our consideration of the School District's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the School District's internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the School District's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Sheger S. Shipp-

Greg S. Griffin State Auditor

March 18, 2025

#### INTRODUCTION

Our discussion and analysis of the Bulloch County School District's financial performance provides an overview of the School District's financial activities for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024. The intent of this discussion and analysis is to look at the School District's financial performance as a whole; readers should also review the notes to the basic financial statements and financial statements to enhance their understanding of the School District's financial performance.

#### FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

Key financial highlights for fiscal year 2024 are as follows:

- On the government-wide financial statements, the assets and deferred outflows of the School District exceeded liabilities and deferred inflows by \$93.1 million. Of this amount, \$55.5 million is available for spending at the School District's discretion. This is an increase in the amount of \$3.9 million from prior year, and as explained later in this report, was largely due to an increase in revenues from investment earnings and from our local sales and other tax collections.
- The School District had \$184.3 million in expenses relating to governmental activities; only \$101.7 million of these expenses are offset by program specific charges for services, grants and contributions. General revenues (primarily property and sales taxes) of \$82.7 million were adequate to provide for these programs.
- As stated above, general revenues accounted for \$82.7 million, or 44.9%, of all revenues totaling \$184.4 million. Program specific revenues in the form of charges for services, grants and contributions accounted for the rest.

#### OVERVIEW OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

This report consists of several parts including management's discussion and analysis, the basic financial statements and required supplementary information. The basic financial statements include two levels of statements that present different views of the School District. These include the government-wide and fund financial statements.

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

The fund financial statements focus on individual parts of the School District, reporting the School District's operation in more detail. The governmental funds statements disclose how basic services are financed in the short-term as well as what remains for future spending.

The fund financial statements reflect the School District's most significant funds. For fiscal year 2024, the general fund, capital projects fund, and debt service fund are the most significant funds.

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

#### **Government-Wide Statements**

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

The two government-wide statements report the School District's net position and how it has changed. Net position, the difference between the School District's assets, deferred outflows of resources, liabilities and deferred inflows of resources, is one way to measure the School District's overall financial health or position. Over time, increases or decreases in net position are an indication of whether its financial health is improving or deteriorating. Changes may be the result of many factors, including those not under the School District's control, such as the property tax base, facility conditions, required educational programs and other factors.

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

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

#### **Fund Financial Statements**

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

<u>Governmental Funds</u> - All of the School District's activities are reported in governmental funds, which focus on how money flows into and out of those funds and the balances left at year end that are available for spending in future periods. These funds are reported using the modified accrual method of accounting, which measures cash and all other financial assets that can readily be converted to cash. The governmental fund statements provide a detailed short-term view of the School District's general government operations and the basic services it provides. Governmental fund information helps determine the financial resources that can be spent in the near future to finance educational programs.

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

The Statement of Net Position provides a financial perspective of the School District as a whole. Table 1 compares the School District's net position for fiscal years 2023 and 2024.

#### Table 1 Net Position

		G	iove	ernmental Activities	5
	-	Fiscal Year 2024		Fiscal Year 2023	Net Change
Assets	-		-		
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$	92,443,043	\$	79,623,685 \$	12,819,358
Investments		-		8,569,121	(8,569,121)
Accounts Receivable, Net					
Taxes		4,242,517		5,747,136	(1,504,619)
State Government		11,221,331		9,869,326	1,352,005
Federal Government		2,539,279		6,504,622	(3,965,343)
Local		34,338		11,672	22,666
Inventories		138,434		203,133	(64,699)
Prepaid Items		-		16,000	(16,000)
Capital Assets, Non-Depreciable		18,456,714		17,101,033	1,355,681
Capital Assets, Depreciable (Net of Accumulated Depreciation)		164,053,356		160,406,650	3,646,706
Total Assets	-	293,129,012	-	288,052,378	5,076,634
Deferred Outflows of Resources					
Related to Defined Benefit Pension Plan		56,866,259		79,274,571	(22,408,312)
Related to OPEB Plan		21,120,692		17,414,885	3,705,807
Total Deferred Outflows of Resources	-	77,986,951	-	96,689,456	(18,702,505)
Liabilities Accounts Pavable		494,493		650,336	(155,843)
Salaries and Benefits Payable		18,260,712		17,157,640	1,103,072
Payroll Withholdings Payable		10,236		10,532	(296)
Interest Payable		10,200		34,792	(34,792)
Contracts Payable		364,659		583,515	(218,856)
Retainages Payable		266,481		192,649	73,832
Deposits and Unearned Revenue		88,843		102,040	88,843
Net Pension Liability		152,230,217		157,624,283	(5,394,066)
Net OPEB Liability		74,470,059		65,870,024	8,600,035
Long-Term Liabilities		14,410,000		00,070,024	0,000,000
Due Within One Year		_		8,932,212	(8,932,212)
Total Liabilities	-	246,185,700	-	251,055,983	
Total Liabilities	-	240,103,700	-	251,055,985	(4,870,283)
Deferred Inflows of Resources					
Related to Defined Benefits Pension Plan		705,578		979,368	(273,790)
Related to OPEB Plan	_	31,101,994	-	39,725,616	(8,623,622)
Total Deferred Inflows of Resources	-	31,807,572	-	40,704,984	(8,897,412)
Net Position					
Net Investment in Capital Assets		181,878,930		176,616,531	5,262,399
Restricted for					
Continuation of Federal Programs		1,980,406		2,398,599	(418,193)
Debt Service		169,671		11,829,990	(11,660,319)
Capital Projects		34,120,007		18,010,685	16,109,322
Continuation of State Programs		3,432		3,432	-
Unrestricted (Deficit)	_	(125,029,755)	-	(115,878,370)	(9,151,385)
Total Net Position	\$	93,122,691	\$	92,980,867 \$	141,824
	· · · -	, ,	÷ .	, -, <del>,</del>	,

# Table 2 shows the changes in net position for years ending June 30, 2023 and June 30, 2024.

#### Table 2 Change in Net Position

	Go			
	Fiscal Year	Fiscal Year	Net	
	2024	2023	Change	
REVENUES				
Program Revenues:				
Charges for Services	\$ 3,109,656 \$	2,980,278 \$	129,378	
Operating Grants and Contributions	98,339,744	98,699,945	(360,201)	
Capital Grants and Contributions	236,574	1,503,648	(1,267,074)	
Total Program Revenues	101,685,974	103,183,871	(1,497,897)	
General Revenues:				
Taxes				
Property Taxes				
For Maintenance and Operations	30,322,641	25,341,454	4,981,187	
For Debt Services	154	(458)	612	
Railroad Cars	13,111	-	13,111	
Other Taxes	5,333	-	5,333	
Sales Taxes				
Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax				
For Debt Services	4,658,561	17,501,796	(12,843,235)	
For Capital Projects	14,343,527		14,343,527	
Local Option Sales Taxes	19,128,325	17,391,587	1,736,738	
Other Sales Tax	709,406	690,346	19,060	
Grants and Contributions not Restricted to Specific Programs	7,411,629	5,032,924	2,378,705	
Investment Earnings	4,800,991	3,021,787	1,779,204	
Miscellaneous	1,333,068	1,447,309	(114,241)	
Special Item				
Loss on Disposal of Capital Assets	<u> </u>	(238,488)	238,488	
Total General Revenues and Special Item	82,726,746	70,188,257	12,538,489	
Total Revenues and Special Item	184,412,720	173,372,128	11,040,592	
PROGRAM EXPENSES				
Instruction	114,239,306	97,659,997	16,579,309	
Support Services				
Pupil Services	15,203,934	12,167,134	3,036,800	
Improvement of Instructional Services	6,619,753	6,548,015	71,738	
Educational Media Services	2,124,648	1,909,049	215,599	
General Administration	1,148,910	1,020,077	128,833	
School Administration	11,098,340	9,823,408	1,274,932	
Business Administration	927,541	1,081,890	(154,349)	
Maintenance and Operation of Plant	13,593,504	12,060,388	1,533,116	
Student Transportation Services	7,887,940	7,974,985	(87,045)	
Central Support Services	3,250,317	3,084,648	165,669	
Other Support Services	411,990	322,100	89,890	
Operations of Non-Instructional Services	,	,	,	
Food Services	7.964,217	7,556,789	407,428	
Interest on Long-Term Debt	(199,504)	28,908	(228,412)	
Total Expenses	184,270,896	161,237,388	23,033,508	
Increase in Net Position	141,824	12,134,740	(11,992,916)	
Net Position - Beginning of the Year	92,980,867	80,846,127	12,134,740	
Net Position - End of the Year	\$\$\$\$	92,980,867 \$	141,824	

#### **Governmental Activities**

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

#### Table 3 Governmental Activities

	Total Cost of Services Fiscal Year 2024	- ·	Net Cost of Services Fiscal Year 2024
Instruction	\$ 114,239,306	\$	38,149,571
Support Services:			
Pupil Services	15,203,934		13,204,774
Improvement of Instructional Services	6,619,753		4,163,767
Educational Media Services	2,124,648		366,425
General Administration	1,148,910		(1,321,139)
School Administration	11,098,340		7,607,593
Business Administration	927,541		927,450
Maintenance and Operation of Plant	13,593,504		9,474,296
Student Transportation Services	7,887,940		6,221,365
Central Support Services	3,250,317		3,228,166
Other Support Services	411,990		239,195
Operations of Non-Instructional Services:			
Food Services	7,964,217		522,963
Interest on Long-Term Debt	(199,504)	_	(199,504)
Total Expenses	\$ 184,270,896	\$	82,584,922

Although program revenues make up a majority of the funding, the School District is still dependent upon tax revenues for governmental activities. For 2024, 44.8% of expenses were supplemented by taxes and other general revenues compared to 36.0% in 2023.

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

The School District's governmental funds are accounted for using the modified accrual basis of accounting. The governmental funds had total revenues of \$184.3 million and total expenditures of \$185.2 million. The tax base of the School District has always been strong and has been able to produce positive financial results. At the same time, the School District continued to focus on funding schools at the highest level possible in order to ensure that adequate resources are available to each school.

#### **General Fund Budgeting Highlights**

The School District's budget is prepared according to Georgia Law. The most significant budgeted fund is the general fund, which includes local, state and federal funds collected and disbursed for the purpose of operating the School District.

The School District's budget is based on its overall mission and incorporates site-based budgeting into the budget process to control total site budgets but provide flexibility for site management.

For the general fund, the actual revenues of \$163.3 million were received and the final budgeted amount was \$153.7 million with a variance of \$9.6 million. These were mainly attributable to revenue received for Local Option Sales Taxes (LOST) and Title Ad Valorem Tax (TAVT) collections, from the State's Quality Basic Education (QBE) funding, and increase in charges for services and from investment earnings due to increased interest rates. Combined, these revenues provided more than budgeted.

The actual expenditures of \$168.9 million were more than the final budgeted amount of \$164.7 million with a variance of \$4.3 million. This difference (actual vs. final budget) was mainly attributable to expenditures that were not included in a budget amendment. These expenditures were composed of state-mandated increases in employer-funded health insurance, Board-approved raises for all staff implemented in January 2024, and increased substitute costs.

General fund expenditures exceeded general fund revenues by \$5.6 million at year end, which was less than the excess of budgeted expenditures over budgeted revenues.

#### CAPITAL ASSETS AND DEBT ADMINISTRATION

#### **Capital Assets**

At fiscal year ended June 30, 2024, the School District had \$182.5 million invested in capital assets, net of depreciation, in governmental activities. Table 4 reflects a summary of these balances. The School District operates a district-wide facilities plan funded mostly by Educational Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax.

