

## PRELIMINARY OFFICIAL STATEMENT

### NEW/RENEWAL ISSUE

### BOND ANTICIPATION NOTES

*In the opinion of Trespasz Law Offices, LLP, Bond Counsel to the School District, under existing statutes and court decisions and assuming continuing compliance with certain tax certifications described herein, interest on the Notes is excluded from gross income for federal income tax purposes under Section 103 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code"), and is excluded from adjusted gross income for purposes of New York State and New York City personal income taxes. Interest on the Notes is not treated as a preference item in calculating the alternative minimum tax under the Code, however, interest on the Notes is included in the "adjusted financial statement income" of certain corporations that are subject to the alternative minimum tax under Section 55 of the Code. Bond counsel expresses no opinion regarding any other tax consequences related to the ownership or disposition of, or the accrual of interest on the Notes. (See "TAX MATTERS" herein.)*

*The Notes will be "qualified tax-exempt obligations" under Section 265(b)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended.*

**\$2,902,522**



## **SOUTH JEFFERSON CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT JEFFERSON, LEWIS AND OSWEGO COUNTIES, NEW YORK GENERAL OBLIGATIONS \$2,902,522 Bond Anticipation Notes, 2026 (the "Notes")**

**Dated: February 5, 2026**

**Due: February 5, 2027**

The Notes are general obligations of the South Jefferson Central School District, Jefferson, Lewis and Oswego Counties, New York (the "School District" or "District"). All the taxable real property within the School District is subject to the levy of ad valorem taxes to pay the Notes and interest thereon, without limitation as to rate or amount. See "NATURE OF OBLIGATION" and "TAX LEVY LIMITATION LAW" herein. The Notes are not subject to redemption prior to maturity. Interest will be calculated on a 30-day month and 360-day year basis, payable at maturity.

At the option of the purchaser(s), the Notes will be issued in (i) registered certificated form registered in the name of the purchaser(s) or (ii) registered book-entry-only form registered to Cede & Co., as the partnership nominee for The Depository Trust Company, Jersey City, New Jersey ("DTC").

If the Notes are issued as registered in the name of the purchaser, principal of and interest on the Notes will be payable in Federal Funds at the office of the School District. The Notes will be issued in denominations of \$5,000 or multiples thereof, except for one necessary odd denomination which is or includes \$7,522. A single note certificate will be issued for Notes bearing the same rate of interest in the aggregate principal amount awarded to such purchaser at such interest rate.

If the Notes are issued in book-entry-only form, such notes will be delivered to DTC, which will act as securities depository for the Notes. Beneficial owners will not receive certificates representing their interest in the Notes. Individual purchases may be made in denominations of \$5,000 or integral multiples thereof, except for one necessary odd denomination which is or includes \$7,522. A single note certificate will be issued for those Notes bearing the same rate of interest and CUSIP number in the aggregate principal amount awarded to such purchaser(s) at such interest rate. Principal of and interest on said Notes will be paid in Federal Funds by the District to Cede & Co., as nominee for DTC, which will in turn remit such principal and interest to its participants for subsequent distribution to the beneficial owners of the Notes as described herein. Transfer of principal and interest payments to beneficial owners by participants of DTC will be the responsibility of such participants and other nominees of beneficial owners. The District will not be responsible or liable for payments by DTC to its participants or by DTC participants to beneficial owners or for maintaining, supervising or reviewing the records maintained by DTC, its participants or persons acting through such participants. (See "BOOK-ENTRY-ONLY SYSTEM" herein).

The Notes are offered when, as and if issued and received by the purchaser(s) and subject to the receipt of the respective approving legal opinion as to the validity of the Notes of Trespasz Law Offices, LLP, Bond Counsel, Syracuse, New York. It is anticipated that the Notes will be available for delivery through the facilities of DTC in Jersey City, New Jersey, or at such place as may be agreed upon with the purchaser(s) on or about February 5, 2026.

**ELECTRONIC BIDS** for the Notes must be submitted on Fiscal Advisors Auction website ("Fiscal Advisors Auction") accessible via [www.FiscalAdvisorsAuction.com](http://www.FiscalAdvisorsAuction.com), on January 22, 2026 by no later than 11:00 A.M. ET. Bids may also be submitted by facsimile at (315) 930-2354. No other form of electronic bidding services will be accepted. No phone bids will be accepted. Once the bids are communicated electronically via Fiscal Advisors Auction or via facsimile to the District, each bid will constitute an irrevocable offer to purchase the Notes pursuant to the terms provided in the Notice of Sale for the Notes.

January 16, 2026

THE DISTRICT DEEMS THIS OFFICIAL STATEMENT TO BE FINAL FOR PURPOSES OF SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION RULE 15c2-12 (THE "RULE"), EXCEPT FOR CERTAIN INFORMATION THAT HAS BEEN OMITTED HEREFROM IN ACCORDANCE WITH SAID RULE AND THAT WILL BE SUPPLIED WHEN THIS OFFICIAL STATEMENT IS UPDATED FOLLOWING THE SALE OF THE OBLIGATIONS HEREIN DESCRIBED. THIS OFFICIAL STATEMENT WILL BE SO UPDATED UPON REQUEST OF THE SUCCESSFUL BIDDER(S), AS MORE FULLY DESCRIBED IN THE NOTICE OF SALE WITH RESPECT TO THE OBLIGATIONS HEREIN DESCRIBED. THE DISTRICT WILL COVENANT IN AN UNDERTAKING TO PROVIDE NOTICE OF CERTAIN MATERIAL EVENTS AS DEFINED IN THE RULE. SEE "APPENDIX C – MATERIAL EVENT NOTICES" HEREIN.

# **SOUTH JEFFERSON CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT**

## **JEFFERSON, LEWIS AND OSWEGO COUNTIES, NEW YORK**

### **2025-2026 BOARD OF EDUCATION**

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JUSTIN VANCOUGHNETT  
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### **ADMINISTRATION**

CHRISTINA CHAMBERLAIN  
Superintendent of Schools

JOSHUA HARTSHORNE  
School Business Administrator

MICHELLE L. JAQUES  
School District Clerk

KATIE DANDROW  
Principal Account Clerk/Deputy Treasurer

**FF** FERRARA FIORENZA PC  
School District Attorney



FISCAL ADVISORS & MARKETING, INC.  
Municipal Advisor

**T**  
TRESPASZ LAW OFFICES, LLP  
BOND COUNSEL

No person has been authorized by South Jefferson Central School District to give any information or to make any representations not contained in this Official Statement, and, if given or made, such information or representations must not be relied upon as having been authorized. This Official Statement does not constitute an offer to sell or solicitation of an offer to buy any of the Notes in any jurisdiction to any person to whom it is unlawful to make such offer or solicitation in such jurisdiction. The information, estimates and expressions of opinion herein are subject to change without notice, and neither the delivery of this Official Statement nor any sale made hereunder shall, under any circumstances, create any implication that there has been no change in the affairs of South Jefferson Central School District.

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## PREPARED WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF



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**OFFICIAL STATEMENT**  
**of the**  
**SOUTH JEFFERSON CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**JEFFERSON, LEWIS AND OSWEGO COUNTIES, NEW YORK**  
**Relating To**  
**\$2,902,522 Bond Anticipation Notes, 2026**

This Official Statement, which includes the cover page and appendices, has been prepared by the South Jefferson Central School District, Jefferson, Lewis and Oswego Counties, New York (the "School District" or "District", "Counties", and "State", respectively) in connection with the sale by the District of \$2,902,522 principal amount of Bond Anticipation Notes, 2026 (the "Notes").

The factors affecting the District's financial condition and the Notes are described throughout this Official Statement. Inasmuch as many of these factors, including economic and demographic factors, are complex and may influence the District tax base, revenues, and expenditures, this Official Statement should be read in its entirety, and no one factor should be considered more or less important than any other by reason of its relative position in this Official Statement.

All quotations from and summaries and explanations of provisions of the Constitution and laws of the State and acts and proceedings of the District contained herein do not purport to be complete and are qualified in their entirety by reference to the official compilations thereof, and all references to the Notes and the proceedings of the District relating thereto are qualified in their entirety by reference to the definitive forms of the Notes and such proceedings.

**NATURE OF OBLIGATION**

Each Note when duly issued and paid for will constitute a contract between the District and the holder thereof.

Holders of any series of notes or bonds of the District may bring an action or commence a proceeding in accordance with the civil practice law and rules to enforce the rights of the holders of such series of notes or bonds.

The Notes will be general obligations of the District and will contain a pledge of the faith and credit of the District for the payment of the principal thereof and the interest thereon as required by the Constitution and laws of the State. For the payment of such principal and interest, the District has power and statutory authorization to levy ad valorem taxes on all real property within the District subject to such taxation by the District, without limitation as to rate or amount.

Although the State Legislature is restricted by Article VIII, Section 12 of the State Constitution from imposing limitations on the power to raise taxes to pay "interest on or principal of indebtedness theretofore contracted" prior to the effective date of any such legislation, the New York State Legislature may from time to time impose additional limitations or requirements on the ability to increase a real property tax levy or on the methodology, exclusions or other restrictions of various aspects of real property taxation (as well as on the ability to issue new indebtedness). On June 24, 2011, Chapter 97 of the Laws of 2011 was signed into law by the Governor (the "Tax Levy Limitation Law" or "Chapter 97"). The Tax Levy Limitation Law applies to local governments and school districts in the State (with certain exceptions) and imposes additional procedural requirements on the ability of municipalities and school districts to levy certain year-to-year increases in real property taxes.

Under the Constitution of the State, the District is required to pledge its faith and credit for the payment of the principal of and interest on the Notes and is required to raise real estate taxes, and without specification, other revenues, if such levy is necessary to repay such indebtedness. While the Tax Levy Limitation Law imposes a statutory limitation on the District's power to increase its annual tax levy, with the amount of such increase limited by the formulas set forth in the Tax Levy Limitation Law, it also provides the procedural method to surmount that limitation. See "TAX LEVY LIMITATION LAW" herein.

The Constitutionally-mandated general obligation pledge of municipalities and school districts in New York State has been interpreted by the Court of Appeals, the State's highest court, in Flushing National Bank v. Municipal Assistance Corporation for the City of New York, 40 N.Y.2d 731 (1976), as follows:

"A pledge of the City's faith and credit is both a commitment to pay and a commitment of the City's revenue generating powers to produce the funds to pay. Hence, an obligation containing a pledge of the City's "faith and credit" is secured by a promise both to pay and to use in good faith the City's general revenue powers to produce sufficient funds to pay the principal and interest of the obligation as it becomes due. That is why both words,

“faith” and “credit” are used and they are not tautological. That is what the words say and this is what the courts have held they mean... So, too, although the Legislature is given the duty to restrict municipalities in order to prevent abuses in taxation, assessment, and in contracting of indebtedness, it may not constrict the City’s power to levy taxes on real estate for the payment of interest on or principal of indebtedness previously contracted... While phrased in permissive language, these provisions, when read together with the requirement of the pledge and faith and credit, express a constitutional imperative: debt obligations must be paid, even if tax limits be exceeded”.

In addition, the Court of Appeals in the Flushing National Bank (1976) case has held that the payment of debt service on outstanding general obligation bonds and notes takes precedence over fiscal emergencies and the police power of political subdivisions in New York State.

The pledge has generally been understood as a promise to levy property taxes without limitation as to rate or amount to the extent necessary to cover debt service due to language in Article VIII Section 10 of the Constitution, which provides an exclusion for debt service from Constitutional limitations on the amount of a real property tax levy, insuring the availability of the levy of property tax revenues to pay debt service. As the Flushing National Bank (1976) Court noted, the term “faith and credit” in its context is “not qualified in any way”. Indeed, in Flushing National Bank v. Municipal Assistance Corp., 40 N.Y.2d 1088 (1977) the Court of Appeals described the pledge as a direct constitutional mandate. In Quirk v. Municipal Assistance Corp., 41 N.Y.2d 644 (1977), the Court of Appeals stated that, while holders of general obligation debt did not have a right to particular revenues such as sales tax, “with respect to traditional real estate tax levies, the bondholders are constitutionally protected against an attempt by the State to deprive the city of those revenues to meet its obligations.” According to the Court in Quirk, the State Constitution “requires the city to raise real estate taxes, and without specification other revenues, if such a levy be necessary to repay indebtedness.”

In addition, the Constitution of the State requires that every county, city, town, village, and school district in the State provide annually by appropriation for the payment of all interest and principal on its serial bonds and certain other obligations, and that, if at any time the respective appropriating authorities shall fail to make such appropriation, a sufficient sum shall be set apart from the first revenues thereafter received and shall be applied to such purposes. In the event that an appropriating authority were to make an appropriation for debt service and then decline to expend it for that purpose, this provision would not apply. However, the Constitution of the State does also provide that the fiscal officer of any county, city, town, village, or school district may be required to set apart and apply such first revenues at the suit of any holder of any such obligations.

In Quirk v. Municipal Assistance Corp., the Court of Appeals described this as a “first lien” on revenues, but one that does not give holders a right to any particular revenues. It should thus be noted that the pledge of the faith and credit of a political subdivision in New York State is a pledge of an issuer of a general obligation bond or note to use its general revenue powers, including, but not limited to, its property tax levy to pay debt service on such obligations, but that such pledge may not be interpreted by a court of competent jurisdiction to include a constitutional or statutory lien upon any particular revenues.

While the courts in New York State have historically been protective of the rights of holders of general obligation debt of political subdivisions, it is not possible to predict what a future court might hold.

## THE NOTES

### Description of the Notes

The Notes are general obligations of the School District, and will contain a pledge of its faith and credit for the payment of the principal thereof and interest thereon as required by the Constitution and laws of the State of New York (State Constitution, Art. VIII, Section 2: Local Finance Law, Section 100.00). All the taxable real property within the School District is subject to the levy of ad valorem taxes to pay the Notes and interest thereon, subject to the statutory limitations imposed by Chapter 97 of the Laws of 2011. See “NATURE OF OBLIGATION” and “TAX LEVY LIMITATION LAW” herein.

The Notes will be dated February 5, 2026 and will mature February 5, 2027. The Notes are not subject to redemption prior to maturity. Interest will be calculated on a 30-day month and 360-day year basis, payable at maturity.

The Notes will be issued in either (i) registered certificated form registered in the name of the purchaser, in denominations of \$5,000 each or multiples thereof, except for one necessary odd denomination which is or includes \$7,522, as may be determined by the successful bidder or (ii) at the option of the purchaser, in book-entry-only form, and, if so issued, registered in the name of Cede & Co. as nominee of DTC, which will act as the securities depository for the Notes. See “BOOK-ENTRY-ONLY SYSTEM” herein.

## No Optional Redemption

The Notes are not subject to redemption prior to maturity.

## Purpose of Issue

The Notes are being issued pursuant to the Constitution and statutes of the State of New York, including among others, the Education Law and the Local Finance Law and bond resolutions of the District authorizing the purchase and finance of school buses. The proceeds of the Notes, along with \$813,084 in available funds of the District, will partially redeem and renew \$2,569,024 bond anticipation notes maturing on February 6, 2026, and will provide \$1,146,582 new monies for the aforementioned purpose.

## BOOK-ENTRY-ONLY SYSTEM

The Depository Trust Company (“DTC”), New York, NY, will act as securities depository for the Notes, if so requested. The Notes will be issued as fully-registered securities registered in the name of Cede & Co. (DTC’s partnership nominee) or such other name as may be requested by an authorized representative of DTC. One fully-registered note certificate will be issued for each note bearing the same rate of interest and CUSIP number and will be deposited with DTC.

DTC, a limited-purpose trust company organized under the New York Banking Law, is a “banking organization” within the meaning of the New York Banking Law, a member of the Federal Reserve System, a “clearing corporation” within the meaning of the New York Uniform Commercial Code, and a “clearing agency” registered pursuant to the provisions of Section 17A of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. DTC holds and provides asset servicing for over 3.5 million issues of U.S. and non-U.S. equity issues, corporate and municipal debt issues, and money market instruments from over 100 countries that DTC’s participants (“Direct Participants”) deposit with DTC. DTC also facilitates the post-trade settlement among Direct Participants of sales and other securities transactions in deposited securities, through electronic computerized book-entry transfers and pledges between Direct Participants’ accounts. This eliminates the need for physical movement of securities certificates. Direct Participants include both U.S. and non-U.S. securities brokers and dealers, banks, trust companies, clearing corporations, and certain other organizations. DTC is a wholly-owned subsidiary of The Depository Trust & Clearing Corporation (“DTCC”). DTCC is the holding company for DTC, and Fixed Income Clearing Corporation, all of which are registered clearing agencies. DTCC is owned by the users of its regulated subsidiaries. Access to the DTC system is also available to others such as both U.S. and non-U.S. securities brokers and dealers, banks, trust companies, and clearing corporations that clear through or maintain a custodial relationship with a Direct Participant, either directly or indirectly (“Indirect Participants”). The DTC Rules applicable to its Participants are on file with the Securities and Exchange Commission. More information about DTC can be found at [www.dtcc.com](http://www.dtcc.com) and [www.dtc.org](http://www.dtc.org).

Purchases of Notes under the DTC system must be made by or through Direct Participants, which will receive a credit for the Notes on DTC’s records. The ownership interest of each actual purchaser of each Note (“Beneficial Owner”) is in turn to be recorded on the Direct and Indirect Participants’ records. Beneficial Owners will not receive written confirmation from DTC of their purchase. Beneficial Owners are, however, expected to receive written confirmations providing details of the transaction, as well as periodic statements of their holdings, from the Direct or Indirect Participant through which the Beneficial Owner entered into the transaction. Transfers of ownership interests in the Notes are to be accomplished by entries made on the books of Direct and Indirect Participants acting on behalf of Beneficial Owners. Beneficial Owners will not receive certificates representing their ownership interests in Notes, except in the event that use of the book-entry system for the Notes is discontinued.

To facilitate subsequent transfers, all Notes deposited by Direct Participants with DTC are registered in the name of DTC’s partnership nominee, Cede & Co., or such other name as may be requested by an authorized representative of DTC. The deposit of Notes with DTC and their registration in the name of Cede & Co. or such other DTC nominee do not effect any change in beneficial ownership. DTC has no knowledge of the actual Beneficial Owners of the Notes; DTC’s records reflect only the identity of the Direct Participants to whose accounts such Notes are credited, which may or may not be the Beneficial Owners. The Direct and Indirect Participants will remain responsible for keeping account of their holdings on behalf of their customers.

Conveyance of notices and other communications by DTC to Direct Participants, by Direct Participants to Indirect Participants, and by Direct Participants and Indirect Participants to Beneficial Owners will be governed by arrangements among them, subject to any statutory or regulatory requirements as may be in effect from time to time. Beneficial Owners of Notes may wish to take certain steps to augment the transmission to them of notices of significant events with respect to the Notes, such as redemptions, tenders, defaults, and proposed amendments to the Note documents. For example, Beneficial Owners of Notes may wish to ascertain that the nominee holding the Notes for their benefit has agreed to obtain and transmit notices to Beneficial Owners. In the alternative, Beneficial Owners may wish to provide their names and addresses to the registrar and request that copies of notices be provided directly to them.

Principal and interest payments on the Notes will be made to Cede & Co., or such other nominee as may be requested by an authorized representative of DTC. DTC's practice is to credit Direct Participants' accounts upon DTC's receipt of funds and corresponding detail information from the School District, on payable date in accordance with their respective holdings shown on DTC's records. Payments by Participants to Beneficial Owners will be governed by standing instructions and customary practices, as is the case with securities held for the accounts of customers in bearer form or registered in "street name," and will be the responsibility of such Participant and not of DTC nor its nominee, or the School District, subject to any statutory or regulatory requirements as may be in effect from time to time. Payment of principal and interest payments to Cede & Co. (or such other nominee as may be requested by an authorized representative of DTC) is the responsibility of the School District, disbursement of such payments to Direct Participants will be the responsibility of DTC, and disbursement of such payments to the Beneficial Owners will be the responsibility of Direct and Indirect Participants.

DTC may discontinue providing its services as depository with respect to the Notes at any time by giving reasonable notice to the District. Under such circumstances, in the event that a successor depository is not obtained, note certificates are required to be printed and delivered.

The District may decide to discontinue use of the system of book-entry transfers through DTC (or a successor securities depository). In that event, note certificates will be printed and delivered.

The information in this section concerning DTC and DTC's book-entry system has been obtained from sources that the District believes to be reliable, but the District takes no responsibility for the accuracy thereof.

Source: The Depository Trust Company.

THE DISTRICT CANNOT AND DOES NOT GIVE ANY ASSURANCES THAT DTC, DIRECT PARTICIPANTS OR INDIRECT PARTICIPANTS OF DTC WILL DISTRIBUTE TO THE BENEFICIAL OWNERS OF THE NOTES (1) PAYMENTS OF PRINCIPAL OF OR INTEREST ON THE NOTES; (2) CONFIRMATIONS OF THEIR OWNERSHIP INTERESTS IN THE NOTES; OR (3) OTHER NOTICES SENT TO DTC OR CEDE & CO., ITS PARTNERSHIP NOMINEE, AS THE REGISTERED OWNER OF THE NOTES, OR THAT THEY WILL DO SO ON A TIMELY BASIS, OR THAT DTC, DIRECT PARTICIPANTS OR INDIRECT PARTICIPANTS WILL SERVE AND ACT IN THE MANNER DESCRIBED IN THIS OFFICIAL STATEMENT.

THE DISTRICT WILL NOT HAVE ANY RESPONSIBILITY OR OBLIGATIONS TO DTC, THE DIRECT PARTICIPANTS, THE INDIRECT PARTICIPANTS OF DTC OR THE BENEFICIAL OWNERS WITH RESPECT TO (1) THE ACCURACY OF ANY RECORDS MAINTAINED BY DTC OR ANY DIRECT PARTICIPANTS OR INDIRECT PARTICIPANTS OF DTC; (2) THE PAYMENT BY DTC OR ANY DIRECT PARTICIPANTS OR INDIRECT PARTICIPANTS OF DTC OF ANY AMOUNT DUE TO ANY BENEFICIAL OWNER IN RESPECT OF THE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF OR INTEREST ON THE NOTES; (3) THE DELIVERY BY DTC OR ANY DIRECT PARTICIPANTS OR INDIRECT PARTICIPANTS OF DTC OF ANY NOTICE TO ANY BENEFICIAL OWNER; OR (4) ANY CONSENT GIVEN OR OTHER ACTION TAKEN BY DTC AS THE REGISTERED HOLDER OF THE NOTES.

THE INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN CONCERNING DTC AND ITS BOOK-ENTRY SYSTEM HAS BEEN OBTAINED FROM DTC AND THE DISTRICT MAKES NO REPRESENTATION AS TO THE COMPLETENESS OR THE ACCURACY OF SUCH INFORMATION OR AS TO THE ABSENCE OF MATERIAL ADVERSE CHANGES IN SUCH INFORMATION SUBSEQUENT TO THE DATE HEREOF.

### **Certificated Notes**

If the book-entry form is initially chosen by the purchaser(s) of the Notes, DTC may discontinue providing its services with respect to the Notes at any time by giving notice to the District and discharging its responsibilities with respect thereto under applicable law, or the District may terminate its participation in the system of book-entry-only system transfers through DTC at any time. In the event that such book-entry-only system is utilized by a purchaser(s) of the Notes upon issuance and later discontinued, the following provisions will apply:

The Notes will be issued in registered form in denominations of \$5,000 or integral multiples thereof, except for one necessary odd denomination which is or includes \$7,522. Principal of and interest on the Notes will be payable at a principal corporate trust office of a bank or trust company located and authorized to do business in the State of New York to be named as fiscal agent by the District. The Notes will remain not subject to redemption prior to their stated final maturity date.

## THE SCHOOL DISTRICT

### General Information

The District is located in upstate New York and is situated principally in the County of Jefferson, with small sections located to the east in the County of Lewis and to the south in the County of Oswego. The City of Watertown is approximately 10 miles to the north, the City of Oswego approximately 30 miles southwest and the City of Syracuse 45 miles to the south.

The District encompasses a land area of approximately 221 square miles.

Major highways of service to the School District include Interstate route #81, New York State routes #11, #177 and #178. The Penn Central Railroad, several motor freight lines and the Watertown Municipal Airport also service transportation for the District.

The District is residential and agricultural in nature. Commercial services to the residents are located in the Villages of Adams and Mannsville, as well as in and around Watertown.

Source: District officials.

### Population

The current estimated population of the District is 10,758. (Source: 2023 U.S. Census Bureau estimate.)

### Selected Wealth and Income Indicators

Per capita income statistics are not available for the District as such. The smallest areas for which such statistics are available, which includes the District, are the Towns and the Counties listed below. The figures set below with respect to such Towns and Counties are included for information only. It should not be inferred from the inclusion of such data in the Official Statement that the Towns or the Counties are necessarily representative of the District, or vice versa.

	Per Capita Income			Median Family Income		
	2006-2010	2016-2020	2019-2023	2006-2010	2016-2020	2019-2023
<b>Towns of:</b>						
Adams	\$ 24,398	\$ 28,353	\$ 37,637	\$ 61,154	\$ 83,574	\$ 103,333
Ellisburg	19,239	26,627	32,017	45,000	68,878	84,678
Hounsfield	28,733	36,960	44,140	71,827	88,623	104,722
Lorraine	19,117	24,133	31,889	44,750	78,958	65,625
Rodman	29,742	27,274	29,190	72,411	71,959	84,439
Rutland	22,677	26,606	36,825	57,679	68,464	87,109
Watertown	25,159	32,637	34,164	75,481	87,526	79,457
Worth	21,260	26,700	30,317	60,000	63,906	81,875
Boylston	18,536	35,363	42,242	42,188	84,625	110,471
Pinckney	17,562	30,215	42,978	53,409	56,250	94,063
<b>Counties of:</b>						
Jefferson	21,823	28,120	34,603	51,834	66,711	80,333
Lewis	20,970	27,770	32,690	49,554	65,238	78,095
Oswego	21,604	30,026	35,222	56,364	71,285	84,690
<b>State of:</b>						
New York	30,948	40,898	49,520	67,405	87,270	105,060

Note: 2020-2024 American Community Survey estimates are not available as of the date of this Official Statement.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2010, 2016-2020 and 2019-2023 American Community Survey data.

## Five Largest Employers

The following are the five larger employers located within or in close proximity to the District.

<u>Name of Employer</u>	<u>Nature of Business</u>	<u>Number Employed</u>
Samaritan Medical	Hospital	800
NYS Department of Corrections	Correctional Facility	400
Fuccillo	Car Dealer	210
Great Lakes	Cheese	130
Porterdale	Farms	120

Source: District officials.

## Unemployment Rate Statistics

Unemployment statistics are not available for the District as such. The smallest areas for which such statistics are available (which includes the District) are the Counties of Jefferson, Lewis and Oswego. The information set forth below with respect to the Counties and the State of New York included for informational purposes only. It should not be implied from the inclusion of such data in this Official Statement that the Counties or State are necessarily representative of the District, or vice versa.

### Annual Averages

	<u>2016</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2024</u>
Jefferson County	6.3%	6.5%	5.5%	5.4%	8.4%	5.0%	4.0%	4.4%	4.4%
Lewis County	6.8%	6.6%	5.5%	5.3%	7.5%	5.0%	4.0%	4.4%	4.2%
Oswego County	6.6%	6.4%	5.4%	5.2%	8.6%	5.5%	4.0%	4.3%	4.1%
New York State	4.9%	4.6%	4.1%	3.8%	9.9%	6.9%	4.3%	4.2%	4.3%

### 2025 Monthly Figures

	<u>Jan</u>	<u>Feb</u>	<u>Mar</u>	<u>Apr</u>	<u>May</u>	<u>Jun</u>	<u>July</u>	<u>Aug</u>	<u>Sep</u>	<u>Oct</u>	<u>Nov</u>	<u>Dec</u>
Jefferson County	5.8%	6.0%	5.2%	3.8%	3.4%	3.4%	4.1%	4.3%	4.1%	N/A	N/A	N/A
Lewis County	6.1%	6.4%	5.6%	4.0%	3.0%	3.0%	3.5%	3.7%	3.4%	N/A	N/A	N/A
Oswego County	5.2%	5.4%	4.6%	3.5%	3.2%	3.6%	4.1%	4.3%	4.2%	N/A	N/A	N/A
New York State	4.6%	4.3%	4.1%	3.7%	3.5%	3.8%	4.6%	4.7%	4.7%	N/A	N/A	N/A

Note: Unemployment rates for October, November, December 2025 and January 2026 are unavailable as of the date of this Official Statement.

