

**STATE OF FLORIDA AUDITOR GENERAL**

**Financial and Federal Single Audit**

Report No. 2026-144  
March 2026

**COLUMBIA COUNTY  
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD**

For the Fiscal Year Ended  
June 30, 2025



Sherrill F. Norman, CPA  
Auditor General

## Board Members and Superintendent

During the 2024-25 fiscal year, Keith Couey served as Superintendent of the Columbia County Schools from November 19, 2024, Alex L. Carswell served as Superintendent before that date, and the following individuals served as School Board Members:

	<u>District No.</u>
Narragansett Smith, Chair from 11-19-24	1
Dana Brady-Giddens, Chair through 11-18-24	2
Cherie Hill, Vice Chair through 11-18-24	3
Keith Hudson	4
Hunter Peeler, Vice Chair from 11-19-24	5

The Auditor General conducts audits of governmental entities to provide the Legislature, Florida's citizens, public entity management, and other stakeholders unbiased, timely, and relevant information for use in promoting government accountability and stewardship and improving government operations.

The team leader was Summer B. Elledge, CPA, and the audit was supervised by Glenda K. Hart, CPA.

Please address inquiries regarding this report to Edward A. Waller, CPA, Audit Manager, by e-mail at [tedwaller@aud.state.fl.us](mailto:tedwaller@aud.state.fl.us) or by telephone at (850) 412-2887.

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# SUMMARY

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## SUMMARY OF REPORT ON FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Our audit disclosed that the basic financial statements of the Columbia County District School Board (District) were presented fairly, in all material respects, in accordance with prescribed financial reporting standards.

## SUMMARY OF REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL AND COMPLIANCE

Our audit did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, we noted a certain significant deficiency as summarized below.

### Significant Deficiency

**Finding No. 2025-001:** District procedures did not ensure that District pension information was properly recorded and reported.

The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States.

## SUMMARY OF REPORT ON FEDERAL AWARDS

We audited the District's compliance with applicable Federal awards requirements. The Special Education Cluster and Education Stabilization Fund were audited as major Federal programs. The results of our audit indicated that the District materially complied with the requirements that could have a direct and material effect on each of its major Federal programs.

## AUDIT OBJECTIVES AND SCOPE

Our audit objectives were to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole were free from material misstatements, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that included our opinions. Our audit objectives were also to obtain reasonable assurance about whether material noncompliance with applicable Federal awards requirements occurred, whether due to fraud or error, and to express an opinion on the District's compliance based on our audit. In doing so, we:

- Exercised professional judgment and maintained professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identified and assessed the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements and material noncompliance with Federal awards requirements, whether due to fraud or error, and designed and performed audit procedures responsive to those risks.
- Obtained an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the District's internal control.
- Evaluated the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluated the overall presentation of the financial statements and accompanying Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards.

- Concluded whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the District’s ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.
- Examined various transactions to determine whether they were executed, in both manner and substance, in accordance with governing provisions of laws, rules, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements.
- Determined whether corrective action was taken for the finding included in our report No. 2025-136.
- Assessed the reasonableness of the Summary Schedule of Prior Audit Findings prepared by the District.

AUDIT METHODOLOGY
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We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America; applicable standards contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States; and Title 2 U.S. *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards*.



Sherrill F. Norman, CPA  
Auditor General

# AUDITOR GENERAL STATE OF FLORIDA

Claude Denson Pepper Building, Suite G74  
111 West Madison Street  
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1450



Phone: (850) 412-2722  
Fax: (850) 488-6975

The President of the Senate, the Speaker of the  
House of Representatives, and the  
Legislative Auditing Committee

## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

### Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

#### *Opinions*

We have audited the financial statements of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, the discretely presented component unit, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Columbia County District School Board, as of and for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2025, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the District's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

In our opinion, based on our audit and the reports of the other auditors, the accompanying financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, the discretely presented component unit, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Columbia County District School Board, as of June 30, 2025, and the respective changes in financial position and, where applicable, cash flows thereof for the fiscal year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

We did not audit the financial statements of the school internal funds, which represent 10 percent, 3 percent, 0 percent, 12 percent, 9 percent, and 8 percent, respectively, of the assets, liabilities, deferred inflows of resources, net position and fund balance, revenues, and expenses and expenditures of the aggregate remaining fund information as of June 30, 2025. In addition, we did not audit the financial statements of the discretely presented component unit, which represent 100 percent of the transactions and account balances of the discretely presented component unit columns as of June 30, 2025. The financial statements of the school internal funds and the discretely presented component unit were audited by other auditors whose reports have been furnished to us, and our opinions, insofar as they relate to the amounts included for the financial statements of the school internal funds and the discretely presented component unit, are based solely on the reports of the other auditors.

## ***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 (*Government Auditing Standards*). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the ***Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements*** section of our report. We are required to be independent of the District, and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit 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 District's ability to continue as a going concern for 12 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 District's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.

- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- Conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the District's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

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 **MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS**, the **Budgetary Comparison Schedule – General and Major Special Revenue Funds**, **Schedule of Changes in the District's Total OPEB Liability and Related Ratios**, **Schedule of the District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability – Florida Retirement System Pension Plan**, **Schedule of District Contributions – Florida Retirement System Pension Plan**, **Schedule of the District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability – Health Insurance Subsidy Pension Plan**, **Schedule of District Contributions – Health Insurance Subsidy Pension Plan**, and **Notes to Required Supplementary Information** 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 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 District's basic financial statements. The accompanying **SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS**, as required by Title 2 U.S. *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards*, is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements. The 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 accompanying **SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS** 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 19, 2026, on our consideration of the District's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, rules, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters included under the heading **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 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 District's internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the District's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Respectfully submitted,



Sherrill F. Norman, CPA  
Tallahassee, Florida  
March 19, 2026

# **MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS**

The management of the Columbia County District School Board has prepared the following discussion and analysis to provide an overview of the District's financial activities for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2025. The information contained in the Management's Discussion and Analysis (MD&A) is intended to highlight significant transactions, events, and conditions and should be considered in conjunction with the District's financial statements and notes to financial statements found immediately following the MD&A.

## **FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS**

Key financial highlights for the 2024-25 fiscal year are as follows:

Government-Wide Financials for Governmental Activities:

- In total, net position increased \$5,464,353.26, which represents a 10.2 percent increase over the 2023-24 fiscal year.
- General revenues total \$116,108,934.07, or 92.8 percent of all revenues. Program specific revenues in the form of charges for services, operating grants and contributions, and capital grants and contributions total \$8,965,488.42, or 7.2 percent of all revenues.

Fund Financials:

- The total unassigned portion of the General Fund balance increased by \$79,976.32 from \$4,581,485.06 at June 30, 2024, to \$4,661,461.38 at June 30, 2025.
- The ratio of unassigned fund balance to General Fund revenues at June 30, 2025, is 5.5 percent, higher than the 2023-2024 fiscal year of 5.3 percent.

## **OVERVIEW OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

The basic financial statements consist of three components: (1) government-wide financial statements; (2) fund financial statements; and (3) notes to financial statements. This report also includes supplementary information intended to furnish additional details to support the basic financial statements.

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

The government-wide financial statements provide both short-term and long-term information about the District's overall financial condition in a manner similar to those of a private-sector business. The statements include a statement of net position and a statement of activities that are designed to provide consolidated financial information about the governmental and business-type activities of the District presented on the accrual basis of accounting. The statement of net position provides information about the District's financial position, its assets, liabilities, and deferred inflows/outflows of resources, using an economic resources measurement focus. Assets plus deferred outflows of resources, less liabilities and deferred inflows of resources, equals net position, which is a measure of the District's financial health. The statement of activities presents information about the change in the District's net position, the results of operations, during the fiscal year. An increase or decrease in net position is an indication of whether the District's financial health is improving or deteriorating.

The government-wide statements present the District's activities in the following categories:

- Governmental activities – This represents most of the District’s services, including its educational programs such as basic, vocational, adult, and exceptional education. Support functions such as transportation and administration are also included. Local property taxes and the State’s education finance program provide most of the resources that support these activities.
- Business-type activities – The District charges fees to cover the cost of certain services it provides. These activities include the District’s after school program.
- Component units – The District presents two separate legal entities in this report.
  - The Belmont Academy, Inc. is a legally separate organization and component unit that is included in this report because it meets the criteria for inclusion provided by generally accepted accounting principles. Financial information for this component unit is reported separately from the financial information presented for the primary government.
  - The Columbia County School Board Leasing Corporation (Leasing Corporation), although also a legally separate entity, was formed to facilitate financing for the acquisition of facilities and equipment for the District. Due to the substantive economic relationship between the District and the Leasing Corporation, the Leasing Corporation has been included as an integral part of the primary government.

### **Fund Financial Statements**

Fund financial statements are one of the components of the basic financial statements. A fund is a grouping of related accounts that is used to maintain control over resources that have been segregated for specific activities or objectives. The District uses fund accounting to ensure and demonstrate compliance with finance-related legal requirements and prudent fiscal management. Certain funds are established by law while others are created by legal agreements, such as bond covenants. Fund financial statements provide more detailed information about the District’s financial activities, focusing on its most significant or “major” funds rather than fund types. This is in contrast to the entitywide perspective contained in the government-wide statements. All of the District’s funds may be classified within one of the broad categories discussed below.

**Governmental Funds:** Governmental funds are used to account for essentially the same functions reported as governmental activities in the government-wide financial statements. However, unlike the government-wide financial statements, governmental fund financial statements focus on near-term inflows and outflows of spendable resources, as well as on balances of spendable resources available at the end of the fiscal year. Such information may be useful in assessing a government’s near-term financing requirements.

Because the focus of governmental funds is narrower than that of the government-wide financial statements, it is useful to compare the information presented for governmental funds with similar information presented for governmental activities in the government-wide financial statements. By doing so, readers may better understand the long-term impact of the government’s near-term financing decisions. Both the governmental funds balance sheet and the governmental funds statement of revenues, expenditures, and changes in fund balances provide a reconciliation to facilitate this comparison between governmental funds and governmental activities.

The governmental funds balance sheet and statement of revenues, expenditures, and changes in fund balances provide detailed information about the District’s most significant funds. The District’s major funds are the General Fund, Special Revenue – Federal Education Stabilization Fund, and Capital

Projects - Other Fund. Data from the other governmental funds are combined into a single, aggregated presentation.

The District adopts an annual appropriated budget for its governmental funds. A budgetary comparison schedule has been provided for the General and major Special Revenue Funds to demonstrate compliance with the budget.

**Proprietary Fund:** Proprietary funds may be established to account for activities in which a fee is charged for services. Enterprise funds are used to report the same functions as business-type activities in the government-wide financial statements. The District uses the enterprise fund to account for the activities of the District’s after school program.

Proprietary funds provide the same type of information as the government-wide financial statements, only in more detail.

**Notes to Financial Statements**

The notes provide additional information that is essential for a full understanding of the data provided in the government-wide and fund financial statements.

**Other Information**

In addition to the basic financial statements and accompanying notes, this report also presents required supplementary information concerning the District’s total other postemployment benefits (OPEB) and net pension liabilities.

**GOVERNMENT-WIDE FINANCIAL ANALYSIS**

As noted earlier, net position over time may serve as a useful indicator of a government’s financial health. The following is a summary of the District’s net position as of June 30, 2025, compared to net position as of June 30, 2024:

**Net Position, End of Year**

	<b>Governmental Activities</b>		<b>Business-Type Activities</b>		<b>Total</b>	
	<b>6-30-25</b>	<b>6-30-24</b>	<b>6-30-25</b>	<b>6-30-24</b>	<b>6-30-25</b>	<b>6-30-24</b>
Current and Other Assets	\$69,977,253.01	\$94,511,645.24	\$319,336.69	\$316,778.90	\$70,296,589.70	\$94,828,424.14
Capital Assets	135,862,072.45	109,064,368.83	-	-	135,862,072.45	109,064,368.83
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>205,839,325.46</b>	<b>203,576,014.07</b>	<b>319,336.69</b>	<b>316,778.90</b>	<b>206,158,662.15</b>	<b>203,892,792.97</b>
<b>Deferred Outflows of Resources</b>	<b>17,445,022.00</b>	<b>17,678,450.79</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>17,445,022.00</b>	<b>17,678,450.79</b>
Long-Term Liabilities	143,754,267.72	152,646,750.10	-	-	143,754,267.72	152,646,750.10
Other Liabilities	9,288,596.53	7,212,093.89	-	17,148.00	9,288,596.53	7,229,241.89
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>153,042,864.25</b>	<b>159,858,843.99</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>17,148.00</b>	<b>153,042,864.25</b>	<b>159,875,991.99</b>
<b>Deferred Inflows of Resources</b>	<b>11,328,182.66</b>	<b>7,946,673.58</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>11,328,182.66</b>	<b>7,946,673.58</b>
Net Position:						
Net Investment in Capital Assets	103,116,911.62	96,801,367.99	-	-	103,116,911.62	96,801,367.99
Restricted	11,282,714.27	13,534,585.87	-	-	11,282,714.27	13,534,585.87
Unrestricted (Deficit)	(55,486,325.34)	(56,887,006.57)	319,336.69	299,630.90	(55,166,988.65)	(56,587,375.67)
<b>Total Net Position</b>	<b>\$58,913,300.55</b>	<b>\$53,448,947.29</b>	<b>\$319,336.69</b>	<b>\$299,630.90</b>	<b>\$59,232,637.24</b>	<b>\$53,748,578.19</b>

The largest portion of the District's net position is investment in capital assets (e.g., land; buildings; furniture, fixtures, and equipment), less any related debt still outstanding. The District uses these capital assets to provide services to students; consequently, these assets are not available for future spending. Although the investment in capital assets is reported net of related debt, the resources used to repay the debt must be provided from other sources, since the capital assets cannot be used to liquidate these liabilities.

The restricted portion of the District's net position represents resources that are subject to external restrictions on how they may be used. The deficit unrestricted net position was primarily the result of accruing \$10,516,218.59 in compensated absences payable, \$2,243,352 in total OPEB liability, and \$57,186,623 in net pension liability.

Current and other assets decreased primarily due to a reduction in cash as certificate of participation (COPS) proceeds are spent to construct and equip Niblack Elementary School and Eastside Elementary School.

Capital assets increased due to ongoing construction projects related primarily to the Niblack Elementary School and Eastside Elementary School reconstruction projects.

Long-term liabilities decreased primarily due to the District recognizing its proportionate share of the decrease in the Florida Retirement System's net pension liability.