The School District received final sales tax collections in September 2023 for the third extension of the Educational Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax that was approved by voters in November 2017. This tax was used for technology, infrastructure, educational, athletic and fleet purposes. On November 8, 2022, the voters of Bulloch County approved the fourth extension of the Educational Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax, to be collected between October 1, 2023 and September 30, 2028. This will be used for the acquisition, construction, and equipping of a new Southeast Bulloch High School and to fund capital outlay projects for educational purposes pertaining to safety and security, instructional and technology resources, buildings and land, and equipment and vehicles.

#### Table 4 Capital Assets (Net of Depreciation)

	Governmental Activities								
	 Fiscal Year Fiscal Year				Net				
	 2024	2023			Change				
Land	\$ 6,982,068	\$	6,982,068	\$	-				
Construction In Progress	11,474,646		10,118,965		1,355,681				
Building and Improvements	147,683,817		146,421,489		1,262,328				
Equipment	9,576,375		7,640,932		1,935,443				
Land Improvements	 6,793,164		6,344,229		448,935				
Total	\$ 182,510,070	\$	177,507,683	\$	5,002,387				

#### Debt

In June 2018, the School District issued \$40.0 million in General Obligation Bonds for the purposes of fulfilling their facility plan. These have been repaid in full from the ESPLOST IV that began in January 2019.

#### Table 5 Debt at June 30

		Governmental Activities								
		Fiscal Year Fiscal Year				Net				
	_	2024		2023	_	Change				
Bonds Payable	\$_	-	\$	8,350,000	\$_	(8,350,000)				

### **Economic Outlook**

The School District is not aware of any currently known facts, decisions, or conditions that are expected to have a significant or negative impact on the financial position or results of operations during this fiscal year. The School District continues to be financially stable as the fund balance continues to exceed the state's benchmark. The School District anticipates continued growth in the County with the increased number of industries building in and around Bulloch County. With the growth in industry, stable state QBE funding and increasing property values, the School District does not anticipate a decline in revenue in the foreseeable future. The School District was able to increase its reserve fund balance with federal COVID-19 funds. This reserve fund balance allowed the School District to pass a budget for fiscal year 2025 where expenditures exceeded revenues in the general fund. The School District will continue to utilize our strategic waiver abilities to structure programs for the benefit of children and to maximize financial resources for students. The School District remains committed to improving strategic initiatives at the schools and to providing district support at the schools to maximize effective instruction. The School District also continues to be committed to retaining and attracting quality employees as reflected by the state-funded \$2,000 certified staff base raise and the locally-funded 4.1% classified staff base raise given in fiscal year 2025. As we anticipate increases in student enrollment across the county with new and developing industries, the School District is preparing to build a new high school in the near future. We plan to issue bonds to be repaid by ESPLOST V funds as approved by the voters in November 2022 when we get closer to construction of the new high school.

# CONTACTING THE SCHOOL DISTRICT'S FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

This financial report is designed to provide our citizens, taxpayers, investors and creditors with a general overview of the School District's finances and to show the School District's accountability for the money it receives. If you have questions about this report or need additional financial information contact Mrs. Alison Boatright, CPA, CFE, Chief Financial Officer for the Bulloch County School District, 150 Williams Road, Suite A, Statesboro, Georgia 30458. You may also email your questions to Mrs. Boatright at aboatright@bullochschools.org.

Bulloch County Board of Education

#### BULLOCH COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION STATEMENT OF NET POSITION JUNE 30, 2024

	GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES
ASSETS	 ACTIVITES
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 92,443,043.26
Accounts Receivable, Net	
Taxes	4,242,516.65
State Government	11,221,331.31
Federal Government	2,539,278.42
Local	34,338.12
Inventories	138,433.71
Capital Assets, Non-Depreciable	18,456,714.05
Capital Assets, Depreciable (Net of Accumulated Depreciation)	164,053,356.44
Total Assets	 293,129,011.96
DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES	
Related to Defined Benefit Pension Plan	56,866,259.00
Related to OPEB Plan	21,120,692.00
Total Deferred Outflows of Resources	 77,986,951.00
LIABILITIES	
Accounts Payable	494,492.71
Salaries and Benefits Payable	18,260,712.06
Payroll Withholdings Payable	10,236.02
Contracts Payable	364,659.50
Retainages Payable	266,480.60
Deposits and Unearned Revenues	88,842.80
Net Pension Liability	152,230,217.00
Net OPEB Liability	74,470,059.00
Total Liabilities	 246,185,699.69
DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES	
Related to Defined Benefit Pension Plan	705,578.00
Related to OPEB Plan	31,101,994.00
Total Deferred Inflows of Resources	 31,807,572.00
NET POSITION	
Net Investment in Capital Assets	181,878,930.39
Restricted for	
Continuation of Federal Programs	1,980,405.94
Debt Service	169,670.66
Capital Projects	34,120,007.21
Continuation of State Programs	3,432.34
Unrestricted (Deficit)	 (125,029,755.27)
Total Net Position	\$ 93,122,691.27

#### BULLOCH COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

			PROGRAM REVENUES						NET (EXPENSES)
			-			OPERATING		CAPITAL	REVENUES
				CHARGES FOR		GRANTS AND		GRANTS AND	AND CHANGES IN
	_	EXPENSES	-	SERVICES		CONTRIBUTIONS		CONTRIBUTIONS	 NET POSITION
GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES									
Instruction	\$	114,239,306.11	\$	2,387,548.11	\$	73,492,382.00	\$	209,805.12	\$ (38,149,570.88)
Support Services									
Pupil Services		15,203,933.62		-		1,999,159.67		-	(13,204,773.95)
Improvement of Instructional Services		6,619,753.19		-		2,455,986.54		-	(4,163,766.65)
Educational Media Services		2,124,647.57		-		1,757,125.45		1,097.15	(366,424.97)
General Administration		1,148,909.71		-		2,469,340.46		708.05	1,321,138.80
School Administration		11,098,339.87		-		3,489,689.61		1,057.12	(7,607,593.14)
Business Administration		927,540.93		-		90.73		-	(927,450.20)
Maintenance and Operation of Plant		13,593,503.88		-		4,102,066.69		17,141.61	(9,474,295.58)
Student Transportation Services		7,887,940.29		-		1,666,575.74		-	(6,221,364.55)
Central Support Services		3,250,316.68		-		21,693.10		457.44	(3,228,166.14)
Other Support Services		411,990.42		-		170,620.68		2,174.64	(239,195.10)
Operations of Non-Instructional Services									
Food Services		7,964,217.07		722,108.21		6,715,013.33		4,132.60	(522,962.93)
Interest on Long-Term Debt		(199,503.57)	-	-	-	-		-	 199,503.57
Total Governmental Activities	\$	184,270,895.77	\$	3,109,656.32	\$	98,339,744.00	\$	236,573.73	 (82,584,921.72)
	G	General Revenues							
		Taxes							
Property Taxes									
For Maintenance and Operations								30,322,641.19	
For Debt Services								153.86	
		Railroad	Car	s					13,110.97

Other Taxes	5,333.21
Sales Taxes	
Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax	
For Debt Services	4,658,560.60
For Capital Projects	14,343,526.83
Local Option Sales Tax	19,128,325.47
Other Sales Tax	709,405.85
Grants and Contributions not Restricted to Specific Programs	7,411,629.00
Investment Earnings	4,800,990.98
Miscellaneous	1,333,068.51
Total General Revenues	82,726,746.47
Change in Net Position	141,824.75
Net Position - Beginning of Year	92,980,866.52
Net Position - End of Year	\$ 93,122,691.27

#### BULLOCH COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION BALANCE SHEET GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS JUNE 30, 2024

	_	GENERAL FUND	 CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND		DEBT SERVICE FUND		TOTAL
ASSETS							
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$	59,588,405.61	\$ 32,685,060.03	\$	169,577.62	\$	92,443,043.26
Accounts Receivable, Net							
Taxes		2,699,426.69	1,542,996.92		93.04		4,242,516.65
State Government		11,221,330.55	0.76		-		11,221,331.31
Federal Government		2,539,278.42	-		-		2,539,278.42
Local		34,338.12	-		-		34,338.12
Inventories	_	138,433.71	 -	-	-	_	138,433.71
Total Assets	\$ _	76,221,213.10	\$ 34,228,057.71	\$	169,670.66	\$	110,618,941.47
LIABILITIES							
Accounts Payable	\$	386,442.21	\$ 108,050.50	\$	-	\$	494,492.71
Salaries and Benefits Payable		18,260,712.06	-		-		18,260,712.06
Payroll Withholdings Payable		10,236.02	-		-		10,236.02
Contracts Payable		-	364,659.50		-		364,659.50
Retainages Payable		-	266,480.60		-		266,480.60
Deposits and Unearned Revenues		88,842.80	 -	_	-		88,842.80
Total Liabilities	_	18,746,233.09	 739,190.60	_	-	_	19,485,423.69
DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES							
Unavailable Revenue - Property Taxes	_	462,059.95	 -	-	90.41	_	462,150.36
FUND BALANCES							
Nonspendable		138,433.71	-		-		138,433.71
Restricted		1,845,404.57	33,488,867.11		169,580.25		35,503,851.93
Assigned		1,765,777.68	-		-		1,765,777.68
Unassigned		53,263,304.10	 -		-	_	53,263,304.10
Total Fund Balances		57,012,920.06	 33,488,867.11	_	169,580.25		90,671,367.42
Total Liabilities, Deferred Inflows							
of Resources, and Fund Balances	\$	76,221,213.10	\$ 34,228,057.71	\$	169,670.66	\$ _	110,618,941.47

#### BULLOCH COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION RECONCILIATION OF THE GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS BALANCE SHEET TO THE STATEMENT OF NET POSITION JUNE 30, 2024

Total fund balances - governmental funds (Exhibit "C")	\$	90,671,367.42
Amounts reported for governmental activities in the Statement of Net Position are		
different because:		
Capital assets used in governmental activities are not financial resources		
and therefore are not reported in the funds.		
Land	\$ 6,982,067.66	
Construction in progress	11,474,646.39	
Buildings and improvements	198,950,799.22	
Equipment	22,546,454.98	
Land improvements	8,299,301.98	
Accumulated depreciation	 (65,743,199.74)	182,510,070.49
Some liabilities are not due and payable in the current period and,		
therefore, are not reported in the funds.		
Net pension liability	\$ (152,230,217.00)	
Net OPEB liability	 (74,470,059.00)	(226,700,276.00)
Deferred outflows and inflows of resources related to pensions/OPEB are		
applicable to future periods and, therefore, are not reported in the funds.		
Related to pensions	\$ 56,160,681.00	
Related to OPEB	 (9,981,302.00)	46,179,379.00
<b>-</b>		
Taxes that are not available to pay for current period expenditures are		
deferred in the funds.	_	462,150.36
Net position of governmental activities (Exhibit "A")	\$	93,122,691.27