Source: Department of Labor, State of New York. (Note: Figures not seasonally adjusted).

## Form of School Government

The Board of Education, which is the policy-making body of the School District, consists of seven members with overlapping five-year terms so that as nearly an equal number as possible is elected to the Board each year. Each Board member must be a qualified voter of the School District. The President and the Vice President are selected by the Board members.

## Budgetary Procedures

Pursuant to the Education Law, the Board of Education annually prepares a detailed statement of estimated sums necessary for the various expenditures of the School District for the ensuing fiscal year (tentative budget) and distributes that statement not less than fourteen days prior to the date on which the School District's annual meeting is conducted, at which time such tentative budget is voted upon. Notice of the annual meeting is published as required by statute with a first publication not less than forty-five days prior to the day of such meeting. If the qualified voters at the annual meeting approve the tentative budget, the Board of Education, by resolution, adopts it as the budget of the School District for the ensuing fiscal year.

Pursuant to Chapter 97 of the Laws of 2011 (“Chapter 97”), beginning with the 2012 – 2013 fiscal year, if the proposed budget requires a tax levy increase that does not exceed the lesser of 2% or the rate of inflation (the “Tax Cap”) plus exclusions, then a majority vote is required for approval. If the proposed budget requires a tax levy that exceeds the Tax Cap, the budget proposition must include special language and a 60% vote is required for approval. Any separate proposition that would cause the School District to exceed the Tax Cap also must receive at least 60% voter approval.

If the proposed budget is not approved by the required margin, the Board of Education may resubmit the original budget or a revised budget to the voters on the third Tuesday in June, or adopt a contingency budget (which would provide for ordinary contingent expenses, including debt service) that levies a tax levy no greater than that of the prior fiscal year (i.e. a 0% increase in the tax levy).

If the resubmitted and/or revised budget is not approved by the required margin, the Board of Education must adopt a budget that requires a tax levy no greater than that of the prior fiscal year (i.e. a 0% increase in the tax levy). For a complete discussion of Chapter 97, see “TAX INFORMATION –Tax Levy Limitation Law” herein.

#### *Recent Budget Vote Results*

The budget for the 2024-25 fiscal year was approved by the qualified voters on May 21, 2024 by a vote of 210 to 64. The District’s adopted budget for the 2024-25 fiscal year will remain within the Tax Cap imposed by Chapter 97 of the Laws of 2011. The budget calls for a total tax levy increase of 2.00%, which is below the District tax levy limit of 2.55%.

The budget for the 2025-26 fiscal year was approved by the qualified voters on May 20, 2025 by a vote of 339 to 88. The District’s adopted budget for the 2025-26 fiscal year will remain within the Tax Cap imposed by Chapter 97 of the Laws of 2011. The budget calls for a total tax levy increase of 2.50%, which is below the District tax levy limit of 3.81%

#### **Investment Policy**

Pursuant to the statutes of the State of New York, the School District is permitted to invest only in the following investments: (1) special time deposits or certificates of deposits in a bank or trust company located and authorized to do business in the State of New York; (2) obligations of the United States of America; (3) obligations guaranteed by agencies of the United States of America where the payment of principal and interest is guaranteed by the United States of America; (4) obligations of the State of New York; (5) with the approval of the New York State Comptroller, tax anticipation notes and revenue anticipation notes issued by any New York municipality or district corporation, other than the School District; (6) obligations of a New York public corporation which are made lawful investments by the School District pursuant to another provision of law; (7) certain certificates of participation issued on behalf of political subdivisions of the State of New York; and, (8) in the case of School District moneys held in certain reserve funds established pursuant to law, obligations issued by the School District. These statutes further require that all bank deposits, in excess of the amount insured under the Federal Deposit Insurance Act, be secured by either a pledge of eligible securities, an eligible surety bond or an eligible letter of credit, as those terms are defined in the law.

Consistent with the above statutory limitations, it is the School District’s current policy to invest in: (1) certificates of deposit or time deposit accounts that are fully secured as required by statute, (2) obligations of the United States of America or (3) obligations guaranteed by agencies of the United States of America where the payment of principal and interest is guaranteed by the United States of America. In the case of obligations of the United States government, the School District may purchase such obligations pursuant to a written repurchase agreement that requires the purchased securities to be delivered to a third party custodian.

#### **State Aid**

The District receives financial assistance from the State in the form of State aid for operating, building and other purposes at various times throughout its fiscal year, pursuant to formulas and payment schedules set forth by statute. In its adopted budget for the 2025-26 fiscal year, approximately 77.03% of the revenues of the District are estimated to be received in the form of State aid. While the State has a constitutional duty to maintain and support a system of free common schools that provides a “sound basic education” to children of the State, there can be no assurance that the State appropriation for State aid to school districts will be continued in future years, either pursuant to existing formulas or in any form whatsoever.

In addition to the amount of State aid budgeted annually by the District, the State makes payments of STAR aid representing tax savings provided by school districts to their taxpayers under the STAR Program.

The State is not constitutionally obligated to maintain or continue State aid to the District. No assurance can be given that present State aid levels will be maintained in the future. State budgetary restrictions which could eliminate or substantially reduce State aid could have a material adverse effect upon the District, requiring either a counterbalancing increase in revenues from other sources to the extent available, or a curtailment of expenditures.

There can be no assurance that the State appropriation for building aid and other State aid to school districts will be continued in future years, either pursuant to existing formulas or in any form whatsoever. State aid, including building aid appropriated and apportioned to the School District, can be paid only if the State has such monies available therefor. The availability of such monies and the timeliness of such payment could be affected by a delay in the adoption of the State budget or their elimination therefrom.

There can be no assurance that the State's financial position will not change materially and adversely from current projections. If this were to occur, the State would be required to take additional gap-closing actions. Such actions may include, but are not limited to: reductions in State agency operations; delays or reductions in payments to local governments or other recipients of State aid including school districts in the State. Reductions in the payment of State aid could adversely affect the financial condition of school districts in the State.

The amount of State aid to school districts can vary from year to year and is dependent in part upon the financial condition of the State. During the 2011 to 2019 fiscal years of the State, State aid to school districts was paid in a timely manner; however, during the State's 2010 and 2020 fiscal years, State budgetary restrictions resulted in delayed payments of State aid to school districts in the State. In addition, the availability of State aid and the timeliness of payment of State aid to school districts could be affected by a delay in the adoption of the State budget, which is due at the start of the State's fiscal year of April 1. With the exception of the State's fiscal year 2025-26 Enacted Budget (which was adopted on May 9, 2025, twenty-eight (28) days after the April 1 deadline, the State's fiscal year 2024-25 Enacted Budget (which was adopted on April 22, 2024, twenty-one (21) days after the April 1 deadline) and the State's fiscal year 2023-24 Enacted Budget (which was adopted on May 2, 2023, thirty-one (31) days after the April 1 deadline), the State's budget has been adopted by April 1 or shortly thereafter for over ten (10) years. No assurance can be given that the State will not experience delays in the adoption of the budget in future fiscal years. Significant delays in the adoption of the State budget could result in delayed payment of State aid to school districts in the State which could adversely affect the financial condition of school districts in the State.

Should the District fail to receive State aid expected from the State in the amounts and at the times expected, occasioned by a delay in the payment of such monies or by a mid-year reduction in State aid, the District is authorized by the Local Finance Law to provide operating funds by borrowing in anticipation of the receipt of uncollected State aid.

#### *Federal Aid Received by the State*

The State receives a substantial amount of Federal aid for health care, education, transportation and other governmental purposes, as well as Federal funding to respond to, and recover from, severe weather events and other disasters. Many of the policies that drive this Federal aid may be subject to change under the Federal administration and Congress. Current Federal aid projections, and the assumptions on which they rely, are subject to revision in the future as a result of changes in federal policy, the general condition of the global and national economies and other circumstances.

Reductions in Federal funding levels could have a materially adverse impact on the State budget. In addition to the potential fiscal impact of policies that may be proposed and adopted by the new administration and Congress, the State budget may be adversely affected by other actions taken by the Federal government, including audits, disallowances, and changes to Federal participation rates or other Medicaid rules.

President Trump signed an executive order that directs the Secretary of Education to take all necessary steps to facilitate the closure of the U.S. Department of Education. The executive order aims to minimize the federal role in education but stops short of completely closing the Department as this would require 60 votes in the U.S. Senate. President Trump also indicated his preference that critical functions, like distributing Individuals with Disabilities Education Act funding, would be the responsibility of other federal agencies. The impact that the executive order will have on the State and school districts in the State is unknown at this time.

#### *Building Aid*

A portion of the District's State aid consists of building aid which is related to outstanding indebtedness for capital project purposes. In order to receive building aid, the District must have building plans and specifications approved by the Facilities Planning Unit of the State Education Department. A maximum construction and incidental cost allowance is computed for each building project that takes into account a pupil construction cost allowance and assigned pupil capacity. For each project financed with debt obligations, a bond percentage is computed. The bond percentage is derived from the ratio of total approved cost allowances to the total principal borrowed. Approved cost allowances are estimated until a project final cost report is completed.

Building Aid is paid over fifteen years for reconstruction work, twenty years for building additions, or thirty years for new building construction. Building Aid for a specific building project is eligible to begin eighteen months after State Commissioner of Education approval date, for that project, and is paid over the previously described timeframe, assuming all necessary building aid forms are filed with the State in a timely manner. The building aid received is equal to the assumed debt service for that project, which factors in the bond percent, times the building aid ratio that is assigned to the District, and amortized over the predefined timeframe. The building aid ratio is calculated based on a formula that involves the full valuation per pupil in the District compared to a State-wide average.

Pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 760 of the Laws of 1963, the District is eligible to receive a Building Aid Estimate from the New York State Department of Education. Since the gross indebtedness of the District is within the debt limit, the District is not required to apply for a Building Aid Estimate. Based on 2026-2027 preliminary building aid ratios, the District expects to receive State building aid of approximately 90.0% of debt service on State Education Department approved expenditures from July 1, 2004 to the present.

The State building aid ratio is calculated each year based upon a formula which reflects Resident Weighted Average Daily Attendance (RWADA) and the full value per pupil compared with the State average. Consequently, the estimated aid will vary over the life of each issue. State building aid is further dependent upon the continued apportionment of funds by the State Legislature.

#### *State Aid History:*

*School district fiscal year (2021-2022):* The State's 2021-22 Enacted Budget included \$29.5 billion in State aid to school districts, and significantly increased funding for schools and local governments, including a \$1.4 billion increase in Foundation Aid and a three-year phase-in of the full restoration to school districts of Foundation Aid that was initially promised in 2007. Additionally, the budget included the use of \$13 billion of federal funds for emergency relief, along with the Governor's Emergency Education Relief, which included, in part, the allocation of \$629 million to school districts as targeted grants in an effort to address learning loss as a result of the loss of enrichment and after-school activities. In addition, \$105 million of federal funds were allocated to expand full-day kindergarten programs. Under the budget, school districts were reimbursed for the cost of delivering school meals and instructional materials in connection with COVID-19-related school closures in spring 2020, along with the costs of keeping transportation employees and contractors on stand-by during the short-term school closures prior to the announcement of the closure of schools for the remainder of the 2019-20 year. Under the budget, local governments also received full restoration of proposed cuts to Aid and Incentives for Municipalities (AIM) funding, and full restoration of \$10.3 million in proposed Video Lottery Terminal (VLT) aid cuts, where applicable.

*School district fiscal year (2022-2023):* The State's 2022-23 Enacted Budget included \$31.5 billion in State funding to school districts for the 2022-23 school year. This represented an increase of \$2.1 billion or 7.2 percent compared to the 2021-22 school year, and included a \$1.5 billion or 7.7 percent Foundation Aid increase. The State's 2022-23 Enacted Budget also included \$14 billion of federal Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief and Governor's Emergency Education Relief funds to public schools. This funding, available for use over multiple years, was designed to assist public schools to reopen for in-person instruction, address learning loss, and respond to students' academic, social, and emotional needs due to the disruptions of the COVID-19 pandemic. The State's 2022-23 Enacted Budget allocated \$100 million over two years for a new State matching fund for school districts with the highest needs to support efforts to address student well-being and learning loss. In addition, the State's 2022-23 Enacted Budget increased federal funds by \$125 million to expand access to full-day prekindergarten programs for four-year-old children in school districts statewide in the 2022-23 school year.

*School district fiscal year (2023-2024):* The State's 2023-24 Enacted Budget includes \$34.5 billion for school aid, an increase of \$3.1 billion or 10%, which is the highest level of State aid to date. The States 2023-24 Budget also provides a \$2.6 billion increase in Foundation Aid, fully funding the program for the first time in history. The State's 2023-24 Enacted Budget provides \$134 million to increase access to free school meals. An additional \$20 million in grant funding will establish new Early College High School and Pathways in Technology Early College High School Programs. An investment of \$10 million over two years in competitive funding for school districts, boards of cooperative educational services, and community colleges will be made to promote job readiness. An additional \$150 million will be used to expand high-quality full-day prekindergarten, resulting in universal prekindergarten to be phased into 95% of the State.

*School district fiscal year (2024-2025):* The State's 2024-25 Enacted Budget provides \$35.9 billion in State funding to school districts for the 2024-25 school year, the highest level of State aid ever. This represents an increase of \$1.3 billion compared to the 2023-24 school year and includes a \$934 million or 3.89 percent Foundation Aid increase. The State's 2024-25 Enacted Budget maintains the "save harmless" provision, which currently ensures a school district receives at least the same amount of Foundation Aid as it received in the prior year. The State's 2024-25 Enacted Budget also authorizes a comprehensive study by the Rockefeller Institute and the State Department of Education to develop a modernized school funding formula.

*School district fiscal year (2025-2026):* The State's 2025-26 Budget includes approximately \$37.6 billion in State funding to school districts for the 2025-2026 school year, an estimated year-to-year funding increase of \$1.7 billion. The State's 2025-26 Budget provides an estimated \$26.3 billion in Foundation Aid, a year over year increase of \$1.42 billion and includes a 2% minimum increase in Foundation Aid to all school districts. The State's 2025-26 Budget also makes a number of alterations to the Foundation Aid formula to more accurately reflect low-income student populations and provide additional aid to low-wealth school districts.

Provisions in the State's 2025-26 Enacted Budget grant the State Budget Director the authority to withhold all or some of the amounts appropriated therein, including amounts that are to be paid on specific dates prescribed in law or regulation (such as State Aid) if, on a cash basis of accounting, a "general fund imbalance" has or is expected to occur in fiscal year 2025-26. Specifically, the State's 2025-26 Enacted Budget provides that a "general fund imbalance" has occurred, and the State Budget Director's powers are activated, if any State fiscal year 2025-26 quarterly financial plan update required by Subdivision 4 of Section 23 of the New York State Finance Law reflects, or if at any point during the final quarter of State fiscal year 2025-26 the State Budget Director projects, that estimated general fund receipts and/or estimated general fund disbursements have or will vary from the estimates included in the State's 2025-26 Enacted Budget financial plan required by sections 22 and 23 of the New York State Finance Law results in a cumulative budget imbalance of \$2 billion or more. Any significant reductions or delays in the payment of State aid could adversely affect the financial condition of school districts in the State.

#### *State Aid Litigation*

In January 2001, the State Supreme Court issued a decision in Campaign for Fiscal Equity v. New York mandating that the system of apportionment of State aid to school districts within the State be restructured by the Governor and the State Legislature. On June 25, 2002, the Appellate Division of the State Supreme Court reversed that decision. On June 26, 2003, the State Court of Appeals, the highest court in the State, reversed the Appellate Division, holding that the State must, by July 30, 2004, ascertain the actual cost of providing a sound basic education, enact reforms to the system of school funding and ensure a system of accountability for such reforms. The Court of Appeals further modified the decision of the Appellate Division by deciding against a Statewide remedy and instead limited its ruling solely to the New York City school system.

After further litigation, on appeal in 2006, the Court of Appeals held that \$1.93 billion of additional funds for the New York City schools – as initially proposed by the Governor and presented to the Legislature as an amount sufficient to provide a sound basic education – was reasonably determined. State legislative reforms in the wake of The Campaign for Fiscal Equity decision included increased accountability for expenditure of State funds and collapsing over 30 categories of school aid for school districts in the State into one classroom operating formula referred to as foundation aid. The stated purpose of foundation aid is to prioritize funding distribution based upon student need. As a result of the Court of Appeals ruling schools were to receive \$5.5 billion increase in foundation aid over a four fiscal year phase-in covering 2007 to 2011.

A case related to the Campaign for Fiscal Equity, Inc. v. State of New York was heard on appeal on May 30, 2017 in New Yorkers for Students' Educational Rights v. State of New York ("NYSER") and a consolidated case on the right to a sound basic education. The NYSER lawsuit asserts that the State has failed to comply with the original decision in the Court of Appeals in the CFE case, and asks the Court of Appeals to require the State to develop new methodologies, formulas and mechanisms for determining State aid, to fully fund the foundation aid formula, to eliminate the supermajority requirement for voter approval of budgets which increase school district property tax levies above the property tax cap limitation, and related matters. On June 27, 2017, the Court of Appeals held that the plaintiffs causes of action were properly dismissed by the earlier Appellate Division decision except insofar as two causes of action regarding accountability mechanisms and sufficient State funding for a "sound basic education" as applicable solely to the school districts in New York City and Syracuse. The Court emphasized its previous ruling in the CFE case that absent "gross education inadequacies", claims regarding state funding for a "sound basic education" must be made on a district-by-district basis based on the specific facts therein. On October 14, 2021 Governor Hochul announced that New York State reached an agreement to settle and discontinue the *NYSER* case, following through on the State's commitment to fully fund the current Foundation Aid formula to New York's school districts over three years and ending the State's prior opposition to providing such funding. The litigation, which has been ongoing since 2014, sought to require New York State to fully fund the Foundation Aid formula that was put into place following the CFE cases, and had been previously opposed by the State. Foundation Aid was created in 2007 and takes school district wealth and student need into account to create an equitable distribution of state funding to schools, however, New York State has never fully funded Foundation Aid. The new settlement requires New York State to phase-in full funding of Foundation Aid by the FY 2024 budget. In the FY 2022 Enacted State Budget approved in April 2022, the Executive and Legislature agreed to fully fund Foundation Aid by the FY 2024 and FY 2025 budget and enacted this commitment into law.

A breakdown of currently anticipated Foundation Aid funding is available below:

- FY 2022: \$19.8 billion, covering 30% of the existing shortfall.
- FY 2023: Approximately \$21.3 billion, covering 50% of the anticipated shortfall.
- FY 2024: Approximately \$23.2 billion, eliminating the anticipated shortfall, and funding the full amount of Foundation Aid for all school districts.
- FY 2025: Funding the full amount of Foundation Aid for all school districts.
- FY 2026: \$26.3 billion in Foundation Aid, a year over year increase of \$1.42 billion and a 2% minimum increase in Foundation Aid to all school districts.

The State's 2025-26 Budget also makes a number of alterations to the Foundation Aid formula to more accurately reflect low-income student populations and provide additional aid to low-wealth school districts.

## State Aid Revenues

The following table illustrates the percentage of total revenues of the District for each of the below completed fiscal years and budgeted new figures comprised of State aid.

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Total Revenues</u>	<u>Total State Aid</u>	<u>Percentage of Total Revenues Consisting of State Aid</u>
2020-2021	\$ 35,232,900	\$ 26,188,121	74.33%
2021-2022	35,766,984	26,458,283	73.97
2022-2023	38,305,371	28,906,979	75.46
2023-2024	41,506,429	32,018,674	77.14
2024-2025	42,873,856	32,704,405	76.28
2025-2026 (Budgeted)	44,006,306	31,970,281	77.03

Source: Audited Financial Statements for the 2020-2021 through 2024-2025 fiscal years and adopted budget for the 2025-2026 fiscal year. This table is not audited.

## School Facilities

<u>Name</u>	<u>Grades</u>	<u>Capacity</u>	<u>Year(s) Built/Additions</u>
South Jefferson Central School	K-12	2,000	1960, '65, '75, '99

Source: District officials.

## Enrollment Trends

<u>School Year</u>	<u>Enrollment</u>	<u>School Year</u>	<u>Projected Enrollment</u>
2021-22	1,796	2026-27	1,900
2022-23	1,747	2027-28	1,900
2023-24	1,827	2028-29	1,900
2024-25	1,811	2029-30	1,900
2025-26	1,806	2030-31	1,900

Note: The School District's enrollment is slightly impacted by Fort Drum, however, the number of students does not have a drastic impact on overall enrollment figures. This is evidenced by the relatively small amount of Federal Impact Aid the District receives.

Source: District officials.

## Employees

The School District employs a total of approximately 637 full and part-time employees. Employees are represented by various unions as follows:

<u>Employees Represented</u>	<u>Union Representation</u>	<u>Contract Expiration Date</u>
172	South Jefferson Teachers' Association	June 30, 2026
230	School Support Staff	June 30, 2026

Source: District officials.

## Status and Financing of Employee Pension Benefits

Substantially all employees of the District are members of either the New York State and Local Employees' Retirement System ("ERS") (for non-teaching and non-certified administrative employees) or the New York State Teachers' Retirement System ("TRS") (for teachers and certified administrators). (Both Systems are referred to together hereinafter as the "Retirement Systems" where appropriate.) These Retirement Systems are cost-sharing multiple public employer retirement systems. The obligation of employers and employees to contribute and the benefits to employees are governed by the New York State Retirement and Social Security Law (the "Retirement System Law"). The Retirement Systems offer a wide range of plans and benefits which are related to years of service and final average salary, vesting of retirement benefits, death and disability benefits and optional methods of benefit payments. All benefits generally had vested after ten years of credited service; however, this was changed to five years as of April 9, 2022. The Retirement System Law generally provides that all participating employers in each retirement system are jointly and severally liable for any unfunded amounts. Such amounts are collected through annual billings to all participating employers. Generally, all employees, except certain part-time employees, participate in the Retirement Systems. The Retirement Systems are non-contributory with respect to members hired prior to July 27, 1976. All members working less than ten years must contribute 3% (ERS) or 3.5% (TRS) of gross annual salary towards the cost of retirement programs.

On December 12, 2009, a new Tier V was signed into law. The legislation created a new Tier V pension level, the most significant reform of the State's pension system in more than a quarter-century. Key components of Tier V include:

- Raising the minimum age at which most civilians can retire without penalty from 55 to 62 and imposing a penalty of up to 38% for any civilian who retires prior to age 62.
- Requiring ERS employees to continue contributing 3% of their salaries and TRS employees to continue contributing 3.5% toward pension costs so long as they accumulate additional pension credits.
- Increasing the minimum years of service required to draw a pension from 5 years to 10 years, which has since been changed to 5 years as of April 9, 2022.
- Capping the amount of overtime that can be considered in the calculation of pension benefits for civilians at \$15,000 per year, and for police and firefighters at 15% of non-overtime wages.

On March 16, 2012, the Governor signed into law the new Tier VI pension program, effective for new ERS and TRS employees hired after April 1, 2012. The Tier VI legislation provides for increased employee contribution rates of between 3% and 6% and contributions at such rates continue so long as such employee continues to accumulate pension credits, an increase in the retirement age from 62 years to 63 years, a readjustment of the pension multiplier, and a change in the time period for the final average salary calculation from 3 years to 5 years. Tier VI employees would vest in the system after ten years of employment; and employees will continue to make employee contribution throughout employment. As of April 9, 2022, vesting requirements were modified, resulting in employees becoming vested after five years.

The District is required to contribute at an actuarially determined rate. The actual contributions for the fiscal years 2020-2021 through and including 2024-2025 and budgeted figures for the 2025-2026 fiscal years are as follows:

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>TRS</u>	<u>ERS</u>
2020-2021	\$ 1,072,958	\$ 633,626
2021-2022	1,152,125	660,740
2022-2023	1,225,800	522,901
2023-2024	1,312,904	625,415
2024-2025	1,217,093	624,505
2025-2026 (Budgeted)	1,304,314	930,337

Source: School District officials.

The annual required pension contribution is due February 1 annually with the ability to pre-pay on December 15 at a discount. The District pre-pays this cost annually. The District is amortizing pension payments for the New York State Local Retirement System for the years 2012 through 2016.

Pursuant to various laws enacted between 1991 and 2002, the State Legislature authorized local governments to make available certain early retirement incentive programs to its employees. The District currently does not have early retirement incentive programs for its employees.

*Historical Trends and Contribution Rates.* Historically there has been a State mandate requiring full (100%) funding of the annual actuarially required local governmental contribution out of current budgetary appropriations. With the strong performance of the Retirement System in the 1990s, the locally required annual contribution declined to zero. However, with the subsequent decline in the equity markets, the pension system became underfunded. As a result, required contributions increased substantially to 15% to 20% of payroll for the employees' and the police and fire retirement systems, respectively. Wide swings in the contribution rate resulted in budgetary planning problems for many participating local governments.

A chart of average ERS and TRS rates as a percent of payroll (2021-22 to 2025-26) is shown below:

<u>Year</u>	<u>ERS</u>	<u>TRS</u>
2021-22	16.2%	9.80%
2022-23	11.6	10.29
2023-24	13.1	9.76
2024-25	15.2	10.02
2025-26	16.5	9.59

In 2003, Chapter 49 of the Laws of 2003 amended the Retirement and Social Security Law and the Local Finance Law. The amendments empowered the State Comptroller to implement a comprehensive structural reform program for ERS. The reform program established a minimum contribution for any local governmental employer equal to 4.5% of pensionable salaries for bills which were due December 15, 2003 and for all fiscal years thereafter, as a minimum annual contribution where the actual rate would otherwise be 4.5% or less due to the investment performance of the fund. In addition, the reform program instituted a billing system to match the budget cycle of municipalities and school districts that will advise such employers over one year in advance concerning actual pension contribution rates for the next annual billing cycle. Under the previous method, the requisite ERS contributions for a fiscal year could not be determined until after the local budget adoption process was complete. Under the new system, a contribution for a given fiscal year is based on the valuation of the pension fund on the prior April 1 of the calendar year preceding the contribution due date instead of the following April 1 in the year of contribution so that the exact amount may now be included in a budget.

Chapter 57 of the Laws of 2010 (Part TT) amended the Retirement and Social Security Law to authorize participating employers, if they so elect, to amortize an eligible portion of their annual required contributions to ERS when employer contribution rates rise above certain levels. The option to amortize the eligible portion began with the annual contribution due February 1, 2011. The amortizable portion of an annual required contribution is based on a "graded" rate by the State Comptroller in accordance with formulas provided in Chapter 57. Amortized contributions are to be paid in equal annual installments over a ten-year period, but may be prepaid at any time. Interest is to be charged on the unpaid amortized portion at a rate to be determined by the State Comptroller, which approximates a market rate of return on taxable fixed rate securities of a comparable duration issued by comparable issuers. The interest rate is established annually for that year's amortized amount and then applies to the entire ten years of the amortization cycle of that amount. When in any fiscal year, the participating employer's graded payment eliminates all balances owed on prior amortized amounts, any remaining graded payments are to be paid into an employer contribution reserve fund established by the State Comptroller for the employer, to the extent that amortizing employer has no currently unpaid prior amortized amounts, for future such use.

The District is not amortizing any pension payments, nor does it intend to do so in the foreseeable future.