The key elements of the changes in the District's net position for the fiscal years ended June 30, 2025, and June 30, 2024, are as follows:

## Operating Results for the Fiscal Year Ended

	Governmental Activities		Business-Type Activities		Total	
	6-30-25	6-30-24	6-30-25	6-30-24	6-30-25	6-30-24
Program Revenues:						
Charges for Services	\$ 374,399.88	\$ 376,814.19	\$554,200.72	\$601,364.73	\$ 928,600.60	\$ 978,178.92
Operating Grants and Contributions	7,451,696.79	7,656,887.60	-	-	7,451,696.79	7,656,887.60
Capital Grants and Contributions	1,139,391.75	821,313.41	-	-	1,139,391.75	821,313.41
General Revenues:						
Property Taxes, Levied for Operational Purposes	18,222,892.82	17,254,422.28	-	-	18,222,892.82	17,254,422.28
Property Taxes, Levied for Capital Projects	7,024,532.07	6,527,080.36	-	-	7,024,532.07	6,527,080.36
Local Sales Taxes	7,713,520.57	7,304,679.88	-	-	7,713,520.57	7,304,679.88
Grants and Contributions Not Restricted to Specific Programs	76,547,757.33	88,293,769.37	-	-	76,547,757.33	88,293,769.37
Unrestricted Investment Earnings	3,322,918.03	1,565,984.46	12,509.15	4,418.08	3,335,427.18	1,570,402.54
Miscellaneous	3,277,313.25	3,384,026.26	-	-	3,277,313.25	3,384,026.26
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>125,074,422.49</b>	<b>133,184,977.81</b>	<b>566,709.87</b>	<b>605,782.81</b>	<b>125,641,132.36</b>	<b>133,790,760.62</b>
Functions/Program Expenses:						
Instruction	58,327,194.82	64,400,958.92	-	-	58,327,194.82	64,400,958.92
Student Support Services	5,795,763.85	6,563,567.35	-	-	5,795,763.85	6,563,567.35
Instructional Media Services	908,433.48	1,050,811.41	-	-	908,433.48	1,050,811.41
Instruction and Curriculum Development Services	3,603,051.14	4,070,430.78	-	-	3,603,051.14	4,070,430.78
Instructional Staff Training Services	1,827,729.60	1,981,730.00	-	-	1,827,729.60	1,981,730.00
Instruction-Related Technology	1,295,818.70	2,200,084.18	-	-	1,295,818.70	2,200,084.18
Board	471,210.07	523,892.00	-	-	471,210.07	523,892.00
General Administration	1,187,714.26	1,207,767.74	-	-	1,187,714.26	1,207,767.74
School Administration	4,879,649.26	5,770,525.80	-	-	4,879,649.26	5,770,525.80
Facilities Acquisition and Construction	5,765,880.52	2,106,852.76	-	-	5,765,880.52	2,106,852.76
Fiscal Services	423,566.19	436,197.53	-	-	423,566.19	436,197.53
Food Services	7,386,900.66	7,458,347.12	-	-	7,386,900.66	7,458,347.12
Central Services	1,185,735.88	1,188,407.21	-	-	1,185,735.88	1,188,407.21
Student Transportation Services	5,211,361.88	5,390,410.46	-	-	5,211,361.88	5,390,410.46
Operation of Plant	9,501,137.33	10,094,432.79	-	-	9,501,137.33	10,094,432.79
Maintenance of Plant	1,683,692.85	1,868,225.98	-	-	1,683,692.85	1,868,225.98
Administrative Technology Services	387,991.81	478,730.02	-	-	387,991.81	478,730.02
Community Services	2,816,879.66	2,753,297.01	-	-	2,816,879.66	2,753,297.01
Unallocated Interest on Long-Term Debt	2,965,860.48	2,207,388.07	-	-	2,965,860.48	2,207,388.07
Unallocated Depreciation Expense	3,984,496.79	3,467,105.17	-	-	3,984,496.79	3,467,105.17
After School Program	-	-	547,004.08	617,424.04	547,004.08	617,424.04
<b>Total Functions/Program Expenses</b>	<b>119,610,069.23</b>	<b>125,219,162.30</b>	<b>547,004.08</b>	<b>617,424.04</b>	<b>120,157,073.31</b>	<b>125,836,586.34</b>
<b>Change in Net Position</b>	<b>5,464,353.26</b>	<b>7,965,815.51</b>	<b>19,705.79</b>	<b>(11,641.23)</b>	<b>5,484,059.05</b>	<b>7,954,174.28</b>
Net Position - Beginning	53,448,947.29	45,483,131.78	299,630.90	311,272.13	53,748,578.19	45,794,403.91
<b>Net Position - Ending</b>	<b>\$58,913,300.55</b>	<b>\$53,448,947.29</b>	<b>\$319,336.69</b>	<b>\$299,630.90</b>	<b>\$59,232,637.24</b>	<b>\$53,748,578.19</b>

The largest revenue source is the State of Florida (53.2 percent). Revenues from State sources for current operations are primarily received through the Florida Education Finance Program (FEFP) funding formula. The FEFP funding formula utilizes student enrollment data and is designed to maintain equity in funding across all Florida school districts, taking into consideration the District's funding ability based on the local property tax base.

Grants and contributions not restricted to specific programs revenues decreased by \$11,746,012.04, or 13.3 percent, primarily due to the end of Federal Education Stabilization Funding during the current year.

Instruction expenses represent 48.8 percent of total governmental expenses in the 2024-25 fiscal year. Instruction expenses decreased by \$6,073,764.10, or 9.4 percent, from the previous fiscal year due mainly from a decrease in net pension expense.

## FINANCIAL ANALYSIS OF THE DISTRICT'S FUNDS

### **Governmental Funds**

The focus of the District's governmental funds is to provide information on near-term inflows, outflows, and balances of spendable resources. Such information is useful in assessing the District's financing requirements. Specifically, unassigned fund balance may serve as a useful measure of a government's net resources available for discretionary use as it represents the portion of fund balance that has not been limited to a particular purpose by an external party, the District, or a group or individual delegated authority by the Board to assign resources for particular purposes.

### **Major Governmental Funds**

The General Fund is the District's chief operating fund. At the end of the current fiscal year, unassigned fund balance is \$4,661,461.38, while the total fund balance is \$9,948,077.20. As a measure of the General Fund's liquidity, it may be useful to compare the total assigned and unassigned fund balances to General Fund total revenues. The total unassigned fund balance is 5.5 percent of the total General Fund revenues, while total fund balance represents 11.7 percent of total General Fund revenues. Total fund balance decreased by \$1,027,232.30 during the fiscal year primarily due to decreased revenues associated with reduced enrollment and required salary increases for staff.

The Special Revenue – Federal Education Stabilization Fund has total revenues and expenditures of \$1,455,813.92 each and the funding was mainly used to mitigate the impact of COVID-19. Because grant revenues are not recognized until expenditures are incurred, this fund generally does not accumulate a fund balance.

The Capital Projects – Other Fund has a total restricted fund balance of \$42,184,184.78. The fund balance decreased as COPS proceeds are spent to construct and equip Niblack Elementary School and Eastside Elementary School.

### **Proprietary Funds**

The District's proprietary funds provide the same type of information reported in the government-wide financial statements, but in more detail. Unrestricted net position of the afterschool program Enterprise Fund increased by \$19,705.79 during the 2024-25 fiscal year to \$319,336.69 at June 30, 2025.

## GENERAL FUND BUDGETARY HIGHLIGHTS

During the 2024-25 fiscal year, the District amended its General Fund budget several times, which resulted in an increase in total budgeted revenues of \$64,044.50, or 0.1 percent. At the same time, final appropriations are more than the original budgeted amounts by \$1,442,533.26, or 1.7 percent.

Actual revenues and actual expenditures are in line with the final budgeted amounts.

## CAPITAL ASSETS AND LONG-TERM DEBT

### **Capital Assets**

The District's investment in capital assets for its governmental activities as of June 30, 2025, is \$135,862,072.45 (net of accumulated depreciation). This investment in capital assets includes land;

construction in progress; improvements other than buildings; buildings and fixed equipment; furniture, fixtures, and equipment; motor vehicles; right-to-use lease assets; and audio-visual materials and computer software. The total increase in capital assets for the current fiscal year was 24.6 percent.

Major capital asset events at June 30, 2025 included the construction in progress of the demolition and new construction of Niblack Elementary School and Eastside Elementary School.

Additional information on the District's capital assets can be found in Notes I.F.4 and II.C. to the financial statements.

### **Long-Term Debt**

At June 30, 2025, the District had total long-term debt outstanding of \$73,808,074.13, composed of \$474,000 of a note payable, \$73,306,791.36 of COPS, and \$27,282.77 of leases payable. During the current fiscal year, retirement of debt was \$4,353,100.15, including the \$412,458.32 unamortized premium.

Additional information on the District's long-term debt can be found in Notes II.H.1. through II.H.4. to the financial statements.

### OTHER MATTERS OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Columbia County School Board continues to face the challenge of limited funding to support quality instruction. Management and the Board monitor the District's financial stability as we continue to maintain an optimal level of instruction for our students.

### REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION

This report is designed to provide a general overview of the District's finances for all those with an interest in the District's finances. Questions concerning information provided in the MD&A or other required supplementary information, and financial statements and notes thereto, or requests for additional financial information should be addressed to the Chief Financial Officer, Columbia County District School Board, 372 West Duval Street, Lake City, Florida 32055.

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# BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## Columbia County District School Board Statement of Net Position June 30, 2025

	Primary Government			Component Unit
	Governmental Activities	Business-Type Activities	Total	
<b>ASSETS</b>				
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 12,900,733.55	\$ 266,283.69	\$ 13,167,017.24	\$ 3,783,682.00
Cash and Cash Equivalents with Fiscal Agent	51,626,144.34	-	51,626,144.34	-
Accounts Receivable	53,568.81	-	53,568.81	40,807.00
Internal Balances	(53,053.00)	53,053.00	-	-
Due from Other Agencies	5,023,356.12	-	5,023,356.12	-
Prepaid Items	29.67	-	29.67	-
Inventories	426,473.52	-	426,473.52	-
Other Asset	-	-	-	5,147.00
Capital Assets:				
Nondepreciable Capital Assets	34,978,799.89	-	34,978,799.89	310,123.00
Depreciable Capital Assets, Net	100,883,272.56	-	100,883,272.56	10,826,237.00
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>205,839,325.46</b>	<b>319,336.69</b>	<b>206,158,662.15</b>	<b>14,965,996.00</b>
<b>DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES</b>				
Pensions	16,883,268.00	-	16,883,268.00	-
OPEB	561,754.00	-	561,754.00	-
<b>TOTAL DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES</b>	<b>17,445,022.00</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>17,445,022.00</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>				
Accrued Salaries and Benefits	987,528.77	-	987,528.77	-
Payroll Deductions and Withholdings	3,076,422.95	-	3,076,422.95	-
Accounts Payable	1,953,583.34	-	1,953,583.34	121,918.00
Construction Contracts Payable	2,449,505.18	-	2,449,505.18	-
Construction Contracts Payable - Retained Percentage	806,412.80	-	806,412.80	-
Due to Other Agencies	7,242.47	-	7,242.47	-
Accrued Interest Payable	-	-	-	37,383.00
Unearned Revenue	7,901.02	-	7,901.02	-
Long-Term Liabilities:				
Portion Due Within 1 Year	5,035,829.07	-	5,035,829.07	387,970.00
Portion Due After 1 Year	138,718,438.65	-	138,718,438.65	10,958,499.00
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>153,042,864.25</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>153,042,864.25</b>	<b>11,505,770.00</b>
<b>DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES</b>				
Pensions	10,261,107.66	-	10,261,107.66	-
OPEB	1,067,075.00	-	1,067,075.00	-
<b>TOTAL DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES</b>	<b>11,328,182.66</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>11,328,182.66</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>NET POSITION</b>				
Net Investment in Capital Assets	103,116,911.62	-	103,116,911.62	(210,109.00)
Restricted for:				
State Required Carryover Programs	1,885,397.29	-	1,885,397.29	-
Debt Service	585,989.53	-	585,989.53	-
Capital Projects	2,519,811.97	-	2,519,811.97	378,623.00
Food Service	5,244,314.48	-	5,244,314.48	94,962.00
Student Organizations	1,047,201.00	-	1,047,201.00	-
Other Purposes	-	-	-	152,554.00
Unrestricted	(55,486,325.34)	319,336.69	(55,166,988.65)	3,044,196.00
<b>TOTAL NET POSITION</b>	<b>\$ 58,913,300.55</b>	<b>\$ 319,336.69</b>	<b>\$ 59,232,637.24</b>	<b>\$ 3,460,226.00</b>

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

**Columbia County District School Board  
Statement of Activities  
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2025**

Functions/Programs	Expenses	Program Revenues		
		Charges for Services	Operating Grants and Contributions	Capital Grants and Contributions
<b>Primary Government</b>				
<b>Governmental Activities:</b>				
Instruction	\$ 58,327,194.82	\$ 158,747.11	\$ -	\$ -
Student Support Services	5,795,763.85	-	-	-
Instructional Media Services	908,433.48	-	-	-
Instruction and Curriculum Development Services	3,603,051.14	-	-	-
Instructional Staff Training Services	1,827,729.60	-	-	-
Instruction-Related Technology Board	1,295,818.70	-	-	-
Board	471,210.07	-	-	-
General Administration	1,187,714.26	-	-	-
School Administration	4,879,649.26	-	-	-
Facilities Acquisition and Construction	5,765,880.52	-	-	1,139,391.75
Fiscal Services	423,566.19	-	-	-
Food Services	7,386,900.66	131,835.35	7,451,696.79	-
Central Services	1,185,735.88	-	-	-
Student Transportation Services	5,211,361.88	83,817.42	-	-
Operation of Plant	9,501,137.33	-	-	-
Maintenance of Plant	1,683,692.85	-	-	-
Administrative Technology Services	387,991.81	-	-	-
Community Services	2,816,879.66	-	-	-
Unallocated Interest on Long-Term Debt	2,965,860.48	-	-	-
Unallocated Depreciation Expense*	3,984,496.79	-	-	-
<b>Total Governmental Activities</b>	<b>119,610,069.23</b>	<b>374,399.88</b>	<b>7,451,696.79</b>	<b>1,139,391.75</b>
<b>Business-Type Activities:</b>				
After School Program	547,004.08	554,200.72	-	-
<b>Total Primary Government</b>	<b>\$ 120,157,073.31</b>	<b>\$ 928,600.60</b>	<b>\$ 7,451,696.79</b>	<b>\$ 1,139,391.75</b>
<b>Component Unit:</b>				
Belmont Academy, Inc.	\$ 8,180,274.00	\$ 423,591.00	\$ 565,277.00	\$ 485,272.00

General Revenues:

Taxes:

Property Taxes, Levied for Operational Purposes

Property Taxes, Levied for Capital Projects

Local Sales Taxes

Grants and Contributions Not Restricted to Specific Programs

Unrestricted Investment Earnings

Miscellaneous

**Total General Revenues**

**Change in Net Position**

Net Position - Beginning

**Net Position - Ending**

\* This amount excludes the depreciation that is included in the direct expenses of the various functions.

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

**Net (Expense) Revenue and Changes in Net Position**

<b>Primary Government</b>			
<b>Governmental Activities</b>	<b>Business-Type Activities</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Component Unit</b>
\$ (58,168,447.71)	\$ -	\$ (58,168,447.71)	\$ -
(5,795,763.85)	-	(5,795,763.85)	-
(908,433.48)	-	(908,433.48)	-
(3,603,051.14)	-	(3,603,051.14)	-
(1,827,729.60)	-	(1,827,729.60)	-
(1,295,818.70)	-	(1,295,818.70)	-
(471,210.07)	-	(471,210.07)	-
(1,187,714.26)	-	(1,187,714.26)	-
(4,879,649.26)	-	(4,879,649.26)	-
(4,626,488.77)	-	(4,626,488.77)	-
(423,566.19)	-	(423,566.19)	-
196,631.48	-	196,631.48	-
(1,185,735.88)	-	(1,185,735.88)	-
(5,127,544.46)	-	(5,127,544.46)	-
(9,501,137.33)	-	(9,501,137.33)	-
(1,683,692.85)	-	(1,683,692.85)	-
(387,991.81)	-	(387,991.81)	-
(2,816,879.66)	-	(2,816,879.66)	-
(2,965,860.48)	-	(2,965,860.48)	-
(3,984,496.79)	-	(3,984,496.79)	-
<u>(110,644,580.81)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(110,644,580.81)</u>	<u>-</u>
-	7,196.64	7,196.64	-
<u>(110,644,580.81)</u>	<u>7,196.64</u>	<u>(110,637,384.17)</u>	<u>-</u>
-	-	-	(6,706,134.00)
18,222,892.82	-	18,222,892.82	-
7,024,532.07	-	7,024,532.07	-
7,713,520.57	-	7,713,520.57	-
76,547,757.33	-	76,547,757.33	6,963,018.00
3,322,918.03	12,509.15	3,335,427.18	102,915.00
3,277,313.25	-	3,277,313.25	377,367.00
<u>116,108,934.07</u>	<u>12,509.15</u>	<u>116,121,443.22</u>	<u>7,443,300.00</u>
5,464,353.26	19,705.79	5,484,059.05	737,166.00
53,448,947.29	299,630.90	53,748,578.19	2,723,060.00
<u>\$ 58,913,300.55</u>	<u>\$ 319,336.69</u>	<u>\$ 59,232,637.24</u>	<u>\$ 3,460,226.00</u>

**Columbia County District School Board  
Balance Sheet – Governmental Funds  
June 30, 2025**

	<u>General Fund</u>	<u>Special Revenue - Federal Education Stabilization Fund</u>	<u>Capital Projects - Other Fund</u>
<b>ASSETS</b>			
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 7,213,995.48	\$ -	\$ -
Cash and Cash Equivalents with Fiscal Agent	-	-	51,626,144.34
Accounts Receivable	34,850.60	-	-
Due from Other Funds	7,314,927.06	-	-
Due from Other Agencies	-	1,382,988.67	1,482,489.38
Prepaid Items	-	-	-
Inventories	212,663.68	-	-
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$ 14,776,436.82</b>	<b>\$ 1,382,988.67</b>	<b>\$ 53,108,633.72</b>
<b>LIABILITIES, DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES, AND FUND BALANCES</b>			
Liabilities:			
Accrued Salaries and Benefits	\$ 912,409.22	\$ -	\$ -
Payroll Deductions and Withholdings	2,988,937.49	708.56	160.20
Accounts Payable	919,770.44	3,002.71	361,057.70
Construction Contracts Payable	-	-	2,449,505.18
Construction Contracts Payable - Retained Percentage	-	-	806,412.80
Due to Other Funds	-	1,371,376.38	7,307,313.06
Due to Other Agencies	7,242.47	-	-
Unearned Revenue	-	7,901.02	-
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>4,828,359.62</b>	<b>1,382,988.67</b>	<b>10,924,448.94</b>
Deferred Inflows of Resources:			
Unavailable Revenue - State Capital Outlay	-	-	-
Fund Balances:			
Nonspendable:			
Prepaid Items	-	-	-
Inventories	212,663.68	-	-
Total Nonspendable Fund Balance	212,663.68	-	-
Restricted for:			
State Required Carryover Programs	1,885,397.29	-	-
Debt Service	-	-	-
Capital Projects	-	-	42,184,184.78
Food Service	-	-	-
Student Organizations	-	-	-
Total Restricted Fund Balance	1,885,397.29	-	42,184,184.78
Assigned for:			
Board Approved Budget Items	3,188,554.85	-	-
Unassigned Fund Balance	4,661,461.38	-	-
<b>Total Fund Balances</b>	<b>9,948,077.20</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>42,184,184.78</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES, DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES, AND FUND BALANCES</b>	<b>\$ 14,776,436.82</b>	<b>\$ 1,382,988.67</b>	<b>\$ 53,108,633.72</b>