#### BULLOCH COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

	_	GENERAL FUND	CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND	DEBT SERVICE FUND	TOTAL
REVENUES					
Property Taxes	\$	30,221,786.59 \$	- \$	63.45 \$	30,221,850.04
Sales Taxes		19,837,731.32	14,343,526.83	4,658,560.60	38,839,818.75
State Funds		88,846,183.86	109,333.06	-	88,955,516.92
Federal Funds		17,004,364.74	-	-	17,004,364.74
Charges for Services		3,109,656.32	-	-	3,109,656.32
Investment Earnings		3,059,964.46	1,147,216.37	593,810.15	4,800,990.98
Miscellaneous		1,243,068.51	90,000.00	-	1,333,068.51
Total Revenues	_	163,322,755.80	15,690,076.26	5,252,434.20	184,265,266.26
EXPENDITURES					
Current					
Instruction		102,697,293.08	96,312.37	-	102,793,605.45
Support Services					
Pupil Services		13,883,195.87	-	-	13,883,195.87
Improvement of Instructional Services		6,026,908.04	-	-	6,026,908.04
Educational Media Services		1,885,315.20	-	-	1,885,315.20
General Administration		1,229,261.06	-	-	1,229,261.06
School Administration		9,919,912.32	-	-	9,919,912.32
Business Administration		650,045.31	714.83	-	650,760.14
Maintenance and Operation of Plant		14,029,599.74	465,763.33	-	14,495,363.07
Student Transportation Services		7,397,636.22	1,260,000.00	-	8,657,636.22
Central Support Services		2,949,038.33	10,894.28	-	2,959,932.61
Other Support Services		373,145.52	-	-	373,145.52
Food Services Operation		7,889,432.06	540,800.00	-	8,430,232.06
Capital Outlay		-	5,128,392.59	-	5,128,392.59
Debt Services					
Principal		-	-	8,350,000.00	8,350,000.00
Interest		-	-	417,500.00	417,500.00
Total Expenditures	_	168,930,782.75	7,502,877.40	8,767,500.00	185,201,160.15
Revenues over (under) Expenditures	_	(5,608,026.95)	8,187,198.86	(3,515,065.80)	(935,893.89)
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)					
Transfers In		-	8,182,134.43	-	8,182,134.43
Transfers Out		(2,000.00)		(8,180,134.43)	(8,182,134.43)
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	_	(2,000.00)	8,182,134.43	(8,180,134.43)	-
Net Change in Fund Balances		(5,610,026.95)	16,369,333.29	(11,695,200.23)	(935,893.89)
Fund Balances - Beginning	_	62,622,947.01	17,119,533.82	11,864,780.48	91,607,261.31
Fund Balances - Ending	\$ _	57,012,920.06 \$	33,488,867.11 \$	169,580.25 \$	90,671,367.42

#### BULLOCH 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, 2024

Net change in fund balances total governmental funds (Exhibit "E")			\$ (935,893.89)
Amounts reported for governmental activities in the Statement of Activities are different because:			
Governmental funds report capital outlays as expenditures. However, in the Statement of Activities, the cost of capital assets is allocated over their estimated useful lives as depreciation expense. Capital outlay Depreciation expense	\$	9,978,076.07	5,002,387.88
Depreciation expense	-	(4,975,688.19)	5,002,567.66
Taxes reported in the Statement of Activities that do not provide current financial resources are not reported as revenues in the funds.			119,389.19
The issuance of long-term debt provides current financial resources to governmental funds, while the repayment of the principal of long-term debt consumes the current financial resources of governmental funds. Neither transaction, however, has any effect on net position. Also, governmental funds report the effect of premiums, discounts and the difference between the carrying value of refunded debt and the acquisition cost of refunded debt when debt is first issued. These amounts are deferred and amortized in the Statement of Activities. Bond principal retirements	\$	8,350,000.00	
Amortization of bond premium		582,211.90	8,932,211.90
District pension/OPEB contributions are reported as expenditures in the governmental funds when made. However, they are reported as deferred outflows of resources in the Statement of Net Position because the reported net pension/OPEB liability is measured a year before the District's report date. Pension/OPEB expense, which is the change in the net pension/OPEB liability adjusted for changes in deferred outflows and inflows of resources related	_		
to pensions/OPEB, is reported in the Statement of Activities. Pension expense	\$	(16,740,456.00)	
OPEB expense	Ψ 	3,729,394.00	(13,011,062.00)
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.			
governmental funds. Net decrease in accrued interest			34,791.67
Change in net position of governmental activities (Exhibit "B")			\$ 141,824.75

(This page left intentionally blank)

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

#### **Reporting Entity**

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

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

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

### **Basis of Presentation**

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

#### Government-Wide Statements:

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

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

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

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

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

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

# Fund Financial Statements

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

The School District reports the following major governmental funds:

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

# **Basis of Accounting**

The basis of accounting determines when transactions are reported on the financial statements. The government-wide 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 certain revenues reported in the governmental funds to be available if they are collected within 60 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 are reported as other financing sources.

The School District funds certain programs by a combination of specific cost-reimbursement grants, categorical grants, and general revenues. Thus, when program costs are incurred, there are both restricted and unrestricted resources 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 2024, the School District adopted Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 100, *Accounting Changes and Error Corrections*. The objective of this statement is to enhance accounting and financial reporting requirements for accounting changes and error corrections to provide more understandable, reliable, relevant, consistent and comparable information for making decisions or assessing accountability. The adoption of this statement did not have a material impact on the School District's financial statements. This statement will be applied prospectively.

#### **Cash and Cash Equivalents**

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

#### **Receivables**

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

#### **Inventories**

# **Food Inventories**

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

when received, and expenses/expenditures are recorded as the inventory items are used. Purchased foods are recorded as an asset when purchased and expenses/expenditures are recorded as the inventory items are used.

# **Capital Assets**

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

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

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

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

	Capitalization		Estimated
	Policy		Useful Life
Land		Any Amount	N/A
Land Improvements	\$	20,000.00	60 years
Buildings and Improvements	\$	20,000.00	10 to 60 years
Equipment	\$	20,000.00	5 to 12 years
Intangible Assets	\$	50,000.00	10 years

# **Deferred Outflows/Inflows of Resources**

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

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

# Long-Term Liabilities and Bond Discounts/Premiums

In the School District's government-wide financial statements, outstanding debt is reported as liabilities. Bond premiums and discounts and the difference between the reacquisition price and the net carrying value of refunded debt are deferred and amortized over the life of the bonds using the straight-line method. To conform to generally accepted accounting principles, bond premiums and discounts

should be amortized using the effective interest method. The effect of this deviation is deemed to be immaterial to the fair presentation of the basic financial statements. Bond issuance costs are recognized as an outflow of resources in the fiscal year in which the bonds are issued.

In the governmental fund financial statements, the School District recognizes the proceeds of debt and premiums as other financing sources of the current period. Bond issuance costs are reported as debt service expenditures.

# Pensions

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

# **Post-Employment Benefits Other Than Pensions (OPEB)**

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

# **Fund Balances**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

# **Use of Estimates**

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

# **Property Taxes**

The Bulloch County Board of Commissioners adopted the property tax levy for the 2023 tax digest year (calendar year) on August 22, 2023 (levy date) based on property values as of January 1, 2023. Taxes were due on December 1, 2023 (lien date). Taxes collected within the current fiscal year or within 60 days after year-end on the 2023 tax digest are reported as revenue in the governmental funds for fiscal year 2024. The Bulloch County Tax Commissioner bills and collects the property taxes for the School District, withholds 2.5% of taxes collected as a fee for tax collection and remits the balance of taxes collected to the School District. Property tax revenues, at the fund reporting level, during the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024, for maintenance and operations amounted to \$25,009,378.94 and for school bonds amounted to \$63.45.

The tax millage rate levied for the 2023 tax digest year (calendar year) for the School District was as follows (a mill equals \$1 per thousand dollars of assessed value):

School Operations 8.478 mills

Additionally, Title Ad Valorem Tax revenues, at the fund reporting level, amounted to \$5,199,296.68 during fiscal year ended June 30, 2024.

# **Sales Taxes**

Local Option Sales Tax revenue, at the fund reporting level, during the fiscal year amounted to \$19,128,325.47 and was recorded in the general fund. Local Option Sales Tax is to be used for the maintenance and operation of the School District.

Education Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (ESPLOST), at the fund reporting level, during the year amounted to \$19,002,087.43 and is to be used for capital outlay for educational purposes or debt service. This sales tax was authorized by local referendum and the sales tax must be re-authorized at least every five years.

# **NOTE 3: BUDGETARY DATA**

The budget is a complete financial plan for the School District's fiscal year and is based upon careful estimates of expenditures together with probable funding sources. The budget is legally adopted each year for the general, debt service and capital projects funds. There is no statutory prohibition regarding over expenditure of the budget at any level. The budget for all governmental funds, except the various school activity (principal) accounts, the banquet fund and various other miscellaneous funds, is

prepared and adopted by fund and function. The legal level of budgetary control was established by the Board at the aggregate function level. The budget for the general fund was prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

The budgetary process begins with the School District's administration presenting an initial budget for the Board's review. The administration makes revisions as necessary based on the Board's guidelines, and a tentative budget is approved. After approval of this tentative budget by the Board, such budget is advertised at least once in a newspaper of general circulation in the locality, as well as the School District's website. At the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board after advertisement, the Board receives comments on the tentative budget, makes revisions as necessary and adopts a final budget. The approved budget is then submitted, in accordance with provisions of O.C.G.A. §20-2-167(c), to the Georgia Department of Education. The Board may increase or decrease the budget at any time during the year. All unexpended budget authority lapses at fiscal year-end.

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

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

# **Collateralization of Deposits**

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

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

- (1) Surety bond signed by a surety company duly qualified and authorized to transact business within the State of Georgia,
- (2) Insurance on accounts provided by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation,
- (3) Bonds, bills, notes, certificates of indebtedness or other direct obligations of the United States or of the State of Georgia,
- (4) Bonds, bills, notes, certificates of indebtedness or other obligations of the counties or municipalities of the State of Georgia,
- (5) Bonds of any public authority created by the laws of the State of Georgia, providing that the statute that created the authority authorized the use of the bonds for this purpose,
- (6) Industrial revenue bonds and bonds of development authorities created by the laws of the State of Georgia, and

(7) Bonds, bills, notes, certificates of indebtedness, or other obligations of a subsidiary corporation of the United States government, which are fully guaranteed by the United States government both as to principal and interest or debt obligations issued by or securities guaranteed by the Federal Land Bank, the Federal Home Loan Bank, the Federal Intermediate Credit Bank, the Central Bank for Cooperatives, the Farm Credit Banks, the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Association, and the Federal National Mortgage Association.

### **Categorization of Deposits**

Custodial credit risk is the risk that in the event of a bank failure, the School District's deposits may not be returned to it. The School District does not have a deposit policy for custodial credit risk. At June 30, 204, the School District had deposits with a carrying amount of \$15,246,637.70, and a bank balance of \$21,483,872.27. The bank balances insured by Federal depository insurance were \$1,000,000.00.

At June 30, 2024, \$20,483,872.27 of the School District's bank balances was exposed to custodial credit risk. This balance was in the State's Secure Deposit Program (SDP).

The School District participates in the State's Secure Deposit Program (SDP), a multi-bank pledging pool. The SDP requires participating banks that accept public deposits in Georgia to operate under the policy and procedures of the program. The Georgia Office of State Treasurer (OST) sets the collateral requirements and pledging level for each covered depository. There are four tiers of collateralization levels specifying percentages of eligible securities to secure covered deposits: 25%, 50%, 75%, and 110%. The SDP also provides for collateral levels to be increased in the amount of up to 125% if economic or financial conditions warrants. The program lists the types of eligible criteria. The OST approves authorized custodians.

In accordance with the SDP, if a covered depository defaults, losses to public depositors are first satisfied with any applicable insurance, followed by demands of payment under any letters of credit or sale of the covered depository collateral. If necessary, any remaining losses are to be satisfied by assessments made against the other participating covered depositories. Therefore, for disclosure purposes, all deposits of the SDP are considered to be fully collateralized.