*Stable Rate Pension Contribution Option:* The 2013-14 State Budget included a provision that provides local governments and school districts, including the District, with the option to "lock-in" long-term, stable rate pension contributions for a period of years determined by the State Comptroller and ERS and TRS. The stable rates would be 12% for ERS and 14% for TRS. The pension contribution rates under this program would reduce near-term payments for employers, but will require higher than normal contributions in later years. The District did participate in the Stable Rate Pension Contribution Option.

The District did not participate in the Stable Rate Pension Contribution Option nor does it intend to do so in the foreseeable future.

The investment of monies, and assumptions underlying same, of the Retirement Systems covering the District's employees is not subject to the direction of the District. Thus, it is not possible to predict, control or prepare for future unfunded accrued actuarial liabilities of the Retirement Systems ("UAALs"). The UAAL is the difference between total actuarially accrued liabilities and actuarially calculated assets available for the payment of such benefits. The UAAL is based on assumptions as to retirement age, mortality, projected salary increases attributed to inflation, across-the-board raises and merit raises, increases in retirement benefits, cost-of-living adjustments, valuation of current assets, investment return and other matters. Such UAALs could be substantial in the future, requiring significantly increased contributions from the District which could affect other budgetary matters. Concerned investors should contact the Retirement Systems administrative staff for further information on the latest actuarial valuations of the Retirement Systems.

The State's 2019-2020 Enacted Budget, which was signed into law as Chapter 59 of the Laws of 2019, includes a provision that will allow school districts in the State to establish a reserve fund for the purpose of funding the cost of TRS contributions, as a sub-fund of retirement contribution reserve funds presently authorized for amounts payable to the ERS by a school district. School districts will be permitted to pay into such reserve fund during any particular fiscal year, an amount not to exceed two percent of the total compensation or salaries of all district-employed teachers who are members of the TRS paid during the immediately preceding fiscal year; provided that the balance of such fund may not exceed ten percent of the total compensation or salaries of all district-employed teachers who are members of the TRS paid during the immediately preceding fiscal year. The District established a TRS reserve fund on June 12, 2019.

## **Other Post-Employment Benefits**

Healthcare Benefits. It should also be noted that the District provides employment healthcare benefits to various categories of former employees. These costs may be expected to rise substantially in the future. There is now an accounting rule that requires governmental entities, such as the District, to account for employment healthcare benefits as it accounts for vested pension benefits.

School districts and Boards of Cooperative Educational Services, unlike other municipal units of government in the State, have been prohibited from reducing health benefits received by or increasing health care contributions paid by retirees below the level of benefits or contributions afforded to or required from active employees since the implementation of Chapter 729 of the Laws of 1994. Legislative attempts to provide similar protection to retirees of other local units of government in the State have not succeeded as of this date. Nevertheless, many such retirees of all varieties of municipal units in the State do presently receive such benefits.

OPEB. OPEB refers to "other post-employment benefits," meaning other than pension benefits, disability benefits and OPEB consist primarily of health care benefits, and may include other benefits such as disability benefits and life insurance. Until now, these benefits have generally been administered on a pay-as-you-go basis and have not been reported as a liability on governmental financial statements.

GASB 75. In 2015, the Governmental Accounting Standards Board ("GASB") released new accounting standards for public Other Post-Employment Benefits ("OPEB") plans and participating employers. These standards, GASB Statement No. 75, *Accounting and Financial Reporting for Postemployment Benefits Other Than Pensions* ("GASB 75"), have substantially revised the valuation and accounting requirements previously mandated under GASB Statements No. 43 and 45. For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2018, the District implemented GASB 75. The implementation of this statement requires District's to report OPEB liabilities, OPEB expenses, deferred outflow of resources and deferred inflow of resources related to OPEB. GASB Statement No. 75 replaced GASB Statement 45, which also required the District to calculate and report a net OPEB obligation. However, under GASB 45 districts could amortize the OPEB liability over a period of years, whereas GASB 75 requires districts to report the entire OPEB liability on the statement of net position.

The District contracted with Aquarius Capital, to calculate its actuarial valuation under GASB 75 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025.

The following outlines the changes to the Total OPEB Liability during the past two fiscal years, by source.

Balance beginning at:	June 30, 2023	June 30, 2024
	\$ 125,942,577	\$ 124,737,020
<b><u>Changes for the year:</u></b>		
Service cost	2,414,209	2,528,003
Interest	4,962,351	5,020,375
Differences between expected and actual experience	-	-
Changes in assumptions or other inputs	(4,814,528)	(7,766,760)
Benefit payments	(3,767,589)	(3,978,924)
Net Changes	\$ (1,205,557)	\$ (4,197,306)
Balance ending at:	June 30, 2024	June 30, 2025
	<b>\$ 124,737,020</b>	<b>\$ 120,539,714</b>

Note: The above table is not audited. For additional information see "APPENDIX – C" attached hereto.

There is no authority in current State law to establish a trust account or reserve fund for this liability. The District has reserved \$0 towards its OPEB liability. The District funds this liability on a pay-as-you-go basis.

The District's unfunded actuarial accrued OPEB liability could have a material adverse impact upon the District's finances and could force the District to reduce services, raise taxes or both.

Under GASB 75, an actuarial valuation will be required every 2 years for all plans, however, the Alternative Measurement Method continues to be available for plans with less than 100 members.

## Other Information

The statutory authority for the power to spend money is the Education Law and the Local Finance Law.

The District is in compliance with the procedure for the publication of the estoppel notice with respect to the Notes as provided in Title 6 of Article 2 of the Local Finance Law.

No principal or interest upon any obligation of the District is past due.

The fiscal year of the District is July 1 to June 30.

Except for as shown under "STATUS OF INDEBTEDNESS – Estimated Overlapping Indebtedness", this Official Statement does not include the financial data of any political subdivision having power to levy taxes within the District.

## Financial Statements

The District retains independent Certified Public Accountants. The last audit report covers the period ending June 30, 2025 and is attached hereto as "APPENDIX – D." Certain financial information of the District can be found attached as Appendices to the Official Statement.

The District complies with the Uniform System of Accounts as prescribed for school districts in New York State by the State. This system differs from generally accepted accounting principles as prescribed by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants' Industry Audit Guide, "Audits of State and Local Governmental Units", and codified in Government Accounting, Auditing and Financial Reporting (GAAFR), published by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB).

Beginning with the fiscal year ending June 30, 2003 the District is required to issue its financial statements in accordance with GASB Statement No. 34. This statement includes reporting of all assets including infrastructure and depreciation in the Government Wide Statement of Activities, as well as the Management's Discussion and Analysis. The District is in compliance with Statement No. 34.

## **New York State Comptroller Report of Examination**

The State Comptroller's office, i.e., the Department of Audit and Control, periodically performs a compliance review to ascertain whether the District has complied with the requirements of various State and Federal statutes. These audits can be found by visiting the Audits of Local Governments section of the Office of the State Comptroller website.

The State Comptroller's Office released an audit of the District on June 14, 2024. The objective of the audit was to determine whether the District officials accurately paid employees' salaries and wages. Except for minor discrepancies, the employee salaries and wages reviewed were accurately paid, and the payroll increases were calculated correctly and supported by adequate time records. There were no recommendations as a result of this audit. A complete report is available on the website of the Office of the New York State Comptroller.

There are no State Comptroller's audits of the District that are currently in progress or pending release.

**Note:** Reference to website implies no warranty of accuracy of information therein, and the website is not incorporated herein by reference.

## **The State Comptroller's Fiscal Stress Monitoring System**

The New York State Comptroller has reported that New York State's school districts and municipalities are facing significant fiscal challenges. As a result, the Office of the State Comptroller has developed a Fiscal Stress Monitoring System ("FSMS") to provide independent, objectively measured and quantifiable information to school district and municipal officials, taxpayers and policy makers regarding the various levels of fiscal stress under which the State's school districts and municipalities are operating.

The fiscal stress scores are based on financial information submitted as part of each school district's ST-3 report filed with the State Education Department annually, and each municipality's annual report filed with the State Comptroller. Using financial indicators that include year-end fund balance, cash position and patterns of operating deficits, the system creates an overall fiscal stress score which classifies whether a school district or municipality is in "Significant Fiscal Stress", in "Moderate Fiscal Stress," as "Susceptible Fiscal Stress" or "No Designation". Entities that do not accumulate the number of points that would place them in a stress category will receive a financial score but will be classified in a category of "No Designation." This classification should not be interpreted to imply that the entity is completely free of fiscal stress conditions. Rather, the entity's financial information, when objectively scored according to the FSMS criteria, did not generate sufficient points to place them in one of the three established stress categories.

The reports of the State Comptroller for the past three fiscal years of the District are as follows:

<u>Fiscal Year Ending In</u>	<u>Stress Designation</u>	<u>Fiscal Score</u>
2024	No Designation	0.0
2023	No Designation	0.0
2022	No Designation	0.0

Source: Website of the Office of the New York State Comptroller.

**Note:** Reference to website implies no warranty of accuracy of information therein., and the website is not incorporated herein by reference.

## TAX INFORMATION

### Taxable Assessed Valuation

<u>Fiscal Year Ending June 30:</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2025</u>	<u>2026</u>
Towns of:					
Adams	\$ 294,301,520	\$ 296,687,517	\$ 297,423,750	\$ 301,872,503	\$ 303,483,217
Ellisburg	97,664,278	98,250,005	99,383,205	100,423,971	144,032,511
Hounsfield	4,456,020	4,384,802	6,163,213	6,135,664	6,127,010
Lorraine	66,343,770	66,933,862	67,570,011	106,542,130	106,993,191
Rodman	86,497,996	86,460,648	86,536,113	131,694,574	131,194,102
Rutland	6,506,944	6,589,904	6,723,233	6,836,884	7,105,404
Watertown	72,258,944	72,762,060	73,188,814	73,488,521	74,094,690
Worth	30,689,242	30,322,498	31,214,901	31,001,091	31,592,051
Boylston	889,400	968,991	967,842	981,900	981,875
Pinckney	393,895	501,800 <sup>(1)</sup>	496,704	517,820	518,282
Total Assessed Values	<u>\$ 660,002,009</u>	<u>\$ 663,862,087</u>	<u>\$ 669,667,786</u>	<u>\$ 669,667,786</u>	<u>\$ 806,122,333</u>

### State Equalization Rates

Towns of:					
Adams	100.00%	95.00%	85.00%	85.00%	80.00%
Ellisburg	97.00%	86.00%	79.00%	74.00%	100.00%
Hounsfield	93.00%	84.00%	100.00%	91.00%	89.00%
Lorraine	95.00%	85.00%	71.00%	100.00%	99.00%
Rodman	95.00%	85.00%	71.00%	100.00%	98.00%
Rutland	100.00%	98.00%	85.00%	82.00%	73.86%
Watertown	57.50%	61.00%	51.00%	48.00%	45.50%
Worth	90.00%	84.00%	75.00%	66.00%	60.00%
Boylston	83.00%	76.00%	64.00%	59.00%	56.00%
Pinckney	83.00%	100.00% <sup>(1)</sup>	94.00%	88.00%	83.00%
Total Taxable Full Valuation	<u>\$ 728,483,801</u>	<u>\$ 776,112,431</u>	<u>\$ 894,003,605</u>	<u>\$ 946,494,150</u>	<u>\$ 999,713,049</u>

<sup>(1)</sup> Significant change due to revaluation.

### Tax Rate Per \$1,000 (Assessed)

<u>Fiscal Year Ending June 30:</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2025</u>	<u>2026</u>
Towns of:					
Adams	\$ 11.29	\$ 11.38	\$ 11.25	\$ 10.84	\$ 11.18
Ellisburg	11.64	12.57	12.11	12.45	8.94
Hounsfield	12.14	12.87	9.56	10.13	10.05
Lorraine	11.89	12.72	13.47	9.21	9.03
Rodman	11.89	12.72	13.47	9.21	9.12
Rutland	11.29	11.03	11.25	11.24	12.11
Watertown	19.64	17.72	18.75	19.20	19.65
Worth	12.55	12.87	12.75	13.96	14.90
Boylston	13.60	14.22	14.94	15.62	15.97
Pinckney	13.60	10.81 <sup>(1)</sup>	10.17	10.47	10.77

<sup>(1)</sup> Significant change due to revaluation.

## Tax Collection Procedure

Tax payments are due September 1<sup>st</sup>. There is no penalty charge for the first thirty days after taxes are due, but a 2% penalty is charged from October 1<sup>st</sup> to October 31<sup>st</sup>. After October 31<sup>st</sup>, uncollected taxes are returnable to Jefferson, Lewis and Oswego Counties for collection. The School District receives this amount from said Counties prior to the end of the School District's fiscal year, thereby assuring 100% tax collection annually. Tax sales are held annually by said Counties.

## Tax Levy and Tax Collection Record

<u>Fiscal Year Ending June 30:</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2025</u>	<u>2026</u>
Total Tax Levy	\$ 8,225,440	\$ 8,390,000	\$ 8,550,000	\$ 8,721,000	\$ 8,939,025
Amount Uncollected <sup>(1)</sup>	451,017	457,831	490,496	513,325	741,931
% Uncollected	5.48%	5.46%	5.74%	5.89%	8.30%

<sup>(1)</sup> See "Tax Collection Procedure".

## Real Property Tax Revenues

The following table illustrates the percentage of total revenues of the School District for each of the below completed fiscal years and budgeted figures for the 2025-26 fiscal year comprised of Real Property Taxes and Tax Items.

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Total Revenues</u>	<u>Total Real Property Taxes &amp; Tax Items</u>	<u>Percentage of Total Revenues Consisting of Real Property Tax</u>
2020-2021	\$ 35,232,900	\$ 8,200,774	23.28%
2021-2022	35,233,322	8,286,707	23.52
2022-2023	38,305,371	8,452,190	22.07
2023-2024	41,506,429	8,616,974	20.76
2024-2025	42,873,856	8,793,808	20.51
2025-2026 (Budgeted)	44,006,306	9,004,025	20.46

Source: Audited Financial Statements for the 2020-2021 through 2024-2025 fiscal years and adopted budget for the 2025-2026 fiscal year. This table is not audited.

## Larger Taxpayers 2025 for 2025-2026 Tax Roll

<u>Name</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Taxable Assessed Valuation</u>
National Grid	Utility	\$ 29,089,987
New York State DEC	Government	16,971,000
Porterdale Farms, Inc.	Farm	16,246,400
CSX Transportation	Railroad	7,257,312
Alford Timothy C	Private	4,368,300
Jefferson County	Government	3,907,400
Burnham Properties	Commercial	3,759,000
DP Adams CJDR RE LLC	Commercial	3,007,700
Citizens Telecom UCI NY, Inc.	Utility	2,807,306
Salmon River Timberlands LLC	Commercial	2,381,900

The ten larger taxpayers listed above have a total taxable assessed valuation of \$89,796,305, which represents 8.98% of the tax base of the District.

As of the date of this Official Statement, the District currently does not have pending or outstanding tax certiorari that are known to have a material impact on the District.

Source: District Tax Rolls.

## **Additional Tax Information**

Real property located in the School District is assessed by the Towns.

Senior citizen exemptions are offered to those who qualify.

Total assessed valuation of the School District is estimated to be categorized as follows: Residential-40%, Agricultural-20%, Commercial-10% and Industrial-30%.

The estimated total annual property tax bill of a \$75,000 market value residential property located in the School District is approximately \$1,740 including State, County, Town, School District and Fire District Taxes.

## **STAR – School Tax Exemption**

The STAR (School Tax Relief) program provides State-funded exemptions from school property taxes to homeowners for their primary residences. School districts are reimbursed by the State for real property taxes exempted pursuant to the STAR Program. Homeowners over 65 years of age with household adjusted gross incomes, less the taxable amount of total distributions from individual retirement accounts and individual retirement annuities (“STAR Adjusted Gross Income”) of \$98,700 or less in the 2024-2025 school year, increased annually according to a cost of living adjustment, are eligible for a “full value” exemption of the first \$84,000 of the full value of a home for the 2024-2025 school year (adjusted annually). Other homeowners with household STAR Adjusted Gross income not in excess of \$250,000 (\$500,000 in the case of a STAR credit, as discussed below) are eligible for a \$30,000 “full value” exemption on their primary residence.

The 2019-2020 State Budget made several changes to the STAR program, which went into effect immediately. The changes are intended to encourage homeowners to switch from the STAR exemption to the STAR credit. The income limit for the exemption was lowered to \$250,000, compared with a \$500,000 limit for the credit. The amount received for the STAR exemption will remain the same each year, while the amount of the STAR credit can increase up to two percent annually. Homeowners with STAR Adjusted Gross Income of \$250,000 or less have the option to select the credit or the exemption.

The 2020-2021 State Budget further modified the STAR program. Under such legislation, property owners with property tax delinquencies greater than one year are not eligible for the Basic STAR exemption or the Basic STAR credit. Recipients of the Enhanced STAR exemptions and credits are not impacted by this program; they may continue to receive STAR benefits even if their property taxes are delinquent.

The 2022-2023 State Budget provided \$2.2 billion in State funding for a new one-year property tax relief credit, the Homeowner Tax Rebate Credit, for eligible low- and middle-income households, as well as eligible senior households. Under this program, basic STAR exemption and credit beneficiaries with incomes below \$250,000 and Enhanced STAR recipients are eligible for the property tax rebate where the benefit is a percentage of the homeowners’ existing STAR benefit.

The below table lists the basic and enhanced exemption amounts for the municipalities applicable to the District 2025-2026 tax roll:

<u>Municipality</u>	<u>Enhanced Exemption</u>	<u>Basic Exemption</u>	<u>Date Certified</u>
Adams	\$ 73,190	\$ 25,500	4/10/2025
Ellisburg	86,100	30,000	4/10/2025
Hounsfield	78,350	28,080	4/10/2025
Lorraine	88,490	32,620	4/10/2025
Rodman	88,490	32,600	4/10/2025
Rutland	70,600	24,600	4/10/2025
Watertown	41,330	14,500	4/10/2025
Worth	56,830	20,030	4/10/2025
Boylston	50,800	18,060	4/10/2025
Pinckney	75,770	26,400	4/10/2025

\$789,232 of the District’s \$8,721,000 school tax levy for 2024-2025 was exempt by the STAR Program. The District received full reimbursement of such exempt taxes from the State in January, 2025.

Approximately \$808,963 of the District’s \$8,939,025 school tax levy for the 2025-26 fiscal year is expected to be exempt by the STAR Program. The District expects to receive full reimbursement of such exempt taxes from the State by January 2026.

## TAX LEVY LIMITATION LAW

On June 24, 2011, Chapter 97 of the Laws of 2011 was signed into law by the Governor (“Chapter 97” or the “Tax Levy Limitation Law”). The Tax Levy Limitation Law applies to all local governments, including school districts (with the exception of New York City, and the counties comprising New York City and school districts in New York City, Buffalo, Rochester, Syracuse, and Yonkers, the latter four of which are indirectly affected by applicability to their respective City.)

Prior to the enactment of the Tax Levy Limitation Law, there was no statutory limitation on the amount of real property taxes that a school district could levy as part of its budget if its budget had been approved by a simple majority of its voters. In the event the budget had been defeated by the voters, the school district was required to adopt a contingency budget. Under a contingency budget, school budget increases were limited to the lesser of four percent (4%) of the prior year’s budget or one hundred twenty percent (120%) of the consumer price index (“CPI”).

Chapter 97 requires that a school district submit its proposed tax levy to the voters each year beginning with the 2012-2013 fiscal year.

Chapter 97 restricts, among other things, the amount of real property taxes that may be levied by or on behalf of a school district in a particular year. It was set to expire on June 15, 2020; however, recent legislation has made it permanent. Pursuant to the Tax Levy Limitation Law, the tax levy of a school district cannot increase by more than the lesser of (i) two percent (2%) or (ii) the annual increase in the CPI, over the amount of the prior year’s tax levy. Certain adjustments are permitted for taxable real property full valuation increases due to changes in physical or quantity growth in the real property base as defined in Section 1220 of the Real Property Tax Law. A school district can exceed the tax levy limitation for the coming fiscal year only if the voters of such school district first approve a tax levy by at least 60% affirmative vote of those voting to override such limitation for such coming fiscal year only. Tax levies that do not exceed the limitation will only require approval by at least 50% of those voting. In the event that the voters reject a tax levy and the district does not go out for a second vote, or if a second vote is likewise defeated, Chapter 97 provides that the tax levy for the new fiscal year may not exceed the tax levy for the prior fiscal year.

A school district’s calculation of each fiscal year’s tax levy limit is subject to review by the Commissioner of Education and the Commissioner of Taxation and Finance prior to adoption of each fiscal year budget.

There are exceptions for school districts to the tax levy limitation provided in Chapter 97, including expenditures made on account of certain tort settlements and certain increases in the average actuarial contribution rates of the New York State and Local Employees’ Retirement System and the Teachers’ Retirement System. School districts are also permitted to carry forward a certain portion of their unused levy limitation from a prior year.

There is also an exception for school districts for “Capital Local Expenditures” subject to voter approval where required by law. This term is defined in a manner that does not include certain items for which a school district may issue debt, including the payment of judgments or settled claims, including tax certiorari payments, and cashflow borrowings, including tax anticipation notes, revenue anticipation notes, budget notes and deficiency notes. “Capital Local Expenditures”, are defined as “the taxes associated with budgeted expenditures resulting from the financing, refinancing, acquisition, design, construction, reconstruction, rehabilitation, improvement, furnishing and equipping of or otherwise providing for school district capital facilities or school district capital equipment, including debt service and lease expenditures, and transportation capital debt service, subject to the approval of the qualified voters where required by law”. The portion of the tax levy necessary to support “Capital Local Expenditures” is defined as the “Capital Tax Levy”, and is an exclusion from the tax levy limitation, applicable to the Notes.

See “State Aid” for a discussion of the New Yorkers for Students’ Educational Rights v. State of New York case which includes a challenge to the supermajority requirements regarding school district property tax increases.

## STATUS OF INDEBTEDNESS

### **Constitutional Requirements**

The New York State Constitution limits the power of the District (and other municipalities and certain school districts of the State) to issue obligations and to contract indebtedness. Such constitutional limitations in summary form and as generally applicable to the District include the following:

*Purpose and Pledge.* The District shall not give or loan any money or property to or in aid of any individual or private undertaking or give or loan its credit to or in aid of any of the foregoing or any public corporation.

The District may contract indebtedness only for a District purpose and shall pledge its faith and credit for the payment of principal of and interest thereon.

Payment and Maturity. Except for certain short-term indebtedness contracted in anticipation of taxes or to be paid within three fiscal year periods, indebtedness shall be paid in annual installments commencing no later than two years after the date such indebtedness shall have been contracted and ending no later than the expiration of the period of probable usefulness of the object or purpose as determined by statute; unless substantially level or declining annual debt service is utilized, no installment maybe more than fifty percent in excess of the smallest prior installment. The District is required to provide an annual appropriation for the payment of interest due during the year on its indebtedness and for the amounts required in such year for amortization and redemption of its serial bonds and such required annual installments on its notes.

## Statutory Procedure

In general, the State Legislature has, by the enactment of the Local Finance Law, authorized the powers and procedure for the District to borrow and incur indebtedness subject, of course, to the constitutional provisions set forth above. The power to spend money, however, generally derives from other law, including the Education Law.

The District is generally required by such laws to submit propositions for the expenditure of money for capital purposes to the qualified electors of the District. Upon approval thereby, the Board of Education may adopt a bond resolution authorizing the issuance of bonds, and notes in anticipation of the bonds.

Debt Limit. The District has the power to contract indebtedness for any District purpose authorized by the Legislature of the State of New York provided the aggregate principal amount thereof shall not exceed ten per centum of the full valuation of the taxable real estate of the District and subject to certain enumerated deductions such as State aid for building purposes. The statutory method for determining full valuation is by taking assessed valuation of taxable real estate for the last completed assessment roll and applying thereto the ratio (equalization rate) which such assessed valuation bears to the full valuation; such ratio is determined by the State Office of Real Property Services. The Legislature prescribes the manner by which such ratio shall be determined.

The Local Finance Law also provides that where a bond resolution is published with a statutory form of notice, the validity of the bonds authorized thereby, including bond anticipation notes issued in anticipation of the sale thereof, may be contested only if:

- (1) Such obligations are authorized for a purpose for which the School District is not authorized to expend money, or
- (2) There has not been substantial compliance with the provisions of law which should have been complied within the authorization of such obligations and an action contesting such validity, is commenced within twenty days after the date of such publication or,
- (3) Such obligations are authorized in violation of the provisions of the Constitution.

The School District has complied with this estoppel procedure in connection with the Notes.

The Board of Education, as the finance board of the District, has the power to enact bond resolutions. In addition, such finance board has the power to authorize the sale and issuance of obligations. However, such finance board may delegate the power to sell the obligations to the President of the Board of Education, the chief fiscal officer of the District, pursuant to the Local Finance Law.

The District is further subject to constitutional limitation by the general constitutionally imposed duty on the State Legislature to restrict the power of taxation and contracting indebtedness; however, the State Legislature is prohibited by a specific constitutional provision from restricting the power of the District to levy taxes on real estate for the payment of interest on or principal of indebtedness theretofore contracted.

## Debt Outstanding End of Fiscal Year

<u>Fiscal Years Ending June 30:</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2025</u>
Bonds	\$ 10,680,000	\$ 7,490,000	\$ 10,090,000	\$ 7,850,000	\$ 5,665,000
Bond Anticipation Notes	10,574,095	9,623,800	2,211,400	2,172,200	12,569,024
Revenue Anticipation Notes	0	0	0	0	0
Total Debt Outstanding	<u>\$ 21,254,095</u>	<u>\$ 17,113,800</u>	<u>\$ 12,301,400</u>	<u>\$ 10,022,200</u>	<u>\$ 18,234,024</u>

## Details of Outstanding Indebtedness

The following table sets forth the indebtedness of the District as of January 16, 2026.

<u>Type of Indebtedness</u>	<u>Maturity</u>	<u>Amount</u>
<u>Bonds</u>	2026-2036	\$ 5,665,000
<u>Bond Anticipation Notes</u>		
Purchase of School Buses	February 6, 2026	2,569,024 <sup>(1)</sup>
Capital Project	June 26, 2026	<u>17,475,000</u>
	Total Indebtedness	<u>\$ 25,709,024</u>

<sup>(1)</sup> To be partially redeemed and renewed at maturity with the proceeds of the Notes and \$813,084 available funds of the District.

## Debt Statement Summary

Summary of Indebtedness, Debt Limit and Net Debt-Contracting Margin as of January 16, 2026:

Full Valuation of Taxable Real Property .....	\$ 999,713,049
Debt Limit 10% thereof .....	99,971,304

### Inclusions:

Bonds.....	\$ 5,665,000
Bond Anticipation Notes (BANs):.....	<u>20,044,024</u>
Total Inclusions prior to issuance of the Notes .....	<u>25,709,024</u>
Less: BANs being redeemed from appropriations .....	(813,084)
Add: New money proceeds of the Notes .....	<u>1,146,582</u>
Total Net Inclusions after issuance of the Notes .....	<u>\$ 26,042,522</u>

### Exclusions:

State Building Aid <sup>(1)</sup> .....	\$ 0
Total Exclusions .....	<u>\$ 0</u>

Total Net Indebtedness .....	<u>\$ 26,042,522</u>
Net Debt-Contracting Margin .....	<u>\$ 73,928,782</u>

The percent of debt contracting power exhausted is .....	26.05%
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<sup>(1)</sup> Based on preliminary 2026-2027 building aid estimates, the District anticipates State Building aid of 90.0% for debt service on State Education Department approved expenditures from July 1, 2004 to the present. The District has no reason to believe that it will not ultimately receive all of the building aid it anticipates, however, no assurance can be given as to when and how much building aid the District will receive in relation to the outstanding bonds.