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

<b>Other Governmental Funds</b>	<b>Total Governmental Funds</b>
\$ 5,686,738.07	\$ 12,900,733.55
-	51,626,144.34
18,718.21	53,568.81
2,377,515.59	9,692,442.65
2,157,878.07	5,023,356.12
29.67	29.67
213,809.84	426,473.52
\$ 10,454,689.45	\$ 79,722,748.66

\$ 75,119.55	\$ 987,528.77
86,616.70	3,076,422.95
669,752.49	1,953,583.34
-	2,449,505.18
-	806,412.80
1,066,806.21	9,745,495.65
-	7,242.47
-	7,901.02
1,898,294.95	19,034,092.18

280,349.00	280,349.00
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29.67	29.67
213,809.84	426,473.52
213,839.51	426,503.19

-	1,885,397.29
585,989.53	585,989.53
1,398,510.82	43,582,695.60
5,030,504.64	5,030,504.64
1,047,201.00	1,047,201.00
8,062,205.99	52,131,788.06

-	3,188,554.85
-	4,661,461.38

8,276,045.50	60,408,307.48
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\$ 10,454,689.45	\$ 79,722,748.66
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**Columbia County District School Board  
Reconciliation of the Governmental Funds Balance Sheet  
to the Statement of Net Position  
June 30, 2025**

**Total Fund Balances - Governmental Funds** \$ 60,408,307.48

Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of net position are different because:

Capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation, used in governmental activities are not financial resources and, therefore, are not reported as assets in the governmental funds. 135,862,072.45

Revenues earned but not received within the availability period are reported as unavailable revenue in the governmental funds, but are recorded as revenue in the government-wide statements. 280,349.00

The deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions and other postemployment benefits (OPEB) are applicable to future periods and, therefore, are not reported in the governmental funds.

Deferred Outflows Related to Pensions	\$ 16,883,268.00	
Deferred Outflows Related to OPEB	561,754.00	
Deferred Inflows Related to Pensions	(10,261,107.66)	
Deferred Inflows Related to OPEB	<u>(1,067,075.00)</u>	6,116,839.34

Long-term liabilities are not due and payable in the fiscal year and, therefore, are not reported as liabilities in the governmental funds. Long-term liabilities at year end consist of:

Certificates of Participation Payable	\$ (73,306,791.36)	
Note Payable	(474,000.00)	
Leases Payable	(27,282.77)	
Compensated Absences Payable	(10,516,218.59)	
Net Pension Liability	(57,186,623.00)	
Total OPEB Liability	<u>(2,243,352.00)</u>	<u>(143,754,267.72)</u>

**Net Position - Governmental Activities** **\$ 58,913,300.55**

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

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**Columbia County District School Board  
Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in  
Fund Balances – Governmental Funds  
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2025**

	<u>General Fund</u>	<u>Special Revenue - Federal Education Stabilization Fund</u>	<u>Capital Projects - Other Fund</u>
<b>Revenues</b>			
Intergovernmental:			
Federal Direct	\$ 70,687.68	\$ -	\$ -
Federal Through State and Local	399,428.76	1,455,813.92	-
State	65,124,955.60	-	-
Local:			
Property Taxes	18,222,892.82	-	-
Local Sales Taxes	-	-	7,713,520.57
Charges for Services	242,564.53	-	-
Miscellaneous	981,280.93	-	2,864,515.87
Total Local Revenues	<u>19,446,738.28</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>10,578,036.44</u>
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<u>85,041,810.32</u>	<u>1,455,813.92</u>	<u>10,578,036.44</u>
<b>Expenditures</b>			
Current - Education:			
Instruction	53,349,395.70	952,284.27	-
Student Support Services	5,423,026.95	-	-
Instructional Media Services	919,266.99	-	-
Instruction and Curriculum Development Services	1,194,126.76	99,756.24	-
Instructional Staff Training Services	715,286.59	23,530.51	-
Instruction-Related Technology	1,075,353.19	227,167.90	-
Board	475,982.10	330.45	-
General Administration	973,079.29	548.69	-
School Administration	4,940,202.50	-	-
Facilities Acquisition and Construction	504,620.47	89,325.43	1,189,810.62
Fiscal Services	428,565.86	-	-
Food Services	47,180.06	-	-
Central Services	1,155,338.37	-	-
Student Transportation Services	4,246,918.78	2,820.08	-
Operation of Plant	9,465,927.52	20,607.64	-
Maintenance of Plant	1,703,386.01	-	-
Administrative Technology Services	391,565.16	-	-
Community Services	345,145.77	-	-
Fixed Capital Outlay:			
Facilities Acquisition and Construction	-	-	29,969,459.60
Other Capital Outlay	147,426.33	39,442.71	-
Debt Service:			
Principal	14,206.82	-	-
Interest and Fiscal Charges	736.54	-	-
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<u>87,516,737.76</u>	<u>1,455,813.92</u>	<u>31,159,270.22</u>
<b>Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over Expenditures</b>	<u>(2,474,927.44)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(20,581,233.78)</u>
<b>Other Financing Sources (Uses)</b>			
Transfers In	1,407,305.00	-	-
Loss Recoveries	40,390.14	-	-
Transfers Out	-	-	(4,980,454.72)
<b>Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)</b>	<u>1,447,695.14</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(4,980,454.72)</u>
<b>Net Change in Fund Balances</b>	(1,027,232.30)	-	(25,561,688.50)
Fund Balances, Beginning	10,975,309.50	-	67,745,873.28
<b>Fund Balances, Ending</b>	<u>\$ 9,948,077.20</u>	<u>\$ 0.00</u>	<u>\$ 42,184,184.78</u>

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

<b>Other Governmental Funds</b>	<b>Total Governmental Funds</b>
\$ -	\$ 70,687.68
16,649,621.01	18,504,863.69
1,163,452.75	66,288,408.35
7,024,532.07	25,247,424.89
-	7,713,520.57
215,652.77	458,217.30
<u>2,624,764.07</u>	<u>6,470,560.87</u>
<u>9,864,948.91</u>	<u>39,889,723.63</u>
<u>27,678,022.67</u>	<u>124,753,683.35</u>
4,554,885.37	58,856,565.34
434,589.49	5,857,616.44
-	919,266.99
2,351,880.30	3,645,763.30
1,108,638.85	1,847,455.95
-	1,302,521.09
-	476,312.55
225,164.30	1,198,792.28
-	4,940,202.50
3,847,493.26	5,631,249.78
-	428,565.86
7,375,849.32	7,423,029.38
40,974.92	1,196,313.29
502,392.40	4,752,131.26
54,858.59	9,541,393.75
-	1,703,386.01
-	391,565.16
2,473,826.00	2,818,971.77
-	29,969,459.60
1,278,925.39	1,465,794.43
3,926,435.01	3,940,641.83
<u>3,377,582.26</u>	<u>3,378,318.80</u>
<u>31,553,495.46</u>	<u>151,685,317.36</u>
<u>(3,875,472.79)</u>	<u>(26,931,634.01)</u>
6,655,998.48	8,063,303.48
-	40,390.14
<u>(3,082,848.76)</u>	<u>(8,063,303.48)</u>
<u>3,573,149.72</u>	<u>40,390.14</u>
(302,323.07)	(26,891,243.87)
<u>8,578,368.57</u>	<u>87,299,551.35</u>
<u>\$ 8,276,045.50</u>	<u>\$ 60,408,307.48</u>

**Columbia County District School Board  
Reconciliation of the Governmental Funds Statement of Revenues, Expenditures,  
and Changes in Fund Balances to the Statement of Activities  
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2025**

**Net Change in Fund Balances - Governmental Funds** \$ (26,891,243.87)

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

Capital outlays are reported in the governmental funds as expenditures. However, in the statement of activities, the cost of those assets is allocated over their estimated useful lives as depreciation expense. This is the amount of capital outlays in excess of depreciation expense in the current fiscal year. 26,818,534.62

The loss on the disposal of capital assets during the current fiscal year is reported in the statement of activities. In the governmental funds, the cost of these assets was recognized as an expenditure in the fiscal year purchased. Thus, the change in net position differs from the change in fund balance by the undepreciated cost of the disposed assets. (20,831.00)

Repayment of long-term debt is an expenditure in the governmental funds, but the repayment reduces long-term liabilities in the statement of net assets. Debt premiums are recognized in the governmental funds in the fiscal year the debt is issued, but are amortized over the life of the debt in the government-wide statements. This is the amount of repayments and amortization in the current period.

Certificates of Participation Payable	\$ 3,305,000.00	
Amortization of COPs Premium	412,458.32	
Installment Purchase Payable	339,152.03	
Note Payable	183,000.00	
Leases Payable	113,489.80	4,353,100.15

In the statement of activities, the cost of compensated absences is measured by the amounts earned during the year, while in the governmental funds, expenditures are recognized based on the amounts actually paid for compensated absences. This is the net amount of compensated absences earned in excess of the amount paid in the current fiscal year. (398,841.77)

Governmental funds report District OPEB contributions as expenditures. However, in the statement of activities, the cost of OPEB benefits earned net of employee contributions, as determined through an actuarial valuation, is reported as an OPEB expense.

Increase in Total OPEB Liability	\$ (44,986.00)	
Decrease in Deferred Outflows of Resources - OPEB	(45,667.00)	
Decrease in Deferred Inflows of Resources - OPEB	141,982.00	51,329.00

Governmental funds report District pension contributions as expenditures. However, in the statement of activities, the cost of pension benefits earned net of employee contributions is reported as a pension expense.

FRS Pension Contribution	\$ 5,463,634.00	
HIS Pension Contribution	1,101,597.00	
FRS Pension Expense	(4,900,906.87)	
HIS Pension Expense	(392,367.00)	1,271,957.13

Governmental funds recognize revenues when they are measurable and available to pay liabilities in the current period. However, in the statement of activities, revenue is recognized as soon as it is earned regardless of availability. This is the effect of the timing difference between the two methods of revenue recognition. 280,349.00

**Change in Net Position - Governmental Activities** \$ 5,464,353.26

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

**Columbia County District School Board  
Statement of Net Position – Proprietary Fund  
June 30, 2025**

	<u>Enterprise Fund</u> <u>After School</u> <u>Program</u>
<b>ASSETS</b>	
Current Assets:	
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 266,283.69
Due from Other Funds	<u>53,053.00</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<u>319,336.69</u>
<b>NET POSITION</b>	
Unrestricted	<u>\$ 319,336.69</u>

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

**Columbia County District School Board  
Statement of Revenues, Expenses, and Changes in Fund  
Net Position – Proprietary Fund  
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2025**

	<b>Enterprise Fund After School Program</b>
<b>OPERATING REVENUES</b>	
Charges for Services	\$ 554,200.72
<b>OPERATING EXPENSES</b>	
Purchased Services	441,762.17
Materials and Supplies	56,186.67
Capital Outlay	49,055.24
<b>Total Operating Expenses</b>	<b>547,004.08</b>
<b>Operating Income</b>	<b>7,196.64</b>
<b>NONOPERATING REVENUES</b>	
Interest	12,509.15
<b>Change in Net Position</b>	<b>19,705.79</b>
Total Net Position - Beginning	299,630.90
<b>Total Net Position - Ending</b>	<b>\$ 319,336.69</b>

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

**Columbia County District School Board  
Statement of Cash Flows – Proprietary Fund  
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2025**

	<b>Enterprise Fund After School Program</b>
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>	
Cash Received from Services	\$ 531,750.72
Cash Payments to Suppliers for Goods and Services	(564,152.08)
<b>Net Cash Used by Operating Activities</b>	<b>(32,401.36)</b>
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES</b>	
Interest Income	12,509.15
<b>Net Decrease in Cash and Cash Equivalents</b>	<b>(19,892.21)</b>
Cash and Cash Equivalents, Beginning	286,175.90
<b>Cash and Cash Equivalents, Ending</b>	<b>\$ 266,283.69</b>
<b>Reconciliation of Operating Income to Net Cash Used by Operating Activities:</b>	
Operating Income	\$ 7,196.64
Adjustments to Reconcile Operating Income to Net Cash Used by Operating Activities:	
Increase in Due from Other Funds	(22,450.00)
Decrease in Accounts Payable	(17,148.00)
<b>Total Adjustments</b>	<b>(39,598.00)</b>
<b>Net Cash Used by Operating Activities</b>	<b>\$ (32,401.36)</b>

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

# **NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

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## **I. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

### **A. Description of Government-Wide Financial Statements**

The government-wide financial statements (i.e., the statement of net position and the statement of activities) report information on all of the nonfiduciary activities of the primary government and its component units. Governmental activities, which normally are supported by taxes, intergovernmental revenues, and other nonexchange transactions, are reported separately from business-type activities, which rely to a significant extent on fees charged to external customers for support. Likewise, the primary government is reported separately from certain legally separate component units for which the primary government is financially accountable.

The statement of activities presents a comparison between direct expenses and program revenues for each function or program of the Columbia County School District's (District) governmental activities and for each segment of the business-type activities. Direct expenses are those that are specifically associated with a service, program, or department and are thereby clearly identifiable to a particular function. Depreciation expense associated with the District's transportation department is allocated to the student transportation services functions, while remaining depreciation expense is not readily associated with a particular function and is reported as unallocated.

### **B. Reporting Entity**

The Columbia County District School Board (Board) has direct responsibility for operation, control, and supervision of District schools and is considered a primary government for financial reporting. The District is considered part of the Florida system of public education, operates under the general direction of the Florida Department of Education (FDOE), and is governed by State law and State Board of Education (SBE) rules. The governing body of the District is the Board, which is composed of five elected members. The elected Superintendent of Schools is the executive officer of the Board. Geographic boundaries of the District correspond with those of Columbia County.

Criteria for determining if other entities are potential component units that should be reported within the District's basic financial statements are identified and described in the Governmental Accounting Standards Board's (GASB) *Codification of Governmental Accounting and Financial Reporting Standards*, Sections 2100 and 2600. The application of these criteria provides for identification of any legally separate entities for which the Board is financially accountable and other organizations for which the nature and significance of their relationship with the Board are such that exclusion would cause the District's basic financial statements to be misleading.

Based on the application of these criteria, the following component units are included within the District's reporting entity:

**Blended Component Unit.** Blended component units are, in substance, part of the District's operations, even though they are legally separate entities. Thus, blended component units are appropriately presented as funds of the District. The Columbia County School Board Leasing Corporation (Leasing Corporation) was formed to facilitate financing for the acquisition of facilities

and equipment as further discussed in Note II.H.2. Due to the substantive economic relationship between the District and the Leasing Corporation, the financial activities of the Leasing Corporation are included in the accompanying basic financial statements. Separate financial statements for the Leasing Corporation are not published.

**Discretely Presented Component Unit.** The component units columns in the government-wide financial statements include the financial data of the District's other component units. A separate column is used to emphasize that it is legally separate from the District.

The District's charter school, Belmont Academy, Inc., is a not-for-profit corporation organized pursuant to Chapter 617, Florida Statutes, the Florida Not For Profit Corporation Act, and Section 1002.33, Florida Statutes. The charter school operates under a charter approved by its sponsor, the Columbia County District School Board. The charter school is considered to be a component unit of the District because the District is financially accountable for the charter school as the District established the charter school by approval of the charter, which is tantamount to the initial appointment of the charter school, and there is the potential for the charter school to impose specific financial burdens on the District. In addition, pursuant to the Florida Constitution, the charter school is a public school and the District is responsible for the operation, control, and supervision of public schools within the District.

The financial data reported on the accompanying statements was derived from the charter school's audited financial statements for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2025. The audit reports are filed in the District's administrative offices at 372 West Duval Street, Lake City, Florida 32055.

### **C. Basis of Presentation: Government-Wide Financial Statements**

While separate government-wide and fund financial statements are presented, they are interrelated. The governmental activities column incorporates data from governmental funds, while business-type activities incorporate data from the government's enterprise fund. Separate financial statements are provided for governmental funds and the proprietary fund.