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

Cash and cash equivalents Statement of Net Position	\$	92,443,043,26
	φ	92,443,043.20
Less:		
Investment pools reported as cash and cash equivalents		
Georgia Fund 1	_	77,196,405.56
Total carrying value of deposits - June 30, 2024	\$	15,246,637.70

# **Categorization of Cash Equivalents**

The School District reported cash equivalents of \$77,196,405.56 in Georgia Fund 1, a local government investment pool, which is included in the cash balances above. Georgia Fund 1 is not registered with the SEC as an investment company and does not operate in a manner consistent with the SEC's Rule 2a-7 of the Investment Company Act of 1940. The investment is valued at the pool's share price, \$1.00 per share, which approximates fair value. The pool is an AAAf rated investment pool by Fitch. The weighted average maturity of Georgia Fund 1 may not exceed 60 days. The weighted average maturity for Georgia Fund 1 may so the state of the s

Georgia Fund 1, administered by the State of Georgia, Office of the State Treasurer, is not required to be categorized since the School District did not own any specific identifiable securities in the pool. The investment policy of the State of Georgia, Office of the State Treasurer for the Georgia Fund 1, does not provide for investment in derivatives or similar investments. Additional information on the Georgia Fund 1 is disclosed in the State of Georgia Annual Comprehensive Financial Report, which is publicly available at <a href="https://sao.georgia.gov/statewide-reporting/acfr">https://sao.georgia.gov/statewide-reporting/acfr</a>.

# **NOTE 5: CAPITAL ASSETS**

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

	Balances July 1, 2023	Increases	reases Decreases		Balances June 30, 2024	
Governmental Activities Capital Assets, Not Being Depreciated:						
Land	\$ 6,982,067.66 \$	- \$	- \$	- \$	6,982,067.66	
Construction in Progress	10,118,964.99	5,430,194.85	<u> </u>	(4,074,513.45)	11,474,646.39	
Total Capital Assets						
Not Being Depreciated	17,101,032.65	5,430,194.85		(4,074,513.45)	18,456,714.05	
Capital Assets, Being Depreciated						
Buildings and Improvements	194,350,369.69	525,916.08	-	4,074,513.45	198,950,799.22	
Equipment	19,612,934.39	3,438,285.14	504,764.55	-	22,546,454.98	
Land Improvements	7,715,621.98	583,680.00	-	-	8,299,301.98	
Less Accumulated Depreciation:						
Buildings and Improvements	47,928,880.78	3,338,100.89	-	-	51,266,981.67	
Equipment	11,972,002.24	1,502,842.26	504,764.55	-	12,970,079.95	
Land Improvements	1,371,393.08	134,745.04		-	1,506,138.12	
Total Capital Assets,						
Being Depreciated, Net	160,406,649.96	(427,806.97)		4,074,513.45	164,053,356.44	
Governmental Activities						
Capital Assets - Net	\$ 177,507,682.61 \$	5,002,387.88 \$	- \$	- \$	182,510,070.49	

\$ 4,975,688.19

# BULLOCH COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS JUNE 30, 2024

#### Current year depreciation expense by function is as follows:

	\$	3,275,094.31
\$ 28,800.78		
18,586.83		
27,749.95		
449,977.92		
997,901.05		
12,008.18		
57,085.75		1,592,110.46
	-	108,483.42
\$	18,586.83 27,749.95 449,977.92 997,901.05 12,008.18	\$ 28,800.78 18,586.83 27,749.95 449,977.92 997,901.05 12,008.18

# **NOTE 6: INTERFUND TRANSFERS**

Interfund transfers for the year ended June 30, 2024, consisted of the following:

	 Transfers From						
	General Debt Servi						
Transfers to	 Fund	Fund		Total			
Capital Projects Fund	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 8,180,134.43	\$	8,182,134.43			

Transfers are used to move property tax revenues collected by the general fund and sales tax revenues collected by the debt service fund to the capital projects fund for capital construction projects.

#### **NOTE 7: LONG-TERM LIABILITIES**

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

	_	Governmental Activities								
	-	Balance July 1, 2023		Additions		Deductions		Balance June 30, 2024		Due Within One Year
General Obligation (G.O.) Bonds Unamortized Bond Premiums	\$	8,350,000.00 582,211.90	\$	-	\$	8,350,000.00 582,211.90	\$	-	\$	-
	\$	8,932,211.90	\$	_	\$	8,932,211.90	\$_	-	\$	_

The School District had no unused line of credit or outstanding notes from direct borrowings and direct placements related to governmental activities as of June 30, 2024.

# **General Obligation Bonds**

The School District's bonded debt consists of general obligation bonds that are generally noncallable with interest payable semiannually. Bond proceeds primarily pay for acquiring or constructing capital facilities. The School District repays general obligation bonds from voter-approved sales taxes. General obligation bonds are direct obligations and pledge the full faith and credit of the School District.

Of the total amount originally authorized, \$80,000,000.00 remains unissued. There are no general obligation bonds currently outstanding.

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

#### Insurance

#### **Commercial Insurance**

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

### Workers' Compensation

#### Georgia Education Workers' Compensation Trust

The School District participates in the Georgia Education Workers' Compensation Trust (the Trust), a public entity risk pool organized on December 1, 1991, to develop, implement and administer a program of workers' compensation self-insurance for its member organizations. The School District pays an annual premium to the Trust for its general workers' compensation insurance coverage. Specific excess of loss insurance coverage is provided through an agreement by the Trust with the Safety National Casualty Company to provide coverage for potential losses sustained by the Trust in excess of \$1.0 million loss per occurrence, up to the statutory limit. Employers' Liability insurance coverage is also provided with limits of \$2.0 million. The Trust covers the first \$1.0 million of each Employers Liability claim with Safety National providing additional Employers Liability limits up to a \$2.0 million per occurrence maximum. Safety National Casualty Company also provides \$2.0 million in aggregate coverage to the Trust, attaching at 107% of the loss fund and based on the Fund's annual normal premium.

#### **Unemployment Compensation**

The School District is self-insured with regard to unemployment compensation claims. 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:

	Beginning of Year Liability	 Claims and Changes in Estimates		in Claims		End of Year Liability		
2023	\$ -	\$ 6,276.07	\$	6,276.07	\$			
2024	\$ -	\$ 10,626.00	\$	10,626.00	\$	-		

# **Surety Bond**

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

Position Covered	 Amount					
Superintendent	\$ 500,000.00					

# **NOTE 9: FUND BALANCE CLASSIFICATION DETAILS**

The School District's financial statements include the following amounts presented in the aggregate at June 30, 2024:

Nonspendable Inventories			\$	138,433.71
Restricted				
Continuation of Federal Programs	\$	1,841,972.23		
Capital Projects		33,488,867.11		
Debt Service		169,580.25		
Continuation of State Programs		3,432.34	_	35,503,851.93
Assigned				
School Activity Accounts	\$	1,662,334.53		
Banquet Funds		16,345.77		
Quest Study Trips		15,606.55		
Rental Facilities		71,490.83	_	1,765,777.68
Unassigned	_			53,263,304.10
Fund Balance, June 30, 2024			\$	90,671,367.42

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

# **NOTE 10: BROADBAND SPECTRUM AGREEMENT**

Effective January 28, 2011, the School District entered into a thirty-year use agreement with Broadband South LLC for the use of excess spectrum capacity on Education Broadband Service licenses currently held by the School District. These licenses were granted to the School District by the Federal Communications Commission. The agreement requires monthly payments over the term of the agreement, of which \$12,024.00 was recognized during fiscal year 2024 as a general revenue on the Statement of Activities.

## **NOTE 11: SIGNIFICANT COMMITMENTS**

### **Commitments under Construction Contracts**

The following is an analysis of significant outstanding construction or renovation contracts executed by the School District as of June 30, 2024:

Project	 Unearned Executed Contracts (1)	Payments through June 30, 2024 (2)
Langston Chapel and William James Middle Schools - Athletics	\$ 47,837.04	6,277,688.57
Langston Chapel Elementary School - EIFS	54,224.84	470,803.16
Langston Chapel Middle School - EIFS	106,693.53	535,145.47
Portal Middle/High School - Track/Athletics	2,069,818.48	2,350,621.52
Southeast Bulloch Middle School - EIFS	51,840.04	577,002.96
School Food Service Freezer	 500.00	541,300.00
	\$ 2,330,913.93	\$ 10,752,561.68

(1) The amounts described are not reflected in the basic financial statements.

(2) Payments include contracts and retainages payable at year-end.

### **NOTE 12: SIGNIFICANT CONTINGENT LIABILITIES**

### **Federal Grants**

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

### Litigation

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

### NOTE 13: OTHER POST-EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS (OPEB)

### Georgia School Personnel Post-Employment Health Benefit Fund

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

**Benefits Provided:** The School OPEB Fund provides healthcare benefits for retirees and their dependents due under the group health plan for public school teachers, including librarians, other certified employees of public schools, regional educational service agencies and non-certified public school employees. Retiree medical eligibility is attained when an employee retires and is immediately eligible to draw a retirement annuity from Employees' Retirement System (ERS), Georgia Judicial Retirement System (JRS), Legislative Retirement System (LRS), Teachers Retirement System (TRS) or Public School Employees Retirement System (PSERS). If elected, dependent coverage starts on the same day as retiree coverage. Medicare-eligible retirees are offered Standard and Premium Medicare Advantage plan options. Non-Medicare eligible retiree plan options include Health Reimbursement Arrangement (HRA), Health Maintenance Organization (HMO) and a High Deductible Health Plan (HDHP). The School OPEB Fund also pays for administrative expenses of the fund. By law, no other use of the assets of the School OPEB Fund is permitted.

**Contributions:** As established by the Board, the School OPEB Fund is substantially funded on a payas-you-go basis; that is, annual cost of providing benefits will be financed in the same year as claims occur. Contributions to the School OPEB Fund from the School District were \$2,793,773.00 for the year ended June 30, 2024. Active employees are not required to contribute to the School OPEB Fund.

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

At June 30, 2024, the School District reported a liability of \$74,470,059.00 for its proportionate share of the net OPEB liability. The net OPEB liability was measured as of June 30, 2023. The total OPEB liability used to calculate the net OPEB liability was based on an actuarial valuation as of June 30, 2022. An expected total OPEB liability as of June 30, 2023 was determined using standard roll-forward techniques. The School District's proportion of the net OPEB liability was actuarially determined based on employer contributions during the fiscal year ended June 30, 2023. At June 30, 2023, the School District's proportion was 0.679880%, which was an increase of 0.014740% from its proportion measured as of June 30, 2022.