Note: The State Constitution does not provide for the inclusion of tax anticipation or revenue anticipation notes in the computation of the net indebtedness of the District.

## Bonded Debt Service

A schedule of bonded debt service may be found in "APPENDIX – B" to this Official Statement.

## **Capital Project Plans**

The District typically borrows bond anticipation notes for buses in the winter. On February 6, 2025, the District issued \$2,569,024 bond anticipation notes for the purchase of school buses. The below chart shows the authorized amount and the amount outstanding for the District's annual bus authorizations. The proceeds of the Notes, along with \$813,084 in available funds of the District, will partially redeem and renew \$2,569,024 bond anticipation notes maturing on February 6, 2026, and will provide \$1,146,582 new monies for the aforementioned purpose.

<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Authorized Amount</u>	<u>Amount Outstanding</u>
2020 Bus Authorization	\$ 781,000	\$ 156,200
2021 Bus Authorization	776,000	310,400
2022 Bus Authorization	659,000	395,400
2023 Bus Authorization	712,000	569,600
2024 Bus Authorization	1,137,424	1,137,424
Total:	\$ 2,569,024	

On December 13, 2022, the District voters approved a referendum in the amount of \$17.1 million for a capital improvement project. The District is using \$1 million Capital Reserve Funds along with the issuance of bond anticipation notes and serial bonds to fund the project. On May 20, 2024, District voters approved a proposition to increase the cost of the project to \$18,675,000 while applying \$200,000 of available funds. On July 23, 2025, the District issued \$17,475,000 to fully redeem and renew the \$10,000,000 bond anticipation notes which matured on July 24, 2025 and provided \$7,475,000 new money. The District has now borrowed the entire authorization. The District plans on issuing serial bonds to permanently financing a majority of the project in June 2026. There is a final phase of the project of approximately \$1.5 million that will remain on short term bond anticipation notes.

There are currently no other capital projects authorized or contemplated at this time by the School District.

## **Cash Flow Borrowings**

The District does not anticipate issuing either tax anticipation notes or revenue anticipation notes in the foreseeable future.

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## Estimated Overlapping Indebtedness

In addition to the District, the following political subdivisions have the power to issue obligations and to levy taxes or cause taxes to be levied on taxable real property in the District. Estimated bonds and bond anticipation notes are listed of the respective municipalities.

<u>Municipality</u>	<u>Status of Debt as of</u>	<u>Gross Indebtedness</u> <sup>(1)</sup>	<u>Exclusions</u> <sup>(2)</sup>	<u>Net Indebtedness</u>	<u>District Share</u>	<u>Applicable Indebtedness</u>
County of:						
Jefferson	6/30/2025	\$ 12,660,000 <sup>(3)</sup>	\$ 620,000	\$ 12,040,000	8.34%	\$ 1,004,136
Lewis	6/29/2025	50,750,000 <sup>(3)</sup>	-	50,750,000	0.02%	10,150
Oswego	10/17/2025	- <sup>(4)</sup>	- <sup>(5)</sup>	-	0.01%	-
Town of:						
Adams	12/31/2024	986,600 <sup>(4)</sup>	- <sup>(5)</sup>	986,600	95.92%	946,347
Ellisburg	12/31/2024	1,348,601 <sup>(4)</sup>	- <sup>(5)</sup>	1,348,601	32.45%	437,621
Hounsfield	12/31/2024	6,393,697 <sup>(4)</sup>	- <sup>(5)</sup>	6,393,697	1.26%	80,561
Lorraine	12/31/2024	- <sup>(4)</sup>	- <sup>(5)</sup>	-	100.00%	-
Rodman	12/31/2024	- <sup>(4)</sup>	- <sup>(5)</sup>	-	100.00%	-
Rutland	12/31/2024	4,096,293 <sup>(4)</sup>	- <sup>(5)</sup>	4,096,293	2.74%	112,238
Watertown	6/4/2025	26,731,080 <sup>(3)</sup>	14,138,130	12,592,950	21.42%	2,697,410
Worth	12/31/2024	- <sup>(4)</sup>	- <sup>(5)</sup>	-	100.00%	-
Boylston	12/31/2024	- <sup>(4)</sup>	- <sup>(5)</sup>	-	2.19%	-
Pinckney	12/31/2024	172,197 <sup>(4)</sup>	- <sup>(5)</sup>	172,197	1.13%	1,946
Village of:						
Adams	5/31/2024	6,048,114 <sup>(4)</sup>	- <sup>(5)</sup>	6,048,114	100.00%	6,048,114
Mannsville	5/31/2024	791,067 <sup>(4)</sup>	- <sup>(5)</sup>	791,067	100.00%	791,067
						<u>Total: \$ 12,129,589</u>

<sup>(1)</sup> Outstanding bonds and bond anticipation notes of the respective municipality. Not adjusted to include subsequent issuances, if any, from the date of the status of indebtedness stated in the table above for each respective municipality.

<sup>(2)</sup> Water debt, sewer debt and budgeted appropriations as applicable to the respective municipality. Water Indebtedness excluded pursuant to Article VIII, Section 5B of the New York State Constitution. Sewer Indebtedness excluded pursuant to Article VIII, Section 5E of the New York State Constitution, as further prescribed under section 124.10 of the Local Finance Law. Appropriations are excluded pursuant to Section 136.00 of the Local Finance Law.

<sup>(3)</sup> Gross indebtedness, exclusions, and net-indebtedness sourced from available annual financial information & operating data filings and/or official statements of the respective municipality.

<sup>(4)</sup> Gross indebtedness sourced from local government data provided by the State Comptroller's office for the most recent fiscal year such data is available for the respective municipality.

<sup>(5)</sup> Information regarding excludable debt not available.

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## Debt Ratios

The following table sets forth certain ratios relating to the District's indebtedness as of January 16, 2026:

	Amount <u>Indebtedness</u>	Per <u>Capita</u> <sup>(a)</sup>	Percentage of Full <u>Valuation</u> <sup>(b)</sup>
Net Indebtedness (see "Debt Statement Summary")	\$ 26,042,522	\$ 2,420.76	2.60%
Net Indebtedness Plus Net Overlapping Indebtedness <sup>(c)</sup>	38,172,111	3,548.25	3.82

<sup>(a)</sup> The 2023 estimated population of the District is 10,758. (See "THE SCHOOL DISTRICT – District Population" herein)  
<sup>(b)</sup> The District's full value of taxable real estate for 2025-2026 is \$999,713,049. (See "TAX INFORMATION – Taxable Assessed Valuations" herein)  
<sup>(c)</sup> Estimated net overlapping indebtedness is \$12,129,589. (See "Estimated Overlapping Indebtedness" herein)"

Note: The above ratios do not take into account State building aid the District will receive for past and current construction building projects.

## SPECIAL PROVISIONS AFFECTING REMEDIES UPON DEFAULT

**State Aid Intercept for School Districts.** In the event of a default in the payment of the principal of and/or interest on the Notes, the State Comptroller is required to withhold, under certain conditions prescribed by Section 99-b of the State Finance Law, state aid and assistance to the School District and to apply the amount thereof so withheld to the payment of such defaulted principal and/or interest, which requirement constitutes a covenant by the State with the holders from time to time of the Notes. The covenant between the State of New York and the purchasers and the holders and owners from time to time of the notes and bonds issued by the school districts in the State for school purposes provides that it will not repeal, revoke or rescind the provisions of Section 99-b, or amend or modify the same so as to limit, impair or impede the rights and remedies granted thereby.

Said section provides that in the event a holder or owner of any bond issued by a school district for school purposes shall file with the State Comptroller a verified statement describing such bond and alleging default in the payment thereof or the interest thereon or both, it shall be the duty of the State Comptroller to immediately investigate the circumstances of the alleged default and prepare and file in his office a certificate setting forth his determinations with respect thereto and to serve a copy thereof by registered mail upon the chief fiscal officer of the school district which issued the bond. Such investigation by the State Comptroller shall cover the current status with respect to the payment of principal of and interest on all outstanding bonds of such school district issued for school purposes and the statement prepared and filed by the State Comptroller shall set forth a description of all such bonds of the school district found to be in default and the amount of principal and interest thereon past due.

Upon the filing of such a certificate in the office of the State Comptroller, he shall thereafter deduct and withhold from the next succeeding allotment, apportionment or payment of such State aid or assistance due to such school district such amount thereof as may be required to pay (a) the school district's contribution to the State teachers retirement system, and (b) the principal of and interest on such bonds of such school district then in default. In the event such State aid or assistance initially so withheld shall be insufficient to pay said amounts in full, the State Comptroller shall similarly deduct and withhold from each succeeding allotment, apportionment or payment of such State aid or assistance due such school district such amount or amounts thereof as may be required to cure such default. Allotments, apportionments and payments of such State aid so deducted or withheld by the State Comptroller for the payment of principal and interest on bonds shall be forwarded promptly to the paying agent or agents for the bonds in default of such school district for the sole purpose of the payment of defaulted principal of and interest on such bonds. If any of such successive allotments, apportionments or payments of such State Aid so deducted or withheld shall be less than the amount of all principal and interest on the bonds in default with respect to which the same was so deducted or withheld, then the State Comptroller shall promptly forward to each paying agent an amount in the proportion that the amount of such bonds in default payable to such paying agent bears to the total amount of the principal and interest then in default on such bonds of such school district. The State Comptroller shall promptly notify the chief fiscal officer of such school district of any payment or payments made to any paying agent or agents of defaulted bonds pursuant to said Section 99-b.

**General Municipal Law Contract Creditors' Provision.** Each Bond when duly issued and paid for will constitute a contract between the School District and the holder thereof. Under current law, provision is made for contract creditors of the School District to enforce payments upon such contracts, if necessary, through court action. Section 3-a of the General Municipal Law provides, subject to exceptions not pertinent, that the rate of interest to be paid by the School District upon any judgment or accrued claim against it on an amount adjudged due to a creditor shall not exceed nine per centum per annum from the date due to the date of payment. This provision might be construed to have application to the holders of the Notes in the event of a default in the payment of the principal of and interest on the Notes.

**Execution/Attachment of Municipal Property.** As a general rule, property and funds of a municipal corporation serving the public welfare and interest have not been judicially subjected to execution or attachment to satisfy a judgment, although judicial mandates have been issued to officials to appropriate and pay judgments out of certain funds or the proceeds of a tax levy. In accordance with the general rule with respect to municipalities, judgments against the School District may not be enforced by levy and execution against property owned by the School District.

**Authority to File For Municipal Bankruptcy.** The Federal Bankruptcy Code allows public bodies, such as municipalities, recourse to the protection of a Federal Court for the purpose of adjusting outstanding indebtedness. Section 85.80 of the Local Finance Law contains specific authorization for any municipality in the State or its emergency control board to file a petition under any provision of Federal bankruptcy law for the composition or adjustment of municipal indebtedness. While this Local Finance Law provision does not apply to school districts, there can be no assurance that it will not be made so applicable in the future.

**Constitutional Non-Appropriation Provision.** There is in the Constitution of the State, Article VIII, Section 2, the following provision relating to the annual appropriation of monies for the payment of due principal of and interest on indebtedness of every county, city, town, village and school district in the State: "If at any time the respective appropriating authorities shall fail to make such appropriations, a sufficient sum shall be set apart from the first revenues thereafter received and shall be applied to such purposes. The fiscal officer of any county, city, town, village or school district may be required to set aside and apply such revenues as aforesaid at the suit of any holder of obligations issued for any such indebtedness." This constitutes a specific non-exclusive constitutional remedy against a defaulting municipality or school district; however, it does not apply in a context in which monies have been appropriated for debt service but the appropriating authorities decline to use such monies to pay debt service. However, Article VIII, Section 2 of the Constitution of the State also provides that the fiscal officer of any county, city, town, village or school district may be required to set apart and apply such revenues at the suit of any holder of any obligations of indebtedness issued with the pledge of the faith of the credit of such political subdivision. See "General Municipal Law Contract Creditors' Provision" herein.

The Constitutional provision providing for first revenue set asides does not apply to tax anticipation notes, revenue anticipation notes or bond anticipation notes.

**Default Litigation.** In prior years, certain events and legislation affecting a holder's remedies upon default have resulted in litigation. While courts of final jurisdiction have upheld and sustained the rights of bondholders, such courts might hold that future events including financial crises as they may occur in the State and in political subdivisions of the State require the exercise by the State or its political subdivisions of emergency and police powers to assure the continuation of essential public services prior to the payment of debt service.

**No Past Due Debt.** No principal of or interest on School District indebtedness is past due. The School District has never defaulted in the payment of the principal of and interest on any indebtedness.

## **MARKET AND RISK FACTORS**

There are various forms of risk associated with investing in the Notes. The following is a discussion of certain events that could affect the risk of investing in the Notes. In addition to the events cited herein, there are other potential risk factors that an investor must consider. In order to make an informed investment decision, an investor should be thoroughly familiar with the entire Official Statement, including its appendices, as well as all areas of potential risk.

The financial condition of the School District as well as the market for the Notes could be affected by a variety of factors, some of which are beyond the School District's control. There can be no assurance that adverse events in the State or in other jurisdictions in the country, including, for example, the seeking by a municipality or large taxable property owner of remedies pursuant to the Federal Bankruptcy Code or otherwise, will not occur which might affect the market price of and the market for the Notes. If a significant default or other financial crisis should occur in the affairs of the State or any of its agencies or political subdivisions thereby further impairing the acceptability of obligations issued by borrowers within the State, both the ability of the School District to arrange for additional borrowings, and the market for and market value of outstanding debt obligations, including the Notes, could be adversely affected.

The School District is dependent in part on financial assistance from the State. However, if the State should experience difficulty in borrowing funds in anticipation of the receipt of State taxes in order to pay State aid to municipalities and school districts in the State, including the School District, in any year, the School District may be affected by a delay, until sufficient taxes have been received by the State to make State aid payments to the School District. In several recent years, the School District has received delayed payments of State aid which resulted from the State's delay in adopting its budget and appropriating State aid to municipalities and school districts, and consequent delay in State borrowing to finance such appropriations. (See also "THE SCHOOL DISTRICT - State Aid").

The enactment of the Tax Levy Limitation Law, which imposes a tax levy limitation upon municipalities, school districts and fire districts in the State, including the School District could have an impact upon the market price of the Notes. See “TAX LEVY LIMITATION LAW” herein.

Future legislative proposals, if enacted into law, or clarification of the Code or court decisions may cause interest on the Notes to be subject, directly or indirectly, to federal income taxation or to be subject to or exempted from state income taxation, or otherwise prevent the beneficial owners of the Notes from realizing the full current benefit of the tax status of such interest. No assurance can be given that pending or future legislation or amendments to the Code, if enacted into law, or any proposed legislation or amendments to the Code, will not adversely affect the value of the Notes, or the tax status of interest on the Notes. See “TAX MATTERS” herein.

Cybersecurity. The District, like many other public and private entities, relies on a large and complex technology environment to conduct its operations. As such, it may face multiple cybersecurity threats including, but not limited to, hacking, viruses, malware and other attacks on computer or other sensitive digital systems and networks. There can be no assurances that any security and operational control measures implemented by the District will be completely successful to guard against and prevent cyber threats and attacks. The result of any such attacks could impact business operations and/or digital networks and systems and the costs of remedying any such damage could be significant.

## **TAX MATTERS**

### ***Opinion of Bond Counsel***

In the opinion of Trespasz Law Offices, LLP, Bond Counsel to the District, under existing statutes and court decisions and assuming continuing compliance with certain tax covenants described herein, (i) interest on the Notes is excluded from gross income for federal income tax purposes pursuant to Section 103 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the “Code”) and (ii) interest on the Notes is not treated as a preference item in calculating the alternative minimum tax under the Code, however, interest on the Notes is included in the “adjusted financial statement income” of certain corporations that are subject to the alternative minimum tax under Section 55 of the Code. The Arbitrage and Use of Proceeds Certificate of the District (the “Tax Certificate”), which will be delivered concurrently with the delivery of the Notes will contain provisions and procedures relating to compliance with applicable requirements of the Code. In rendering its opinion, Bond Counsel has relied on certain representations, certifications of fact, and statements of reasonable expectations made by the District in connection with the Notes, and Bond Counsel has assumed compliance by the District with certain ongoing provisions and procedures set forth in the Tax Certificate relating to compliance with applicable requirements of the Code to assure the exclusion of interest on the Notes from gross income under Section 103 of the Code.

In addition, in the opinion of Bond Counsel to the District, under existing statutes, interest on the Notes is exempt from personal income taxes of New York State and its political subdivisions, including The City of New York.

Bond Counsel expresses no opinion as to any federal, state or local tax consequences arising with respect to the Notes, or the ownership or disposition thereof, except as stated above. Bond Counsel renders its opinion under existing statutes and court decisions as of the issue date, and assumes no obligation to update, revise or supplement this opinion to reflect any action thereafter taken or not taken, any fact or circumstance that may thereafter come to its attention, any change in law or interpretation thereof that may thereafter occur, or for any other reason. Bond Counsel expresses no opinion as to the consequence of any of the events described in the preceding sentence or the likelihood of their occurrence. In addition, Bond Counsel expresses no opinion on the effect of any action taken or not taken in reliance upon an opinion of other counsel regarding federal, state or local tax matters, including, without limitation, exclusion from gross income for federal income tax purposes of interest on the Notes.

### ***Certain Ongoing Federal Tax Requirements and Certifications***

The Code establishes certain ongoing requirements that must be met subsequent to the issuance and delivery of the Notes in order that interest on the Notes be and remain excluded from gross income under Section 103 of the Code. These requirements include, but are not limited to, requirements relating to use and expenditure of gross proceeds of the Notes, yield and other restrictions on investments of gross proceeds, and the arbitrage rebate requirement that certain excess earnings on gross proceeds be rebated to the federal government. Noncompliance with such requirements may cause interest on the Notes to become included in gross income for federal income tax purposes retroactive to their issue date, irrespective of the date on which such noncompliance occurs or is discovered. The District, in executing the Tax Certificate, will certify to the effect that the District will comply with the provisions and procedures set forth therein and that it will do and perform all acts and things necessary or desirable to assure the exclusion of interest on the Notes from gross income under Section 103 of the Code.

## ***Certain Collateral Federal Tax Consequences***

The following is a brief discussion of certain collateral federal income tax matters with respect to the Notes. It does not purport to address all aspects of federal taxation that may be relevant to a particular owner of a Note. Prospective investors, particularly those who may be subject to special rules, are advised to consult their own tax advisors regarding the federal tax consequences of owning and disposing of the Notes.

Prospective owners of the Notes should be aware that the ownership of such obligations may result in collateral federal income tax consequences to various categories of persons, such as corporations (including S corporations and foreign corporations), financial institutions, property and casualty and life insurance companies, individual recipients of Social Security and railroad retirement benefits, individuals otherwise eligible for the earned income tax credit, and taxpayers deemed to have incurred or continued indebtedness to purchase or carry obligations the interest on which is excluded from gross income for federal income tax purposes. Interest on the Notes may be taken into account in determining the tax liability of foreign corporations subject to the branch profits tax imposed by Section 884 of the Code.

### ***Original Issue Discount***

“Original issue discount” (“OID”) is the excess of the sum of all amounts payable at the stated maturity of a Note (excluding certain “qualified stated interest” that is unconditionally payable at least annually at prescribed rates) over the issue price of that maturity. In general, the “issue price” of a maturity (a bond with the same maturity date, interest rate, and credit terms) means the first price at which at least 10 percent of such maturity was sold to the public, i.e., a purchaser who is not, directly or indirectly, a signatory to a written contract to participate in the initial sale of the Notes. In general, the issue price for each maturity of Notes is expected to be the initial public offering price set forth in this Official Statement. Bond Counsel further is of the opinion that, for any Notes having OID (a “Discount Note”), OID that has accrued and is properly allocable to the owners of the Discount Notes under Section 1288 of the Code is excludable from gross income for federal income tax purposes to the same extent as other interest on the Notes.

In general, under Section 1288 of the Code, OID on a Discount Note accrues under a constant yield method, based on periodic compounding of interest over prescribed accrual periods using a compounding rate determined by reference to the yield on that Discount Note. An owner’s adjusted basis in a Discount Note is increased by accrued OID for purposes of determining gain or loss on sale, exchange, or other disposition of such Note. Accrued OID may be taken into account as an increase in the amount of tax-exempt income received or deemed to have been received for purposes of determining various other tax consequences of owning a Discount Note even though there will not be a corresponding cash payment.

Owners of Discount Notes should consult their own tax advisors with respect to the treatment of original issue discount for federal income tax purposes, including various special rules relating thereto, and the state and local tax consequences of acquiring, holding, and disposing of Discount Notes.

### ***Note Premium***

In general, if an owner acquires a Note for a purchase price (excluding accrued interest) or otherwise at a tax basis that reflects a premium over the sum of all amounts payable on the Note after the acquisition date (excluding certain “qualified stated interest” that is unconditionally payable at least annually at prescribed rates), that premium constitutes “bond premium” on that Note (a “Premium Note”). In general, under Section 171 of the Code, an owner of a Premium Note must amortize the bond premium over the remaining term of the Premium Note, based on the owner’s yield over the remaining term of the Premium Note determined based on constant yield principles (in certain cases involving a Premium Note callable prior to its stated maturity date, the amortization period and yield may be required to be determined on the basis of an earlier call date that results in the lowest yield on such note). An owner of a Premium Note must amortize the bond premium by offsetting the qualified stated interest allocable to each interest accrual period under the owner’s regular method of accounting against the bond premium allocable to that period. In the case of a tax-exempt Premium Note, if the bond premium allocable to an accrual period exceeds the qualified stated interest allocable to that accrual period, the excess is a nondeductible loss. Under certain circumstances, the owner of a Premium Note may realize a taxable gain upon disposition of the Premium Note even though it is sold or redeemed for an amount less than or equal to the owner’s original acquisition cost. Owners of any Premium Notes should consult their own tax advisors regarding the treatment of bond premium for federal income tax purposes, including various special rules relating thereto, and state and local tax consequences, in connection with the acquisition, ownership, amortization of bond premium on, sale, exchange, or other disposition of Premium Notes.

## ***Information Reporting and Backup Withholding***

Information reporting requirements apply to interest paid on tax-exempt obligations, including the Notes. In general, such requirements are satisfied if the interest recipient completes, and provides the payor with, a Form W-9, “Request for Taxpayer Identification Number and Certification,” or if the recipient is one of a limited class of exempt recipients. A recipient not otherwise exempt from information reporting who fails to satisfy the information reporting requirements will be subject to “backup withholding,” which means that the payor is required to deduct and withhold a tax from the interest payment, calculated in the manner set forth in the Code. For the foregoing purpose, a “payor” generally refers to the person or entity from whom a recipient receives its payments of interest or who collects such payments on behalf of the recipient.

If an owner purchasing a Note through a brokerage account has executed a Form W-9 in connection with the establishment of such account, as generally can be expected, no backup withholding should occur. In any event, backup withholding does not affect the excludability of the interest on the Notes from gross income for federal income tax purposes. Any amounts withheld pursuant to backup withholding would be allowed as a refund or a credit against the owner’s federal income tax once the required information is furnished to the Internal Revenue Service.

## ***Miscellaneous***

Tax legislation, administrative actions taken by tax authorities, or court decisions, whether at the federal or state level, may adversely affect the tax-exempt status of interest on the Notes under federal or state law or otherwise prevent beneficial owners of the Notes from realizing the full current benefit of the tax status of such interest. In addition, such legislation or actions (whether currently proposed, proposed in the future, or enacted) and such decisions could affect the market price or marketability of the Notes.

Prospective purchasers of the Notes should consult their own tax advisors regarding the foregoing matters.

## **LEGAL MATTERS**

Legal matters incident to the authorization, issuance and sale of the Notes are subject to the approving legal opinions of Trespasz Law Offices, LLP, Bond Counsel. Bond Counsel’s opinions will be in substantially the forms attached hereto as “APPENDIX – E”.

## **LITIGATION**

The District is subject to a number of lawsuits in the ordinary conduct of its affairs. The District does not believe, however, that such suits, individually or in the aggregate, are likely to have a material adverse effect on the financial condition of the District.

There is no action, suit, proceedings or investigation, at law or in equity, before or by any court, public board or body pending or, to the best knowledge of the District, threatened against or affecting the District to restrain or enjoin the issuance, sale or delivery of the Notes or the levy and collection of taxes or assessments to pay same, or in any way contesting or affecting the validity of the Notes or any proceedings or authority of the District taken with respect to the authorization, issuance or sale of the Notes or contesting the corporate existence or boundaries of the District.

## **CONTINUING DISCLOSURE**

In order to assist the purchasers in complying with Rule 15c2-12 promulgated by the Securities and Exchange Commission under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (“Rule 15c2-12”), the District will enter into an Undertaking to provide Material Event Notices, a description of which is attached hereto as “APPENDIX – C”.

## **Historical Compliance**

The District is in compliance, in all material respects, within the last five years with all previous undertakings made pursuant to the Rule 15c2-12.

## MUNICIPAL ADVISOR

Fiscal Advisors & Marketing, Inc. (the "Municipal Advisor") is a Municipal Advisor registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission and the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board. The Municipal Advisor serves as independent financial advisor to the District on matters relating to debt management. The Municipal Advisor is a financial advisory and consulting organization and is not engaged in the business of underwriting, marketing, or trading municipal securities or any other negotiated instruments. The Municipal Advisor has provided advice as to the plan of financing and the structuring of the Notes. The advice on the plan of financing and the structuring of the Notes was based on materials provided by the District and other sources of information believed to be reliable. The Municipal Advisor has not audited, authenticated, or otherwise verified the information provided by the District or the information set forth in this Official Statement or any other information available to the District with respect to the appropriateness, accuracy, or completeness of disclosure of such information and no guarantee, warranty, or other representation is made by the Municipal Advisor respecting the accuracy and completeness of or any other matter related to such information and this Official Statement. The fees to be paid by the District to Fiscal Advisors are partially contingent on the successful closing of the Notes.

## CUSIP IDENTIFICATION NUMBERS

It is anticipated that CUSIP (an acronym that refers to Committee on Uniform Security Identification Procedures) identification numbers will be printed on the Notes. All expenses in relation to the printing of CUSIP numbers on the Notes will be paid for by the District provided, however; the District assumes no responsibility for any CUSIP Service Bureau charge or other charge that may be imposed for the assignment of such numbers.

## RATING

The Notes are not rated. The purchaser(s) of the Notes may choose to have a rating completed after the sale at the expense of the purchaser(s) pending the approval of the District, including any fees to be incurred by the District, as such rating action will result in a material event notification to be posted to EMMA which is required by the District's Continuing Disclosure Undertakings. (See "APPENDIX – C", attached hereto).

S&P Global Ratings, a business unit of Standard & Poor's Financial Services LLC ("S&P") has assigned its rating of "A+" with a stable outlook to the District's outstanding serial bonds. This reflects only the view of S&P, and an explanation of the significance of such rating may be obtained from Standard & Poor's Credit Market Services, Public Finance Ratings, 55 Water Street, 38th Floor, New York, New York 10041, Phone: (212) 553-0038, Fax: (212) 553-1390.

A rating reflects only the view of the rating agency assigning such rating and an explanation of the significance of such rating may be obtained from such rating agency. Generally, rating agencies base their ratings on the information and materials furnished to it and on investigations, studies and assumptions by the respective rating agency. There is no assurance that a rating will continue for any given period of time or that it will not be revised downward or withdrawn entirely by such rating agency if, in its judgment, circumstances so warrant. Any downward revision or withdrawal of the rating of the District's outstanding serial bonds may have an adverse effect on the market price of the bonds.

## MISCELLANEOUS

So far as any statements made in this Official Statement involve matters of opinion or estimates whether or not expressly stated, they are set forth as such and not as representations of fact, and no representation is made that any of the statements will be realized. Neither this Official Statement nor any statement which may have been made verbally or in writing is to be construed as a contract with the holders of the Notes.