The effects of interfund activity have been eliminated from the government-wide financial statements except for interfund services provided and used and net residual amounts between governmental and business-type activities.

### **D. Basis of Presentation: Fund Financial Statements**

The fund financial statements provide information about the District's funds, including the blended component unit. Separate statements for each fund category – governmental and proprietary, are presented. The emphasis of fund financial statements is on major governmental and enterprise funds, each displayed in a separate column. All remaining governmental and enterprise funds are aggregated and reported as nonmajor funds.

The District reports the following major governmental funds:

- **General Fund** – to account for all financial resources not required to be accounted for in another fund and for certain revenues from the State that are legally restricted to be expended for specific current operating purposes.

- Special Revenue – Federal Education Stabilization Fund – to account for certain Federal grant program resources provided as emergency relief to address the impact of COVID-19 on elementary and secondary schools.
- Capital Projects – Other Fund – to account for various financial resources (e.g., certificates of participation, capital outlay sales tax) to be used for educational capital outlay needs, including new construction and renovation and remodeling projects.

Additionally, the District reports the following proprietary fund type:

- Enterprise Fund – After School Program – to account for the financial resources of the after-school program administered by the District.

During the course of operations, the District has activity between funds for various purposes. Any residual balances outstanding at fiscal year end are reported as due from/to other funds. While these balances are reported in fund financial statements, certain eliminations are made in the preparation of the government-wide financial statements. Further, certain activity occurs during the year involving transfers of resources between funds. In fund financial statements, these amounts are reported at gross amounts as transfers in and out. While reported in fund financial statements, certain eliminations are made in the preparation of the government-wide financial statements. Transfers between the funds included in governmental activities are eliminated so that only the net amount is included as transfers in the governmental activities column.

## **E. Measurement Focus and Basis of Accounting**

The accounting and financial reporting treatment is determined by the applicable measurement focus and basis of accounting. Measurement focus indicates the type of resources being measured such as current financial resources or economic resources. The basis of accounting indicates the timing of transactions or events for recognition in the financial statements.

The government-wide financial statements are reported using the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recognized when earned and expenses are recognized when a liability is incurred, regardless of the timing of the related cash flows. Property taxes are recognized in the year for which they are levied. Revenues from grants, entitlements, and donations are recognized as soon as all eligibility requirements imposed by the provider have been met.

The governmental fund financial statements are reported using the current financial resources measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting. Revenues, except for certain grant revenues, are recognized as soon as they are both measurable and available. Revenues are considered to be available when they are collectible within the current period or soon enough thereafter to pay liabilities of the current period. For this purpose, the District considers revenues to be available if they are collected within 60 days of the end of the current fiscal year. When grant terms provide that the expenditure of resources is the prime factor for determining eligibility for Federal, State, and other grant resources, revenue is recognized at the time the expenditure is made. Entitlements are recorded as revenues when all eligibility requirements are met, including any time requirements, and the amount is received during the period or within the availability period for this revenue source (within 60 days of year end). Property taxes and sales taxes associated with the current fiscal period are all considered to be susceptible to accrual and so have been recognized as

revenues of the current fiscal period. Expenditures are generally recognized when the related fund liability is incurred, as under accrual accounting. However, debt service expenditures, claims and judgments, pension benefits, other postemployment benefits, and compensated absences, are only recorded when payment is due. General capital asset acquisitions are reported as expenditures in governmental funds. Issuance of long-term debt and acquisitions under leases are reported as other financing sources. Allocations of cost, such as depreciation, are not recognized in governmental funds.

The proprietary fund is reported using the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting.

The charter school is accounted for as governmental organizations and follow the same accounting model as the District's governmental activities.

## **F. Assets, Liabilities, Deferred Outflows/Inflows of Resources, and Net Position/Fund Balance**

### **1. Cash and Cash Equivalents**

The District's cash and cash equivalents are considered to be cash on hand, demand deposits, and short-term liquid investments with original maturities of 3 months or less from the date of acquisition. Investments classified as cash equivalents include amounts placed with the State Board of Administration (SBA) in Florida PRIME and Florida Public Assets for Liquidity Management (FL PALM).

Cash deposits are held by banks qualified as public depositories under Florida law. All deposits are insured by Federal depository insurance, up to specified limits, or collateralized with securities held in Florida's multiple financial institution collateral pool as required by Chapter 280, Florida Statutes.

### **2. Investments**

Investments consist of amounts placed with the SBA for participation in the Florida PRIME investment pool created by Section 218.405, Florida Statutes, and those held by a fiscal agent in connection with Certificates of Participation financing agreements. The investment pool operates under investment guidelines established by Section 215.47, Florida Statutes.

The District's investment in Florida PRIME, which the SBA indicates is a Securities and Exchange Commission Rule 2a7-like external investment pool, are similar to money market funds in which shares are owned in the fund rather than the underlying investments. This investment is reported at fair value, which is amortized cost.

Investments held by a fiscal agent consist of FL PALM and government money market funds. These investments are reported at fair value, which is amortized cost.

Types and amounts of investments held at fiscal year end are described in a subsequent note.

### 3. Inventories

Inventories consist of expendable supplies held for consumption in the course of District operations. Inventories are stated at last invoice, which approximates the first-in, first-out basis, except that United States Department of Agriculture donated foods are stated at their fair value as determined at the time of donation to the District's food service program by the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Bureau of Food Distribution. The costs of inventories are recorded as expenditures when purchased during the year, and are adjusted at year end to reflect year-end physical inventories.

### 4. Capital Assets

Expenditures for capital assets acquired or constructed for general District purposes are reported in the governmental fund that financed the acquisition or construction. The capital assets so acquired are reported at cost in the government-wide statement of net position but are not reported in the governmental fund financial statements. Capital assets are defined by the District as those costing more than \$5,000. Such assets are recorded at historical cost or estimated historical cost if purchased or constructed. Donated assets are recorded at acquisition value at the date of donation.

Capital assets are depreciated using the straight-line method over the following estimated useful lives:

<u>Description</u>	<u>Estimated Useful Lives</u>
Improvements Other Than Buildings	12 years
Buildings and Fixed Equipment	50 years
Furniture, Fixtures, and Equipment	3 - 20 years
Motor Vehicles	5 - 10 years
Lease Assets	3 – 6 years
Audio Visual Materials and Computer Software	5 years

Current year information relative to changes in capital assets is described in a subsequent note.

### 5. Pensions

In the government-wide statement of net position, liabilities are recognized for the District's proportionate share of each pension plan's net pension liability. 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 fiduciary net position of the Florida Retirement System (FRS) defined benefit plan and the Health Insurance Subsidy (HIS) defined benefit plan and additions to/deductions from the FRS and the HIS fiduciary net position have been determined on the same basis as they are reported by the FRS and the HIS plans. For this purpose, benefit payments (including refunds of employee contributions) are recognized when due and payable in accordance with benefit terms. Investments are reported at fair value.

The District's retirement plans and related amounts are described in a subsequent note.

## **6. Long-Term Liabilities**

Long-term obligations that will be financed from resources to be received in the future by governmental funds are reported as liabilities in the government-wide statement of net position. Debt premiums are deferred and amortized over the life of the certificates of participation using the effective interest method. Certificates of participation payable are reported net of the applicable premium.

In the governmental fund financial statements, bonds and other long-term obligations are not recognized as liabilities until due.

Changes in long-term liabilities for the current year are reported in a subsequent note.

## **7. Deferred Outflows/Inflows of Resources**

In addition to assets, the statement of net position reports a separate section for deferred outflows of resources. This separate financial statement element, deferred outflows of resources, represents a consumption of net assets that applies to future periods and so will not be recognized as an outflow of resources (expense) until then. The District has two items that qualify for reporting in this category. The deferred outflows of resources related to pensions and OPEB are discussed in subsequent notes.

In addition to liabilities, the statement of net position reports a separate section for deferred inflows of resources. This separate financial statement element, deferred inflows of resources, represents an acquisition of net assets that applies to future periods and so will not be recognized as an inflow of resources (revenue) until that time. The District has three items that qualify for reporting in this category. The deferred inflows of resources related to pensions and OPEB are reported in the statement of net position and discussed in subsequent notes. The remaining item is reported on the governmental funds balance sheet as unavailable revenue related to State capital outlay funding and will be recognized as an inflow of resources in the period that it becomes available.

## **8. Net Position Flow Assumption**

The District occasionally funds outlays for a particular purpose from both restricted (e.g., restricted bond or grant proceeds) and unrestricted resources. To calculate the amounts to report as restricted net position and unrestricted net position in the government-wide and proprietary fund financial statements, a flow assumption must be made about the order in which the resources are considered to be applied. Consequently, it is the District's policy to consider restricted net position to have been depleted before unrestricted net position is applied.

## **9. Fund Balance Flow Assumptions**

The District may fund outlays for a particular purpose from both restricted and unrestricted resources (the total of committed, assigned, and unassigned fund balance). To calculate the amounts to report as restricted, committed, assigned, and unassigned fund balance in the governmental fund financial statements, a flow assumption must be made about the order in which the resources are considered to be applied. It is the District's policy to consider restricted

fund balance to have been depleted before using any of the components of unrestricted fund balance. Further, when components of unrestricted fund balance can be used for the same purpose, committed fund balance is depleted first, followed by assigned fund balance. Unassigned fund balance is applied last.

## **10. Fund Balance Policies**

Fund balance of governmental funds is reported in various categories based on the nature of any limitations requiring the use of resources for specific purposes. The District itself can establish limitations on the use of resources through either a commitment (committed fund balance) or an assignment (assigned fund balance).

The committed fund balance classification includes amounts that can be used only for the specific purposes determined by a formal action of the District's highest level of decision-making authority. The Board is the highest level of decision-making authority for the District that can, by adoption of a resolution prior to the end of the fiscal year, commit fund balance. Once adopted, the limitation imposed by the resolution remains in place until a similar action is taken (the adoption of another resolution) to remove or revise the limitation. The District reported no committed fund balances at June 30, 2025.

Amounts in the assigned fund balance classification are intended to be used by the District for specific purposes but do not meet the criteria to be classified as committed. The Board has, by approval of the annual financial report, authorized the assignment of fund balance. The Board may also assign fund balance as it does when appropriating fund balance to cover a gap between estimated revenue and appropriations in the subsequent year's appropriated budget. Unlike commitments, assignments generally only exist temporarily. In other words, an additional action does not normally have to be taken for the removal of an assignment. Conversely, as discussed above, an additional action is essential to either remove or revise a commitment.

## **G. Revenues and Expenditures/Expenses**

### **1. Program Revenues**

Amounts reported as program revenues include charges paid by the recipient of the goods or services offered by the program and grants and contributions that are restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular program. All taxes, including those dedicated for specific purposes, and other internally dedicated resources are reported as general revenues rather than program revenues. Revenues that are not classified as program revenues are presented as general revenues. The comparison of direct expenses with program revenues identifies the extent to which each governmental function is self-financing or draws from the general revenues of the District.

### **2. State Revenue Sources**

Significant revenues from State sources for current operations include the Florida Education Finance Program administered by the FDOE under the provisions of Section 1011.62, Florida Statutes. In accordance with this law, the District determines and reports the number of full-time equivalent (FTE) students and related data to the FDOE. The FDOE performs certain edit checks

on the reported number of FTE and related data and calculates the allocation of funds to the District. The District is permitted to amend its original reporting during specified time periods following the date of the original reporting. The FDOE may also adjust subsequent fiscal period allocations based upon an audit of the District's compliance in determining and reporting FTE and related data. Normally, such adjustments are treated as reductions or additions of revenue in the fiscal year when the adjustments are made.

The State provides financial assistance to administer certain educational programs. SBE rules require that revenue earmarked for certain programs be expended only for the program for which the money is provided, and require that the money not expended as of the close of the fiscal year be carried forward into the following fiscal year to be expended for the same educational programs. The FDOE generally requires that these educational program revenues be accounted for in the General Fund. A portion of the fund balance of the General Fund is restricted in the governmental fund financial statements for the balance of categorical and earmarked educational program resources.

The District received an allocation from the State under the School Hardening Grant program. The District is authorized to expend these funds only upon applying for and receiving an encumbrance authorization from the FDOE.

A schedule of revenue from State sources for the current year is presented in a subsequent note.

### **3. District Property Taxes**

The Board is authorized by State law to levy property taxes for district school operations, capital improvements, and debt service.

Property taxes consist of ad valorem taxes on real and personal property within the District. Property values are determined by the Columbia County Property Appraiser, and property taxes are collected by the Columbia County Tax Collector.

The Board adopted the 2024 tax levy on September 10, 2024. Tax bills are mailed in October and taxes are payable between November 1 of the year assessed and March 31 of the following year at discounts of up to 4 percent for early payment.

Taxes become a lien on the property on January 1 and are delinquent on April 1 of the year following the year of assessment. State law provides for enforcement of collection of personal property taxes by seizure of the property to satisfy unpaid taxes and for enforcement of collection of real property taxes by the sale of interest-bearing tax certificates to satisfy unpaid taxes. The procedures result in the collection of essentially all taxes prior to June 30 of the year following the year of assessment.

Property tax revenues are recognized in the government-wide financial statements when the Board adopts the tax levy. Property tax revenues are recognized in the governmental fund financial statements when taxes are received by the District, except that revenue is accrued for taxes collected by the Columbia County Tax Collector at fiscal year end but not yet remitted to the District.

Millages and taxes levied for the current year are presented in a subsequent note.

#### **4. Capital Outlay Surtax**

In November 2022, the voters of Columbia County (County) approved a one-half cent school capital outlay surtax on sales in the County for 20 years, effective January 1, 2023, to pay construction costs of certain school facilities and related costs in accordance with Section 212.055(6), Florida Statutes.

#### **5. Federal Revenue Sources**

The District receives Federal awards for the enhancement of various educational programs. Federal awards are generally received based on applications submitted to, and approved by, various granting agencies. For Federal awards in which a claim to these grant proceeds is based on incurring eligible expenditures, revenue is recognized to the extent that eligible expenditures have been incurred. The FDOE may require adjustments to subsequent fiscal period expenditures and related revenues based upon an audit of the District's compliance with applicable Federal awards requirements. Normally, such adjustments are treated as reductions of expenditures and related revenues in the fiscal year when the adjustments are made.

#### **6. Compensated Absences**

A compensated absence is leave (e.g., employee vacation leave and sick leave) for which employees may receive one or more (a) cash payments when the leave is used for time off; (b) other cash payments, such as payment for unused leave upon termination of employment; or (c) noncash settlements, such as conversion to defined benefit postemployment benefits. In the government-wide financial statements, compensated absences are estimated and accrued as liabilities to the extent that it is more likely than not that the leave will be used for time off or otherwise paid in cash or settled through noncash means. A liability for these amounts is reported in the governmental fund financial statements only if it has matured, such as for occurrences of employee resignations and retirements. The liability for compensated absences includes salary-related benefits, where applicable.

#### **7. Proprietary Fund Operating and Nonoperating Revenues and Expenses**

Proprietary funds distinguish operating revenues and expenses from nonoperating items. Operating revenues and expenses generally result from providing services and producing and delivering goods in connection with the proprietary fund's principal ongoing operations. The principal operating revenues of the District's enterprise fund is charges for its after school program. Operating expenses primarily include purchased services. All revenues and expenses not meeting this definition are reported as nonoperating revenues and expenses.

## **II. DETAILED NOTES ON ALL ACTIVITIES AND FUNDS**

### **A. Cash Deposits with Financial Institutions**

**Custodial Credit Risk.** In the case of deposits, this is the risk that, in the event of the failure of a depository financial institution, the District will not be able to recover deposits or will not be able to

recover collateral securities that are in the possession of an outside party. The District does not have a policy for custodial credit risk. All bank balances of the District are fully insured or collateralized as required by Chapter 280, Florida Statutes.

## **B. Investments**

The District's investments at June 30, 2025, are reported as follows:

<u>Investments</u>	<u>Maturities</u>	<u>Fair Value</u>
Florida PRIME (1)	47 days	\$ 2,763,628.56
FL PALM (1) (2)	44 days	51,573,986.41
Money Market Fund (1) (2)	47 days	52,157.93
<b>Total Investments</b>		<b>\$ 54,389,772.90</b>

- (1) These investments are reported as cash equivalents for financial statement reporting purposes.
- (2) These investments are held by a fiscal agent in connection with a certificates of participation financing agreement (see Note II.H.2).

### **Interest Rate Risk**

Interest rate risk is the risk that changes in interest rates will adversely affect the fair value of an investment. Section 218.415(17), Florida Statutes, limits investment maturities to provide sufficient liquidity to pay obligations as they come due. The District does not have a formal investment policy that limits investment maturities as a means of managing its exposure to fair value losses from increasing interest rates.