For the year ended June 30, 2024, the School District recognized OPEB expense of (\$935,621.00). At June 30, 2024, the School District reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB from the following sources:

	_	OPEB				
		Deferred	Deferred			
		Outflows of	Inflows of			
		Resources	Resources			
Differences between expected and actual experience	\$	2,170,679.00 \$	21,388,676.00			
Changes of assumptions		13,529,746.00	9,300,181.00			
Net difference between projected and actual earnings on OPEB plan investments		44,678.00	-			
Changes in proportion and differences between School District contributions and proportionate share of contributions		2,581,816.00	413,137.00			
School District contributions subsequent to the measurement date	_	2,793,773.00				
Total	\$_	21,120,692.00 \$	31,101,994.00			

School District contributions subsequent to the measurement date are reported as deferred outflows of resources and will be recognized as a reduction of the net OPEB liability in the year ended June 30, 2025. Other amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB will be recognized in OPEB expense as follows:

Year Ended June 30	): _	OPEB
2025	\$	(4,428,499.00)
2026	\$	(3,262,383.00)
2027	\$	(4,431,485.00)
2028	\$	(1,693,865.00)
2029	\$	874,292.00
Thereafter	\$	166,865.00

**Actuarial Assumptions:** The total OPEB liability as of June 30, 2023 was determined by an actuarial valuation as of June 30, 2022 using the following actuarial assumptions and other inputs, applied to all periods included in the measurement and rolled forward to the measurement date of June 30, 2023:

# OPEB:

Inflation	2.50%
Salary increases	3.00% – 8.75%, including inflation
Long-term expected rate of return	7.00%, compounded annually, net of investment expense, and including inflation
Healthcare cost trend rate	7.00%
Ultimate trend rate	4.50%
Year of Ultimate trend rate	2032

The Plan currently uses mortality tables that vary by age, gender, and health status (i.e. disabled or not disabled) as follows:

- For TRS members: Post-retirement mortality rates for service retirements and beneficiaries were based on the Pub-2010 Teachers Headcount Weighted Below Median Healthy Retiree mortality table (ages set forward one year and adjusted 106%) with the MP-2019 Projection scale applied generationally. The rates of improvement were reduced by 20% for all years prior to the ultimate rate. Post-retirement mortality rates for disability retirements were based on the Pub-2010 Teachers Mortality Table for Disabled Retirees (ages set forward one year and adjusted 106%) with the MP-2019 Projection scale applied generationally. The rates of improvement were reduced by 20% for all years prior to the ultimate rate. The Pub-2010 Teachers Mortality Table for Disabled Retirees (ages set forward one year and adjusted 106%) with the MP-2019 Projection scale applied generationally. The rates of improvement were reduced by 20% for all years prior to the ultimate rate. The Pub-2010 Teachers Headcount Weighted Below Median Employee mortality table with ages set forward one year and adjusted 106% was used for death prior to retirement. Future improvement in mortality rates was assumed using the MP-2019 Projection scale generationally. These rates of improvement were reduced by 20% for all years prior to the ultimate rate.
- For PSERS members: Pre-retirement mortality rates were based on the Pub-2010 General Employee Mortality Table, with no adjustment, with the MP-2019 Projection scale applied generationally. Post-retirement mortality rates for service retirements were based on the Pub-2010 General Healthy Annuitant Mortality Table (ages set forward one year and adjusted 101% for males and 103% for females) with the MP-2019 Projection scale applied generationally. Post-retirement mortality rates for disability retirements were based on the Pub-2010 General Disabled Mortality Table (ages set back three years for males and adjusted 103% for males and 106% for females) with the MP-2019 Projection scale applied generationally. Post-retirement mortality rates for beneficiaries were based on the Pub-2010 General Contingent Survivor Mortality Table (ages set forward two years and adjusted 104% for males and 99% for females) with the MP-2019 Projection scale applied generationally.

The actuarial assumptions used in the June 30, 2022 valuation were based on the results of an actuarial experience study for the pension systems, which covered the five-year period ending June 30, 2018, with the exception of the assumed annual rate of inflation with changed from 2.75% to 2.50%, effective with the June 30, 2018 valuation.

The remaining actuarial assumptions (e.g., initial per capita costs, health care cost trends, rate of plan participation, rates of plan election, etc.) used in the June 30, 2022 valuation were based on a review of recent plan experience done concurrently with the June 30, 2022 valuation.

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

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

Asset Class	Target Allocation	Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return*
Fixed income Equities	30.00% 70.00%	1.50% 9.40%
Total	100.00%	5.1070

### \* Net of inflation

**Discount Rate:** In order to measure the total OPEB liability for the School OPEB Fund, a single equivalent interest rate of 3.68% was used as the discount rate, as compared with last year's rate of 3.57%. The plan's fiduciary net position was projected to not be able to make all future benefit payments of current plan members. Therefore, the municipal bond rate as used for the long-term rate of return was applied to all periods of projected benefit payments to determine total OPEB liability. This is comprised mainly of the yield or index rate for 20-year tax-exempt general obligation bonds with an average rating of AA or higher (3.65% per the Municipal Bond Index Rate). The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed that contributions from members and from the employers will be made at the current level as averaged over the last five years, adjusted for annual projected changes in headcount. Projected future benefit payments for all current plan members were projected through 2128.

# Sensitivity of the School District's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability to

**Changes in the Discount Rate:** The following presents the School District's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability calculated using the discount rate of 3.68%, as well as what the School District's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1-percentage-point lower (2.68%) or 1-percentage-point higher (4.68%) than the current discount rate:

	 1% Decrease (2.68%)	 Current Discount Rate (3.68%)	 1% Increase (4.68%)
School District's proportionate share of the Net OPEB liability	\$ 84,415,248.00	\$ 74,470,059.00	\$ 66.094.108.00

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

	Current Healthcare					
		1% Decrease		Cost Trend Rate	19	% Increase
School District's proportionate share						
of the Net OPEB liability	\$	64,146,083.00	\$	74,470,059.00 \$	8	37,197,297.00

**OPEB Plan Fiduciary Net Position:** Detailed information about the OPEB plan's fiduciary net position is available in the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report, which is publicly available at <u>https://sao.georgia.gov/statewide-reporting/acfr</u>.

# **NOTE 14: RETIREMENT PLANS**

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

# **Teachers Retirement System of Georgia (TRS)**

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

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

compensation up to the time of disability. Death benefits equal the amount that would be payable to the employee's beneficiary had the employee retired on the date of death. Death benefits are based on the employee's creditable service and compensation up to the date of death.

**Contributions:** Per Title 47 of the O.C.G.A., contribution requirements of active employees and participating employers, as actuarially determined, are established and may be amended by the TRS Board. Pursuant to O.C.G.A. §47-3-63, the employer contributions for certain full-time public school support personnel are funded on behalf of the employer by the State of Georgia. Contributions are expected to finance the costs of benefits earned by employees during the year, with an additional amount to finance any unfunded accrued liability. Employees were required to contribute 6.00% of their annual pay during fiscal year 2024. The School District's contractually required contribution rate for the year ended June 30, 2024 was 19.98% of annual School District payroll, of which 19.90% of payroll was required from the School District and 0.08% of payroll was required from the State. For the current fiscal year, employer contributions to the pension plan were \$16,333,032.00 and \$64,682.93 from the School District and the State, respectively.

### Public School Employees Retirement System (PSERS)

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

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

Upon retirement, the member will receive a monthly benefit of \$16.00, multiplied by the number of years of creditable service. Death and disability benefits are also available through PSERS. Additionally, PSERS may make periodic cost-of-living adjustments to the monthly benefits. Upon termination of employment, member contributions with accumulated interest are refundable upon request by the member. However, if an otherwise vested member terminates and withdraws his/her member contribution, the member forfeits all rights to retirement benefits.

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

Individuals who became members prior to July 1, 2012 contribute \$4 per month for nine months each fiscal year. Individuals who became members on or after July 1, 2012 contribute \$10 per month for nine months each fiscal year. The State of Georgia, although not the employer of PSERS members, is required by statute to make employer contributions actuarially determined and approved and certified by the PSERS Board of Trustees. The current fiscal year contribution was \$263,012.00.

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

At June 30, 2024, the School District reported a liability of \$152,230,217.00 for its proportionate share of the net pension liability for TRS.

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

School District's proportionate share of the net pension liability	Ψ	152,230,217.00
State of Georgia's proportionate share of the net pension liability associated with the School District		562,143.00
Total	\$	152,792,360.00

The net pension liability for TRS was measured as of June 30, 2023. The total pension liability used to calculate the net pension liability was based on an actuarial valuation as of June 30, 2022. An expected total pension liability as of June 30, 2023 was determined using standard roll-forward techniques. The School District's proportion of the net pension liability was based on contributions to TRS during the fiscal year ended June 30, 2023.

At June 30, 2023, the School District's TRS proportion was 0.515610%, which was an increase of 0.030193% from its proportion measured as of June 30, 2022.

At June 30, 2024, the School District did not have a PSERS liability for a proportionate share of the net pension liability because of a Special Funding Situation with the State of Georgia, which is responsible for the net pension liability of the plan. The amount of the State's proportionate share of the net pension liability associated with the School District is \$1,436,876.00.

The PSERS net pension liability was measured as of June 30, 2023. The total pension liability used to calculate the net pension liability was based on an actuarial valuation as of June 30, 2022. An expected total pension liability as of June 30, 2023 was determined using standard roll-forward techniques. The State's proportion of the net pension liability associated with the School District was based on actuarially determined contributions paid by the State during the fiscal year ended June 30, 2023.

For the year ended June 30, 2024, the School District recognized pension expense of \$33,170,175.00 for TRS and \$259,335.00 for PSERS and revenue of \$96,425.00 for TRS and \$259,335.00 for PSERS. The revenue is support provided by the State of Georgia. For TRS the State of Georgia support is provided only for certain support personnel.

At June 30, 2024, the School District reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions from the following sources:

	_	TRS				
		Deferred		Deferred		
		Outflows of		Inflows of		
	_	Resources		Resources		
Differences between expected and actual experience	\$	7,730,046.00	\$	629,421.00		
Changes of assumptions		15,661,221.00		-		
Net difference between projected and actual earnings on pension plan investments		10,706,760.00		-		
Changes in proportion and differences between School District contributions and proportionate share of contributions		6,435,200.00		76,157.00		
School District contributions subsequent to the measurement date	-	16,333,032.00	<b>.</b> .	-		
Total	\$	56,866,259.00	\$	705,578.00		

The School District contributions subsequent to the measurement date for TRS are reported as deferred outflows of resources and will be recognized as a reduction of the net pension liability in the year ended June 30, 2025. Other amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions will be recognized in pension expense as follows:

Year Ended June 30:	_	TRS
2025	\$	12,058,286.00
2026	\$	8,379,924.00
2027	\$	22,462,273.00
2028	\$	(3,072,834.00)

**Actuarial Assumptions:** The total pension liability as of June 30, 2023 was determined by an actuarial valuation as of June 30, 2022, using the following actuarial assumptions, applied to all periods included in the measurement:

### **Teachers Retirement System:**

Inflation	2.50%
Salary increases	3.00% – 8.75%, average, including inflation
Investment rate of return	6.90%, net of pension plan investment expense, including inflation
Post-retirement benefit increases	1.50% semi-annually

Post-retirement mortality rates for service retirements and beneficiaries were based on the Pub-2010 Teachers Headcount Weighted Below Median Healthy Retiree mortality table (ages set forward one year and adjusted 106%) with the MP-2019 Projection scale applied generationally. The rates of improvement were reduced by 20% for all years prior to the ultimate rate. Post-retirement mortality rates for disability retirements were based on the Pub-2010 Teachers Mortality Table for Disabled Retirees (ages set forward one year and adjusted 106%) with the MP-2019 Projection scale applied generationally. The rates of improvement were reduced by 20% for all years prior to the ultimate rate. The Pub-2010 Teachers Headcount Weighted Below Median Employee mortality table with ages set forward one year and adjusted 106% as used for death prior to retirement. Future improvement in mortality rates was assumed using the MP-2019 Projection scale generationally. These rates of improvement were reduced by 20% for all years prior to the ultimate rate.

The actuarial assumptions used in the June 30, 2022 valuation were based on the results of an actuarial experience study for the period July 1, 2013 – June 30, 2018.

## Public School Employees Retirement System:

Inflation	2.50%
Salary increases	N/A
Investment rate of return	7.00%, net of pension plan investment expense, including inflation
Post-retirement benefit increases	1.50% semi-annually

Mortality rates are as follows:

- The Pub-2010 General Employee Table, with no adjustments, projected generationally with the MP-2019 scale is used for both males and females while in active service.
- The Pub-2010 Family of Tables projected generationally with the MP-2019 Scale and with further adjustments are used for post-retirement mortality assumptions as follows:

Participant Type	Membership Table	Set Forward (+)/ Setback (-)	Adjustment to Rates
Service Retirees	General Healthy Below- Median Annuitant	Male: +2; Female: +2	Male: 101%; Female: 103%
Disability Retirees	General Disabled	Male: -3; Female: 0	Male: 103%; Female: 106%
Beneficiaries	General Below-Median Contingent Survivors	Male: +2; Female: +2	Male: 104%; Female: 99%

The actuarial assumptions used in the June 30, 2022 valuation were based on the results of an actuarial experience study for the period July 1, 2014 – June 30, 2019.