Statements in this official statement, and the documents included by specific reference, that are not historical facts are forward-looking statements, which are based on the District management's beliefs as well as assumptions made by, and information currently available to, the District's management and staff. Because the statements are based on expectations about future events and economic performance and are not statements of fact, actual results may differ materially from those projected. Important factors that could cause future results to differ include legislative and regulatory changes, changes in the economy, and other factors discussed in this and other documents that the District's files with the repositories. When used in District documents or oral presentation, the words "anticipate", "estimate", "expect", "objective", "projection", "forecast", "goal", or similar words are intended to identify forward-looking statements.

To the extent any statements made in this Official Statement involve matters of opinion or estimates, whether or not expressly stated, they are set forth as such and not as representations of fact, and no representation is made that any of the statements will be realized. Neither this Official Statement nor any statement which may have been made verbally or in writing is to be construed as a contract with the holder of the Notes.

Trespasz Law Offices, LLP, Syracuse, New York, Bond Counsel to the District, expresses no opinions as to the accuracy or completeness of information in any documents prepared by or on behalf of the District for use in connection with the offer and sale of the Notes, including but not limited to, the financial or statistical information in this Official Statement.

References herein to the Constitution of the State and various State and federal laws are only brief outlines of certain provisions thereof and do not purport to summarize or describe all of such provisions.

Concurrently with the delivery of the Notes, the District will furnish a certificate to the effect that as of the date of the Official Statement, the Official Statement did not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements herein, in the light of the circumstances under which they were made, not misleading, subject to a limitation as to information in the Official Statement obtained from sources other than the District.

The Official Statement is submitted only in connection with the sale of the Notes by the District and may not be reproduced or used in whole or in part for any other purpose.

The District hereby disclaims any obligation to update developments of the various risk factors or to announce publicly any revision to any of the forward-looking statements contained herein or to make corrections to reflect future events or developments except to the extent required by Rule 15c2-12 promulgated by the Securities and Exchange Commission.

Fiscal Advisors & Marketing, Inc. may place a copy of this Official Statement on its website at [www.fiscaladvisors.com](http://www.fiscaladvisors.com). Unless this Official Statement specifically indicates otherwise, no statement on such website is included by specific reference or constitutes a part of this Official Statement. Fiscal Advisors & Marketing, Inc. has prepared such website information for convenience, but no decisions should be made in reliance upon that information. Typographical or other errors may have occurred in converting original source documents to digital format, and neither the District nor Fiscal Advisors & Marketing, Inc. assumes any liability or responsibility for errors or omissions on such website. Further, Fiscal Advisors & Marketing, Inc. and the District disclaim any duty or obligation either to update or to maintain that information or any responsibility or liability for any damages caused by viruses in the electronic files on the website. Fiscal Advisors & Marketing, Inc. and the District also assume no liability or responsibility for any errors or omissions or for any updates to dated website information.

The District's contact information is as follows: Joshua Harthorne, Business Manager, South Jefferson Central School District, P.O. Box 10, Adams, New York 13605, telephone (315) 583-6104, fax (315) 583-6104, Email: [jhartshorne@spartanpride.org](mailto:jhartshorne@spartanpride.org).

Additional copies of the Notice of Sale and the Official Statement may be obtained upon request from the offices of Fiscal Advisors & Marketing, Inc., telephone number (315) 752-0051, or at [www.fiscaladvisors.com](http://www.fiscaladvisors.com)

## **SOUTH JEFFERSON CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**Dated: January 16, 2026**

**TROY MATTESON**  
**PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION AND**  
**CHIEF FISCAL OFFICER**

**GENERAL FUND**

**Balance Sheets**

Fiscal Years Ending June 30:	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
<b>ASSETS</b>					
Unrestricted Cash	\$ 3,310,099	\$ 4,697,947	\$ 4,210,346	\$ 8,806,251	\$ 9,142,893
Restricted Cash	1,180,261	2,552,199	3,552,199	5,552,199	5,552,199
Accounts Receivable	24,654	96,457	85,099	28,146	558,234
Due from Other Funds	1,411,158	1,295,841	2,818,587	1,670,885	3,914,874
State and Federal Aid Receivable	2,050,851	1,630,224	1,140,013	1,207,901	1,383,172
Other Receivables	29,024	29,626	30,622	33,364	32,448
Prepaid Expenditures	34,095	35,119	46,363	46,363	46,363
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$ 8,040,142</b>	<b>\$ 10,337,413</b>	<b>\$ 11,883,229</b>	<b>\$ 17,345,109</b>	<b>\$ 20,630,183</b>
<b>LIABILITIES AND FUND EQUITY</b>					
Accounts Payable	\$ 71,216	\$ 158,807	\$ 129,098	\$ 66,711	\$ 40,654
Accrued Liabilities	242,801	216,611	208,148	240,450	437,490
Due to Other Funds	-	-	-	886,324	830,309
Due to Other Governments	70,449	70,449	69,447	69,447	69,447
Due to Teachers' Retirement System	1,099,749	1,246,474	1,337,070	1,467,359	1,490,233
Due to Employee's Retirement System	141,326	127,583	148,503	227,425	251,456
Compensated Absences	-	-	-	-	-
Deferred Revenue	-	11,095	69,836	-	-
Bond Anticipation Notes Payable	-	-	-	-	-
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>\$ 1,625,541</b>	<b>\$ 1,831,019</b>	<b>\$ 1,962,102</b>	<b>\$ 2,957,716</b>	<b>\$ 3,119,589</b>
<b>FUND EQUITY</b>					
Nonspendable	\$ 34,095	\$ 35,119	\$ 46,363	\$ 46,363	\$ 46,363
Restricted	1,180,261	2,552,199	3,552,199	5,552,199	5,552,199
Assigned	2,183,188	2,031,849	1,582,906	2,014,719	2,580,452
Unassigned	3,017,057	3,887,227	4,739,659	6,744,112	9,331,580
<b>TOTAL FUND EQUITY</b>	<b>\$ 6,414,601</b>	<b>\$ 8,506,394</b>	<b>\$ 9,921,127</b>	<b>\$ 14,357,393</b>	<b>\$ 17,510,594</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; FUND EQUITY</b>	<b>\$ 8,040,142</b>	<b>\$ 10,337,413</b>	<b>\$ 11,883,229</b>	<b>\$ 17,315,109</b>	<b>\$ 20,630,183</b>

Source: Audited financial reports of the School District. This Appendix is not itself audited.

**GENERAL FUND**

**Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance**

Fiscal Years Ending June 30:	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
<b>REVENUES</b>					
Real Property Taxes	\$ 7,168,457	\$ 7,288,252	\$ 7,505,399	\$ 7,690,358	\$ 7,931,767
Real Property Tax Items	1,032,317	998,455	946,791	926,616	862,041
Charges for Services	47,664	182,491	179,242	265,921	253,165
Use of Money & Property	3,105	6,382	387,187	310,363	412,449
Sale of Property and Compensation for Loss	223	27,765	44,676	104,494	350,389
Miscellaneous	348,381	235,151	271,696	190,003	341,210
Interfund Revenues	-	-	-	-	-
Revenues from State Sources	26,181,951	26,458,283	28,906,979	32,018,674	32,704,405
Revenues from Federal Sources	450,802	36,543	63,402	-	18,430
Total Revenues	\$ 35,232,900	\$ 35,233,322	\$ 38,305,372	\$ 41,506,429	\$ 42,873,856
Other Sources:					
Interfund Transfers	195,217	533,662	-	286,879	-
Total Revenues and Other Sources	\$ 35,428,117	\$ 35,766,984	\$ 38,305,372	\$ 41,793,308	\$ 42,873,856
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>					
General Support	\$ 3,594,089	\$ 3,244,851	\$ 3,457,730	\$ 3,534,698	\$ 4,293,945
Instruction	14,234,262	13,946,137	15,175,550	17,572,316	18,577,045
Pupil Transportation	1,457,443	1,781,500	1,825,873	1,808,768	2,170,079
Community Services	-	-	-	-	-
Employee Benefits	9,303,692	9,167,885	9,693,250	9,956,821	10,198,919
Debt Service	1,363,690	2,012,381	2,243,925	839,656	1,151,483
Total Expenditures	\$ 29,953,176	\$ 30,152,754	\$ 32,396,328	\$ 33,712,259	\$ 36,391,471
Other Uses:					
Interfund Transfers	3,523,307	3,522,437	4,494,311	3,614,783	3,359,184
Total Expenditures and Other Uses	33,476,483	33,675,191	36,890,639	37,327,042	39,750,655
Excess (Deficit) Revenues Over Expenditures	1,951,634	2,091,793	1,414,733	4,466,266	3,123,201
<b>FUND BALANCE</b>					
Fund Balance - Beginning of Year	4,462,967	6,414,601	8,506,394	9,921,127	14,387,393
Prior Period Adjustments (net)	-	-	-	-	-
Fund Balance - End of Year	\$ 6,414,601	\$ 8,506,394	\$ 9,921,127	\$ 14,387,393	\$ 17,510,594

Source: Audited financial reports of the School District. This Appendix is not itself audited.

**GENERAL FUND**

**Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance - Budget and Actual**

Fiscal Year Ending June 30:	<b>2025</b>			<b>2026</b>	
	Original Budget	Final Budget	Actual	Adopted Budget	
<b>REVENUES</b>					
Real Property Taxes	\$ 8,721,000	\$ 8,721,000	\$ 7,931,767	\$ 8,939,025	
Real Property Tax Items	58,500	58,500	862,041	65,000	
Charges for Services	41,000	41,000	253,165	104,000	
Use of Money & Property	5,000	5,000	412,449	200,000	
Sale of Property and Compensation for Loss	37,000	37,000	350,389	37,000	
Miscellaneous	166,500	166,500	341,210	186,000	
Interfund Revenues	-	-	-	-	
Revenues from State Sources	33,618,572	33,618,572	32,704,405	31,970,281	
Revenues from Federal Sources	-	-	18,430	5,000	
Total Revenues	<u>\$ 42,647,572</u>	<u>\$ 42,647,572</u>	<u>\$ 42,873,856</u>	<u>\$ 41,506,306</u>	
Other Sources:					
Appropriated Fund Balance	2,010,730	2,010,730	-	2,500,000	
Lease Proceeds	-	-	-	-	
Interfund Transfers	-	-	-	-	
Total Revenues and Other Sources	<u>\$ 44,658,302</u>	<u>\$ 44,658,302</u>	<u>\$ 42,873,856</u>	<u>\$ 44,006,306</u>	
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>					
General Support	\$ 4,784,435	\$ 4,915,315	\$ 4,293,945	\$ 7,731,259	
Instruction	20,256,901	20,406,021	18,577,045	17,940,362	
Pupil Transportation	3,002,620	2,848,620	2,170,079	2,333,590	
Community Services	-	-	-	-	
Employee Benefits	11,959,230	11,833,230	10,198,919	11,258,387	
Debt Service	1,118,155	1,118,155	1,151,483	1,199,583	
Total Expenditures	<u>\$ 41,121,341</u>	<u>\$ 41,121,341</u>	<u>\$ 36,391,471</u>	<u>\$ 40,463,181</u>	
Other Uses:					
Interfund Transfers	<u>3,536,961</u>	<u>3,536,961</u>	<u>3,359,184</u>	<u>3,543,125</u>	
Total Expenditures and Other Uses	<u>\$ 44,658,302</u>	<u>\$ 44,658,302</u>	<u>\$ 39,750,655</u>	<u>\$ 44,006,306</u>	
Excess (Deficit) Revenues Over Expenditures	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,123,201</u>	<u>-</u>	
<b>FUND BALANCE</b>					
Fund Balance - Beginning of Year		-	14,387,393	-	
Prior Period Adjustments (net)		-	-	-	
Fund Balance - End of Year	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 17,510,594</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	

Source: 2025 Audited financial report, and 2026 adopted budget of the School District. This Appendix is not itself audited.

**APPENDIX - B**  
**South Jefferson CSD**

**BONDED DEBT SERVICE**

Fiscal Year Ending June 30th	Principal	Interest	Total
2026	\$ 500,000	\$ 263,112.50	\$ 763,112.50
2027	525,000	241,212.50	766,212.50
2028	550,000	218,212.50	768,212.50
2029	570,000	194,112.50	764,112.50
2030	590,000	169,012.50	759,012.50
2031	625,000	142,550.00	767,550.00
2032	540,000	114,350.00	654,350.00
2033	535,000	88,250.00	623,250.00
2034	560,000	61,500.00	621,500.00
2035	590,000	33,500.00	623,500.00
2036	80,000	4,000.00	84,000.00
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$ 5,665,000</b>	<b>\$ 1,529,812.50</b>	<b>\$ 7,194,812.50</b>

**CURRENT DEBT OUTSTANDING**

Fiscal Year Ending June 30th	2016			2022			
	Various Capital Improvements			Refunding of 2012 & 2014 Bonds			
	Principal	Interest	Total		Principal	Interest	Total
2026	\$ 95,000	\$ 13,212.50	\$ 108,212.50	\$ 25,000	\$ 6,900.00	\$ 31,900.00	
2027	100,000	11,312.50	111,312.50	25,000	5,900.00	30,900.00	
2028	105,000	9,312.50	114,312.50	25,000	4,900.00	29,900.00	
2029	105,000	7,212.50	112,212.50	25,000	3,900.00	28,900.00	
2030	105,000	5,112.50	110,112.50	25,000	2,900.00	27,900.00	
2031	110,000	2,750.00	112,750.00	30,000	1,800.00	31,800.00	
2032	-	-	-	30,000	600.00	30,600.00	
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$ 620,000</b>	<b>\$ 48,912.50</b>	<b>\$ 668,912.50</b>	<b>\$ 185,000</b>	<b>\$ 26,900.00</b>	<b>\$ 211,900.00</b>	

Fiscal Year Ending June 30th	2023		
	DASNY Series A		
	Principal	Interest	Total
2026	\$ 380,000	\$ 243,000.00	\$ 623,000.00
2027	400,000	224,000.00	624,000.00
2028	420,000	204,000.00	624,000.00
2029	440,000	183,000.00	623,000.00
2030	460,000	161,000.00	621,000.00
2031	485,000	138,000.00	623,000.00
2032	510,000	113,750.00	623,750.00
2033	535,000	88,250.00	623,250.00
2034	560,000	61,500.00	621,500.00
2035	590,000	33,500.00	623,500.00
2036	80,000	4,000.00	84,000.00
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$ 4,860,000</b>	<b>\$ 1,454,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 6,314,000.00</b>

## MATERIAL EVENT NOTICES

In accordance with the provisions of Rule 15c2-12, as the same may be amended or officially interpreted from time to time (the “Rule”), promulgated by the Securities and Exchange Commission (the “SEC”) pursuant to the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the School District has agreed to provide or cause to be provided, in a timely manner not in excess of ten (10) business days after the occurrence of the event, during the period in which the Notes are outstanding, to the Electronic Municipal Market Access (“EMMA”) system of the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board (“MSRB”) or any other entity designated or authorized by the SEC to receive reports pursuant to the Rule, notice of the occurrence of any of the following events with respect to the Notes:

- (a) principal and interest payment delinquencies;
- (b) non-payment related defaults, if material;
- (c) unscheduled draws on debt service reserves reflecting financial difficulties;
- (d) in the case of credit enhancement, if any, provided in connection with the issuance of the securities, unscheduled draws on credit enhancements reflecting financial difficulties;
- (e) substitution of credit or liquidity providers, or their failure to perform;
- (f) adverse tax opinions, the issuance by the Internal Revenue Service of proposed or final determinations of taxability, Notices of Proposed Issue (IRS Form 5701 TEB) or other material notices or determinations with respect to the tax status of the securities, or other material events affecting the tax status of the Notes
- (g) modifications to rights of security holders, if material;
- (h) note calls, if material and tender offers;
- (i) defeasances;
- (j) release, substitution, or sale of property securing repayment of the securities;
- (k) rating changes;
- (l) bankruptcy, insolvency, receivership or similar event of the School District;
- (m) the consummation of a merger, consolidation, or acquisition involving the School District or the sale of all or substantially all of the assets of the School District, other than in the ordinary course of business, the entry into a definitive agreement to undertake such an action or the termination of a definitive agreement relating to any such actions, other than pursuant to its terms, if material
- (n) appointment of a successor or additional trustee or the change of name of a trustee, if material;
- (o) incurrence of a “financial obligation” (as defined by the Rule) of the District, if material, or agreement to covenants, events of default, remedies, priority rights, or other similar terms of a financial obligation of the District, any of which affect noteholders, if material; and
- (p) default, event of acceleration, termination event, modification of terms, or other similar events under the terms of a financial obligation of the District, any of which reflect financial difficulties.

Event (c) is included pursuant to a letter from the SEC staff to the National Association of Bond Lawyers dated September 19, 1995. However, event (c) is not applicable, since no "debt service reserves" will be established for the Notes.

With respect to event (d) the School District does not undertake to provide any notice with respect to credit enhancement added after the primary offering of the Notes.

With respect to event (l) above, the event is considered to occur when any of the following occur: the appointment of a receiver, fiscal agent or similar officer for the School District in a proceeding under the U.S. Bankruptcy Code or in any other proceeding under state or federal law in which a court or government authority has assumed jurisdiction over substantially all of the assets or business of the School District, or if such jurisdiction has been assumed by leaving the existing governing body and officials or officers in possession but subject to the supervision and orders of a court or governmental authority, or the entry of an order confirming a plan of reorganization, arrangement or liquidation by a court or governmental authority having supervision or jurisdiction over substantially all of the assets or business of the School District.

With respect to events (o) and (p), the term "financial obligation" means a (i) debt obligation; (ii) derivative instrument entered into in connection with, or pledged as security or a source of payment for, an existing or planned debt obligation; or (iii) guarantee of (i) or (ii). The term "financial obligation" shall not include municipal securities as to which a final official statement has been provided to the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board consistent with the Rule.

The School District may from time to time choose to provide notice of the occurrence of certain other events, in addition to those listed above, if the School District determines that any such other event is material with respect to the Notes; but the School District does not undertake to commit to provide any such notice of the occurrence of any material event except those events listed above.

The School District has agreed to provide, or cause to be provided, during the period in which the Notes are outstanding in a timely manner, to EMMA or any other entity designated or authorized by the SEC to receive reports pursuant to the Rule, notice of its failure to provide the aforescribed material event notices, if any, on or before the date specified.

The School District reserves the right to terminate its obligation to provide the aforescribed notices of material events, as set forth above, if and when the School District no longer remains an obligated person with respect to the Notes within the meaning of the Rule. The School District acknowledges that its undertaking pursuant to the Rule described under this heading is intended to be for the benefit of the holders of the Notes (including holders of beneficial interests in the Notes). The right of holders of the Notes to enforce the provisions of the undertaking will be limited to a right to obtain specific enforcement of the School District's obligations under its material event notices undertaking and any failure by the School District to comply with the provisions of the undertaking will neither be a default with respect to the Notes nor entitle any holder of the Notes to recover monetary damages.

The School District reserves the right to modify from time to time the specific types of information provided or the format of the presentation of such information, to the extent necessary or appropriate in the judgment of the School District; provided that the School District agrees that any such modification will be done in a manner consistent with the Rule.

An "Undertaking to Provide Notice of Material Events" to this effect shall be provided to the purchaser(s) at closing.

**SOUTH JEFFERSON CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
JEFFERSON, LEWIS AND OSWEGO COUNTIES, NEW YORK**

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
AND OTHER FINANCIAL INFORMATION**

**JUNE 30, 2025**

Such Financial Report and opinions were prepared as of date thereof and have not been reviewed and/or updated in connection with the preparation and dissemination of this Official Statement.

**South Jefferson Central School District**

**Financial Statements with  
Independent Auditors' Report**

**Year Ended June 30, 2025**

**South Jefferson Central School District**  
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**June 30, 2025**

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**STACKEL & NAVARRA, C.P.A., P.C.**  
*CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS*

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Robert F. Stackel, C.P.A.  
Jacob Navarra, C.P.A.  
Mark B. Hills, C.P.A.

**Independent Auditors' Report**

Board of Education  
South Jefferson Central School District

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

***Opinions***

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of South Jefferson Central School District as of and for the year ended June 30, 2025, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the South Jefferson Central School District's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of South Jefferson Central School District, as of June 30, 2025, and the respective changes in financial position for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

***Basis for Opinions***

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of the South Jefferson Central School District and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

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

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these 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.

**STACKEL & NAVARRA, C.P.A., P.C.**  
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

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 South Jefferson Central School District's ability to continue as a going concern for twelve months beyond the financial statement date, including any currently known information that may raise substantial doubt shortly thereafter.

***Auditors' 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 auditors' 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 generally accepted auditing standards 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 generally accepted auditing standards 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 South Jefferson Central School District's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- Conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the South Jefferson Central School District's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

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

### ***Required Supplementary Information***

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the management's discussion and analysis, the schedule of changes in the District's total OPEB liability and related ratios – the schedule of revenue, expenditures and changes in fund balance – budget and actual – general fund, the schedules of District contributions – NYSTRS & NYSERS pension plans – last 10 fiscal years, and the schedules of District's proportionate share of the net pension liability – NYSTRS & NYSERS pension plans – last 10 fiscal years on pages 5-14 and 63-67 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 auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

### ***Supplementary Information***

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise South Jefferson Central School District's basic financial statements. The accompanying schedule of change from adopted budget to final budget and the real property tax limit – general fund, schedule of project expenditures – capital projects fund, net investment in capital assets and 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*, are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are 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 auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the schedule of change from adopted budget to final budget and the real property tax limit – general fund, schedule of expenditures – capital projects fund, net investment in capital assets and schedule expenditures of federal awards, are fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the basic financial statements as a whole.

**STACKEL & NAVARRA, C.P.A., P.C.**  
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

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

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated October 28, 2025, on our consideration of South Jefferson Central School District's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of South Jefferson Central School District's internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering South Jefferson Central School's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

*Stackel + Navarra, CPA, PC*

Watertown, NY  
October 28, 2025

**South Jefferson Central School District  
Management Discussion and Analysis  
June 30, 2025**

The following is a discussion and analysis of South Jefferson Central School District's financial performance for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2025. This section is a summary of the school district's financial activities based on currently known facts, decisions, or conditions. It is also based on both the government-wide and fund-based financial statements. This section is only an introduction and should be read in conjunction with the school district's financial statements, which immediately follows this section. Responsibility for completeness and fairness of the information contained rests with the school district.

**School District Overview and Highlights**

The school district is located in the northern tier of the state, approximately 45 miles from the Canadian border and employs approximately 350 full and part time professional and support staff. These employees are organized into three collective bargaining units (teaching staff, support staff, and administration). Successor agreements have been reached for the teaching, support staff and administration units.

The school district has continued to maximize sources of grants and aid from Federal and New York State sources, resulting in an average tax rate of \$9.21, down from \$9.56 dollars of assessed value over the ten towns and three counties that comprise the district. In general, taxpayers are content with the district; budgets have been adopted with consistent tax levy increases while school events are always a popular attraction.

**OVERVIEW OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

This annual report consists of three parts: Management's Discussion and Analysis (MD & A), the basic financial statements, and required supplementary information. The basic financial statements include two kinds of statements that present different views of the school district.

- The first two statements are *district-wide* financial statements that provide both *short-term* and *long-term* information about the school district's *overall* financial status.
- The remaining statements are *fund financial statements* that focus on *individual parts* of the school district, reporting the school district's operations in *more detail* than the district-wide statements. The fund financial statements concentrate on the school district's most significant funds with all other non-major funds listed in total in one column.
- The *governmental funds statements* tell how basic services such as regular and special education were financed in the *short term* as well as what remains for future spending.
- *Fiduciary funds* statements provide information about the financial relationships in which the school district acts solely as a *trustee or agent* for the benefit of others.

The financial statements also include notes that explain some of the information in the statements and provide more detailed data. The statements are followed by a section of required supplementary information that further explains and supports the financial statements with a comparison of the school district's budget for the year.

**South Jefferson Central School District  
Management Discussion and Analysis  
June 30, 2025**

The following summarizes the major features of the school district's financial statements, including the portion of the school district's activities they cover and the types of information they contain. The remainder of this overview section of MD&A highlights the structure and contents of each of the statements.

<b>Major Features of the District-Wide and Fund Financial Statements</b>			
<b>Fund Financial Statements</b>			
→	<b>District-Wide</b>	<b>Governmental Funds</b>	<b>Fiduciary Funds</b>
<b>Scope</b>	Entire district (except fiduciary funds)	The activities of the school district that are not fiduciary, such as instruction, special education and building maintenance	Instances in which the school district administers resources on behalf of someone else.
<b>Required Financial Statements</b>	1. Statement of Net Position 2. Statement of Activities	3. Balance Sheet 4. Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance	5. Statement of Fiduciary Net Assets 6. Statement of Changes in Net Position
<b>Accounting Basis and Measurement Focus</b>	Accrual accounting and economic resources focus	Modified accrual accounting and current financial focus	Accrual accounting and economic resources focus
<b>Type of Asset/ Liability Information</b>	All assets and liabilities, both financial and capital, short term and long-term	Generally, assets expected to be used up and liabilities that come due during the year or soon thereafter; no capital assets or long-term liabilities included	All assets and liabilities, both short-term and long-term; funds do not currently contain capital assets, although they can
<b>Type of Inflow/ Outflow Information</b>	All revenues and expenses during the year, regardless of when cash is received or paid	Revenues for which cash is received during or soon after the end of the year; expenditures when goods or services have been received and the related liability is due and payable	Additions and deductions during the year, regardless of when cash is received or paid

### **District-Wide Statements**

The district-wide statements report information about the school district as a whole using accounting methods similar to those used by private-sector companies. The *statement of net position* includes all of the school district's assets and liabilities. All of the current year's revenues and expenses are accounted for in the *statement of activities* regardless of when cash is received or paid.

**South Jefferson Central School District  
Management Discussion and Analysis  
June 30, 2025**

The two district-wide statements report the school district's *net position* and how it has changed. The net position, the difference between the school district's assets and liabilities, is one way to measure the school district's financial health.

- Over time, increases or decreases in the school district's net position can be an indicator of whether its financial position is improving or deteriorating, respectively.
- To assess the school district's overall health, you need to consider additional nonfinancial factors such as changes in the school district's property tax base and the condition of school buildings and other facilities.

In the district-wide financial statements, the Statement of Activities depicts most of the school's basic services. Entitled *Governmental Activities*, include regular and special education services, pupil transportation, general support, and administration. Property taxes and state and federal aid finance most of these activities.

### **Fund Financial Statements**

The fund financial statements provide more detailed information about the school district's funds, focusing on its most significant or "major" funds - not the school district as a whole. Funds are accounting devices the school district uses to keep track of specific sources of funding and spending on particular programs:

- Some funds are required by State law and by bond covenants.
- The school district establishes other funds to control and to manage money for particular purposes (such as repaying its long-term debts) or to show that it is properly using certain revenues (such as Federal grants).

The district has two kinds of funds:

- 1.) **Governmental Funds:** Most of the school district's basic services are included in governmental funds, which generally focus on (1) how cash and other financial assets that can readily be converted to cash flow in and out and (2) the balances left at year end that are available for spending. Consequently, the governmental funds statements provide a detailed short-term view that helps determine whether there are more or fewer financial resources that can be spent in the near future to finance the school district's programs. Because this information does not encompass the additional long-term focus of the district-wide statements, additional information at the bottom of the governmental funds statements explains the relationship (or differences) between them.
- 2.) **Fiduciary Funds:** The school district is the trustee, or fiduciary, for assets that belong to others, such as the South Jefferson Central School District Group Health Plan Trust. The school district is responsible for ensuring that the assets reported in these funds are used only for their intended purposes and by those to whom the assets belong. The school district excludes these assets to finance its operations.