Florida PRIME, FL PALM, and the money market fund use a weighted average days to maturity (WAM). A portfolio's WAM reflects the average maturity in days based on final maturity or reset date, in the case of floating rate instruments. WAM measures the sensitivity of the portfolio to interest rate changes.

For Florida PRIME, with regard to redemption gates, Section 218.409(8)(a), Florida Statutes, states, "The principal, and any part thereof, of each account constituting the trust fund is subject to payment at any time from the moneys in the trust fund. However, the executive director may, in good faith, on the occurrence of an event that has a material impact on liquidity or operations of the trust fund, for 48 hours limit contributions to or withdrawals from the trust fund to ensure that the board [State Board of Administration] can invest moneys entrusted to it in exercising its fiduciary responsibility. Such action must be immediately disclosed to all participants, the trustees, the Joint Legislative Auditing Committee, and the Investment Advisory Council. The trustees shall convene an emergency meeting as soon as practicable from the time the executive director has instituted such measures and review the necessity of those measures. If the trustees are unable to convene an emergency meeting before the expiration of the 48-hour moratorium on contributions and withdrawals, the moratorium may be extended by the executive director until the trustees are able to meet to review the necessity for the moratorium. If the trustees agree with such measures, the trustees shall vote to continue the measures for up to an additional 15 days. The trustees must convene and vote to continue any such measures before the expiration of the time limit set, but in no case may the time limit set by the trustees exceed 15 days." As of June 30, 2025, there were no redemption fees, maximum transaction

amounts, or any other requirements that serve to limit a participant's daily access to 100 percent of their account value.

### **Credit Risk**

Credit risk is the risk that an issuer or other counterparty to an investment will not fulfill its obligations. Section 218.415(17), Florida Statutes, limits investments to the Local Government Surplus Funds Trust Fund [Florida PRIME], or any intergovernmental investment pool authorized pursuant to the Florida Interlocal Cooperation Act as provided in Section 163.01, Florida Statutes; Securities and Exchange Commission registered money market funds with the highest credit quality rating from a nationally recognized rating agency; interest-bearing time deposits or savings accounts in qualified public depositories, as defined in Section 280.02, Florida Statutes; and direct obligations of the United States Treasury. The District does not have a formal investment policy that further limits its investment choices.

The District's investments in Florida PRIME, FL PALM, and the money market funds are rated AAAM by Standard & Poor's.

### **C. Changes in Capital Assets**

Changes in capital assets are presented in the following table:

	<b>Beginning Balance</b>	<b>Additions</b>	<b>Deletions</b>	<b>Ending Balance</b>
<b>GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES</b>				
Capital Assets Not Being Depreciated:				
Land	\$ 3,071,452.56	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,071,452.56
Construction in Progress	2,072,518.47	29,969,459.60	134,630.74	31,907,347.33
Total Capital Assets Not Being Depreciated	5,143,971.03	29,969,459.60	134,630.74	34,978,799.89
Capital Assets Being Depreciated:				
Improvements Other Than Buildings	5,121,944.70	99,999.94	-	5,221,944.64
Buildings and Fixed Equipment	174,731,470.50	-	-	174,731,470.50
Furniture, Fixtures, and Equipment	9,439,362.37	594,857.46	141,397.12	9,892,822.71
Motor Vehicles	8,109,892.29	770,937.03	1,655,989.00	7,224,840.32
Right-to-Use Lease Assets	1,385,381.45	-	403,308.14	982,073.31
Audio Visual Materials and Computer Software	1,762,166.02	-	-	1,762,166.02
Total Capital Assets Being Depreciated	200,550,217.33	1,465,794.43	2,200,694.26	199,815,317.50
Less Accumulated Depreciation for:				
Improvements Other Than Buildings	3,280,960.48	82,588.35	-	3,363,548.83
Buildings and Fixed Equipment	77,486,550.05	3,083,965.79	-	80,570,515.84
Furniture, Fixtures, and Equipment	6,749,912.40	707,600.60	128,320.07	7,329,192.93
Motor Vehicles	6,101,163.96	497,591.88	1,648,235.05	4,950,520.79
Right-to-Use Lease Assets	1,249,066.62	110,342.05	403,308.14	956,100.53
Audio Visual Materials and Computer Software	1,762,166.02	-	-	1,762,166.02
Total Accumulated Depreciation	96,629,819.53	4,482,088.67	2,179,863.26	98,932,044.94
Total Capital Assets Being Depreciated, Net	103,920,397.80	(3,016,294.24)	20,831.00	100,883,272.56
Governmental Activities Capital Assets, Net	<u>\$ 109,064,368.83</u>	<u>\$ 26,953,165.36</u>	<u>\$ 155,461.74</u>	<u>\$ 135,862,072.45</u>

Depreciation expense was charged to functions as follows:

<u>Function</u>	<u>Amount</u>
GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES	
Student Transportation Services	\$ 497,591.88
Unallocated	<u>3,984,496.79</u>
Total Depreciation Expense – Governmental Activities	<u>\$ 4,482,088.67</u>

## D. Retirement Plans

### 1. FRS – Defined Benefit Pension Plans

#### **General Information about the FRS**

The FRS was created in Chapter 121, Florida Statutes, to provide a defined benefit pension plan for participating public employees. The FRS was amended in 1998 to add the Deferred Retirement Option Program (DROP) under the defined benefit plan and amended in 2000 to provide a defined contribution plan alternative to the defined benefit plan for FRS members effective July 1, 2002. This integrated defined contribution pension plan is the FRS Investment Plan. Chapter 112, Florida Statutes, established the Retiree HIS Program, a cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan, to assist retired members of any State-administered retirement system in paying the costs of health insurance.

Essentially all regular employees of the District are eligible to enroll as members of the State-administered FRS. Provisions relating to the FRS are established by Chapters 121 and 122, Florida Statutes; Chapter 112, Part IV, Florida Statutes; Chapter 238, Florida Statutes; and FRS Rules, Chapter 60S, Florida Administrative Code; wherein eligibility, contributions, and benefits are defined and described in detail. Such provisions may be amended at any time by further action from the Florida Legislature. The FRS is a single retirement system administered by the Florida Department of Management Services, Division of Retirement, and consists of the two cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit plans and other nonintegrated programs. An annual comprehensive financial report of the FRS, which includes its financial statements, required supplementary information, actuarial report, and other relevant information, is available from the Florida Department of Management Services Web site ([www.dms.myflorida.com](http://www.dms.myflorida.com)).

The District's FRS and HIS pension expense totaled \$5,293,273.87 for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2025.

#### **FRS Pension Plan**

**Plan Description.** The FRS Pension Plan (Plan) is a cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan, with a DROP for eligible employees. The general classes of membership are:

- *Regular* – Members of the FRS who do not qualify for membership in the other classes.
- *Elected County Officers* – Members who hold specified elective offices in local government.
- *Senior Management Service* – Members in senior management level positions.

Employees enrolled in the Plan prior to July 1, 2011, vest at 6 years of creditable service and employees enrolled in the Plan on or after July 1, 2011, vest at 8 years of creditable service. All vested members, enrolled prior to July 1, 2011, are eligible for normal retirement benefits at age 62 or at any age after 30 years of service. All members enrolled in the Plan on or after July 1, 2011, once vested, are eligible for normal retirement benefits at age 65 or any time after 33 years of creditable service. Employees enrolled in the Plan may include up to 4 years of credit for military service toward creditable service. The Plan also includes an early retirement provision; however, there is a benefit reduction for each year a member retires before his or her normal retirement date. The Plan provides retirement, disability, death benefits, and annual cost-of-living adjustments to eligible participants.

The DROP, subject to provisions of Section 121.091, Florida Statutes, permits employees eligible for normal retirement under the Plan to defer receipt of monthly benefit payments while continuing employment with an FRS participating employer. An employee may participate in DROP for a period not to exceed 96 months after electing to participate, except that certain instructional personnel may participate for up to 120 months. During the period of DROP participation, deferred monthly benefits are held in the FRS Trust Fund and accrue interest. The net pension liability does not include amounts for DROP participants, as these members are considered retired and are not accruing additional pension benefits.

**Benefits Provided.** Benefits under the Plan are computed on the basis of age and/or years of service, average final compensation, and service credit. Credit for each year of service is expressed as a percentage of the average final compensation. For members initially enrolled before July 1, 2011, the average final compensation is the average of the 5 highest fiscal years' earnings; for members initially enrolled on or after July 1, 2011, the average final compensation is the average of the 8 highest fiscal years' earnings. The total percentage value of the benefit received is determined by calculating the total value of all service, which is based on the retirement class to which the member belonged when the service credit was earned. Members are eligible for in-line-of-duty or regular disability and survivors' benefits. The following table shows the percentage value for each year of service credit earned:

<b><u>Class, Initial Enrollment, and Retirement Age/Years of Service</u></b>	<b><u>Percent Value</u></b>
<b>Regular Members Initially Enrolled Before July 1, 2011</b>	
Retirement up to age 62 or up to 30 years of service	1.60
Retirement at age 63 or with 31 years of service	1.63
Retirement at age 64 or with 32 years of service	1.65
Retirement at age 65 or with 33 or more years of service	1.68
<b>Regular Members Initially Enrolled On or After July 1, 2011</b>	
Retirement up to age 65 or up to 33 years of service	1.60
Retirement at age 66 or with 34 years of service	1.63
Retirement at age 67 or with 35 years of service	1.65
Retirement at age 68 or with 36 or more years of service	1.68
<b>Elected County Officers</b>	3.00
<b>Senior Management Service</b>	2.00

As provided in Section 121.101, Florida Statutes, if the member was initially enrolled in the Plan before July 1, 2011, and all service credit was accrued before July 1, 2011, the annual cost-of-living adjustment is 3 percent per year. If the member was initially enrolled before July 1, 2011, and has service credit on or after July 1, 2011, there is an individually calculated cost-of-living adjustment. The annual cost-of-living adjustment is a proportion of 3 percent determined by dividing the sum of the pre-July 2011 service credit by the total service credit at retirement multiplied by 3 percent. Plan members initially enrolled on or after July 1, 2011, will not have a cost-of-living adjustment after retirement.

**Contributions.** The Florida Legislature establishes contribution rates for participating employers and employees. Contribution rates during the 2024-25 fiscal year were as follows:

<b><u>Class</u></b>	<b><u>Percent of Gross Salary</u></b>	
	<b><u>Employee</u></b>	<b><u>Employer (1)</u></b>
FRS, Regular	3.00	13.63
FRS, Elected County Officers	3.00	58.68
FRS, Senior Management Service	3.00	34.52
DROP – Applicable to Members from All of the Above Classes	0.00	21.13
FRS, Reemployed Retiree	(2)	(2)

(1) Employer rates include 2 percent for the postemployment health insurance subsidy. Also, employer rates, other than for DROP participants, include 0.06 percent for administrative costs of the Investment Plan.

(2) Contribution rates are dependent upon retirement class in which reemployed.

The District’s contributions to the Plan totaled \$5,463,634 for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2025.

**Pension Liabilities, Pension Expense, and Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to Pensions.** At June 30, 2025, the District reported a liability of \$37,445,221 for its proportionate share of the Plan’s net pension liability. The net pension liability was measured as of June 30, 2024, and the total pension liability used to calculate the net pension liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of July 1, 2024. The District’s proportionate share of the net pension liability was based on the District’s 2023-24 fiscal year contributions relative to the total 2023-24 fiscal year contributions of all participating members. At June 30, 2024, the District’s proportionate share was 0.096795937 percent, which was a decrease of 0.005486184 from its proportionate share measured as of June 30, 2023.

For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2025, the District recognized a Plan pension expense of \$4,900,906.87. In addition, the District reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions from the following sources:

<u>Description</u>	<u>Deferred Outflows of Resources</u>	<u>Deferred Inflows of Resources</u>
Differences Between Expected and Actual Experience	\$ 3,782,973	\$ -
Change of Assumptions	5,132,210	-
Net Difference Between Projected and Actual Earnings on FRS Pension Plan Investments	-	2,488,808
Changes in Proportion and Differences Between District FRS Contributions and Proportionate Share of Contributions	857,611	3,740,034
District FRS Contributions Subsequent to the Measurement Date	5,463,634	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 15,236,428</b>	<b>\$ 6,228,842</b>

The deferred outflows of resources related to pensions resulting from District contributions to the Plan subsequent to the measurement date, totaling \$5,463,634, will be recognized as a reduction of the net pension liability in the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026. Other amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions will be recognized in pension expense as follows:

<u>Fiscal Year Ending June 30</u>	<u>Amount</u>
2026	\$ (1,288,726)
2027	5,467,112
2028	(447,584)
2029	(427,436)
2030	240,586
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 3,543,952</b>

Actuarial Assumptions. The total pension liability in the July 1, 2024, actuarial valuation was determined using the following actuarial assumptions, applied to all periods included in the measurement:

Inflation	2.40 percent
Salary Increases	3.50 percent, average, including inflation
Investment Rate of Return	6.70 percent, net of pension plan investment expense, including inflation

Salary increases were changed from 3.25 percent in the previous valuation to 3.50 percent.

Mortality rates were based on the PUB-2010 base table, projected generationally with Scale MP-2021. This is a change from the previous valuation in which the mortality rates were based on the PUB-2010 base table, projected generationally with Scale MP-2018.

The actuarial assumptions used in the July 1, 2024, valuation were based on the results of an actuarial experience study for the period July 1, 2018, through June 30, 2023.

The long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments was not based on historical returns, but instead is based on a forward-looking capital market economic model. The allocation policy's description of each asset class was used to map the target allocation to the asset classes

shown below. Each asset class assumption is based on a consistent set of underlying assumptions and includes an adjustment for the inflation assumption. The target allocation and best estimates of arithmetic and geometric real rates of return for each major asset class are summarized in the following table:

<u>Asset Class</u>	<u>Target Allocation (1)</u>	<u>Annual Arithmetic Return</u>	<u>Compound Annual (Geometric) Return</u>	<u>Standard Deviation</u>
Cash	1.0%	3.3%	3.3%	1.1%
Fixed Income	29.0%	5.7%	5.6%	3.9%
Global Equity	45.0%	8.6%	7.0%	18.2%
Real Estate	12.0%	8.1%	6.8%	16.6%
Private Equity	11.0%	12.4%	8.8%	28.4%
Strategic Investments	2.0%	6.6%	6.2%	8.7%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>			
Assumed inflation - Mean			2.4%	1.5%

(1) As outlined in the Plan's investment policy.

**Discount Rate.** The discount rate used to measure the total pension liability was 6.7 percent. The Plan's fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments of current active and inactive employees. Therefore, the discount rate for calculating the total pension liability is equal to the long-term expected rate of return. The discount rate used in the 2024 valuation was unchanged from the previous valuation.

**Sensitivity of the District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate.** The following presents the District's proportionate share of the net pension liability calculated using the discount rate of 6.7 percent, as well as what the 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 (5.7 percent) or 1 percentage point higher (7.7 percent) than the current rate:

	<u>1% Decrease (5.7%)</u>	<u>Current Discount Rate (6.7%)</u>	<u>1% Increase (7.7%)</u>
District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability	\$ 65,864,832	\$ 37,445,221	\$ 13,637,768

**Pension Plan Fiduciary Net Position.** Detailed information about the Plan's fiduciary net position is available in the separately issued FRS Pension Plan and Other State Administered Systems Annual Comprehensive Financial Report.

### **HIS Pension Plan**

**Plan Description.** The HIS Pension Plan (HIS Plan) is a cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan established under Section 112.363, Florida Statutes, and may be amended by the Florida Legislature at any time. The benefit is a monthly payment to assist retirees of

State-administered retirement systems in paying their health insurance costs and is administered by the Florida Department of Management Services, Division of Retirement.

*Benefits Provided.* For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2025, eligible retirees and beneficiaries received a monthly HIS payment of \$7.50 for each year of creditable service completed at the time of retirement, with a minimum HIS payment of \$45 and a maximum HIS payment of \$225 per month, pursuant to Section 112.363, Florida Statutes. To be eligible to receive a HIS Plan benefit, a retiree under a State-administered retirement system must provide proof of health insurance coverage, which may include Federal Medicare.

*Contributions.* The HIS Plan is funded by required contributions from FRS participating employers as set by the Florida Legislature. Employer contributions are a percentage of gross compensation for all active FRS members. For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2025, the contribution rate was 2 percent of payroll pursuant to Section 112.363, Florida Statutes. The District contributed 100 percent of its statutorily required contributions for the current and preceding 3 years. HIS Plan contributions are deposited in a separate trust fund from which payments are authorized. HIS Plan benefits are not guaranteed and are subject to annual legislative appropriation. In the event the legislative appropriation or available funds fail to provide full subsidy benefits to all participants, benefits may be reduced or canceled.

The District's contributions to the HIS Plan totaled \$1,101,597 for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2025.