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

Asset Class	TRS/PSERS Target Allocation	Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return*
Fixed income	30.00%	0.90%
Domestic large stocks	46.30%	9.40%
Domestic small stocks	1.20%	13.40%
International developed market stocks	12.30%	9.40%
International emerging market stocks	5.20%	11.40%
Alternative	5.00%	10.50%
Total	100.00%	

\* Rates shown are net of inflation

**Discount Rate:** The discount rate used to measure the total TRS pension liability was 6.90%. The discount rate used to measure the total PSERS pension liability was 7.00%. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed that plan member contributions will be made at the current contribution rate and that employer and nonemployer contributions will be made at rates equal to the difference between actuarially determined contribution rates and the member rate. Based on those assumptions, the TRS and PSERS pension plans' fiduciary net position were projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments of current plan members. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments was applied to all periods of projected benefit payments to determine the total pension liability.

*Sensitivity of the School District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate:* The following presents the School District's proportionate share of the net pension liability calculated using the discount rate of 6.90%, as well as what the School District's proportionate share of the net pension liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1-percentage-point lower (5.90%) or 1-percentage-point higher (7.90%) than the current rate:

Teachers Retirement System:	 1% Decrease (5.90%)	 Current Discount Rate (6.90%)	 1% Increase (7.90%)
School District's proportionate share of the net pension liability	\$ 240,693,683.00	\$ 152,230,217.00	\$ 79,987,889.00

**Pension Plan Fiduciary Net Position:** Detailed information about the pension plan's fiduciary net position is available in the separately issued TRS and PSERS financial report which is publicly available at <u>www.trsga.com/publications</u> and <u>www.ers.ga.gov/financials</u>.

# **NOTE 15: TAX ABATEMENTS**

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

For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024, property taxes due to the School District that were levied on August 22, 2023 and due on December 1, 2023 were abated in the amount of \$44,730.68 under agreement entered into by the Development Authority of Bulloch County.

• A 33.33 percent property tax abatement was granted to a manufacturing plant employing residents. The company provides a payment in lieu of taxes of \$89,474.26. The abatement amounted to \$44,730.68.

(This page left intentionally blank)

#### BULLOCH COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION SCHEDULE OF PROPORTIONATE SHARE OF THE NET PENSION LIABILITY TEACHERS RETIREMENT SYSTEM OF GEORGIA

For the Year Ended June 30	School District's proportion of the Net Pension Liability (NPL)	Ī	chool District's proportionate nare of the NPL	prop asso	te of Georgia's portionate share of the NPL priated with the chool District	 Total	chool District's overed payroll	School District's proportionate share of the NPL as a percentage of its covered payroll	Plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of the total pension liability
2024	0.515610%	\$	152,230,217.00	\$	562,143.00	\$ 152,792,360.00	\$ 75,431,475.50	201.81%	76.29%
2023	0.485417%	\$	157,624,283.00	\$	603,653.00	\$ 158,227,936.00	\$ 65,907,574.19	239.16%	72.85%
2022	0.470162%	\$	41,582,693.00	\$	167,246.00	\$ 41,749,939.00	\$ 61,433,124.98	67.69%	92.03%
2021	0.471210%	\$	114,145,505.00	\$	446,689.00	\$ 114,592,194.00	\$ 60,992,241.73	187.15%	77.01%
2020	0.464615%	\$	99,904,788.00	\$	462,308.00	\$ 100,367,096.00	\$ 56,966,394.54	175.37%	78.56%
2019	0.452445%	\$	83,983,483.00	\$	403,355.00	\$ 84,386,838.00	\$ 54,153,144.78	155.09%	80.27%
2018	0.463389%	\$	86,122,273.00	\$	727,429.00	\$ 86,849,702.00	\$ 53,674,581.97	160.45%	79.33%
2017	0.453063%	\$	93,471,949.00	\$	1,114,699.00	\$ 94,586,648.00	\$ 50,332,515.95	185.71%	76.06%
2016	0.443552%	\$	67,526,388.00	\$	853,610.00	\$ 68,379,998.00	\$ 47,412,068.00	142.42%	81.44%
2015	0.453694%	\$	57,318,253.00	\$	702,306.00	\$ 58,020,559.00	\$ 46,852,899.00	122.34%	84.03%

#### BULLOCH COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION SCHEDULE OF CONTRIBUTIONS TEACHERS RETIREMENT SYSTEM OF GEORGIA

For the Year Ended June 30	Cor	tractually required contribution	tributions in relation to contractually required contribution	Contr	ibution deficiency (excess)	chool District's overed payroll	Contribution as a percentage of covered payroll
2024	\$	16,333,032.00	\$ 16,333,032.00	\$	-	\$ 82,070,285.02	19.90%
2023	\$	15,015,810.00	\$ 15,015,810.00	\$	-	\$ 75,431,475.50	19.91%
2022	\$	13,006,514.00	\$ 13,006,514.00	\$	-	\$ 65,907,574.19	19.73%
2021	\$	11,662,269.00	\$ 11,662,269.00	\$	-	\$ 61,433,124.98	18.98%
2020	\$	12,842,125.00	\$ 12,842,125.00	\$	-	\$ 60,992,241.73	21.06%
2019	\$	11,851,149.00	\$ 11,851,149.00	\$	-	\$ 56,966,394.54	20.80%
2018	\$	9,059,734.00	\$ 9,059,734.00	\$	-	\$ 54,153,144.78	16.73%
2017	\$	7,595,232.00	\$ 7,595,232.00	\$	-	\$ 53,674,581.97	14.15%
2016	\$	7,095,807.00	\$ 7,095,807.00	\$	-	\$ 50,332,515.95	14.10%
2015 (1)	\$	6,232,671.94	\$ 6,232,671.94	\$	-	\$ 47,412,068.00	13.15%

(1) These amounts include contributions paid on the School District's behalf by the Georgia Department of Education.

#### BULLOCH COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION SCHEDULE OF PROPORTIONATE SHARE OF THE NET PENSION LIABILITY PUBLIC SCHOOL EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM OF GEORGIA

For the Year Ended June 30	School District's proportion of the Net Pension Liability (NPL)	hool District's portionate share of the NPL	prop asso	te of Georgia's portionate share of the NPL pociated with the chool District	 Total	hool District's overed payroll	School District's proportionate share of the NPL as a percentage of its covered payroll	Plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of the total pension liability
2024	0.00%	\$ -	\$	1,436,876.00	\$ 1,436,876.00	\$ 4,464,105.60	N/A	85.67%
2023	0.00%	\$ -	\$	1,760,077.00	\$ 1,760,077.00	\$ 3,466,070.18	N/A	81.21%
2022	0.00%	\$ -	\$	196,134.00	\$ 196,134.00	\$ 3,713,323.51	N/A	98.00%
2021	0.00%	\$ -	\$	1,442,861.00	\$ 1,442,861.00	\$ 4,047,056.22	N/A	84.45%
2020	0.00%	\$ -	\$	1,398,195.00	\$ 1,398,195.00	\$ 3,852,922.52	N/A	85.02%
2019	0.00%	\$ -	\$	1,333,734.00	\$ 1,333,734.00	\$ 3,787,521.35	N/A	85.26%
2018	0.00%	\$ -	\$	1,253,877.00	\$ 1,253,877.00	\$ 3,777,907.85	N/A	85.69%
2017	0.00%	\$ -	\$	1,627,477.00	\$ 1,627,477.00	\$ 3,745,728.74	N/A	81.00%
2016	0.00%	\$ -	\$	1,050,702.00	\$ 1,050,702.00	\$ 3,662,869.64	N/A	87.00%
2015	0.00%	\$ -	\$	931,547.00	\$ 931,547.00	\$ 3,707,949.11	N/A	88.29%

#### BULLOCH COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION SCHEDULE OF PROPORTIONATE SHARE OF THE NET OPEB LIABILITY SCHOOL OPEB FUND

For the Year Ended June 30	School District's proportion of the Net OPEB Liability (NOL)	F	chool District's proportionate are of the NOL	propo co assoc	e of Georgia's ortionate share of the NOL ciated with the hool District	 Total	chool District's vered-employee payroll	School District's proportionate share of the NOL as a percentage of its covered- employee payroll	Plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of the total OPEB liability
2024	0.679880%	\$	74,470,059.00	\$	-	\$ 74,470,059.00	\$ 44,284,989.60	168.16%	6.05%
2023	0.665140%	\$	65,870,024.00	\$	-	\$ 65,870,024.00	\$ 41,379,045.39	159.19%	6.17%
2022	0.668867%	\$	72,443,830.00	\$	-	\$ 72,443,830.00	\$ 39,606,364.70	182.91%	6.14%
2021	0.669402%	\$	98,319,564.00	\$	-	\$ 98,319,564.00	\$ 38,873,520.92	252.92%	3.99%
2020	0.662873%	\$	81,348,739.00	\$	-	\$ 81,348,739.00	\$ 35,646,766.16	228.21%	4.63%
2019	0.650999%	\$	82,739,975.00	\$	-	\$ 82,739,975.00	\$ 34,501,231.15	239.82%	2.93%
2018	0.642073%	\$	90,210,998.00	\$	-	\$ 90,210,998.00	\$ 32,760,040.29	275.37%	1.61%

#### BULLOCH COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION SCHEDULE OF CONTRIBUTIONS SCHOOL OPEB FUND

For the Year Ended June 30	ractually required contribution	outions in relation to ntractually required contribution	tion deficiency excess)	chool District's vered-employee payroll	Contribution as a percentage of covered-employee payroll
2024	\$ 2,793,773.00	\$ 2,793,773.00	\$ -	\$ 46,644,760.50	5.99%
2023	\$ 2,613,756.00	\$ 2,613,756.00	\$ -	\$ 44,284,989.60	5.90%
2022	\$ 2,404,980.00	\$ 2,404,980.00	\$ -	\$ 41,379,045.39	5.81%
2021	\$ 2,488,073.00	\$ 2,488,073.00	\$ -	\$ 39,606,364.70	6.28%
2020	\$ 2,263,761.00	\$ 2,263,761.00	\$ -	\$ 38,873,520.92	5.82%
2019	\$ 3,570,027.00	\$ 3,570,027.00	\$ -	\$ 35,646,766.16	10.02%
2018	\$ 3,374,070.00	\$ 3,374,070.00	\$ -	\$ 34,501,231.15	9.78%
2017	\$ 3,347,820.00	\$ 3,347,820.00	\$ -	\$ 32,760,040.29	10.22%

#### **Teachers Retirement System**

Change of benefit terms: There have been no changes in benefit terms.

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

On May 15, 2019, the Board adopted recommended changes from the smoothed valuation interest rate methodology that has been in effect since June 30, 2009, to a constant interest rate method. In conjunction with the methodology, the long-term assumed rate of return in assets (discount rate) has been changed from 7.50% to 7.25%, and the assumed annual rate of inflation has been reduced from 2.75% to 2.50%.

In 2019 and later, the expectation of retired life mortality was changed to the Pub-2010 Teacher Headcount Weighted Below Median Healthy Retiree mortality table from the RP-2000 Mortality Tables. In 2019, rates of withdrawal, retirement, disability and mortality were adjusted to more closely reflect actual experience.

On May 11, 2022, the Board adopted recommended changes to the long-term assumed rate of return and payroll growth assumption utilized by the System. The long-term assumed rate of return was changed from 7.25% to 6.90%, and the payroll growth assumption was changed from 3.00% to 2.50%.