**South Jefferson Central School District  
Management Discussion and Analysis  
June 30, 2025**

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

The net position may serve as a useful indicator of a government's financial position. Over time in the case of the school district, liabilities exceeded assets by \$65,523,510 at the close of the most recent fiscal year, a decrease of \$3,374,717. The negative net position is largely due to the required liability reporting mandated by GASB 75 regarding Other Postemployment Benefits Payable (OPEB). GASB 75 replaced GASB 45 for fiscal years beginning after June 15, 2017, resulting in an instant \$44,115,428 increase to the District's liability in 2018. The valuation methodology of Net OPEB Obligation has been modified to report the entire unfunded liability of OPEB obligations. GASB 75 is further discussed in the notes to the financial statements.

The largest portion of the school district's net assets reflects its investment in capital assets less any related debt used to acquire those assets that is still outstanding. The school district used capital assets to provide services; consequently, these assets are not available for future spending. Although the school district's investment in its capital assets is reported net of related debt, it should be noted that the resources needed to repay this debt must be provided from other sources, since the capital assets themselves cannot be used to liquidate these liabilities.

The following schedule summarizes the school district's net position. The complete Statement of Net Position can be found in the school district's basic financial statements.

<b>Condensed Statement of Net Position</b>		
	<b>2024-2025</b>	<b>2023-2024</b>
<b>ASSETS</b>		
Current and other assets	\$ 20,882,255	\$ 18,459,215
Capital assets, net	64,132,739	51,722,425
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$ 85,014,994</b>	<b>\$ 70,181,640</b>
<b>DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES</b>		
	<b>\$ 26,921,056</b>	<b>\$ 37,231,669</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
Current liabilities	\$ 15,415,004	\$ 4,363,247
Long-term liabilities	130,397,717	137,157,191
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>\$ 145,812,721</b>	<b>\$ 141,520,438</b>
<b>DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES</b>		
	<b>\$ 31,646,839</b>	<b>\$ 28,041,664</b>
<b>NET POSITION</b>		
Invested in capital assets net of related debt	\$ 44,739,409	\$ 40,369,784
Restricted	5,552,199	5,945,910
Unrestricted	(115,815,118)	(108,464,487)
<b>Total Net Position</b>	<b>\$ (65,523,510)</b>	<b>\$ (62,148,793)</b>

**South Jefferson Central School District  
Management Discussion and Analysis  
June 30, 2025**

In general, current assets are those assets that are available to satisfy current obligations and current liabilities are those liabilities that will be paid within one year. Current assets consist primarily of cash equivalents and state and federal aid receivable.

The Statement of Activities shows the cost of program services net of charges for services and grants offsetting those services. General revenues including tax revenue, investment earnings and unrestricted state and federal aid must support the net cost of the school district's programs.

The following schedule summarizes the school district's activities. The complete Statement of Activities can be found in the School District's basic financial statements.

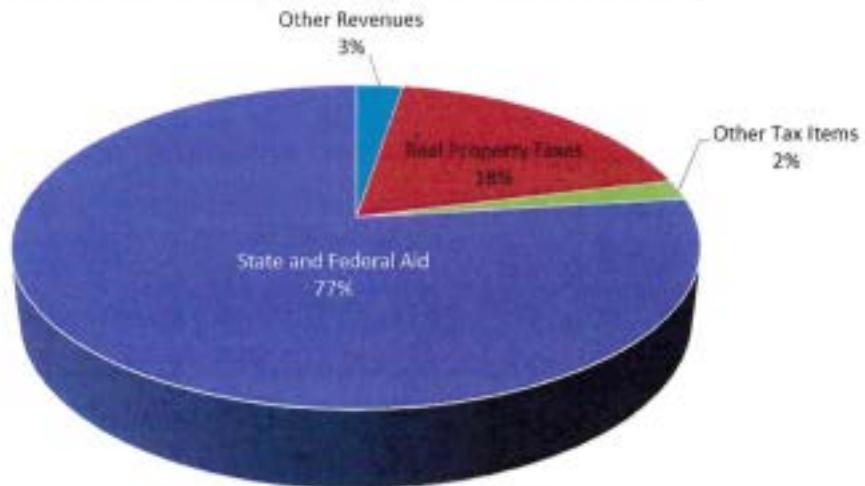
**Condensed Statement of Activities**

<b>Revenues</b>	<b><u>2024-2025</u></b>	<b><u>2023-2024</u></b>
Program Revenues		
Charges for services	\$ 336,453	\$ 415,985
Operating grants	3,757,293	4,297,826
General Revenues		
Property and other tax items	8,793,808	8,616,974
Use of money and property	462,942	366,258
Sale of property and compensation for loss	350,389	104,494
Federal sources	18,430	-
State sources	32,704,405	32,018,674
Other	689,183	405,206
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>\$ 47,112,903</b>	<b>\$ 46,225,417</b>
 <b>Expenses</b>		
General Support	\$ 7,184,083	\$ 5,645,730
Instruction	36,997,991	36,888,517
Pupil Transportation	3,963,364	3,918,369
Debt Service	1,096,097	523,479
School Food Service Program	1,246,085	1,839,641
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 50,487,620</b>	<b>\$ 48,815,736</b>
 <b>Change in Net Position</b>	<b>\$ (3,374,717)</b>	<b>\$ (2,590,319)</b>

The Statement of Activities includes the activity of the Special Aid funds, which are comprised of a number of state and federal grant programs. The School Food Service fund, also known as the cafeteria fund, is included here as well. It is designed to be self-supporting, with revenues nearly matching expenditures. For many years prior to 2012 school lunch revenues exceeded expenses; however, thereafter the program experienced a significant decrease in the fund balance. For the second consecutive year, the School Food Service experienced a reduction in fund balance, primarily due to the inflationary factors for supplies and materials, increased contract costs due to settling CSEA contract, along with spending down fund balance on necessary equipment that has become obsolete. Finally, the statements also include the related debt service funds and the capital projects fund. These are also discussed later.

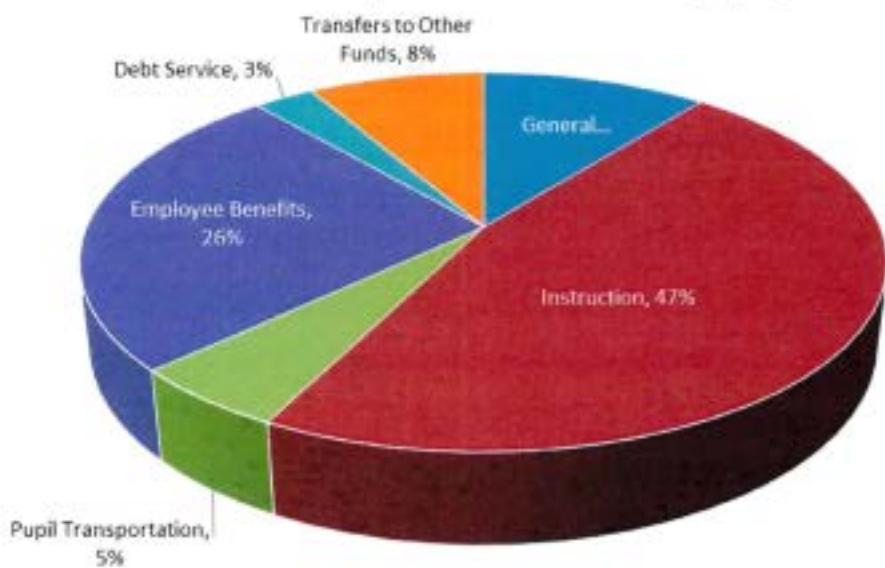
**South Jefferson Central School District  
Management Discussion and Analysis  
June 30, 2025**

**General Fund Revenues for Year Ending 6/30/25**



The school district is heavily dependent on both state and federal aid for its funding. State aid and the federal grants combined account for 77% of total revenues – slight increase from the prior year.

**General Fund Expenses for Year Ending 6/30/25**



**South Jefferson Central School District  
Management Discussion and Analysis  
June 30, 2025**

**General Fund Budgetary Highlights**

The school district's adjusted budget for the 2024-2025 school year was \$44,658,302. Actual expenditures totaled \$39,750,655 which includes transfers out and debt service of \$4,510,667, for a favorable variance of \$4,827,195 (including \$80,452 encumbered and carried into the next year as an adjustment to the 2025-2026 budget). The schedule below shows, in general terms, how the actual expenditures plus encumbrances are distributed and compared to final budgeted appropriations:

**Results vs. Budget (in thousands of dollars)**

	Original Budget	Final Budget	Actual	Variance
<b>Revenue:</b>				
Local Sources	\$ 9,029	\$ 9,029	\$ 10,151	\$ 1,122
State Sources	33,619	33,619	32,704	(915)
Federal Sources	-	-	18	18
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 42,648</b>	<b>\$ 42,648</b>	<b>\$ 42,873</b>	<b>\$ 225</b>
<b>Expense:</b>				
General Support	\$ 4,784	\$ 4,915	\$ 4,367	\$ 548
Instruction	20,257	20,406	18,584	1,822
Pupil Transportation	3,003	2,849	2,170	679
Employee Benefits	11,959	11,833	10,199	1,634
Debt Service	1,118	1,118	1,152	(34)
Transfers to Other Funds	3,537	3,537	3,359	178
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 44,658</b>	<b>\$ 44,658</b>	<b>\$ 39,831</b>	<b>\$ 4,827</b>

The school district under-expended its budget by \$4,827,195. As is the district's practice and budgetary control and as demonstrated in the financial statements, all functional budget codes were under-expended. The 2024-2025 school year returned to a more typical school year. Supervision regular school, guidance regular school costs, psychological, and social work services were under budget due to the assistance of the continuing impact of the American Rescue Plan ESSER 3 grant. Subsequently, employee benefits costs associated with said salaries were under expended proportionately. Lastly, transportation costs were under expended as well and can be attributed to the bus driver shortage.

The school district's general fund receives its funding from many sources. The schedule above also depicts the actual revenues relative to the final budgeted revenues.

The district attempts to facilitate a conservative prediction of revenues; district officials show caution when building budgets. Due to the tenuous nature of predicting state aid, the district strategy is to underestimate all revenues; this year the district received more than they budgeted. The net variance was a positive \$226,284 for total revenues in the 2024-2025 school year.

**South Jefferson Central School District  
Management Discussion and Analysis  
June 30, 2025**

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

### **Financial position (year to year) – General Fund**

The General Fund fund balance increased to \$17,510,594 on June 30, 2025. This was an increase of \$3,123,201. That fund balance over time is outlined as follows:

June 30, 2025	\$17,510,594
June 30, 2024	\$14,387,393
June 30, 2023	\$ 9,921,127
June 30, 2022	\$ 8,506,394
June 30, 2021	\$ 6,414,601
Restated June 30, 2020	\$ 4,462,967
June 30, 2019	\$ 5,432,126
June 30, 2018	\$ 4,490,001
June 30, 2017	\$ 4,015,953

The attempt on the part of the district to maintain the size of the fund balance from changing significantly has been reasonably successful over the years. The increase in the 2023-2024 year reflects the positive variance in revenues coupled with unexpended budget results due to the continued assistance of the American Rescue Plan ESSER 3 funds. The District opted to wait until after this year's audit to fund reserves and reduce their unappropriated fund balance.

### **Capital Projects Fund**

The Capital Projects Fund shows a negative fund balance of (\$14,325,863). The Capital Projects Fund continues to show a negative fund balance as a result of the issuance of short-term bus bond anticipation notes (BAN). The outstanding bus BAN represents (\$2,569,024) of the total fund balance in the Capital Projects Fund and there is also a \$10,000,000 ban, the proceeds of which were used for the capital project.

Because the district uses short term financing to purchase buses (to more closely match state aid streams) and uses short term financing for capital projects, the capital fund will continue to show deficit fund balances until permanent financing is secured.

### **School Food Service (Cafeteria) Fund**

The School Food Service Fund fund balance showed a net decrease of \$42,562, bringing the fund balance as of June 30, 2025, to \$209,719.

During the COVID-19 shutdown the United State Department of Agriculture initiated a "summer meal program" to allow our District to offer free meals to all children under 18. The District received the child nutrition state and federal free/reduced meal reimbursement rate. The program did not see the same participation as prior year when the District delivered meals to households during the 2020 COVID shutdown. The department continued its concentrated efforts to cut costs and utilize government commodities inventory by providing nutritious meals. Expenses in this fund largely reflect food costs,

**South Jefferson Central School District  
Management Discussion and Analysis  
June 30, 2025**

employee wages, and fringe benefits. The General Fund covers some of the fringe benefits of the employees that work in that fund. The General Fund is responsible to reimburse the School Food Service Fund for all outstanding student meal charges at year end, due to student meals being free there were no charges as we are a CEP school district.

As a result of a large fund balance ending June 30, 2024, the district continued a program to reduce the size of the fund balance, covering expenses attributable to the school lunch fund, implementing one-time equipment purchases, and an improvement in meals served. While the District maintains its goal to eventually sustain the School Food Service fund without a transfer from General Fund, it is imperative to encourage parents and children to participate in the free and reduced program available to eligible families. In that effort to improve participation, School Food Service is evaluating successful menu items, trialing new meals, and concentrating on a more positive dining room experience. Continued evaluation of food costs, implementing more product cross utilization, detailed menu planning and encouraging an increase in staff attendance with a positive environment are priorities for the department and will help the long-term goal of self-sustainability.

**Special Aid Funds**

Federal and State grants provide funding for specific purposes ranging from reading improvement to servicing the needs of students with disabilities. These grants are included in a schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards. All federal and state grants require the filing of an original budget, a budget amendment (if necessary), and a final cost report at the end of the project. Final cost reports have been filed and approved by the State Education Department for each grant.

**CAPITAL ASSET AND DEBT ADMINISTRATION**

The financial statements provide a picture of capital assets over time. These include land, buildings, equipment and furniture. In response to the auditor's management letter from several years ago, the district contracted with the firm of Industrial Appraisal to take a physical inventory of all district assets; a tagging inventory system was also among the services that were contracted. This effort was completed in late Fall, 2006. As a result, the estimated costs of fixed assets acquired prior to 2002 have been adjusted. The original cost of fixed assets has been increased by construction in progress, the purchase of buses, and the acquisition of other fixed assets. Accumulated depreciation has been changed according to the sale of certain buses and the normal depreciation schedule.

For more information regarding fixed assets, refer to Note 6 in the notes to financial statements.

**Long-Term Debt**

The current capital project is utilizing Bond Anticipation Notes with Phase 1 wrapping up by December of 2025, that portion will convert to Serial Bonds while the remaining portion will remain in BAN format until the project is completed.

The table outlined on Note 8 – Long Term Obligations represents the entire bond payment schedule, as well as current borrowing activity for the district.

**South Jefferson Central School District  
Management Discussion and Analysis  
June 30, 2025**

**FACTORS BEARING ON THE DISTRICT'S FUTURE**

The District's annual audit as of June 30, 2025 indicates that it is in sound financial condition. Management believes this audit confirms and continues that trend. Past budgets for South Jefferson have been difficult with the uncertainty of the fiscal condition of New York State, unpredictable pension costs, state aid short falls, the looming fiscal cliff, and the restricting impact of the tax cap legislation. District officials continue to comply with the tax cap legislation; voters approved the 2025-2026 budget with an increase in its local levy by 2.50%, which represented the allowable increase under the law without asking for a supermajority vote. The District will continue to meet the current program needs while following the multiyear plan to leverage unappropriated fund balance in order to strengthen the District's ability to weather seasons of fiscal stress. New York State has reached an agreement to settle and discontinue the New Yorkers for Students' Educational Rights v. New York State case, following through on the State's commitment to fully fund the current Foundation Aid formula to New York's school districts over three years. This announcement is good news for South Jefferson as the District's Foundation Aid has been underfunded over \$64 million since the 2007-2008 fiscal year. The foundation aid formula takes school district wealth and student need into account to create an equitable distribution of state funding. The aid has never been fully funded and litigation has been ongoing since 2014.

Due to the COVID19 Pandemic, the federal government passed two major federal grants that South Jefferson has accessed: CRRSA (Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act of 2021) and ARP (American Rescue Plan). These funds focus on supporting the safe return to in-person instruction and continuity of service, addressing the impact of lost instructional time, support social and emotional needs, and addressing the impacts on economically disadvantaged students, children with disabilities, and minorities. The CRRSA grant was over a 2 fiscal year period, ending September 30, 2023 and the ARP is over a 3-year fiscal period ending September 30, 2024. The District was successful in application and approval for these funds and the spending plan is in process.

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

This report is designed to provide the school district's citizens, taxpayers, customers, investors, and creditors with a general overview of the school district's finances and to demonstrate the school district's accountability for the money it receives. If you have questions about this report or need additional information, contact the following district officials at the address below.

Christina Chamberlain, Superintendent of Schools  
South Jefferson Central School District  
P.O. Box 10  
Adams, New York 13605

Phone: 315-583-6104  
Fax: 315-583-6381  
Email: [cchamberlain@spartanpride.org](mailto:cchamberlain@spartanpride.org)

**South Jefferson Central School District**  
**Statement of Net Position**  
**Governmental Activities**  
**June 30, 2025**

<b>Assets</b>	
Cash	
Unrestricted	\$ 9,206,090
Restricted	6,960,396
Accounts receivable	45,296
Taxes receivable	512,938
State and Federal aid receivable	2,034,624
Utility deposit	32,448
Inventories	51,204
Prepaid expenses	46,363
Net pension asset - proportionate share	1,992,896
Capital assets, net	<u>64,132,739</u>
 Total Assets	 \$ 85,014,994
Deferred outflows of resources	
Pensions	\$ 7,740,045
Other postemployment benefits	<u>19,181,011</u>
Total deferred outflows of resources	 \$ 26,921,056
 <b>Liabilities</b>	
Payables	
Accounts payable	\$ 67,270
Accrued liabilities	924,038
Due to other governments	70,622
Due to teachers' retirement system	1,490,233
Due to employees' retirement system	251,456
Bond anticipation notes payable	12,569,024
Unearned credits	
Unearned revenues	42,361
Long-term liabilities	
Due and payable within one year	
Lease liabilities	215,638
Serial bonds	567,630
Compensated absences payable	56,838
Due and payable after one year	
Lease liabilities	239,351
Serial bonds	5,801,687
Compensated absences payable	427,654
Net pension liability- proportionate share	2,549,205
Other postemployment benefits payable	<u>120,539,714</u>
Total Liabilities	 \$ 145,812,721
Deferred inflows of resources	
Pensions	\$ 2,722,050
Other postemployment benefits	<u>28,924,789</u>
Total deferred inflows of resources	 \$ 31,646,839
 <b>Net Position</b>	
Net investment in capital assets	\$ 44,739,409
Restricted	5,552,199
Unrestricted (Deficit)	<u>(115,815,118)</u>
 Total Net Position	 \$ (65,523,510)

**South Jefferson Central School District**  
**Statement of Activities and Changes in Net Position**  
**Governmental Activities**  
**For the Year Ended June 30, 2025**

		<b>Program Revenues</b>		<b>Net (Expense) Revenue and Changes in Net Position</b>
	<b>Expenses</b>	<b>Charges for Services</b>	<b>Operating Grants</b>	
<b>Functions/Programs</b>				
General support	\$ 7,184,083	\$ -	-	\$ (7,184,083)
Instruction	36,997,991	253,165	2,411,602	(34,333,224)
Pupil transportation	3,963,364	-	-	(3,963,364)
Debt service	1,096,097	-	-	(1,096,097)
School food service	1,246,085	83,288	1,345,691	182,894
<b>Total Functions and Programs</b>	<b>\$ 50,487,620</b>	<b>\$ 336,453</b>	<b>\$ 3,757,293</b>	<b>(46,393,874)</b>
<b>General Revenues</b>				
Real property taxes				7,931,767
Other tax items				862,041
Use of money and property				462,942
Sale of property and compensation for loss				350,389
Miscellaneous				689,183
State sources				32,704,405
Federal sources				18,430
<b>Total General Revenues</b>				<b>43,019,157</b>
<b>Change in Net Position</b>				<b>(3,374,717)</b>
<b>Total Net Position - Beginning of year</b>				<b>(62,148,793)</b>
<b>Total Net Position - End of year</b>				<b>\$ (65,523,510)</b>

**South Jefferson Central School District**  
**Balance Sheet - Governmental Funds**  
**June 30, 2025**

	General	Special Aid	School Food Service	Debt Service	Capital Projects	Miscellaneous Special Revenue	Total Governmental Funds
<b>Assets</b>							
Cash							
Unrestricted	\$ 9,142,893	\$ -	\$ 63,197	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 9,206,090
Restricted	5,552,199	-	-	-	1,141,400	266,797	6,960,396
Receivables							
Accounts receivable	45,296	-	-	-	-	-	45,296
Taxes receivable	512,938	-	-	-	-	-	512,938
Due from other funds	3,914,874	25,223	25,210	282,261	737,101	-	4,984,669
State and Federal aid	1,383,172	549,979	101,473	-	-	-	2,034,624
Utility deposit	32,448	-	-	-	-	-	32,448
Inventories	-	-	51,204	-	-	-	51,204
Prepaid expenses	46,363	-	-	-	-	-	46,363
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$ 20,630,183</b>	<b>\$ 575,202</b>	<b>\$ 241,084</b>	<b>\$ 282,261</b>	<b>\$ 1,878,501</b>	<b>\$ 266,797</b>	<b>\$ 23,874,028</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>							
Payables							
Accounts payable	\$ 40,654	\$ 11,366	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 15,250	\$ -	\$ 67,270
Accrued liabilities	437,490	778	17,392	-	-	-	455,660
Due to other funds	830,309	534,270	-	-	3,620,090	-	4,984,669
Due to other governments	69,447	-	400	-	-	775	70,622
Due to teachers' retirement system	1,490,233	-	-	-	-	-	1,490,233
Due to employees' retirement system	251,456	-	-	-	-	-	251,456
Bond anticipation notes payable	-	-	-	-	12,569,024	-	12,569,024
Unearned revenue	-	28,788	13,573	-	-	-	42,361
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>3,119,589</b>	<b>575,202</b>	<b>31,365</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>16,204,364</b>	<b>775</b>	<b>19,931,295</b>
<b>Fund Balances</b>							
Nonspendable	46,363	-	51,204	-	-	-	97,567
Restricted	5,552,199	-	-	282,261	-	266,022	6,100,482
Assigned	2,580,452	-	158,515	-	-	-	2,738,967
Unassigned	9,331,580	-	-	-	(14,325,863)	-	(4,994,283)
<b>Total Fund Balances</b>	<b>17,510,594</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>209,719</b>	<b>282,261</b>	<b>(14,325,863)</b>	<b>266,022</b>	<b>3,942,733</b>
<b>Total Liabilities, Deferred Inflows of Resources and Fund Balances</b>	<b>\$ 20,630,183</b>	<b>\$ 575,202</b>	<b>\$ 241,084</b>	<b>\$ 282,261</b>	<b>\$ 1,878,501</b>	<b>\$ 266,797</b>	<b>\$ 23,874,028</b>

**South Jefferson Central School District**  
**Reconciliation of Governmental Funds Balance Sheet**  
**to the Statement of Net Position**  
**For the Year Ended June 30, 2025**

	Total Governmental Funds	Assets, Liabilities	Reclassifications and Eliminations	Statement of Net Position Totals
<b>Assets</b>				
Unrestricted	\$ 9,206,090	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 9,206,090
Restricted	6,960,396	-	-	6,960,396
Accounts receivable	45,296	-	-	45,296
Taxes receivable	512,938	-	-	512,938
Due from other funds	4,984,669	-	(4,984,669)	-
State & federal aid receivable	2,034,624	-	-	2,034,624
Utility deposit	32,448	-	-	32,448
Inventories	51,204	-	-	51,204
Prepaid expenses	46,363	-	-	46,363
Net pension asset - proportionate share	-	1,992,896	-	1,992,896
Capital assets(net)	-	64,132,739	-	64,132,739
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$ 23,874,028</b>	<b>\$ 66,125,635</b>	<b>\$ (4,984,669)</b>	<b>\$ 85,014,994</b>
<b>Deferred outflows of resources</b>				
Pensions	\$ -	\$ 7,740,045	\$ -	\$ 7,740,045
Other postemployment benefits	-	19,181,011	-	19,181,011
<b>Total deferred outflows of resources</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 26,921,056</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 26,921,056</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>				
Accounts payable	\$ 67,270	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 67,270
Accrued liabilities	455,660	468,378	-	924,038
Due to other funds	4,984,669	-	(4,984,669)	-
Due to other governments	70,622	-	-	70,622
Due to teachers' retirement system	1,490,233	-	-	1,490,233
Due to employees' retirement system	251,456	-	-	251,456
Bond anticipation notes payable	12,569,024	-	-	12,569,024
Unearned credits				
Unearned revenue	42,361	-	-	42,361
Compensated absences payable	-	484,492	-	484,492
Lease liabilities	-	454,989	-	454,989
Serial bonds payable	-	6,369,317	-	6,369,317
Net pension liability - proportionate share	-	2,549,205	-	2,549,205
Other postemployment benefits payable	-	120,539,714	-	120,539,714
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>\$ 19,931,295</b>	<b>\$ 130,866,095</b>	<b>\$ (4,984,669)</b>	<b>\$ 145,812,721</b>
<b>Deferred inflows of resources</b>				
Pensions	\$ -	\$ 2,722,050	\$ -	\$ 2,722,050
Other postemployment benefits	-	28,924,789	-	28,924,789
<b>Total deferred inflows of resources</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 31,646,839</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 31,646,839</b>
<b>Fund Balance/Net Position</b>				
<b>Total Fund Balance/Net Position</b>	<b>\$ 3,942,733</b>	<b>\$ (69,466,243)</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ (65,523,510)</b>
<b>Total Liabilities, Deferred Inflows of Resources, and Fund Balance/Net Position</b>	<b>\$ 23,874,028</b>	<b>\$ 93,046,691</b>	<b>\$ (4,984,669)</b>	<b>\$ 111,936,050</b>

**South Jefferson Central School District  
Statement of Revenues, Expenditures  
and Changes in Fund Balances - Governmental Funds  
For the Year Ended June 30, 2025**

	General	Special Aid	School Food Service	Debt Service	Capital Projects	Miscellaneous Special Revenue	Total Governmental Funds
<b>Revenues</b>							
Real property taxes	\$ 7,931,767	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 7,931,767
Other tax items	862,041	-	-	-	-	-	862,041
Charges for services	253,165	-	-	-	-	-	253,165
Use of money and property	412,449	-	175	50,309	-	9	462,942
Sale of property and compensation for loss	350,389	-	-	-	-	-	350,389
Miscellaneous	341,210	1,309	-	-	-	264,394	606,913
State sources	32,704,405	533,435	489,611	-	-	-	33,727,451
Federal sources	18,430	1,876,858	856,080	-	-	-	2,751,368
Sales - school lunch	-	-	83,288	-	-	-	83,288
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>42,873,856</b>	<b>2,411,602</b>	<b>1,429,154</b>	<b>50,309</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>264,403</b>	<b>47,029,324</b>
<b>Expenditures</b>							
General support	4,293,945	-	608,338	-	-	243,719	5,146,002
Instruction	18,577,045	2,290,377	-	-	-	-	20,867,422
Pupil transportation	2,170,079	26,387	-	-	-	-	2,196,466
Employee benefits	10,198,919	120,061	115,249	-	-	-	10,434,229
Debt service							
Principal	1,039,315	-	-	2,185,000	-	-	3,224,315
Interest	112,168	-	-	343,875	-	-	456,043
Cost of sales	-	-	748,129	-	-	-	748,129
Capital outlay	-	-	-	-	14,993,541	-	14,993,541
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>36,391,471</b>	<b>2,436,825</b>	<b>1,471,716</b>	<b>2,528,875</b>	<b>14,993,541</b>	<b>243,719</b>	<b>58,066,147</b>
<b>Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues</b>							
Over Expenditures	6,482,385	(25,223)	(42,562)	(2,478,566)	(14,993,541)	20,684	(11,036,823)
<b>Other Financing Sources and Uses</b>							
Operating transfers in	-	25,223	-	2,528,875	805,086	-	3,359,184
Operating transfers (out)	(3,359,184)	-	-	-	-	-	(3,359,184)
Proceeds of debt	-	-	-	-	740,600	-	740,600
Premium on bonds/BANs	-	-	-	83,579	-	-	83,579
<b>Total Other Sources (Uses)</b>	<b>(3,359,184)</b>	<b>25,223</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,612,454</b>	<b>1,545,686</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>824,179</b>
<b>Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues and Other Sources Over Expenditures and Other (Uses)</b>							
Fund Balances - Beginning of year	14,387,393	-	252,281	148,373	(878,008)	245,338	14,155,377
Fund Balances - End of year	<b>\$ 17,510,594</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 209,719</b>	<b>\$ 282,261</b>	<b>\$ (14,325,863)</b>	<b>\$ 266,022</b>	<b>\$ 3,942,733</b>

**South Jefferson Central School District**  
**Reconciliation of Governmental Funds Statement of Revenues, Expenditures,**  
**and Changes in Fund Balances**  
**to the Statement of Activities**  
**For the Year Ended June 30, 2025**

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

Net Change in Fund Balances - Total Governmental Funds \$ (10,212,644)

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

Governmental funds report capital outlays as expenditures. However, in the Statement of Activities, assets with an initial, individual cost of more than \$5,000 are capitalized and the cost is allocated over their estimated useful lives and reported as depreciation or amortization expense. This is the amount by which capital outlays exceeded depreciation and amortization during the current period.