*Pension Liabilities, Pension Expense, and Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to Pensions.* At June 30, 2025, the District reported a net pension liability of \$19,741,402 for its proportionate share of the HIS Plan's net pension liability. The current portion of the net pension liability is the District's proportionate share of benefit payments expected to be paid within 1 year, net of the District's proportionate share of the HIS Plan's fiduciary net position available to pay that amount. The net pension liability was measured as of June 30, 2024, and the total pension liability used to calculate the net pension liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of July 1, 2024. The District's proportionate share of the net pension liability was based on the District's 2023-24 fiscal year contributions relative to the total 2023-24 fiscal year contributions of all participating members. At June 30, 2024, the District's proportionate share was 0.131600776 percent, which was a decrease of 0.003234529 from its proportionate share measured as of June 30, 2023.

For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2025, the District recognized the HIS Plan pension expense of \$392,367. In addition, the District reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions from the following sources:

<u>Description</u>	<u>Deferred Outflows of Resources</u>	<u>Deferred Inflows of Resources</u>
Differences Between Expected and Actual Experience	\$ 190,617	\$ 37,906
Change of Assumptions	349,376	2,337,129
Net Difference Between Projected and Actual Earnings on HIS Pension Plan Investments	-	7,140
Changes in Proportion and Differences Between District HIS Contributions and Proportionate Share of Contributions	5,250	1,650,091
District HIS Contributions Subsequent to the Measurement Date	1,101,597	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 1,646,840</b>	<b>\$ 4,032,266</b>

The deferred outflows of resources related to pensions resulting from District contributions to the HIS Plan subsequent to the measurement date, totaling \$1,101,597, will be recognized as a reduction of the net pension liability in the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026. Other amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions will be recognized in pension expense as follows:

<u>Fiscal Year Ending June 30</u>	<u>Amount</u>
2026	\$ (725,978)
2027	(782,730)
2028	(917,850)
2029	(650,314)
2030	(327,379)
Thereafter	(82,772)
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ (3,487,023)</b>

Actuarial Assumptions. The total pension liability in the July 1, 2024, actuarial valuation was determined using the following actuarial assumptions, applied to all periods included in the measurement:

Inflation	2.40 percent
Salary Increases	3.50 percent, average, including inflation
Municipal Bond Rate	3.93 percent

Salary increases were changed from 3.25 percent in the previous valuation to 3.50 percent.

Mortality rates were based on the PUB-2010 base table, projected generationally with Scale MP-2021. This is a change from the previous valuation in which the mortality rates were based on the PUB-2010 base table, projected generationally with Scale MP-2018.

While an experience study had not been completed for the HIS Plan, the actuarial assumptions that determined the total pension liability for the HIS Plan were based on certain results of the most recent experience study for the FRS Plan.

Discount Rate. The discount rate used to measure the total pension liability was 3.93 percent. In general, the discount rate for calculating the total pension liability is equal to the single rate

equivalent to discounting at the long-term expected rate of return for benefit payments prior to the projected depletion date. Because the HIS benefit is essentially funded on a pay-as-you-go basis, the depletion date is considered to be immediate, and the single equivalent discount rate is equal to the municipal bond rate selected by the HIS Plan sponsor. The Bond Buyer General Obligation 20-Bond Municipal Bond Index was adopted as the applicable municipal bond index. The discount rate changed from 3.65 percent to 3.93 percent.

Sensitivity of the District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate. The following presents the District's proportionate share of the net pension liability calculated using the discount rate of 3.93 percent, as well as what the 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 (2.93 percent) or 1 percentage point higher (4.93 percent) than the current rate:

	<b>1% Decrease (2.93%)</b>	<b>Current Discount Rate (3.93%)</b>	<b>1% Increase (4.93%)</b>
District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability	\$ 22,473,049	\$ 19,741,402	\$ 17,473,693

Pension Plan Fiduciary Net Position. Detailed information about the HIS Plan's fiduciary net position is available in the separately issued FRS Pension Plan and Other State Administered Systems Annual Comprehensive Financial Report.

## 2. FRS – Defined Contribution Pension Plan

The SBA administers the defined contribution plan officially titled the FRS Investment Plan (Investment Plan). The Investment Plan is reported in the SBA's annual financial statements and in the State's Annual Comprehensive Financial Report.

As provided in Section 121.4501, Florida Statutes, eligible FRS members may elect to participate in the Investment Plan in lieu of the FRS defined benefit plan. District employees participating in DROP are not eligible to participate in the Investment Plan. Employer and employee contributions, including amounts contributed to individual member's accounts, are defined by law, but the ultimate benefit depends in part on the performance of investment funds. Retirement benefits are based upon the value of the member's account upon retirement. Benefit terms, including contribution requirements, for the Investment Plan are established and may be amended by the Florida Legislature. The Investment Plan is funded with the same employer and employee contribution rates that are based on salary and membership class (Regular, Elected County Officers, etc.), as the FRS defined benefit plan. Contributions are directed to individual member accounts and the individual members allocate contributions and account balances among various approved investment choices. Costs of administering the Investment Plan, including the FRS Financial Guidance Program, are funded through an employer contribution of 0.06 percent of payroll and by forfeited benefits of Investment Plan members. Allocations to the Investment Plan member accounts during the 2024-25 fiscal year were as follows:

<u>Class</u>	<u>Percent of Gross Compensation</u>
FRS, Regular	11.30
FRS, Elected County Officers	16.34
FRS, Senior Management Service	12.67

For all membership classes, employees are immediately vested in their own contributions and are vested after 1 year of service for employer contributions and investment earnings, regardless of membership class. If an accumulated benefit obligation for service credit originally earned under the FRS Pension Plan is transferred to the Investment Plan, the member must have the years of service required for FRS Pension Plan vesting (including the service credit represented by the transferred funds) to be vested for these funds and the earnings on the funds. Nonvested employer contributions are placed in a suspense account for up to 5 years. If the employee returns to FRS-covered employment within the 5-year period, the employee will regain control over their account. If the employee does not return within the 5-year period, the employee will forfeit the accumulated account balance. For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2025, the information for the amount of forfeitures was unavailable from the SBA; however, management believes that these amounts, if any, would be immaterial to the District.

After termination and applying to receive benefits, the member may rollover vested funds to another qualified plan, structure a periodic payment under the Investment Plan, receive a lump-sum distribution, leave the funds invested for future distribution, or any combination of these options. Disability coverage is provided in which the member may either transfer the account balance to the FRS Pension Plan when approved for disability retirement to receive guaranteed lifetime monthly benefits under the FRS Pension Plan or remain in the Investment Plan and rely upon that account balance for retirement income.

The District's Investment Plan pension expense totaled \$2,163,326.89 for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2025.

## **E. Other Postemployment Benefit Obligations**

Plan Description. The Other Postemployment Benefits Plan (OPEB Plan) is a single-employer defined benefit plan administered by the District that provides OPEB for all employees who satisfy the District's retirement eligibility provisions. Pursuant to Section 112.0801, Florida Statutes, former employees who retire from the District are eligible to participate in the District's health and hospitalization plan for medical and prescription drug coverage. Retirees and their eligible dependents shall be offered the same health and hospitalization insurance coverage as is offered to active employees at a premium cost of no more than the premium cost applicable to active employees. The District subsidizes the premium rates paid by retirees by allowing them to participate in the OPEB Plan at reduced or blended group (implicitly subsidized) premium rates for both active and retired employees. These rates provide an implicit subsidy for retirees because retiree healthcare costs are generally greater than active employee healthcare costs. The OPEB Plan contribution requirements and benefit terms of the District and the OPEB Plan members are established and may

be amended through recommendations of the Insurance Committee and action from the Board. No assets are accumulated in a trust that meets the criteria in paragraph 4 of GASB Statement No. 75.

Benefits Provided. The OPEB Plan provides healthcare insurance benefits for retirees and their dependents. The OPEB Plan only provides an implicit subsidy as described above.

Employees Covered by Benefit Terms. At June 30, 2024, the following employees were covered by the benefit terms:

Inactive Employees or Beneficiaries Currently Receiving Benefits	22
Active Employees	<u>829</u>
Total	<u>851</u>

Total OPEB Liability. The District’s total OPEB liability of \$2,243,352 was measured as of June 30, 2024, and was determined by an actuarial valuation as of June 30, 2023, and update procedures were used to determine the total OPEB liability as of June 30, 2024.

Actuarial Assumptions and Other Inputs. The total OPEB liability was determined using the following actuarial assumptions and other inputs, applied to all periods included in the measurement, unless otherwise specified:

Inflation	2.5 percent
Salary Increases	3.4 – 7.8 percent, including inflation
Discount Rate	3.93 percent
Healthcare Cost Trend Rates	Starting at -1 percent (reflecting actual premiums), followed by 6.5 percent and gradually decreasing according to the Getzen Model to an ultimate rate of 4 percent.
Aging Factors	Based on the 2013 SOA Study “Health Care Costs – From Birth to Death.”
Expenses	Administrative expenses are included in the per capita health costs.

For plans that do not have formal assets, the discount rate should equal the tax-exempt municipal bond rate based on an index of 20-year general obligation municipal bonds with an average AA credit rating as of the measurement date. For the purpose of this OPEB Plan actuarial valuation, the municipal bond rate of 3.93 percent based on the daily rate of the Bond Buyer General Obligation 20-Bond Municipal Bond Index closest to but not later than the measurement date.

Demographic assumptions employed in the actuarial valuation were the same as those employed in the July 1, 2023, actuarial valuation of the FRS Defined Benefit Pension Plan. These demographic assumptions were developed by FRS from an actuarial experience study, and therefore are appropriate for use in the OPEB Plan actuarial valuation. These include assumed rates of future termination, mortality, disability, and retirement. In addition, salary increase assumptions (for development of the pattern of the normal cost increases) were the same as those used in the July 1, 2023, actuarial valuation of the FRS Defined Benefit Pension Plan. Assumptions used in valuation of benefits for participants of the FRS Investment Plan are the same as for similarly situated participants of the FRS Defined Benefit Pension Plan.

Changes in the Total OPEB Liability.

	<u>Amount</u>
Balance at June 30, 2024	\$ 2,198,366
Changes for the year:	
Service Cost	78,977
Interest	85,853
Changes of Assumptions or Other Inputs	(13,507)
Benefit Payments	<u>(106,337)</u>
Net Changes	44,986
Balance at June 30, 2025	<u>\$ 2,243,352</u>

The changes of assumptions or other inputs reflect an increase in the discount rate from 3.86 percent to 3.93 percent.

Sensitivity of the Total OPEB Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate. The following table presents the total OPEB liability of the District, as well as what the District's total OPEB liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1 percentage point lower (2.93 percent) or 1 percentage point higher (4.93 percent) than the current rate:

	<u>1% Decrease (2.93%)</u>	<u>Current Discount Rate (3.93%)</u>	<u>1% Increase (4.93%)</u>
Total OPEB Liability	\$ 2,445,567	\$ 2,243,352	\$ 2,062,770

Sensitivity of the Total OPEB Liability to Changes in the Healthcare Cost Trend Rates. The following table presents the total OPEB liability of the District, as well as what the District's total OPEB liability would be if it were calculated using healthcare cost trend rates that are 1 percentage point lower or 1 percentage point higher than the current healthcare cost trend rates:

	<u>1% Decrease</u>	<u>Healthcare Cost Trend Rates</u>	<u>1% Increase</u>
Total OPEB Liability	\$ 1,963,289	\$ 2,243,352	\$ 2,586,468

OPEB Expense and Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to OPEB. For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2025, the District recognized OPEB expense of \$71,230. At June 30, 2025, the District reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB from the following sources:

<u>Description</u>	<u>Deferred Outflows of Resources</u>	<u>Deferred Inflows of Resources</u>
Differences Between Expected and Actual Experience	\$ 246,241	\$ 283,138
Changes of Assumptions or Other Inputs	192,954	783,937
Benefits Paid Subsequent to the Measurement Date	122,559	-
<b>Total</b>	<u>\$ 561,754</u>	<u>\$ 1,067,075</u>

The deferred outflows of resources related to OPEB resulting from benefits paid subsequent to the measurement date, totaling \$122,559, will be recognized as a reduction of the total OPEB liability in the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026. Other amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB will be recognized in OPEB expense as follows:

<u>Fiscal Year Ending June 30</u>	<u>Amount</u>
2026	\$ (93,600)
2027	(93,600)
2028	(93,600)
2029	(81,967)
2030	(73,930)
Thereafter	(191,183)
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ (627,880)</b>

## F. Construction Commitments

**Construction Contracts.** The following is a schedule of major construction contract commitments at June 30, 2025:

<u>Project</u>	<u>Contract Amount</u>	<u>Completed to Date</u>	<u>Balance Committed</u>
Niblack Elementary Reconstruction	\$ 20,914,764.62	\$ 20,216,348.28	\$ 698,416.34
Eastside Elementary Reconstruction	35,302,623.00	3,546,807.26	31,755,815.74
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 56,217,387.62</b>	<b>\$ 23,763,155.54</b>	<b>\$ 32,454,232.08</b>

## G. Risk Management Programs

The District is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; injuries to employees; and natural disasters. The Columbia County District School Board is a member of the North East Florida Education Consortium (Consortium) under which several district school boards have established a combined limited self-insurance program for property protection, general liability, automobile liability, workers' compensation, money and securities, employee fidelity and faithful performance, boiler and machinery, and other coverage deemed necessary by the members of the Consortium. Section 1001.42(12)(k), Florida Statutes, provides the authority for the District to enter into such a risk management program. The Consortium is self-sustaining through member assessments (premiums), and purchases coverage through commercial companies for claims in excess of specified amounts. The Board of Directors for the Consortium is composed of superintendents of all participating districts. The Putnam County District School Board serves as fiscal agent for the Consortium.

Health & hospitalization coverage are being provided through purchased commercial insurance with minimum deductibles for each line of coverage.

Settled claims resulting from these risks have not exceeded commercial coverage in any of the past 3 fiscal years.

## H. Long-Term Liabilities

### 1. Note Payable

Note payable from direct borrowings at June 30, 2025, are as follows:

<u>Note Description</u>	<u>Amount Outstanding</u>	<u>Interest Rate (Percent)</u>	<u>Annual Maturity To</u>
Chapter 72-510, Laws of Florida (1972) Hancock Bank	\$ 474,000	1.89	2027

On November 10, 1998, the District entered into a financing arrangement under the provisions of Section 1013.23, Florida Statutes. The obligation was undertaken to finance renovations, water conservation measures, and refuse reduction measures and to refinance Phase 1 of the energy savings contract.

On November 1, 2010, the District entered into a financing agreement under the provisions of Chapter 30469, Laws of Florida (1955); Chapter 72-510, Laws of Florida (1972); Chapter 550, Florida Statutes; Section 212.20, Florida Statutes; Chapter 1001, Florida Statutes; and a Final Judgment, dated April 30, 1998, of the Circuit Court of the Third Circuit in and for Columbia County, Florida. The obligation was undertaken to refund the 1998 District Revenue Bonds. The District has pledged as sole security, the entire annual distribution of pari-mutuel tax proceeds of \$223,250. The pledged revenue is committed until final maturity of the debt, or December 1, 2027. Approximately 79 percent of this revenue stream has been pledged in connection with the debt service on the note payable. The annual distribution is remitted by the Florida Department of Financial Services. On April 14, 2016, the District entered into a note payable with Hancock Bank for \$1,926,000 to refund the note to First Federal Bank of Florida for \$1,943,800 to obtain a lower interest rate.

Amounts payable for the planned extended repayment of the Chapter 75-510, Laws of Florida, and Section 1013.23, Florida Statutes, note are as follows:

<u>Fiscal Year Ending June 30</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Principal</u>	<u>Interest</u>
2026	\$ 195,079.75	\$ 187,000.00	\$ 8,079.75
2027	195,526.55	191,000.00	4,526.55
2028	96,907.20	96,000.00	907.20
<b>Total</b>	<u>\$ 487,513.50</u>	<u>\$ 474,000.00</u>	<u>\$ 13,513.50</u>

## 2. Certificates of Participation

Certificates of participation at June 30, 2025, are as follows:

<u>Series</u>	<u>Amount Outstanding</u>	<u>Interest Rates (Percent)</u>	<u>Lease Term Maturity</u>	<u>Original Amount</u>
2015A, Refunding 2007	\$ 10,135,000	3 - 5	2032	\$ 18,795,000
2024	56,160,000	5	2042	59,000,000
<b>Total Certificates of Participation</b>	<u>\$ 66,295,000</u>			<u>\$ 77,795,000</u>

The District entered into financing arrangements, which were characterized as lease-purchase agreements, with the Columbia County School Board Leasing Corporation (Leasing Corporation) whereby the District secured financing of various educational facilities. The financing was accomplished through the issuance of certificates of participation to be repaid from the proceeds of rents paid by the District.