#### Public School Employees Retirement System

Changes of benefit terms: There have been no changes in benefit terms.

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

A new funding policy was initially adopted by the Board on March 15, 2018, and most recently amended on December 17, 2020. Because of this new funding policy, the assumed investment rate of return was reduced from 7.50% to 7.40% for the June 30, 2017 actuarial valuation and further reduced from 7.40% to 7.30% for the June 30, 2018 actuarial valuation.

On December 17, 2020, the Board adopted recommended changes to the economic and demographic assumptions utilized by the System based on the experience study prepared for the five-year period ending June 30, 2019. Primary among the changes were the updates to rates or mortality, retirement, disability, and withdrawal. This also included a change to the long-term assumed investment rate of return to 7.00%. These assumption changes are reflected in the calculation of the June 30, 2021 Total Pension Liability.

#### School OPEB Fund

Changes of benefit terms: There have been no changes in benefit terms.

Changes in assumptions: June 30, 2022 valuation: The tobacco use assumption and aging factors were revised.

June 30, 2020 valuation: Decremental assumptions were changed to reflect the Employees' Retirement System's experience study. Approximately 0.10% of employees are members of the Employees' Retirement System.

June 30, 2019 valuation: Decremental assumptions were changed to reflect the Teachers Retirement System's experience study.

June 30, 2018 valuation: The inflation assumption was lowered from 2.75% to 2.50%.

June 30, 2017 valuation: The participation assumption, tobacco use assumption and morbidity factors were revised.

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

June 30, 2012 valuation: A data audit was performed and data collection procedures and assumptions were changed.

The discount rate was updated from 3.07% as of June 30, 2016 to 3.58% as of June 30, 2017, to 3.87% as of June 30, 2018, back to 3.58% as of June 30, 2019, to 2.22% as of June 30, 2020, to 2.20% as of June 30, 2021, to 3.57% as of June 30, 2022, and to 3.68% as of June 30, 2023.

#### BULLOCH COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION GENERAL FUND SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES BUDGET AND ACTUAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

	NONAPPROPRIA	TED BUDGETS	ACTUAL	VARIANCE
	 ORIGINAL (1)	FINAL (1)	AMOUNTS	OVER/UNDER
REVENUES				
Property Taxes	\$ 25,716,316.00 \$	25,716,316.00 \$	30,221,786.59 \$	4,505,470.59
Sales Taxes	19,533,869.00	19,533,869.00	19,837,731.32	303,862.32
State Funds	85,248,296.00	85,640,836.42	88,846,183.86	3,205,347.44
Federal Funds	13,997,104.00	18,380,531.73	17,004,364.74	(1,376,166.99)
Charges for Services	810,500.00	810,500.00	3,109,656.32	2,299,156.32
Investment Earnings	2,001,265.00	2,001,265.00	3,059,964.46	1,058,699.46
Miscellaneous	 1,589,500.00	1,599,955.00	1,243,068.51	(356,886.49)
Total Revenues	 148,896,850.00	153,683,273.15	163,322,755.80	9,639,482.65
EXPENDITURES				
Current				
Instruction	98,575,714.51	102,311,486.09	102,697,293.08	(385,806.99)
Support Services				
Pupil Services	10,914,434.53	10,774,957.13	13,883,195.87	(3,108,238.74)
Improvement of Instructional Services	5,012,229.18	6,857,941.36	6,026,908.04	831,033.32
Educational Media Services	1,658,097.56	1,753,887.79	1,885,315.20	(131,427.41)
General Administration	1,012,884.37	1,056,250.93	1,229,261.06	(173,010.13)
School Administration	9,441,089.52	10,389,480.77	9,919,912.32	469,568.45
Business Administration	1,169,288.77	1,169,288.77	650,045.31	519,243.46
Maintenance and Operation of Plant	12,446,965.59	12,652,304.04	14,029,599.74	(1,377,295.70)
Student Transportation Services	6,630,714.92	6,692,583.20	7,397,636.22	(705,053.02)
Central Support Services	3,229,027.12	3,198,350.20	2,949,038.33	249,311.87
Other Support Services	199,204.02	267,605.72	373,145.52	(105,539.80)
Food Services Operation	7,526,979.17	7,526,728.17	7,889,432.06	(362,703.89)
Total Expenditures	157,816,629.26	164,650,864.17	168,930,782.75	(4,279,918.58)
Excess of Revenues over (under) Expenditures	 (8,919,779.26)	(10,967,591.02)	(5,608,026.95)	5,359,564.07
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES(USES)				
Other Sources	985,994.00	1,292,540.00	-	(1,292,540.00)
Other Uses	 (985,994.00)	(1,292,540.00)	(2,000.00)	1,290,540.00
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	 -	-	(2,000.00)	(2,000.00)
Net Change in Fund Balances	(8,919,779.26)	(10,967,591.02)	(5,610,026.95)	5,357,564.07
Fund Balances - Beginning	57,541,707.96	62,606,947.01	62,622,947.01	16,000.00
Adjustments	 	(64,699.36)		64,699.36
Fund Balances - Ending	\$ 48,621,928.70 \$	51,574,656.63 \$	57,012,920.06 \$	5,438,263.43

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 \$2,485,021.74 and \$2,367,797.35, 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.

#### BULLOCH COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

FUNDING AGENCY PROGRAM/GRANT	ASSISTANCE LISTING 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	245GA324N1199	\$ 1,635,143.20
National School Lunch Program	10.555	245GA324N1199	5,584,360.67
COVID-19 - National School Lunch Program	10.555	225GA324N1099	279,500.82
Total Child Nutrition Cluster			7,499,004.69
Other Programs			
Pass-Through From Georgia Department of Education			
Food Services			
State Administrative Expenses for Child Nutrition	10.560	245GA904N2533	21,289.40
Total U.S. Department of Agriculture			7,520,294.09
Education, U.S. Department of			
Education Stabilization Fund			
Pass-Through From Georgia Department of Education			
COVID-19 - Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund	84.425D	S425D210012	73,202.00
COVID-19 - American Rescue Plan Elementary and Secondary School			
Emergency Relief Fund	84.425U	S425U210012	734,147.92
COVID-19 - American Rescue Plan Elementary and Secondary School			
Emergency Relief Fund - Homeless Children and Youth	84.425W	S425W210011	110,595.23
Total Education Stabilization Fund			917,945.15
Special Education Cluster Pass-Through From Georgia Department of Education Special Education			
Grants to States	84.027A	H027A220073	205,333.53
Grants to States	84.027A	H027A230073	2,437,710.04
Preschool Grants	84.173A	H173A220081	36,300.00
Preschool Grants	84.173A	H173A230081	55,501.00
Total Special Education Cluster			2,734,844.57
Other Programs			
Pass-Through From Georgia Department of Education			
Career and Technical Education - Basic Grants to States	84.048A	V048A230010	157,447.00
English Language Acquisition State Grants	84.365A	S365A220010	7,488.00
English Language Acquisition State Grants	84.365A	S365A230010	28,554.62
Migrant Education State Grant Program	84.011A	S011A220011	3,646.00
Migrant Education State Grant Program	84.011A	S011A230011	125,629.85
Rural and Low-Income School Program	84.358B	S358F220010	370,440.73
Rural and Low-Income School Program	84.358B	S358F230010	499,265.04
Student Support and Academic Enrichment Program	84.424A	S424A240011	28,513.17
Student Support and Academic Enrichment Program	84.424F	S424F220011	44,212.00
Supporting Effective Instruction State Grants	84.367A	S367A220001	277,666.00
Supporting Effective Instruction State Grants	84.367A	S367A230001	250,076.03
Title I Grants to Local Educational Agencies	84.010A	S010A220010	347,817.79
Title I Grants to Local Educational Agencies	84.010A	S010A230010	4,149,003.37
Twenty-First Century Community Learning Centers	84.287C	S287C220010	54,170.99
Twenty-First Century Community Learning Centers	84.287C	S287C230010	306,583.37
Total Other Programs			6,650,513.96
Total U.S. Department of Education			10,303,303.68

#### BULLOCH COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

FUNDING AGENCY <u>PROGRAM/GRANT</u>	ASSISTANCE LISTING NUMBER	PASS- THROUGH ENTITY ID NUMBER	 expenditures In Period
Health and Human Services, U.S. Department of			
Pass-Through From Bright From the Start			
Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning			
COVID-19 - Child Care and Development Block Grant	93.575	220GACCC5	 95,779.64
Defense, U.S. Department of			
Direct			
Department of the Army			
R.O.T.C. Program	12. UNKNOWN		 170,650.28
Total Expenditures of Federal Awards			\$ 18,090,027.69

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

#### Note 1. Basis of Presentation

The accompanying schedule of expenditures of federal awards (the "Schedule") includes the federal award activity of the Bulloch County Board of Education (the "Board") under programs of the federal government for the year ended June 30, 2024. The information in this Schedule is presented in accordance with the requirements of Title 2 U.S. *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (Uniform Guidance). Because the Schedule presents only a selected portion of the operations of the Board, it is not intended to and does not present the financial position or changes in net position of the Board.

#### Note 2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Expenditures reported on the Schedule are reported on the modified accrual basis of accounting. Such expenditures are recognized following the cost principles contained in the Uniform Guidance, wherein certain types of expenditures are not allowable or are limited as to reimbursement.

#### Note 3. Indirect Cost Rate

The Board has elected not to use the 10-percent de minimis indirect cost rate as allowed under the Uniform Guidance.

#### Note 4. Transfers Between Programs

Funds totaling \$306,546.00 were transferred from the Student Support and Academic Enrichment program (ALN 84.424A) and expended in the Rural and Low-Income School program (ALN 84.358B) during Fiscal Year 2024.

#### BULLOCH COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION SCHEDULE OF STATE REVENUE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

	GOVERNMENTA	L FUND TYPES	
	 GENERAL	CAPITAL PROJECTS	
NCY/FUNDING	 FUND	FUND	TOTAL
GRANTS	 		
Bright From the Start:			
Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning			
Pre-Kindergarten Program	\$ 2,186,810.34 \$	- \$	2,186,810.3
Education, Georgia Department of			
Quality Basic Education			
Direct Instructional Cost			
Kindergarten Program	2,844,390.00	-	2,844,390.0
Kindergarten Program - Early Intervention Program	2,500,314.00	-	2,500,314.0
Primary Grades (1-3) Program	7,311,425.00	-	7,311,425.0
Primary Grades - Early Intervention (1-3) Program	5,979,444.00	-	5,979,444.0
Upper Elementary Grades (4-5) Program	2,846,575.00	-	2,846,575.0
Upper Elementary Grades - Early Intervention (4-5) Program	4,331,278.00	-	4,331,278.0
Middle School (6-8) Program	6,531,125.00	-	6,531,125.0
High School General Education (9-12) Program	7,422,925.00	-	7,422,925.0
Vocational Laboratory (9-12) Program	2,671,266.00	-	2,671,266.0
Students with Disabilities	13,724,870.00	-	13,724,870.
Gifted Student - Category VI	5,074,686.00	-	5,074,686.
Remedial Education Program	1,873,168.00	-	1,873,168.
Alternative Education Program	559,925.00	-	559,925.
English Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL)	587,370.00	-	587,370.
Media Center Program	1,515,844.00	-	1,515,844.
20 Days Additional Instruction	452,777.00	-	452,777.
Staff and Professional Development	275,291.00	-	275,291.
Principal Staff and Professional Development	4,744.00	-	4,744.
Indirect Cost	<i>i,i</i> 1100		.,
Central Administration	1,942,349.00	_	1,942,349.
School Administration	3,009,807.00	_	3,009,807.
Facility Maintenance and Operations	2,732,135.00	_	2,732,135.
Categorical Grants	2,132,133.00		2,752,155.
Pupil Transportation			
Regular	1,457,577.00	_	1,457,577.
Nursing Services	251,862.00		251,862.
Education Equalization Funding Grant	7,411,629.00	_	7,411,629.
Other State Programs	7,411,029.00	-	7,411,029.
-	90 212 52		80,212.
Agriculture Construction Related Equipment - State Bonds	80,212.53	-	
Dyslexia Screener State Grant	24,177.00	-	24,177.
Food Services	200,820.00	-	200,820
Hygiene Products	7,969.71	-	7,969
Math and Science Supplements	76,781.42	-	76,781.
Mental Health Awareness Wellness Spaces Grant	11,600.00	-	11,600
One Time QBE Adjustment	1,227,995.00	-	1,227,995
Paraprofessional to Teacher State Grant	11,749.78	-	11,749.
Preschool Disability Services	328,012.00	-	328,012
School Security Grant	750,000.00	-	750,000
Teachers Retirement	64,682.93	-	64,682
Vocational Education	172,543.25	-	172,543.
Vocational Equipment Bonds	47,028.14	-	47,028
Vocational Supervisors	28,877.00	-	28,877
Georgia State Financing and Investment Commission			
Reimbursement on Construction Projects	-	109,333.06	109,333.
Office of the State Treasurer			
Public School Employees Retirement	263,012.00	-	263,012
CONTRACT			
Human Resources, Georgia Department of			
Family Connections	 51,136.76		51,136.