Capital outlays	\$ 15,459,798
Depreciation expense	(2,719,227)
Amortization expense	<u>(330,257)</u>
	12,410,314

Long-term assets and liabilities are not due and payable in the current period and therefore are not reported in the governmental funds. Also, governmental funds report the effect of premiums and similar items when debt is first issued, whereas these amounts are deferred and amortized in the statement of activities.

Repayment of serial bonds and lease liability	2,288,505
Premium amortization	84,723
Change in compensated absences	(192,685)
Change in OPEB	4,197,306
Change in TRS and ERS asset/liability	2,391,614
Deferred bond refunding costs amortization	<u>(17,093)</u>
	8,752,370

Interest on debt in the Statement of Activities differs from the amount reported in the governmental funds because interest is recognized as an expenditure in the fund when it is due and payable and thus requires current financial resources. In the Statement of Activities, however, interest expense is recognized as the interest accrues, regardless of when it is due.

(408,969)

Differences between expected and actual experiences, assumption changes and net differences between projected and actual earnings and contributions subsequent to the measurement date for pensions and OPEB are not recognized as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources in the Statement of Net Position.

Change in deferred outflows and inflows - OPEB	(12,017,719)
Change in deferred outflows and inflows - TRS - proportionate share	(2,412,961)
Change in deferred outflows and inflows - ERS - proportionate share	<u>514,892</u>
	<u>(13,915,788)</u>
Change in net position of governmental activities	<u>\$ (3,374,717)</u>

See notes to financial statements.

**South Jefferson Central School District  
Statement of Fiduciary Net Position  
For the Year Ended June 30, 2025**

	Other Employee Benefit Trust Fund	Custodial
<b>Assets</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents	<u>\$ 8,461,427</u>	<u>\$ -</u>
<b>Liabilities</b>		
Accounts payable	<u>227,921</u>	<u>-</u>
Accrued benefits payable	<u>445,943</u>	<u>-</u>
Total liabilities	<u>673,864</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Net Position</b>		
Restricted for employee and retiree health benefits	<u>\$ 7,787,563</u>	<u>\$ -</u>

**Statement of Changes in Fiduciary Net Position  
For the Year Ended June 30, 2025**

	Other Employee Benefit Trust Fund	Custodial
<b>Additions</b>		
Contributions		
Employer	<u>\$ 6,870,449</u>	<u>\$ -</u>
Members	<u>774,668</u>	<u>-</u>
Total contributions	<u>7,645,117</u>	<u>-</u>
Stop loss reimbursement	<u>389,693</u>	<u>-</u>
Interest income	<u>303,867</u>	<u>-</u>
Prescription drug rebates	<u>1,191,611</u>	<u>-</u>
Taxes collected for other government	<u>-</u>	<u>153,000</u>
Total additions	<u>9,530,288</u>	<u>153,000</u>
<b>Deductions</b>		
Benefits	<u>8,208,106</u>	<u>-</u>
Stop loss insurance	<u>283,579</u>	<u>-</u>
Administrative	<u>416,840</u>	<u>-</u>
Taxes distributed to other government	<u>-</u>	<u>153,000</u>
Total deductions	<u>8,908,525</u>	<u>153,000</u>
Net increase in fiduciary net position	<u>621,763</u>	<u>-</u>
Net Position - Beginning of Year	<u>7,165,800</u>	<u>-</u>
Net Position - End of Year	<u>\$ 7,787,563</u>	<u>\$ -</u>

**South Jefferson Central School District  
Notes to Financial Statements  
For the Year Ended June 30, 2025**

**1 – Summary of accounting policies**

The financial statements of South Jefferson Central School District (the “District”) have been prepared in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) as applied to government units. Those principles are prescribed by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB), which is the accepted standard-setting body for establishing governmental accounting and financial reporting principles. Significant accounting principles and policies used by the District are described below:

**A) Reporting entity:**

The District is governed by the laws of New York State. The District is an independent entity governed by an elected Board of Education consisting of seven members. The President of the Board serves as the chief fiscal officer and the Superintendent is the chief executive officer. The Board is responsible for, and controls all activities related to public school education within the District. Board members have authority to make decisions, power to appoint management, and primary accountability for all fiscal matters.

The financial reporting entity is based on criteria set forth by GASB. The financial reporting entity consists of the primary government, organizations for which the primary government is financially accountable, and other organizations for which the nature and significance of their relationship with the primary government are such the exclusion would cause the reporting entity’s financial statements to be misleading or incomplete.

The accompanying financial statements present the activities of the District and its component unit and other organizational entities determined to be included in the District’s financial reporting entity. The District is not a component unit of another reporting entity. The decision to include a potential component unit in the District’s reporting entity is based on several criteria including legal standing, fiscal dependency, and financial accountability. Based on the application of these criteria, the following is a brief description of certain entities included in the District’s reporting entity.

**i) Extraclassroom Activity Funds**

The Extraclassroom Activity Funds of the District represent funds of the students of the District. The Board of Education exercises general oversight of these funds. The Extraclassroom Activity Funds are independent of the District with respect to its financial transactions and the designation of student management. Separate audited financial statements (cash basis) of the Extraclassroom Activity

**South Jefferson Central School District  
Notes to Financial Statements  
For the Year Ended June 30, 2025**

Funds can be found at the District's business office. The district accounts for assets held as an agent for various student organizations in a miscellaneous special revenue fund.

ii) Other Employee Benefit Trust Fund

South Jefferson Central School District Health Plan Trust provides health, dental, and accident benefits to employees and retirees of the District. The Board of Education exercises general oversight of the trust. The trust is organized as a separate entity from the District. The District accounts for the trust activities in a fiduciary fund.

B) Joint venture:

The District is a component district in Jefferson – Lewis – Hamilton – Herkimer – Oneida Counties Board of Cooperative Educational Services (BOCES). BOCES is a voluntary, cooperative association of school districts in a geographic area that shares planning, services, and programs that provide educational and support activities. There is no authority or process by which a school district can terminate its status as a BOCES component.

BOCES are organized under §1950 of the New York State Education Law. A BOCES Board is considered a corporate body. Members of a BOCES Board are nominated and elected by their component member boards in accordance with provisions of §1950 of the New York State Education Law. All BOCES property is held by the BOCES Board as a corporation (§1950(6)). In addition, BOCES Boards also are considered municipal corporations to permit them to contract with other municipalities on a cooperative basis under §119-n (a) of the New York State General Municipal Law.

A BOCES' budget is comprised of separate budgets for administrative, program and capital costs. Each component district's share of administrative and capital cost is determined by resident public school district enrollment, as defined in the New York State Education Law, §1950 (4)(b)(7). In addition, component districts pay tuition or a service fee for programs in which its students participate.

During the year, the District was billed \$3,561,322 for BOCES administrative and program costs.

The District's share of BOCES aid amounted to \$1,883,727.

**South Jefferson Central School District  
Notes to Financial Statements  
For the Year Ended June 30, 2025**

Financial statements for the BOCES are available from the BOCES administrative office.

**C) Basis of presentation:**

**i) District-wide statements:**

The Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities present financial information about the overall District's governmental activities, except for fiduciary activities. Eliminations have been made to minimize the double-counting of internal transactions. Governmental activities are generally financed through taxes, state aid, intergovernmental revenues, and other exchange and non-exchange transactions. Operating grants include operating-specific and discretionary (either operating or capital) grants, while the capital grants column reflects capital-specific grants.

The Statement of Net Position presents the financial position of the District at year end. The Statement of Activities presents a comparison between program expenses and revenues for each function of the District's governmental activities. Direct expenses are those that are specifically associated with and are clearly identifiable to a particular function. Employee benefits are allocated to functional areas in proportion to the payroll expenditures for those areas. Program revenues include charges paid by the recipients of goods or services offered by the programs, and grants and contributions that are restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular program. Revenues that are not classified as program revenues, including all taxes, are presented as general revenues.

**ii) Funds statements:**

The fund statements provide information about the District's funds, including each type of fiduciary fund. Separate statements for each fund category (governmental and fiduciary) are presented. The emphasis of fund financial statements is on major governmental funds, each displayed in a separate column.

Governmental funds are those through which most governmental functions are financed. The acquisition, use, and balances of expendable financial resources, and the related liabilities are accounted for through governmental funds. The emphasis of governmental fund financial statements is on major funds as defined

**South Jefferson Central School District  
Notes to Financial Statements  
For the Year Ended June 30, 2025**

by GASB, each displayed in a separate column. The District reports the following major governmental funds:

**General Fund:** This is the District's primary operating fund. It accounts for all financial transactions that are not required to be accounted for in another fund.

**Special Revenue Funds:** These funds account for the proceeds of specific revenue sources such as Federal and State grants, that are legally restricted to expenditures for specified purposes, child nutrition and school store operations or other activities whose funds are restricted as to use. These legal restrictions may be imposed either by governments that provide the funds, or by outside parties. The Special Revenue Funds classified as major are:

**Special Aid Fund:** Used to account for special operating projects or programs supported in whole, or in part, with Federal funds or State or Local grants.

**School Food Service:** Use to account for transactions of the lunch and breakfast programs.

**Miscellaneous Special Revenue Funds:** Used to account for transactions of activities for which the District has administrative control, but the activities are not part of the District's operations. Included in the miscellaneous special revenue funds are the extraclassroom activity funds, used to account for the funds operated by and for the students of the District, and the scholarship funds, used to account for funds collected that benefit annual third-party awards and scholarships for students.

**Capital Projects Funds:** These funds are used to account for the financial resources used for acquisition, construction, or major repair of, or right-to-use capital facilities and other capital and intangible assets. For these funds, each capital project is assessed to determine whether it is a major or non-major fund. Those capital projects that are determined to be major are reported in separate columns in the financial statements.

**Debt Service Fund:** This fund accounts for the accumulation of resources and the payment of principal and interest on long-term general obligation debt of governmental activities. When a capital asset is sold and all or a portion of the bonds used to finance the capital asset are outstanding, this fund must be used to

**South Jefferson Central School District  
Notes to Financial Statements  
For the Year Ended June 30, 2025**

account for the proceeds from the sale of capital assets up to the balance of related bonds outstanding.

**Fiduciary Funds:** Fiduciary activities are those in which the District acts as trustee or agent for resources that belong to others. These activities are not included in the District-wide financial statements, because their resources do not belong to the District, and are not available to be used.

The District's fiduciary funds are as follows:

**Other Employee Benefit Trust Fund:** South Jefferson Central School District Health Plan Trust provides health, dental, and accident benefits to enrolled individuals.

**Custodial Funds:** These funds are strictly custodial in nature and do not involve the measurement of results of operations. These funds are used to account for real property taxes collected on behalf of other governments and disbursed to those governments.

**D) Measurement focus and basis of accounting:**

Measurement focus describes what type of information is reported and is either the economic resources measurement focus or the current financial resources measurement focus. The economic resources measurement focus reports all assets, liabilities, and deferred resources related to a given activity, as well as transactions of the period that affect net position. For example, all assets, whether financial (e.g., cash and receivables) or capital (e.g., property and equipment) and liabilities (including long-term debt and obligations) are reported. The current financial resources measurement focus reports more narrowly on assets, liabilities, and deferred resources that are relevant to near-term liquidity, along with net changes resulting from transactions of the period. Consequently, capital assets and the unmatured portion of long-term debt and certain other liabilities the District would not expect to liquidate currently with expendable available resources (e.g. compensated absences for employees still in active service) would not be reported.

Basis of accounting describes when changes are recognized and is either the accrual basis of accounting or the modified accrual basis of accounting. The accrual basis of accounting recognizes changes in net position when the underlying event occurs, regardless of the timing of related cash flows. The modified accrual basis of accounting recognizes changes only at the point they affect near-term liquidity.

**South Jefferson Central School District  
Notes to Financial Statements  
For the Year Ended June 30, 2025**

The District-wide and fiduciary fund financial statements are reported using the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recorded when earned and expenses are recorded at the time liabilities are incurred, regardless of when the related cash transaction takes place. Non-exchange transactions, in which the District gives or receives value without directly receiving or giving equal value in exchange, include real property taxes, state aid, grants and donations. On an accrual basis, revenue from real property taxes is recognized in the fiscal year for which the taxes are levied. Revenue from state aid is recognized in the fiscal year that it is appropriated by the state. Revenue from grants and donations is recognized in the fiscal year in which all eligibility requirements have been satisfied.

The governmental fund statements are reported using the current financial resources measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting. Under this method, revenues are recognized when measurable and available. The District considers all revenues reported in the governmental funds to be available if the revenues are collected within 90 days after the end of the fiscal year as it matches the liquidation of related obligations.

Expenditures are recorded when the related fund liability is incurred, except for principal and interest on general long-term debt, lease liabilities, subscription liabilities, claims and judgments, compensated absences, workers' compensation, pensions, and other post-employment benefits which are recognized as expenditures to the extent they have matured. General capital assets, intangible lease assets, and intangible subscription asset acquisitions are reported as expenditures in governmental funds. Proceeds of general long-term debt and acquisitions under capital leases are reported as other financing sources.

**E) Property taxes:**

Real property taxes are levied annually by the Board of Education no later than September 1, and become a lien on September 1. Taxes are collected during the period September 1 to October 31.

Uncollected real property taxes are subsequently enforced by the Counties in which the District is located. The Counties pay an amount representing uncollected real property taxes transmitted to the counties for enforcement to the District no later than the following April 1. However, Jefferson County had not transmitted the taxes to the District at June 30, 2025 and the amount due is shown as taxes receivable.

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**F) Restricted resources:**

When an expense is incurred for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted net resources are available, the District's policy concerning which to apply first varies with the intended use, and with associated legal requirements, many of which are described elsewhere in these Notes to the Financial Statements.

**G) Inter-fund transactions:**

The operations of the District include transactions between funds. These transactions may be temporary in nature, such as with inter-fund borrowings. The District typically loans resources between funds for the purpose of providing cash flow. These inter-fund receivables and payables are expected to be repaid within one year. Permanent transfers of funds include the transfer of expenditure and revenues to provide financing or other services. This includes the transfer of unrestricted general fund revenues to finance various programs that the District must account for in other funds in accordance with budgetary authorizations.

In the district-wide statements, the amounts reported on the Statement of Net Position for inter-fund receivables and payables represent amounts due between different fund types (governmental activities and fiduciary funds). Eliminations have been made for all inter-fund receivables and payables between the funds, with the exception of those due from or to the fiduciary funds.

The governmental funds report all inter-fund transactions as originally recorded. Inter-fund receivables and payables may be netted on the accompanying governmental funds balance sheet when it is the District's practice to settle these amounts at a net balance based upon the right of legal offset.

Refer to Note 9 for a detailed disclosure by individual fund for inter-fund receivables, payables, expenditures, and revenues activity.

**H) Estimates:**

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with GAAP requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amount of assets, deferred outflows of resources, liabilities, and deferred inflows of resources, and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported revenues and expenses/expenditures during the reporting period. Actual results could

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differ from those estimates. Estimates and assumptions are made in a variety of areas, including computation of encumbrances, compensated absences, pension costs, OPEB workers' compensation liabilities, potential contingent liabilities, useful lives of capital assets, intangible lease assets, and intangible subscription assets.

**I) Cash, Cash Equivalents and Investments**

The District's cash and cash equivalents consist of cash on hand, demand deposits, and short-term investments with original maturities of three months or less from date of acquisition.

New York State law governs the District's investment policies. Resources must be deposited in FDIC-insured commercial banks or trust companies located within the State. Permissible investments include obligations of the United States Treasury, United States Agencies, repurchase agreements and obligations of New York State or its localities.

Collateral is required for demand and time deposits and certificates of deposit not covered by FDIC insurance. Obligations that may be pledged as collateral are obligations of the United States and its agencies and obligations of the State and its municipalities and Districts. Certain cash balances are restricted by various legal or contractual obligations, such as legal reserves or debt agreements.

**J) Accounts Receivable:**

No allowance for uncollectible accounts has been provided since it is believed that such allowance would not be material.

**K) Inventories and prepaid items:**

Inventories of food in the School Food Service Fund are recorded at cost on a first-in, first-out basis, or in the case of surplus food donated by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, at the Government's assigned value, which approximates market. Purchases of inventory items in other funds are recorded as expenditures at the time of purchase and are considered immaterial in amount.

Prepaid items represent payments made by the District for which benefits extend beyond year-end. These payments to vendors reflect costs applicable to future accounting periods and are recorded as prepaid items in both the district-wide and fund financial statements. These items are reported as assets on the statement of net position or balance

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sheet using the consumption method. A current asset for the prepaid amounts is recorded at the time of receipt and/or purchase and an expense/expenditure is reported in the year the goods or services are consumed.

A reserve for these non-liquid assets (inventories and prepaid items) has been recognized to signify that a portion of the fund balance is not available for other subsequent expenditures.

**L) Other assets/restricted assets:**

Certain proceeds from serial bonds and bond anticipation notes, as well as resources set aside for their repayment are classified as restricted assets in the district-wide financial statements and their use is limited by applicable bond covenants.

In the district-wide financial statements, bond discounts and premiums, and any prepaid bond insurance costs are deferred and amortized over the life of the debt issue. Bond issuance costs are recognized as an expense in the period incurred.

**M) Capital assets:**

Capital assets are reported at actual cost for acquisitions subsequent to June 30, 2002. For assets acquired prior to July 1, 2002, estimated historical costs, based on appraisals conducted by independent third-party professionals were used. Donated assets are reported at estimated fair market value at the time received.

Land and construction in process are not depreciated. Capitalization thresholds (the dollar value above which asset acquisitions are added to the capital asset accounts), depreciation methods, and estimated useful lives of capital assets reported in the District-wide statements are as follows:

	<u>Capitalization Threshold</u>	<u>Depreciation Method</u>	<u>Estimated Useful Life</u>
Buildings	\$ 50,000	Straight line	50 years
Land improvements	\$ 25,000	Straight line	20 years
Furniture, vehicles & equipment	\$ 5,000	Straight line	5 to 20 years

**N) Intangible lease and subscription assets:**

Intangible lease and subscription assets are reported at the present value of remaining future lease payments to be made during the lease term. The discount rate utilized is

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either the interest rate implicit within the lease or subscription agreement, or if not readily determinable, the District's estimated incremental borrowing rate. The intangible lease and subscription assets are amortized over the shorter of the lease term or the useful life of the underlying asset.

Capitalization thresholds (the dollar value above which intangible lease and subscription asset acquisitions are added to the intangible lease and subscription asset accounts), amortization methods, and estimated useful lives of intangible lease and subscription assets reported in the District-Wide Financial Statements follow the same thresholds as noted for capital assets.

**O) Deferred Outflows and Inflows of Resources:**

In addition to assets, the Statement of Net Position will sometimes report a separate section for deferred outflows of resources. This separate financial statement element, deferred outflows of resources, represents a consumption of net position that applies to a future period and so will not be recognized as an outflow of resources (expense/expenditure) until then. The District has three items that qualify for reporting in this category. The first item is related to pensions reported in the district-wide Statement of Net Position. This represents the effect of the net change in the District's proportion of the collective net pension asset or liability and difference during the measurement period between the District's contributions and its proportionate share of total contributions to the pension systems not included in pension expense. The second item is the District's contributions to the pension systems (TRS and ERS Systems) and OPEB subsequent to the measurement date. The third item relates to OPEB reporting in the district wide Statements of Net Position. This represents the effect of the net change in the actual and expected experience.

In addition to liabilities, the Statement of Net Position or balance sheet will sometimes report a separate section for deferred inflows of resources. This separate financial statement element, deferred inflows of resources, represents an acquisition of net assets or fund balance that applies to a future period(s) and so will not be recognized as an inflow of resources (revenue) until that time. The District had two items that qualify for reporting in this category. The first item is related to pensions reported in the district-wide Statement of Net Position. This represents the effect of the net change in the District's proportion of the collective net pension liability (ERS System) and difference during the measurement periods between the District's contributions and its proportionate share of total contributions to the pension systems not included in pension expense. The

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second item is related to OPEB reported in the District-wide Statement of Net Position. This represents the effect of the net changes of assumptions or other inputs.

**P) Pension Obligations**

The District participates in the New York State Teachers' Retirement System (TRS) and New York State and Local Employees' Retirement System (ERS) (the systems). These are cost-sharing multiple employer, defined benefit, public employee retirement systems. The Systems provide retirement, disability, withdrawal, and death benefits to plan members and beneficiaries related to years of service and final average salary.

**Plan Descriptions and Benefits Provided**

**Teachers' Retirement System (TRS)**

The TRS is administered by the New York State Teachers' Retirement Board. The TRS provides retirement benefits, as well as death and disability benefits to plan members and beneficiaries as authorized by the Education Law and the Retirement and Social Security Law of the State of New York (NYSRSSL). Membership is mandatory and automatic for all full-time teachers, teaching assistants, guidance counselors, and administrators employed in New York Public Schools and BOCES who elected to participate in the TRS. Once a public employer elects to participate in the TRS, the election is irrevocable. The New York State Constitution provides that pension membership is a contractual relationship, and plan benefits cannot be diminished or impaired. Benefits can be changed for future members only by the enactment of a state statute. The New York State TRS issued a publicly available financial report that contains financial statements and required supplementary information for the System. The report and additional information may be obtained by writing to the New York State Teachers' Retirement System, 10 Corporate Woods Drive, Albany, NY 12211-2395 or by referring to the NYSTRS Comprehensive Annual Financial report which can be found on the System's website at [www.nystrs.org](http://www.nystrs.org).

**Employees' Retirement System (ERS)**

Obligations of employers and employees to contribute and benefits to employees are governed by the NYSRSSL. The net position of the ERS is held in the New York State Common Retirement Fund (the Fund), which was established to hold all net assets and record changes in plan net position allocated to the ERS. As set forth in the NYSRSSL, the Comptroller of the State of New York (Comptroller) serves as the trustee of the Fund and is the administrative head of the ERS. Once a public employer elects to participate in

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the ERS, the election is irrevocable. The New York State Constitution provides that pension membership is a contractual relationship, and plan benefits cannot be diminished or impaired. Benefits can be changed for future members only by enactment of a state statute. The District also participates in the Public Employees' Group Life Insurance Plan (GLIP), which provides death benefits in the form of life insurance. The ERS is included in the state's financial report as a pension trust fund. That report, including information with regard to benefits provided, may be found at [www.osc.state.ny.us/retire/publications/index.php](http://www.osc.state.ny.us/retire/publications/index.php) or obtained by writing to the New York State and Local Retirement System, 110 State Street, Albany, NY 12244.

Plan members who joined the system before July 27, 1976, are not required to make contributions. Those joining on or after July 27, 1976 and before January 1, 2010, with less than ten years of credited services are required to contribute 3% of their salary. Those joining on or after January 1, 2010 and before April 1, 2012, are required to contribute 3% of their salary to ERS or 3.5% of their salary to TRS throughout active membership. Those joining on or after April 1, 2012, are required to contribute between 3% and 6% dependent on their salary throughout active membership. Employers are required to contribute at an actuarially determined rate based on covered salaries paid. For the TRS, the employers' contribution rate is established annually by the New York State Teachers' Retirement Board for the TRS' fiscal year ended June 30<sup>th</sup>, and employer and employee contributions are deducted from state aid in the subsequent months of September, October, and November, with the balance to be paid by the District, if necessary. For ERS, the Comptroller annually certifies the actuarially determined rates expressly used in computing the employers' contributions for the ERS' fiscal year ended March 31<sup>st</sup>, and employer contributions are either paid by the prior December 15<sup>th</sup> less a 1% discount or by the prior February 1<sup>st</sup>. The District paid 100% of the required contributions as billed by the TRS and ERS for the current year. The District's contribution rate was 9.76% of covered payroll for the TRS' fiscal year ended June 30, 2024. The District's average contribution rate was 14.2% of covered payroll for the ERS' fiscal year ended March 31, 2025.

	<u>ERS</u>	<u>TRS</u>
2024-2025	\$ 648,536	\$ 1,365,400
2023-2024	\$ 625,415	\$ 1,312,904
2022-2023	\$ 522,901	\$ 1,225,800

The District's share of the required contributions, based on covered payroll for the District's year ended June 30, 2025 was \$1,346,392 for the TRS at the contribution rate of 10.11% and \$624,505 for the ERS at an average contribution rate of 14.9%.

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ERS has provided additional disclosures through entities that elected to participate in Chapter 260, 57, and 105.

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

At June 30, 2025, the District reported the following asset/(liability) for its proportionate share of the net pension asset/(liability) for each of the Systems. The net pension asset/(liability) was measured as of March 31, 2025 for ERS and June 30, 2024 for TRS. The total pension asset/(liability) used to calculate the net pension asset/(liability) was determined by an actuarial valuation. The District's proportion of the net pension asset/(liability) was based on a projection of the District's long-term share of contributions to the Systems relative to the projected contributions of all participating members, actuarially determined. This information was provided by the ERS and TRS Systems in reports provided to the District.

	<u>ERS</u>	<u>TRS</u>
Measurement date	March 31, 2025	June 30, 2024
District's proportionate share of the net pension (asset)/liability	\$ 2,549,205	\$ (1,992,896)
District's portion of the Plan's net pension liability	0.0148679%	0.0667950%

For the year ended June 30, 2025, the District recognized its proportionate share of pension expense of \$558,011 for ERS and \$1,244,741 for TRS. At June 30, 2025 the District's reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions from the following sources:

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	Deferred Outflows of Resource		Deferred Inflows of Resources	
	<u>ERS</u>	<u>TRS</u>	<u>ERS</u>	<u>TRS</u>
Difference between expected and actual experience	\$ 632,730	\$ 2,145,983	\$ 29,846	\$ -
Changes of assumptions	106,909	1,192,156	-	200,532
Net difference between projected and actual earnings on pension plan investments	200,004	-	-	2,214,277
Changes in proportion and differences between the District's contributions and proportionate share of contributions	118,986	117,354	125,938	151,457
District's contributions subsequent to the measurement date	<u>251,456</u>	<u>2,974,467</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>\$ 1,310,085</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 6,429,960</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 155,784</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 2,566,266</u></b>

District's contributions subsequent to the measurement date will be recognized as a reduction of the net pension asset/(liability) in the 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>NYERS</u>	<u>NYSTRS</u>
Year ended:		
2026	\$ 690,777	\$ 1,951,260
2027	664,737	2,442,129
2028	(210,127)	(408,575)
2029	8,914	(464,769)
2030	-	252,413
Thereafter	-	91,236

**Actuarial Assumptions**

The total pension asset/(liability) as of the measurement date was determined by using an actuarial valuation as noted in the table below, with update procedures used to roll forward the total pension asset/(liability) to the measurement date. The actuarial valuation used the following actuarial assumptions:

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	<u>ERS</u>	<u>TRS</u>
Measurement date	March 31, 2025	June 30, 2024
Actuarial valuation date	April 1, 2024	June 30, 2023
Inflation	2.90%	2.40%
Salary increases	4.30%	1.95-5.18%
Decrement tables	System's Experience	System's Experience
Investment rate of return (net of investment expense, including inflation)	April 1, 2015- March 31, 2020 5.90%	July 1, 2015 - June 30, 2020 6.95%
Cost of living adjustments	1.50%	1.30%

For ERS, annuitant mortality rates are based on April 1, 2015 – March 31, 2020 System's experience with adjustments for mortality improvements based on Society of Actuaries MP-2021. For TRS, annuitant mortality rates are based on July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2020 System's experience with adjustments for mortality improvements based on Society of Actuaries Scale MP-2021.