As a condition of the financing arrangements, the District gave ground leases on District property to the Leasing Corporation with a rental fee of \$10 each per year for Certificates of Participation, Series 2015A and Series 2024. If the District fails to renew the lease and to provide for the rent payments through to term, the District may be required to surrender the sites included under the Ground Lease Agreement for the benefit of the securers of the certificates for a period of time specified by the arrangements.

The District properties included in the various ground leases under these arrangements include:

<u>Certificates</u>	<u>Description of Properties</u>
Series 2015A, Refunding 2007	Pinemount Elementary School, the Middle School Addition at Fort White High School and additions, renovations, and upgrades to Columbia High School
Series 2024	Niblack Elementary School and Eastside Elementary School

The lease payments are payable by the District semiannually on July 1 and January 1 for the Certificates of Participation, Series 2015A, and annually on July 1 for the Certificates of Participation, Series 2024.

The following is a schedule by years of future minimum lease payments under the lease agreement together with the present value of minimum lease payments as of June 30:

<u>Fiscal Year Ending June 30</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Principal</u>	<u>Interest</u>
2026	\$ 6,658,543.76	\$ 3,470,000.00	\$ 3,188,543.76
2027	6,655,043.76	3,640,000.00	3,015,043.76
2028	6,655,243.76	3,795,000.00	2,860,243.76
2029	6,656,743.76	3,960,000.00	2,696,743.76
2030	6,659,031.26	4,135,000.00	2,524,031.26
2031-2035	28,259,325.00	18,465,000.00	9,794,325.00
2036-2040	24,911,750.00	19,565,000.00	5,346,750.00
2041-2042	9,965,500.00	9,265,000.00	700,500.00
Total Minimum Lease Payments	96,421,181.30	66,295,000.00	30,126,181.30
Plus: Unamortized Premium	7,011,791.36	7,011,791.36	-
<b>Total Certificates of Participation</b>	<b>\$ 103,432,972.66</b>	<b>\$ 73,306,791.36</b>	<b>\$ 30,126,181.30</b>

### 3. Leases Payable

The classes and amounts of lease assets are as follows:

	<u>Asset Balances</u>
Automobiles	\$ 409,544.78
Copiers	69,302.77
Computer Equipment	503,225.76
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 982,073.31</b>

Future minimum lease payments and the present value of the minimum lease payments as of June 30 are as follows:

<u>Fiscal Year Ending June 30</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Principal</u>	<u>Interest</u>
2026	\$ 25,631.04	\$ 25,100.85	\$ 530.19
2027	2,192.08	2,181.92	10.16
<b>Total Minimum Lease Payments</b>	<b>\$ 27,823.12</b>	<b>\$ 27,282.77</b>	<b>\$ 540.35</b>

### 4. Changes in Long-Term Liabilities

The following is a summary of changes in long-term liabilities:

<u>Description</u>	<u>Beginning Balance</u>	<u>Additions</u>	<u>Deductions</u>	<u>Ending Balance</u>	<u>Due In One Year</u>
<b>GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES</b>					
Certificates of Participation Payable	\$ 69,600,000.00	\$ -	\$ 3,305,000.00	\$ 66,295,000.00	\$ 3,470,000.00
Unamortized Premium	7,424,249.68	-	412,458.32	7,011,791.36	412,458.32
Total Certificates of Participation Payable	77,024,249.68	-	3,717,458.32	73,306,791.36	3,882,458.32
Note Payable	657,000.00	-	183,000.00	474,000.00	187,000.00
Leases Payable	140,772.57	-	113,489.80	27,282.77	25,100.85
Installment Purchase Payable	339,152.03	-	339,152.03	-	-
Compensated Absences Payable	10,117,376.82	1,307,029.83	908,188.06	10,516,218.59	750,000.00
Net Pension Liability	62,169,833.00	20,946,330.00	25,929,540.00	57,186,623.00	68,710.90
Total OPEB Liability	2,198,366.00	164,830.00	119,844.00	2,243,352.00	122,559.00
<b>Total Governmental Activities</b>	<b>\$ 152,646,750.10</b>	<b>\$ 22,418,189.83</b>	<b>\$ 31,310,672.21</b>	<b>\$ 143,754,267.72</b>	<b>\$ 5,035,829.07</b>

For the governmental activities, pensions and other postemployment benefits are generally liquidated with resources of the General Fund.

## I. Fund Balance Reporting

In addition to committed and assigned fund balance categories discussed in Note I.F.10., fund balances may be classified as follows:

- **Nonspendable Fund Balance**. Nonspendable fund balance is the net current financial resources that cannot be spent because they are either not in spendable form or are legally or contractually required to be maintained intact. Generally, not in spendable form means that an item is not expected to be converted to cash.
- **Restricted Fund Balance**. Restricted fund balance is the portion of fund balance on which constraints have been placed by creditors, grantors, contributors, laws or regulations of other governments, constitutional provisions, or enabling legislation. Restricted fund balance places the most binding level of constraint on the use of fund balance.
- **Unassigned Fund Balance**. The unassigned fund balance is the portion of fund balance that is the residual classification for the General Fund. This balance represents amounts that have not been assigned to other funds and that have not been restricted, committed, or assigned for specific purposes.

## J. Interfund Receivables and Payables

The following is a summary of interfund receivables and payables reported in the fund financial statements:

Funds	Interfund	
	Receivables	Payables
Major:		
General	\$ 7,314,927.06	\$ -
Special Revenue:		
Federal Education Stabilization	-	1,371,376.38
Capital Projects:		
Other	-	7,307,313.06
Nonmajor Governmental	2,377,515.59	1,066,806.21
Nonmajor Enterprise	53,053.00	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 9,745,495.65</b>	<b>\$ 9,745,495.65</b>

The interfund receivables and payables represent temporary loans between funds to cover expenditures incurred prior to reimbursement from outside parties. All balances are expected to be repaid within 1 year.

## K. Revenues

### 1. Schedule of State Revenue Sources

The following is a schedule of the District's State revenue sources for the 2024-25 fiscal year:

<b>Source</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Florida Education Finance Program	\$ 54,690,024.00
Categorical Educational Program - Class Size Reduction	8,885,056.00
Voluntary Prekindergarten Program	608,911.53
Charter School Capital Outlay	474,430.00
School Recognition	464,240.00
Motor Vehicle License Tax (Capital Outlay and Debt Service)	390,075.60
Workforce Development Program	312,951.00
Miscellaneous	462,720.22
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 66,288,408.35</b>

Accounting policies relating to certain State revenue sources are described in Note I.G.2.

## 2. Property Taxes

The following is a summary of millages and taxes levied on the 2024 tax roll for the 2024-25 fiscal year:

	<b>Millages</b>	<b>Taxes Levied</b>
<b>General Fund</b>		
Nonvoted School Tax:		
Required Local Effort	3.143	\$ 15,175,323.41
Basic Discretionary Local Effort	0.748	3,611,561.12
<b>Capital Projects - Local Capital Improvement Fund</b>		
Nonvoted Tax:		
Local Capital Improvements	1.500	7,242,438.72
<b>Total</b>	<b>5.391</b>	<b>\$ 26,029,323.25</b>

## L. Interfund Transfers

The following is a summary of interfund transfers reported in the fund financial statements:

<b>Funds</b>	<b>Interfund</b>	
	<b>Transfers In</b>	<b>Transfers Out</b>
Major:		
General	\$ 1,407,305.00	\$ -
Capital Projects:		
Other	-	4,980,454.72
Nonmajor Governmental	6,655,998.48	3,082,848.76
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 8,063,303.48</b>	<b>\$ 8,063,303.48</b>

Transfers from the Capital Projects – Other Fund and the nonmajor Capital Projects – Local Capital Improvement Fund were made to the non-major Debt Service – Other Fund for payments of premiums and interest on debt. Transfers from the nonmajor Capital Projects – Local Capital Improvement Fund were to reimburse the General Fund for risk management insurance premiums. A transfer from the nonmajor Capital Projects – PECO Fund to the General Fund was made for the charter school capital improvement funds.

# OTHER REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

## Budgetary Comparison Schedule General and Major Special Revenue Funds For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2025

	General Fund			Variance with Final Budget - Positive (Negative)
	Original Budget	Final Budget	Actual	
<b>Revenues</b>				
Intergovernmental:				
Federal Direct	\$ 70,000.00	\$ 70,000.00	\$ 70,687.68	\$ 687.68
Federal Through State and Local	450,000.00	400,000.00	399,428.76	(571.24)
State	65,414,734.50	65,119,000.00	65,124,955.60	5,955.60
Local:				
Property Taxes	18,001,721.00	18,001,721.00	18,222,892.82	221,171.82
Charges for Services	-	242,564.53	242,564.53	-
Miscellaneous	1,001,500.00	1,168,714.47	981,280.93	(187,433.54)
Total Local Revenues	19,003,221.00	19,413,000.00	19,446,738.28	33,738.28
<b>Total Revenues</b>	84,937,955.50	85,002,000.00	85,041,810.32	39,810.32
<b>Expenditures</b>				
Current - Education:				
Instruction	53,227,602.34	53,349,395.70	53,349,395.70	-
Student Support Services	5,226,135.44	5,423,026.95	5,423,026.95	-
Instructional Media Services	935,862.30	919,266.99	919,266.99	-
Instruction and Curriculum Development Services	999,311.63	1,194,126.76	1,194,126.76	-
Instructional Staff Training Services	739,942.98	715,286.59	715,286.59	-
Instruction-Related Technology	1,096,688.96	1,075,353.19	1,075,353.19	-
Board	498,024.40	475,982.10	475,982.10	-
General Administration	881,391.60	973,079.29	973,079.29	-
School Administration	4,744,287.46	4,940,202.50	4,940,202.50	-
Facilities Acquisition and Construction	452,000.00	504,620.47	504,620.47	-
Fiscal Services	473,167.48	428,565.86	428,565.86	-
Food Services	-	47,180.06	47,180.06	-
Central Services	1,013,476.33	1,155,338.37	1,155,338.37	-
Student Transportation Services	3,827,321.91	4,246,918.78	4,246,918.78	-
Operation of Plant	9,490,193.92	9,465,927.52	9,465,927.52	-
Maintenance of Plant	1,708,865.94	1,703,386.01	1,703,386.01	-
Administrative Technology Services	446,018.71	391,565.16	391,565.16	-
Community Services	313,913.10	345,145.77	345,145.77	-
Fixed Capital Outlay:				
Other Capital Outlay	-	147,426.33	147,426.33	-
Debt Service:				
Principal	-	14,206.82	14,206.82	-
Interest and Fiscal Charges	-	736.54	736.54	-
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	86,074,204.50	87,516,737.76	87,516,737.76	-
<b>Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over Expenditures</b>	(1,136,249.00)	(2,514,737.76)	(2,474,927.44)	39,810.32
<b>Other Financing Sources</b>				
Transfers In	1,076,249.00	1,400,000.00	1,407,305.00	7,305.00
Loss Recoveries	60,000.00	40,000.00	40,390.14	390.14
<b>Total Other Financing Sources</b>	1,136,249.00	1,440,000.00	1,447,695.14	7,695.14
<b>Net Change in Fund Balances</b>	-	(1,074,737.76)	(1,027,232.30)	47,505.46
Fund Balances, Beginning	9,585,963.59	10,975,309.50	10,975,309.50	-
<b>Fund Balances, Ending</b>	\$ 9,585,963.59	\$ 9,900,571.74	\$ 9,948,077.20	\$ 47,505.46

**Special Revenue - Federal Education Stabilization Fund**

<b>Original Budget</b>	<b>Final Budget</b>	<b>Actual</b>	<b>Variance with Final Budget - Positive (Negative)</b>
\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
2,944,501.80	2,944,501.80	1,455,813.92	(1,488,687.88)
-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-
<u>2,944,501.80</u>	<u>2,944,501.80</u>	<u>1,455,813.92</u>	<u>(1,488,687.88)</u>
389,402.74	1,389,402.74	952,284.27	437,118.47
11,728.62	11,728.62	-	11,728.62
3,354.25	3,354.25	-	3,354.25
100,163.17	100,163.17	99,756.24	406.93
88,354.83	88,354.83	23,530.51	64,824.32
214,670.77	234,670.77	227,167.90	7,502.87
-	2,000.00	330.45	1,669.55
5,980.26	5,980.26	548.69	5,431.57
227.88	227.88	-	227.88
2,126,163.09	1,039,163.09	89,325.43	949,837.66
-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-
4,456.19	4,456.19	2,820.08	1,636.11
-	25,000.00	20,607.64	4,392.36
-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-
-	40,000.00	39,442.71	557.29
-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-
<u>2,944,501.80</u>	<u>2,944,501.80</u>	<u>1,455,813.92</u>	<u>1,488,687.88</u>
-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-
<u>\$ 0.00</u>	<u>\$ 0.00</u>	<u>\$ 0.00</u>	<u>\$ 0.00</u>

**Schedule of Changes in the District's  
Total OPEB Liability and Related Ratios**

	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
<b>Total OPEB Liability</b>					
Service Cost	\$ 78,977	\$ 85,501	\$ 114,850	\$ 110,922	\$ 104,743
Interest	85,853	87,018	53,037	68,956	87,657
Differences Between Expected and Actual Experience	-	(336,560)	-	153,270	-
Changes of Assumptions or Other Inputs	(13,507)	178,383	(355,754)	(159,608)	73,515
Benefit Payments	<u>(106,337)</u>	<u>(177,361)</u>	<u>(196,452)</u>	<u>(262,903)</u>	<u>(253,266)</u>
<b>Net Change in Total OPEB Liability</b>	<u>44,986</u>	<u>(163,019)</u>	<u>(384,319)</u>	<u>(89,363)</u>	<u>12,649</u>
Total OPEB Liability - Beginning	<u>2,198,366</u>	<u>2,361,385</u>	<u>2,745,704</u>	<u>2,835,067</u>	<u>2,822,418</u>
<b>Total OPEB Liability - Ending</b>	<u>\$ 2,243,352</u>	<u>\$ 2,198,366</u>	<u>\$ 2,361,385</u>	<u>\$ 2,745,704</u>	<u>\$ 2,835,067</u>
Covered-Employee Payroll	\$ 52,049,164	\$ 50,533,169	\$ 53,443,852	\$ 51,687,177	\$ 53,436,972
<b>Total OPEB Liability as a Percentage of Covered-Employee Payroll</b>	4.31%	4.35%	4.42%	5.31%	5.31%

	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>
<b>Total OPEB Liability</b>			
Service Cost	\$ 120,755	\$ 124,194	\$ 134,489
Interest	119,170	119,194	104,053
Differences Between Expected and Actual Experience	317,685	-	-
Changes of Assumptions or Other Inputs	(762,550)	(14,650)	(162,843)
Benefit Payments	<u>(287,726)</u>	<u>(275,222)</u>	<u>(286,194)</u>
<b>Net Change in Total OPEB Liability</b>	<u>(492,666)</u>	<u>(46,484)</u>	<u>(210,495)</u>
Total OPEB Liability - Beginning	<u>3,315,084</u>	<u>3,361,568</u>	<u>3,572,063</u>
<b>Total OPEB Liability - Ending</b>	<u>\$ 2,822,418</u>	<u>\$ 3,315,084</u>	<u>\$ 3,361,568</u>
Covered-Employee Payroll	\$ 52,496,843	\$ 51,288,248	\$ 36,831,039
<b>Total OPEB Liability as a Percentage of Covered-Employee Payroll</b>	5.38%	6.46%	9.13%

**Schedule of the District's Proportionate Share  
of the Net Pension Liability –  
Florida Retirement System Pension Plan (1)**

Fiscal Year Ending June 30	District's Proportion of the FRS Net Pension Liability	District's Proportionate Share of the FRS Net Pension Liability	District's Covered Payroll	District's Proportionate Share of the FRS Net Pension Liability as a Percentage of its Covered Payroll	FRS Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total Pension Liability
2015	0.122924352%	\$ 15,877,329	\$ 47,380,101	33.51%	92.00%
2016	0.114689664%	28,959,230	47,871,694	60.49%	84.88%
2017	0.112378660%	33,240,854	48,788,749	68.13%	83.89%
2018	0.113186941%	34,092,493	50,603,623	67.37%	84.26%
2019	0.110444561%	38,035,569	51,288,248	74.16%	82.61%
2020	0.107372865%	46,536,982	52,496,843	88.65%	78.85%
2021	0.116572783%	8,805,749	53,436,972	16.48%	96.40%
2022	0.109692530%	40,814,436	51,687,177	78.96%	82.89%
2023	0.102282121%	40,756,188	53,443,852	76.26%	82.38%
2024	0.096795937%	37,445,221	55,747,124	67.17%	83.70%

(1) The amounts presented for each fiscal year were determined as of June 30.