(This page left intentionally blank)

#### BULLOCH COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION SCHEDULE OF APPROVED LOCAL OPTION SALES TAX PROJECTS YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

PROJECT		ORIGINAL ESTIMATED	CURRENT ESTIMATED COSTS (2)	ESTIMATED COMPLETION DATE
ESPLOST IV	-	COST (1)	CO313 (2)	DATE
For the following capital outlay projects for educational purposes				
at Brooklet Elementary School, Julia P. Bryant School, Langston				
Chapel Elementary School, Langston Chapel Middle School, Mattie				
Lively Elementary School, Mill Creek Elementary School, Nevils				
Elementary School, Portal Elementary School, Portal Middle/High				
School, Sallie Zetterower Elementary School, Southeast Bulloch				
High School, Southeast Bulloch Middle School, Statesboro High				
School, Stilson Elementary School, Transitions Learning Center,				
William James Complex, William James Middle School, the Central				
Office, the Transportation Department, the Maintenance				
Department, and Bulloch County School Auxiliary Services.				
Safety and Security	\$	1,886,000.00 \$	4,286,000.00	June 30, 2026
Instructional and Technology Resources		23,012,748.00	20,654,316.00	June 30, 2026
Buildings and Land		31,859,979.00	28,532,304.00	June 30, 2026
Equipment and Vehicles		5,241,273.00	7,509,677.12	June 30, 2026
Interest Expense		-	7,437,952.66	June 30, 2026
Subtotal ESPLOST IV Projects	-	62,000,000.00	68,420,249.78	
	-			
ESPLOST V				
For the purposes of (A) the acquisition, construction, and equipping				
of a new Southeast Bulloch High School, and (B) funding the				
following capital outlay projects for educational purposes at				
Brooklet Elementary School, Julia P. Bryant Elementary School,				
Langston Chapel Elementary School, Langston Chapel Middle				
School, Mattie Lively Elementary School, Mill Creek Elementary				
School, Nevils Elementary School, Portal Elementary School,				
Portal Middle/High School, Sallie Zetterower Elementary School,				
Southeast Bulloch High School, Southeast Bulloch Middle School,				
Statesboro High School, Stilson Elementary School, Transitions				
Learning Center, William James Complex, William James Middle				
School, the Central Office, the Transportation Department, the				
Maintenance Department, and Bulloch County School Auxiliary				
Services, and any other property owned by the school district.				
Safety and Security		-	-	June 30, 2030
Instructional and Technology Resources		-	-	June 30, 2030
Buildings and Land		100,000,000.00	100,000,000.00	June 30, 2030
Equipment and Vehicles		-	-	June 30, 2030
Interest Expense	-	10,000,000.00	10,000,000.00	June 30, 2030

110,000,000.00

\$ 172,000,000.00 \$

110,000,000.00

178,420,249.78

Total

Subtotal ESPLOST V Projects

#### BULLOCH COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION SCHEDULE OF APPROVED LOCAL OPTION SALES TAX PROJECTS YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

PROJECT		AMOUNT EXPENDED IN CURRENT YEAR (3)		AMOUNT EXPENDED IN PRIOR YEARS (3)		TOTAL COMPLETION COST		EXCESS PROCEEDS NOT EXPENDED
ESPLOST IV			•		-		•	
For the following capital outlay projects for educational purposes at Brooklet Elementary School, Julia P. Bryant School, Langston Chapel Elementary School, Langston Chapel Middle School, Mattie Lively Elementary School, Mill Creek Elementary School, Nevils Elementary School, Portal Elementary School, Portal Middle/High School, Sallie Zetterower Elementary School, Southeast Bulloch High School, Southeast Bulloch Middle School, Statesboro High School, Stilson Elementary School, Transitions Learning Center, William James Complex, William James Middle School, the Central Office, the Transportation Department, the Maintenance								
Department, and Bulloch County School Auxiliary Services.								
Safety and Security	\$	-	\$	3,528,182.64	\$	-	\$	-
Instructional and Technology Resources		62,622.50		17,764,894.45		-		-
Buildings and Land		5,598,228.48		19,698,118.92		-		-
Equipment and Vehicles		1,800,800.00		5,708,877.12		-		-
Interest Expense	_	417,536.00	-	7,020,416.66	-	-	-	-
Subtotal ESPLOST IV Projects		7,879,186.98		53,720,489.79	-	-		-
<b>ESPLOST V</b> For the purposes of (A) the acquisition, construction, and equipping of a new Southeast Bulloch High School, and (B) funding the following capital outlay projects for educational purposes at Brooklet Elementary School, Julia P. Bryant Elementary School, Langston Chapel Elementary School, Langston Chapel Middle School, Mattie Lively Elementary School, Mill Creek Elementary								
School, Nevils Elementary School, Portal Elementary School,								

School, Mattie Lively Elementary School, Mill Creek Elementary School, Nevils Elementary School, Portal Elementary School, Portal Middle/High School, Sallie Zetterower Elementary School, Southeast Bulloch High School, Southeast Bulloch Middle School, Statesboro High School, Stilson Elementary School, Transitions Learning Center, William James Complex, William James Middle School, the Central Office, the Transportation Department, the Maintenance Department, and Bulloch County School Auxiliary Services, and any other property owned by the school district.

Safety and Security	-	-	-	-
Instructional and Technology Resources	-	-	-	-
Buildings and Land	-	-	-	-
Equipment and Vehicles	-	-	-	-
Interest Expense	 678.83	-	-	 -
Subtotal ESPLOST V Projects	678.83	-	-	-
Total	\$ 7,879,865.81	\$ 53,720,489.79	\$	\$ -

(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 Bulloch 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. Section II

Compliance and Internal Control Reports



### 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

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

We have audited the financial statements of the governmental activities and each major fund of the Bulloch County Board of Education (School District) as of and for the year ended June 30, 2024, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the School District's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated March 18, 2025. We conducted our audit in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS) and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States.

# **Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting**

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the School District's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the basic financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the School District's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the School District's internal control.

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

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

# **Report on Compliance and Other Matters**

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

# **Purpose of this Report**

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

Respectfully submitted,

Sheg & Shiff-

Greg S. Griffin State Auditor

March 18, 2025



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

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

# **Report on Compliance for Each Major Federal Program**

# **Opinion on Each Major Federal Program**

We have audited the Bulloch County Board of Education's (School District) compliance with the types of compliance requirements identified as subject to audit in the *OMB Compliance Supplement* that could have a direct and material effect on each of the School District's major federal programs for the year ended June 30, 2024. The School District's major federal programs are identified in the *Summary of Auditor's Results* section of the accompanying *Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs*.

In our opinion, the School District complied, in all material respects, with the 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, 2024.

### Basis for Opinion on Each Major Federal Program

We conducted our audit of compliance in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS); the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States; and the audit requirements of Title 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations Part 200, Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards (Uniform Guidance). Our responsibilities under those standards and the Uniform Guidance are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance section of our report.

We are required to be independent of the School District and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion on compliance for each major federal program. Our audit does not provide a legal determination of the School District's compliance with the compliance requirements referred to above.

# **Responsibilities of Management for Compliance**

Management is responsible for compliance with the requirements referred to above and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of effective internal control over compliance with the requirements of laws, statutes, regulations, rules and provisions of contracts or grant agreements applicable to the School District's federal programs.

# Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether material noncompliance with the compliance requirements referred to above occurred, whether due to fraud or error, and express an opinion on the School District's compliance based on our audit. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with GAAS, *Government Auditing Standards*, and the Uniform Guidance will always detect material noncompliance when it exists. The risk of not detecting material noncompliance resulting from fraud is higher than for that resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Noncompliance with the compliance requirements referred to above is considered material, if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, it would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user of the report on compliance about the School District's compliance with the requirements of each major federal program as a whole.

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

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material noncompliance, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the School District's compliance with the compliance requirements referred to above and performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances.
- Obtain an understanding of the School District's internal control over compliance relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances and to test and report on internal control over compliance in accordance with the Uniform Guidance, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the School District's internal control over compliance. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and any significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in internal control over compliance that we identified during the audit.

# **Report on 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 a 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 Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance section above and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control over compliance that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies in internal control over compliance. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over compliance that we consider to be material weaknesses, as defined above. However, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies in internal control over compliance that weaknesses or significant deficiencies in internal control over compliance that we consider to be material control over compliance that weaknesses or significant deficiencies in internal control over compliance that weaknesses or significant deficiencies in internal control over compliance that weaknesses or significant deficiencies in internal control over compliance that we consider to be material weaknesses, as defined above. However, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies in internal control over compliance that we consider to be material weaknesses.

Our audit was not designed for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control over compliance. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Sheg & Shiff-

Greg S. Griffin State Auditor

March 18, 2025

Section III

Auditee's Response to Prior Year Findings and Questioned Costs

# BULLOCH COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION AUDITEE'S RESPONSE SUMMARY SCHEDULE OF PRIOR AUDIT FINDINGS YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

# PRIOR YEAR FINANCIAL STATEMENT FINDINGS

No matters were reported.

# PRIOR YEAR FEDERAL AWARD FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS

No matters were reported.

Section IV

Findings and Questioned Costs

# BULLOCH COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

# I SUMMARY OF AUDITOR'S RESULTS

### **Financial Statements**

Type of auditor's report issued: Governmental Activities and	Each Major Fund	Unmodified			
Internal control over financial rep Material weakness(es) iden Significant deficiency(ies) i	tified?	No None Reported			
Noncompliance material to finan	No				
Federal Awards					
<ul> <li>Internal control over major progr</li> <li>Material weakness(es) ide</li> <li>Significant deficiency(ies) ide</li> </ul>	No None Reported				
Type of auditor's report issued on compliance for major programs:					
All major programs		Unmodified			
Any audit findings disclosed that accordance with 2 CFR 200.516(a	No				
Identification of major programs	:				
Assistance Listing Number	Assistance Listing Program or Cluster Title				
84.010 84.358	Title I Grants to Local Educational Agencies Rural and Low-Income School Program				
Dollar threshold used to distingui	\$750,000.00				
Auditee qualified as low-risk aud	Yes				

# **II FINANCIAL STATEMENT FINDINGS**

No matters were reported.

# III FEDERAL AWARD FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS

No matters were reported.