**Schedule of District Contributions –  
Florida Retirement System Pension Plan (1)**

Fiscal Year Ending June 30	Contractually Required FRS Contribution	FRS Contributions in Relation to the Contractually Required Contribution	FRS Contribution Deficiency (Excess)	District's Covered Payroll	FRS Contributions as a Percentage of Covered Payroll
2016	\$ 2,796,890	\$ (2,796,890)	\$ -	\$ 47,871,694	5.84%
2017	2,925,493	(2,925,493)	-	48,788,749	6.00%
2018	3,225,737	(3,225,737)	-	50,603,623	6.37%
2019	3,424,578	(3,424,578)	-	51,288,248	6.68%
2020	3,567,525	(3,567,525)	-	52,496,843	6.80%
2021	4,440,919	(4,440,919)	-	53,436,972	8.31%
2022	4,680,774	(4,680,774)	-	51,687,177	9.06%
2023	4,920,428	(4,920,428)	-	53,443,852	9.21%
2024	5,481,199	(5,481,199)	-	55,747,124	9.83%
2025	5,463,634	(5,463,634)	-	55,120,375	9.91%

(1) The amounts presented for each fiscal year were determined as of June 30.

**Schedule of the District's Proportionate Share  
of the Net Pension Liability –  
Health Insurance Subsidy Pension Plan (1)**

<b>Fiscal Year Ending June 30</b>	<b>District's Proportion of the HIS Net Pension Liability</b>	<b>District's Proportionate Share of the HIS Net Pension Liability</b>	<b>District's Covered Payroll</b>	<b>District's Proportionate Share of the HIS Net Pension Liability as a Percentage of its Covered Payroll</b>	<b>HIS Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total Pension Liability</b>
2015	0.155975293%	\$ 15,907,026	\$ 47,380,101	33.57%	0.50%
2016	0.155038523%	18,069,098	47,871,694	37.74%	0.97%
2017	0.153057904%	16,365,657	48,788,749	33.54%	1.64%
2018	0.154923599%	16,397,288	50,603,623	32.40%	2.15%
2019	0.153328494%	17,155,924	51,288,248	33.45%	2.63%
2020	0.151189890%	18,460,039	52,496,843	35.16%	3.00%
2021	0.150869774%	18,506,446	53,436,972	34.63%	3.56%
2022	0.141750588%	15,013,651	51,687,177	29.05%	4.81%
2023	0.134835305%	21,413,645	53,443,852	40.07%	4.12%
2024	0.131600776%	19,741,402	55,747,124	35.41%	4.80%

(1) The amounts presented for each fiscal year were determined as of June 30.

**Schedule of District Contributions –  
Health Insurance Subsidy Pension Plan (1)**

<b>Fiscal Year Ending June 30</b>	<b>Contractually Required HIS Contribution</b>	<b>HIS Contributions in Relation to the Contractually Required Contribution</b>	<b>HIS Contribution Deficiency (Excess)</b>	<b>District's Covered Payroll</b>	<b>HIS Contributions as a Percentage of Covered Payroll</b>
2016	\$ 794,671	\$ (794,671)	\$ -	\$ 47,871,694	1.66%
2017	810,027	(810,027)	-	48,788,749	1.66%
2018	840,155	(840,155)	-	50,603,623	1.66%
2019	851,418	(851,418)	-	51,288,248	1.66%
2020	871,236	(871,236)	-	52,496,843	1.66%
2021	886,814	(886,814)	-	53,436,972	1.66%
2022	857,710	(857,710)	-	51,687,177	1.66%
2023	886,970	(886,970)	-	53,443,852	1.66%
2024	1,114,171	(1,114,171)	-	55,747,124	2.00%
2025	1,101,597	(1,101,597)	-	55,120,375	2.00%

(1) The amounts presented for each fiscal year were determined as of June 30.

## 1. Budgetary Basis of Accounting

The Board follows procedures established by State law and State Board of Education (SBE) rules in establishing budget balances for governmental funds, as described below:

- Budgets are prepared, public hearings are held, and original budgets are adopted annually for all governmental fund types in accordance with procedures and time intervals prescribed by State law and SBE rules.
- Appropriations are controlled at the object level (e.g., salaries, purchased services, and capital outlay) within each activity (e.g., instruction, student transportation services, and school administration) and may be amended by resolution at any Board meeting prior to the due date for the annual financial report.
- Budgets are prepared using the same modified accrual basis as is used to account for governmental funds.
- Budgetary information is integrated into the accounting system and, to facilitate budget control, budget balances are encumbered when purchase orders are issued. Appropriations lapse at fiscal year end and encumbrances outstanding are honored from the subsequent year's appropriations.

## 2. Schedule of Changes in the District's Total Other Postemployment Benefits Liability and Related Ratios

No assets are accumulated in a trust that meets the criteria in paragraph 4 of GASB Statement No. 75 to pay related benefits.

*Changes of Assumptions.* In 2025, the discount rate was changed from 3.86 percent to 3.93 percent.

## 3. Schedule of Net Pension Liability and Schedule of Contributions – Florida Retirement System Pension Plan

*Changes of Assumptions.* In 2024, salary increases including inflation increased from 3.25 percent to 3.50 percent and the mortality assumptions were updated.

## 4. Schedule of Net Pension Liability and Schedule of Contributions – Health Insurance Subsidy Pension Plan

*Changes of Assumptions.* In 2024, the municipal bond rate used to determine total pension liability was increased from 3.65 percent to 3.93 percent and the demographic and coverage election assumptions were updated.

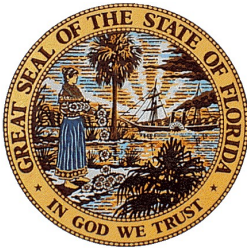
# SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS

## Columbia County District School Board Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2025

Federal Grantor/Pass-Through Grantor/ Program or Cluster	Federal Assistance Listing Number	Pass - Through Entity Identifying Number	Total Expenditures
<b>Clustered</b>			
<b>Child Nutrition Cluster</b>			
United States Department of Agriculture:			
Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services:			
School Breakfast Program	10.553	25002	\$ 1,558,012.64
National School Lunch Program	10.555	25001, 25003	5,572,006.07
Summer Food Service Program for Children	10.559	24006, 24007, 25006, 25007	91,378.65
<b>Total Child Nutrition Cluster</b>			<u>7,221,397.36</u>
<b>Forest Service Schools and Roads Cluster:</b>			
United States Department of Agriculture:			
Florida Department of Financial Services:			
Schools and Roads - Grants to States	10.665	None	<u>57,548.01</u>
<b>Special Education Cluster</b>			
United States Department of Education:			
Florida Department of Education:			
Special Education - Grants to States	84.027	262, 263	2,973,215.25
Special Education - Preschool Grants	84.173	267	148,268.08
<b>Total Special Education Cluster</b>			<u>3,121,483.33</u>
<b>Not Clustered</b>			
<b>United States Department of Agriculture</b>			
Florida Department of Health:			
Child and Adult Care Food Program	10.558	A-5870	<u>149,139.43</u>
<b>United States Department of Defense</b>			
Army Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps	12.UNK	N/A	<u>70,687.68</u>
<b>United States Department of Education</b>			
Florida Department of Education:			
Adult Education - Basic Grants to States	84.002	191	206,534.29
Title I Grants to Local Educational Agencies	84.010	212, 226	3,705,852.21
Career and Technical Education - Basic Grants to States	84.048	161	212,196.31
Education for Homeless Children and Youth	84.196	127	54,319.65
Twenty-First Century Community Learning Centers	84.287	244	653,290.80
Rural Education	84.358	110	355,075.51
English Language Acquisition State Grants	84.365	102	15,924.75
Supporting Effective Instruction State Grants	84.367	224	704,684.65
Student Support and Academic Enrichment Program	84.424	241	249,722.72
Education Stabilization Fund:	84.425		
American Rescue Plan - Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund	COVID-19, 84.425U	121	1,401,874.66
American Rescue Plan - Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund - Homeless Children & Youth Fund	COVID-19, 84.425W	122	53,939.26
Total Education Stabilization Fund	84.425		<u>1,455,813.92</u>
<b>Total United States Department of Education</b>			<u>7,613,414.81</u>
<b>Total Expenditures of Federal Awards</b>			<u>\$ 18,233,670.62</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this Schedule.

- Notes: (1) Basis of Presentation. The accompanying Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards (Schedule) includes the Federal award activity of the Columbia County District School Board under programs of the Federal Government for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2025. 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 District, it is not intended to and does not present the financial position, changes in net position, or cash flows of the District.
- (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.
- (3) Indirect Cost Rate. The District has not elected to use the 10 percent de minimis cost rate allowed under the Uniform Guidance.
- (4) Noncash Assistance – National School Lunch Program. Includes \$568,845.83 of donated food received during the fiscal year. Donated foods are valued at fair value as determined at the time of donation.



Sherrill F. Norman, CPA  
Auditor General

# AUDITOR GENERAL STATE OF FLORIDA

Claude Denson Pepper Building, Suite G74  
111 West Madison Street  
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1450



Phone: (850) 412-2722  
Fax: (850) 488-6975

The President of the Senate, the Speaker of the  
House of Representatives, and the  
Legislative Auditing Committee

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

We have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States (*Government Auditing Standards*), the financial statements of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, the discretely presented component unit, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Columbia County District School Board as of and for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2025, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the District's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated March 19, 2026, included under the heading **INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT**. Our report includes a reference to other auditors who audited the financial statements of the school internal funds and the discretely presented component unit, as described in our report on the District's financial statements. This report does not include the results of the other auditors' testing of internal control over financial reporting or compliance and other matters that are reported on separately by those auditors.

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

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

A *deficiency in internal control* exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, misstatements on a timely basis. A *material weakness* is a deficiency, or a

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

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies and therefore, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. We identified a certain deficiency in internal control, described in the accompanying **SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS** as Financial Statement Finding No. 2025-001 that we consider to be a significant deficiency.

### **Report on Compliance and Other Matters**

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the District's financial statements are free from material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, rules, 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*.

### **District's Response to Finding**

*Government Auditing Standards* requires the auditor to perform limited procedures on the District's response to the finding identified in our audit and described in the accompanying **SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS**. The District is responsible for preparing a corrective action plan to address the audit finding included in our auditor's report. The District's response and **CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN** were not subjected to the other auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and, accordingly, we express no opinion on them.

### **Purpose of this Report**

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

Respectfully submitted,



Sherrill F. Norman, CPA  
Tallahassee, Florida  
March 19, 2026



Sherrill F. Norman, CPA  
Auditor General

# AUDITOR GENERAL STATE OF FLORIDA

Claude Denson Pepper Building, Suite G74  
111 West Madison Street  
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1450



Phone: (850) 412-2722  
Fax: (850) 488-6975

The President of the Senate, the Speaker of the  
House of Representatives, and the  
Legislative Auditing Committee

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

### Report on Compliance for Each Major Federal Program

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

We have audited the Columbia County District School Board's 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 District's major Federal programs for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2025. The District's major Federal programs are identified in **SECTION I – SUMMARY OF AUDITOR'S RESULTS** of the accompanying **SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS**.

In our opinion, the 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 fiscal year ended June 30, 2025.

#### *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 (*Government Auditing Standards*); 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 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 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 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 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 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 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 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 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 may exist that were not identified.

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,



Sherrill F. Norman, CPA  
Tallahassee, Florida  
March 19, 2026

# **SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS**

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## **SECTION I – SUMMARY OF AUDITOR’S RESULTS**

### **Financial Statements**

Type of auditor’s report issued on whether the financial statements audited were prepared in accordance with GAAP: Unmodified

Internal control over financial reporting:

Material weakness(es) identified? No

Significant deficiency(ies) identified? Yes

Noncompliance material to financial statements noted? No

### **Federal Awards**

Internal control over major Federal programs:

Material weakness(es) identified? No

Significant deficiency(ies) identified? None reported

Type of auditor’s report issued on compliance for major Federal programs: Unmodified

Any audit findings disclosed that are required to be reported in accordance with 2 CFR 200.516(a)? No

Identification of major Federal programs:

Assistance Listing Numbers:	Name of Federal Program or Cluster:
84.027 and 84.173	Special Education Cluster
84.425	Education Stabilization Fund

Dollar threshold used to distinguish between type A and type B programs: \$750,000

Auditee qualified as low risk auditee? Yes

## SECTION II – FINANCIAL STATEMENT FINDING

### SIGNIFICANT DEFICIENCY

#### FINANCIAL RECORDING AND REPORTING

<b>Finding Number</b>	<b>2025-001</b>
<b>Opinion Unit</b>	Governmental Activities
<b>Financial Statements Account Titles</b>	Various
<b>Fund Name</b>	Not Applicable
<b>Adjustment Amounts</b>	Governmental Activities: Increased Deferred Outflows of Resources – Pensions (Debit - \$6,566,004), decreased various expense functions (Total Credits – Same Amount), and increased Unrestricted Net Position in the Governmental Activities (Credit – Same Amount).
<b>Statistically Valid Sample</b>	Not Applicable
<b>Prior Year Finding</b>	Not Applicable
<b>Finding</b>	District procedures did not ensure that pension information was properly recorded and reported.
<b>Criteria</b>	Section 1010.01, Florida Statutes, requires that State Board of Education rules incorporate the requirements of law and accounting principles generally accepted in the United States (GAAP). GAAP requires that contributions subsequent to the measurement date of the collective net pension liability and before the end of the employer's reporting period be reported as deferred outflows of resources for pensions.
<b>Condition</b>	Contrary to GAAP, District personnel did not record and report all deferred outflows for pensions. Before audit adjustments, the Deferred Outflow of Resources – Pensions and various expense functions were misstated, resulting in an understatement of the Unrestricted Net Position in the Governmental Activities.
<b>Cause</b>	According to District records, the amount for contributions subsequent to the measurement date was inadvertently excluded from the deferred outflows amount reported on the financial statements.
<b>Effect</b>	Recording and reporting errors such as these may cause financial statement users to misunderstand the District's financial activities and incorrectly assess the District's financial position.  We extended our audit procedures to determine the adjustments necessary to ensure District financial statement amounts were properly reported and District personnel accepted the adjustments. However, our audit procedures cannot substitute for management's responsibility to implement effective controls over financial recording and reporting.
<b>Recommendation</b>	The District should improve procedures to ensure that pension information is properly recorded and reported. Such procedures should include appropriate training for staff who record accounting entries and prepare the financial statements.

**District Response**

It is agreed that the pension deferred outflow was reported incorrectly. Moving forward, a review process will be conducted to ensure that amounts are accurately reported in the financial statements.

### SECTION III – FEDERAL AWARD FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS

No matters are reported.

# SUMMARY SCHEDULE OF PRIOR AUDIT FINDINGS



**Columbia County Schools**

**Finance Department**  
 372 West Duval Street  
 Lake City, Florida 32055-3990  
 (386) 755-8000  
[www.columbiak12.com](http://www.columbiak12.com)

**SUPERINTENDENT**  
 KEITH COUEY

**ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENTS**  
 HOPE JERNIGAN  
 TODD WIDERGREN

**DIRECTOR OF FINANCE**  
 BONNIE PENNER

**MEMBERS OF THE BOARD**  
 DANA BRADY-GIDDENS  
 CHERIE HILL  
 KEITH HUDSON  
 HUNTER PEELER  
 NARRAGANSETT SMITH

<b>Audit Report No. (Finding No.)</b>	<b>Program/Area</b>	<b>Brief Description</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Comments</b>
2025-136 (2024-001)	Child Nutrition Cluster (ALNs 10.553 and 10.555); Special Education Cluster (ALNs 84.027 and 84.173); and Title I Grants to Local Educational Agencies (ALN 84.010)	The District charged Federal programs health insurance program premium costs totaling \$496,203 for several Federally funded employees who did not participate in the health insurance program, resulting in Federal program questioned costs of the amount.	Partially Corrected	The deficiencies have been corrected; however, restoration of the questioned costs will be completed in the 2025-26 fiscal year.

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# **CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN**

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**Columbia County Schools**  
**Finance Department**  
372 West Duval Street  
Lake City, Florida 32055-3990  
(386) 755-8000  
[www.columbiak12.com](http://www.columbiak12.com)

**SUPERINTENDENT**  
KEITH COUEY

**ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENTS**  
HOPE JERNIGAN  
TODD WIDERGREN

**DIRECTOR OF FINANCE**  
BONNIE PENNER

**MEMBERS OF THE BOARD**  
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CHERIE HILL  
KEITH HUDSON  
HUNTER PEELER  
NARRAGANSETT SMITH

March 19, 2026

**Columbia County District School Board  
Management's Corrective Action Plan  
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2025**

Finding Number: 2025-001.  
Planned Corrective Action: A review process will be conducted to ensure amounts are accurately reported in the financial statements  
Anticipated Completion Date: March 19, 2026  
Responsible Contact Person: Bonnie Penner

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