For ERS, the actuarial assumptions were based on the results of an actuarial experience study for the period April 1, 2015 – March 31, 2020. For TRS, assumptions were computed by the TRS' Office of the Actuary and adopted by the TRS' Retirement Board on June 30, 2022. The actuarial assumptions are based upon recent TRS member experience. Detailed assumption information may be found in the TRS' annual Actuarial Valuation Report.

For TRS, the long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments was determined in accordance with Actuarial Standard of Practice (ASOP) No. 27, *Selection of Economic Assumptions for Measuring Pension Obligations* and generally accepted accounting principles. ASOP No. 27 provides guidance on the selection of an appropriate assumed investment rate of return. Consideration was given to expected future real rates of return (expected returns, net of pension plan investment expense and inflation) for each major asset class as well as historical investment data and plan performance.

For ERS, the long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments was determined using a building-block method in which best-estimate ranges of expected future real rates of return (expected returns net of investment expense and inflation) are developed for each major asset class. These ranges are combined to produce the long-term expected rate of return by weighting the expected future real rates of return by the target asset allocation percentage and by adding expected inflation. Best estimates of

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arithmetic real rates of return for each major asset class included in the target asset allocation are summarized below:

	<u>Target Allocation</u>	Long-term expected Real rate of return*
<b>ERS</b>		
Asset class:		
Domestic equities	25%	3.54%
International equities	14%	6.57%
Private equities	15%	7.25%
Real estate equities	12%	4.95%
Opportunistic/ARS portfolio	3%	5.25%
Real assets	4%	5.55%
Fixed income	22%	2.00%
Cash	1%	0.25%
Credit	<u>4%</u>	5.40%
Total	<u>100%</u>	

\*Real rates of return are net of the long-term inflation assumption of 2.9%.

	<u>Target Allocation</u>	Long-term expected Real rate of return*
<b>TRS</b>		
Asset class:		
Domestic equities	33%	6.60%
International equities	15%	7.40%
Global equities	4%	6.90%
Private equities	9%	10.00%
Real estate equities	11%	6.30%
Domestic fixed income securities	16%	2.60%
Global bonds	2%	2.50%
Private debt	2%	5.90%
Real estate debt	6%	3.90%
Cash equivalents	1%	0.50%
High-yield bonds	<u>1%</u>	4.80%
Total	<u>100%</u>	

\*Real rates of return are net of the long-term inflation assumption of 2.4%.

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*Discount Rate*

The discount rate used to calculate the total pension (asset)/liability was 5.9% for ERS and 6.95% for TRS. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumes that contributions from plan members will be made at the current contribution rates and that contributions from employers will be made at statutorily required rates, actuarially determined. Based upon the assumptions, the System's fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments of current plan members. Therefore, the long term expected rate of return on pension plan investments was applied to all periods of projected benefit payments to determine the total pension (asset)/liability.

*Sensitivity of the Proportionate Share of the Net Pension (Asset)/Liability to the Discount Rate Assumption*

The following presents the District's proportionate share of the net pension (asset)/liability as of June 30, 2025 calculated using the discount rate of 5.9% for ERS and 6.95% for TRS, as well as what the District's proportionate share of the net pension (asset)/liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1 percentage point lower (4.9% for ERS and 5.95% for TRS) or 1 percentage point higher (6.9% for ERS and 7.95% for TRS) than the current rate:

	1% Decrease	Current Assumption	1% Increase
<u>ERS</u>	<u>(4.9%)</u>	<u>(5.9%)</u>	<u>(6.9%)</u>
District's proportionate share of the net pension (asset)/liability	\$ 7,337,721	\$ 2,549,205	\$ (1,482,609)
<u>TRS</u>	<u>(5.95%)</u>	<u>(6.95%)</u>	<u>(7.95%)</u>
District's proportionate share of the net pension (asset)/liability	\$ 9,205,301	\$ (1,992,896)	\$ (11,410,880)

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*Changes of Assumptions*

Changes of assumptions about future economic or demographic factors or other inputs are amortized over a closed period equal to the average of the expected service lives of all employees that are provided with pension benefits.

**Payables to the Pension Plan**

For ERS, employer contributions are paid annually based on the System's fiscal year which ends March 31<sup>st</sup>. Accrued retirement contributions as of June 30, 2025 represent the projected employer contribution for the period of April 1, 2025 through June 30, 2025 based on paid ERS covered wages multiplied by the employer's contribution rate, by tier. Accrued retirement contributions as of June 30, 2025 amounted to \$251,456 of employer contributions. Employee contributions are remitted monthly.

For TRS, employer and employee contributions for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2025 are paid to the System in September, October and November 2025 through a state aid intercept. Accrued retirement contributions as of June 30, 2025 represent employee and employer contributions for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2025 based on paid TRS wages multiplied by the employer's contribution rate, by tier and employee contributions for the fiscal year as reported to the TRS System. Accrued retirement contributions as of June 30, 2025 amounted to \$1,346,392 of employer contributions and \$143,841 of employee contributions.

**Q) Unearned Credits**

The District reports unearned credits on its Statement of Net Position and its Balance Sheet. On the Statement of Net Position, unearned credits arise when resources are received by the District before it has legal claim to them, as when grant monies are received prior to incurrence of qualifying expenditures. In subsequent periods, when the District has legal claim to resources, the liability for unearned credits is removed and revenue is recorded.

**R) Employee benefits – Compensated Absences:**

Compensated absences consist of unpaid accumulated annual sick leave and vacation.

Sick leave eligibility and accumulation is specified in negotiated labor contracts, and in individual employment contracts. Upon retirement, resignation, or death, employees may

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contractually receive a payment based on unused accumulated sick leave and/or a credit towards their health insurance obligation.

Vacation eligibility and accumulation is specified in collective bargaining agreements and in individual employment contracts. Some earned benefits may be forfeited if not taken within varying time periods. Employees are compensated for unused accumulated vacation leave through paid time off or cash payment upon retirement, termination, or death.

Certain collectively bargained agreements require these payments to be paid in the form of non-elective contributions into the employee's section 403(b) plan.

In the district-wide financial statements, the District recognizes a liability for compensated absences, including vacation and sick leave, when employees have earned the right to the leave and it is more likely than not that the leave will be used for time off or otherwise paid in cash, or settled through other means. The liability is measured at the employee's rate of pay at the reporting date, including salary-related payments such as social security and Medicare taxes.

In the fund statements, a liability is reported only for payments due for unused compensated absences for those employees that have obligated themselves to separate from service with the District by June 30<sup>th</sup>.

**S) Other benefits:**

District employees participate in the New York State Employees' Retirement System and the New York State Teachers' Retirement System.

District employees may choose to participate in the District's elective deferred compensation plans established under Internal Revenue Code Sections 403(b) and 457.

The District provides individual or family health insurance coverage for active employees pursuant to collective bargaining agreements and individual employment contracts.

In addition to providing these benefits, the District provides individual, family, or surviving spouse post-employment health insurance coverage for eligible retired employees. Collective bargaining agreements and individual employment contracts determine if District employees are eligible for these benefits if they reach normal retirement age while working for the District. Healthcare benefits are provided through

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plans whose premiums are based on the benefits paid during the year. The cost of providing post-retirement benefits is shared between the District and the retired employee. The District recognizes the cost of providing health insurance by recording its share of insurance premiums as an expenditure in the governmental funds as the liabilities for premiums mature (come due for payment). In the district-wide statements, the cost of post-employment health insurance coverage is recognized on the economic resource measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting in accordance with the criteria set forth by GASB.

**T) Short-term debt:**

The District may issue Revenue Anticipation Notes (RAN) and Tax Anticipation Notes (TAN), in anticipation of the receipt of revenues. These notes are recorded as a liability of the fund that will actually receive the proceeds from the issuance of the notes. The RANs and TANs represent a liability that will be extinguished by the use of expendable, available resources of the fund.

The District may issue budget notes up to an amount not to exceed 5% of the amount of the annual budget during any fiscal year for expenditures for which there is an insufficient or no provision made in the annual budget. The budget note must be repaid no later than the close of the second fiscal year succeeding the year in which the note was issued.

The District may issue Bond Anticipation Notes (BAN), in anticipation of proceeds from the subsequent sale of bonds. These notes are recorded as current liabilities of the funds that will actually receive the proceeds from the issuance of bonds. BANs that are replaced with long-term financing or renewed subsequent to the year-end but before the issuance of the financial statements are treated as long-term liabilities, as these notes will not require the use of working capital during that period. State law requires that BANs issued for capital purposes be converted to long-term financing within five years after the original issue date.

**U) Accrued liabilities and long-term obligations:**

Payables, accrued liabilities and long-term obligations are reported in the district-wide financial statements. In the governmental funds, payables and accrued liabilities are paid in a timely manner and in full from current financial resources. Claims and judgments, other postemployment benefits payable and compensated absences that will be paid from governmental funds, are reported as a liability in the fund's financial statements only to

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the extent that they are due for payment in the current year. Bonds and other long-term obligations that will be paid from governmental funds are recognized as a liability in the fund financial statements when due.

Long-term obligations represent the District's future obligations or future economic outflows. The liabilities are reported as due in one year or due within more than one year in the Statement of Net Position.

**V) Equity classifications:**

District-wide statements:

In the district-wide statements there are three classes of net position:

**Net investment in capital assets** – consists of net capital assets (cost less accumulated depreciation) and intangible lease and subscription assets (present value of future payments remaining on the term less accumulated amortization) reduced by outstanding balances of related debt obligations from the acquisition, construction or improvements of and the right-to-use those assets, net of any unexpended proceeds.

**Restricted net position** – reports net position when constraints placed on the assets or deferred outflows of resources are either externally imposed by creditors (such as through debt covenants), grantors, contributors, or laws or regulations of other governments, or imposed by law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation.

**Unrestricted net position** – reports the balance of net position that does not meet the definition of the above two classifications and is deemed to be available for general use by the District.

Funds statements: In the fund basis statements, there are five classifications of fund balance:

**Non-spendable** – Includes amounts that cannot be spent because they are either not in spendable form or legally or contractually required to be maintained intact. Non-spendable fund balance includes inventory recorded in the School Food Service Fund of \$51,204 and \$46,363 in prepaid expense.

**Restricted** – includes amounts with constraints placed on the use of resources either externally imposed by creditors, grantors, contributors, or laws or regulations of other

**South Jefferson Central School District  
Notes to Financial Statements  
For the Year Ended June 30, 2025**

governments; or imposed by law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation. The District has established the following restricted fund balances:

**Unemployment Insurance Payment Reserve Fund**

According to General Municipal Law §6-m, all expenditures made from the unemployment insurance payment reserve fund must be used to pay the cost of reimbursement to the State Unemployment Insurance Fund for payments made to claimants where the employer has elected to use the benefit reimbursement method. The reserve may be established by Board action and is funded by budgetary appropriations and such other funds as may be legally appropriated. Within sixty days after the end of any fiscal year, excess amounts may either be transferred to another reserve or the excess applied to the appropriations of the next succeeding fiscal year's budget. If the District elects to convert to tax (contribution) basis, excess resources in the fund over the sum sufficient to pay pending claims may be transferred to any other reserve fund. This reserve is accounted for in the General Fund.

**Liability Claims and Property Loss Reserve Funds**

According to Education Law §1709(8), must be used to pay for liability claims and property loss incurred. Separate funds for liability claims and property loss are required, and these reserves may not in total exceed 3% of the annual budget or \$15,000, whichever is greater. This type of reserve fund may be utilized only by school districts with a population under 125,000. This reserve is accounted for in the General Fund.

**Retirement Contributions Reserve Fund**

According to General Municipal Law §6-r, all expenditures made from the retirement contributions reserve fund must be used for financing retirement contributions to the New York State and Local Employees' Retirement System. This reserve is established by Board resolution and is funded by budgetary appropriation and such other reserves and funds that may be legally appropriated. The reserve must be accounted for separately and apart from all other funds and a detailed report of the operation and condition of the fund must be provided to the Board. This reserve is accounted for in the General Fund. Effective April 1, 2019, a Board may adopt a resolution establishing a sub-fund for contributions to the New York State Teachers' Retirement System. During a fiscal year, the Board may authorize payment into the sub-fund of up to 2% of the total covered salaries paid during the preceding fiscal year, with the total amount funded not to exceed 10% of the total covered salaries during the preceding fiscal year. The sub-fund is separately administered, but must comply with all the existing provisions of General Municipal Law §6-r.

**South Jefferson Central School District  
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**Debt Service Reserve Fund**

According to General Municipal Law §6-1 the Mandatory Reserve for Debt Service must be established for the purpose of retiring the outstanding obligations upon the sale of District property or capital improvement that was financed by obligations that remain outstanding at the time of sale. The funding of the reserve is from the proceeds of the sale of District property or capital improvement. This reserve is accounted for in the Debt Service Fund.

**Capital Reserve Fund**

According to Education Law §3651, expenditures made from the capital reserve fund must be used to pay the cost of any object or purpose for which bonds may be issued. The creation of a capital reserve fund requires authorization by a majority of the voters establishing the purpose of the reserve, the ultimate amount, its probable term and the source of the funds. Expenditures may be made from the reserve only for a specific purpose further authorized by the voters. The form for the required legal notice for the vote on establishing and funding the reserve and the form of the proposition to be placed on the ballot are set forth in §3651 of the Education Law. This reserve is accounted for in the General Fund.

**Workers' Compensation Reserve Fund**

According to General Municipal Law §6-j, all expenditures made from the worker's compensation reserve fund must be used to pay for compensation benefits and other expenses authorized by Article 2 of the Workers' Compensation Law, and for payment of expenses of administering this self-insurance program. The reserve may be established by Board action and is funded by budgetary appropriations and such other funds as may be legally appropriated. Within sixty days after the end of any fiscal year, excess amounts may either be transferred to another reserve or the excess applied to the appropriations of the next succeeding fiscal year's budget. This reserve is accounted for in the General Fund.

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Notes to Financial Statements  
For the Year Ended June 30, 2025**

Restricted fund balance includes the following:

General Fund:	
Unemployment insurance	\$ 90,238
Workers' compensation	750,311
Property loss	65,059
Liability	65,504
Retirement contributions	2,139,107
Capital reserve	2,441,980
Miscellaneous Special Revenue Fund	266,022
Debt Service Fund	<u>282,261</u>
	<u>\$ 6,100,482</u>

**Committed** – Includes amounts that can only be used for the specific purposes pursuant to constraints imposed by formal action of the District's highest level of decision-making authority, i.e., the Board of Education. The District has no committed fund balances as of June 30, 2025.

**Assigned** – Includes amounts that are constrained by the District's intent to be used for specific purposes but are neither restricted nor committed. The purpose of the constraint must be narrower than the purpose of the General Fund, and in funds other than the General Fund. Assigned fund balance represents the residual amount of fund balance. Assigned fund balance also includes an amount appropriated to partially fund the subsequent year's budget, as well as encumbrances not classified as restricted at the end of the fiscal year. All encumbrances of the General fund are classified as Assigned Fund Balance in the General Fund. Encumbrances reported in the General Fund amounted to \$80,452. Appropriated fund balance in the General Fund amounted to \$2,500,000. Any remaining fund balance in other funds is considered assigned. The school food service fund also reports assigned fund balance of \$158,515. As of June 30, 2025, the District's General Fund encumbrances were classified as follows:

General support	\$ 72,587
Instruction	7,241
Pupil transportation	624
Employee benefits	<u>-</u>
Total	<u>\$ 80,452</u>

**South Jefferson Central School District  
Notes to Financial Statements  
For the Year Ended June 30, 2025**

**Unassigned** – Includes all other General Fund amounts that do not meet the definition of the above four classifications and are deemed to be available for general use by the District. In funds other than the General Fund, the unassigned classification is used to report a deficit fund balance resulting from overspending for specific purposes for which amounts had been restricted or assigned.

NYS Real Property Tax Law §1318 limits the amount of unexpended surplus funds, excluding the reserve for tax reduction, a school district can retain to no more than 4% of the District's budget for the General Fund for the ensuing fiscal year. Non-spendable and restricted fund balance of the General Fund are excluded from the 4% limitation. Amounts appropriated for the subsequent year, encumbrances and amounts reserved for insurance recoveries are also excluded from the 4% limitation.

**Net Position/Fund Balance:**

**Net Position Flow Assumption:** Sometimes the District will fund outlays for a particular purpose from both restricted (e.g., restricted bond or grant proceeds) and unrestricted resources. In order to calculate the amounts to report as restricted – net position and unrestricted – net position in the district-wide financial statements, a flow assumption must be made about the order in which the resources are considered to be applied.

**Fund Balance Flow Assumption:** Sometimes the District will fund outlays for a particular purpose from both restricted and unrestricted resources (the total committed, assigned, and unassigned fund balance). In order to calculate the amounts to report as restricted, committed, assigned and unassigned fund balance the governmental fund financial statements a flow assumption must be made about the order in which the resources are considered to be applied.

**Order or Use of Fund Balance:**

In circumstances where an expenditure is incurred for a purpose for which amounts are available in multiple fund balance classifications (e.g., expenditures related to reserves) the expenditure is to be spent first from the restricted fund balance to the extent appropriated by either budget vote or board approved budget revision and then from the unrestricted fund balance. Expenditures incurred in the unrestricted fund balances shall be applied first to the assigned fund balance to the extent that there is an assignment and then to the unassigned fund balance.

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Notes to Financial Statements  
For the Year Ended June 30, 2025**

**W) Implementation of New Accounting Standards**

The District has adopted all current Statements of the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) that are applicable. At June 30, 2025, the District implemented the following new standards issued by GASB.

GASB has issued Statement No. 101, *Compensated Absences*, effective for the year ended June 30, 2025. This statement requires that liabilities for compensated absences be recognized for leave that has not been used and leave that has not been used but not yet paid in cash or settled through noncash means. This liability would include leave that has not been used if the leave is attributable to services already rendered, the leave accumulates, and the leave is more likely than not to be used for time off or otherwise paid in cash or settled through noncash means.

GASB has issued Statement No. 102, *Certain Risk Disclosures*, effective for the year ending June 30, 2025. This Statement's objective is to provide users of governmental financial statements with essential information about risks related to government's vulnerabilities due to certain concentrations or constraints.

The implementation of the new standards had no impact on the financial statements.

**2 – Explanation of certain differences between fund statements and District-wide statements**

Due to the differences in the measurement focus and basis of accounting used in the governmental fund statements and the District-wide statements, certain financial transactions are treated differently. The basic financial statements contain a full reconciliation of these items. The differences result primarily from the economic focus of the District-wide statements, compared with the current financial resources focus of the governmental funds.

**A) Total fund balances of governmental funds vs. net position of governmental activities:**

Total fund balances of the District's governmental funds differ from the "net position" of governmental activities reported in the Statement of Net Position. This difference primarily results from the long-term economic focus of the Statement of Net Position versus the current financial resources focus of the governmental fund Balance Sheet, as applied to the reporting of capital assets and deferred outflows of resources, and long-term assets and liabilities and deferred inflows of resources.

**South Jefferson Central School District  
Notes to Financial Statements  
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**B) Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances vs. Statement of Activities:**

Differences between the funds' Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances and the Statement of Activities fall into one of five broad categories. The amounts shown below represent:

- i) Long-term revenue and expense differences:  
Long-term revenue differences arise because governmental funds report revenues only when they are considered "available", whereas the Statement of Activities reports revenues when earned. Differences in long-term expenses arise because governmental funds report on a current financial resources measurement focus and modified accrual basis, whereas economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting is used on the Statement of Activities.
- ii) Capital related differences:  
Capital related differences include the difference between proceeds for the sale of capital assets reported on fund statements and the gain or loss on the sale of assets as reported on the Statement of Activities, and the difference between recording an expenditure for the purchase of capital items or financing of intangible lease and subscription assets in the fund statements and depreciation or amortization expense on those items as recorded in the Statement of Activities.
- iii) Long-term debt transaction differences:  
Long-term debt transaction differences occur because the issuance of long-term debt provides current financial resources to governmental funds but is recorded as a liability in the Statement of Net Position. In addition, both interest and principal payments are recorded as expenditures in the fund statements when due and payable, whereas interest expense is recorded in the Statement of Activities as it accrues, and principal payments are recorded as a reduction of liabilities in the Statement of Net Position.
- iv) Pension differences:  
Pension differences occur as a result of recognizing pension costs using the current financial resources measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting, whereby an expenditure is recognized based on the contractually required contribution as calculated by the plan, versus the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting, whereby an expense is

**South Jefferson Central School District  
Notes to Financial Statements  
For the Year Ended June 30, 2025**

recognized related to the District's proportionate share of the collective pension expense of the plan.

v) OPEB differences:

OPEB differences occur as a result of recognizing OPEB costs using the current financial resources measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting, whereby an expenditure is recognized for health insurance premiums and OPEB costs as they mature (come due for payment), versus the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting, whereby an expense is recognized related to the future cost of benefits in retirement over the term of employment.

**3 - Stewardship, compliance and accountability**

**Budgets**

The District administration prepares a proposed budget for approval by the Board of Education for the following governmental funds for which legal (appropriated) budgets are adopted:

The voters of the District approved the proposed appropriation budget for the General Fund. Appropriations are adopted at the program line-item level.

Appropriations established by the adoption of the budget constitute a limitation on expenditures (and encumbrances) that may be incurred. Appropriation authorized for the year may be increased by the amount of encumbrances carried forward from the prior year. Appropriations lapse at the end of the fiscal year unless expended or encumbered. Encumbrances will lapse if not expended in the subsequent year. Appropriations authorized for the current year can be funded by the planned use of specific reserves, and budget amendments approved by the Board of Education as a result of selected new revenue sources not included in the original budget (when permitted by law) and appropriations of fund balances. These supplemental appropriations may occur subject to legal restrictions, if the Board approves them because of a need that exists which was not determined at the time the budget was adopted. No supplemental appropriations occurred during the year.

Budgets are adopted annually on a basis consistent with GAAP.

The General Fund is the only fund with a legally approved budget for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2025.

**South Jefferson Central School District  
Notes to Financial Statements  
For the Year Ended June 30, 2025**

Budgets are established and used for individual capital project funds expenditures as approved by a special referendum of the District's voters. The maximum project amount authorized is based primarily upon the cost of the project, plus any requirements for external borrowings, not annual appropriations. These budgets do not lapse and are carried over to subsequent fiscal years until the completion of the projects.

**Encumbrances**

Encumbrances accounting is used for budget control and monitoring purposes and is reported as a part of the governmental funds. Under this method, purchase orders, contracts and other commitments for the expenditure of monies are recorded to reserve applicable appropriations. Outstanding encumbrances as of year-end are presented as part of assigned fund balance, unless classified as restricted, and do not represent expenditures or liabilities. These commitments will be honored in the subsequent period. Related expenditures are recognized at that time, as the liability is incurred or the commitment is paid.

The Capital Projects Fund has a deficit fund balance of \$14,325,863. This will be funded when the District receives transportation aid for purchased buses and long-term financing for the capital project.

**4 – Cash (and cash equivalents) – custodial credit, concentration of credits, interest rate, and foreign currency risks**

**Cash and Cash Equivalents**

The District's aggregate bank balances (disclosed in the financial statements), included balances not covered by depository insurance at year-end, collateralized as follows:

Collateralized with securities held by the pledging financial institution, or its trust department or agent, but not in the District's name	\$10,115,370
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Restricted cash and investments represent cash where use is limited by legal requirements. These assets represent amounts required by statute to be reserved for various purposes. Restricted cash as of year-end includes \$5,552,199 restricted for various fund balance reserves in the general fund, \$1,141,400 restricted for the voter approved capital project in the capital projects fund, \$266,797 restricted for extraclassroom and scholarships in the miscellaneous special revenue fund and \$8,461,427 restricted for other employee benefits trust in the fiduciary fund.

**South Jefferson Central School District  
Notes to Financial Statements  
For the Year Ended June 30, 2025**

**Deposits**

Deposits are valued at cost- or cost-plus interest and are categorized as either (1) insured, or for which the securities are held by the District's agent in the District's name, (2) collateralized, and for which the securities are held by the pledging financial institution's trust department or agent in the District's name, or (3) uncollateralized. At June 30, 2025 all deposits were fully insured or collateralized.

**Investment and Deposit Policy**

The District follows an investment and deposit policy, the overall objective of which is to adequately safeguard the principal amount of funds invested or deposited; conformance with Federal, state and other legal requirements; and provide sufficient liquidity of invested funds in order to meet obligations as they become due. Oversight of investment activity is the responsibility of the Business Administrator of the District.

**Interest Rate Risk**

Interest rate risk is the risk that the fair value of investments will be affected by changing interest rates. The District's investment policy does not limit investment maturities as a means of managing its exposure to fair value losses arising from increasing interest rates.

**Credit Risk**

The District's policy is to minimize the risk of loss due to failure of an issuer or other counterparty to an investment to fulfill its obligations. The District's investment and deposit policy authorizes the reporting entity to purchase the following investments:

- Interest bearing demand accounts.
- Certificates of deposit.
- Obligations of the United States Treasury and United States agencies.
- Obligations of New York State and its localities.

**Custodial Credit Risk**

Custodial credit risk is the risk that in the event of a failure of a depository financial institution, the reporting entity may not recover its deposits. In accordance with the District's investment and deposit policy, all deposits of the District including interest bearing demand accounts and certificates of deposit, in excess of the amount insured under the provisions of the Federal Deposit Insurance Act (FDIC) shall be secured by a pledge of securities with an aggregate value equal to 100% of the aggregate amount of deposits. The District restricts the securities to the following eligible items:

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Notes to Financial Statements  
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- Obligations issued, fully insured or guaranteed as to the payment of principal and interest, by the United States Treasury and United States agencies.
- Obligations issued or fully insured or guaranteed by New York State and its localities.

**Investment Pool**

The District participates in the Cooperative Liquid Assets Security System – New York (NYCLASS), a multi-municipal cooperative investment pool agreement pursuant to New York State General Municipal Law Article 3-A and 5-G, whereby it holds a portion of the investments in cooperation with other participants. The investments are highly liquid and are considered to be cash equivalents. All NYCLASS investment and collateral policies are in accordance with General Municipal Law, Sections 10 and 11.

Total investments of the cooperative at June 30, 2025 are \$14,108,395,162 which consisted of \$3,819,691,492 in repurchase agreements, \$9,710,499,474 in U.S. Treasury Securities, and \$578,204,196 in collateralized bank deposits, with various interest rate and due dates.

The amount of \$14,512,543 on deposit with NYCLASS is included as cash in the financial statements.

The above amounts represent the fair value of the investment pool shares. The Lead Participant of NYCLASS is the Village of Potsdam. Additional information concerning NYCLASS, including the annual report, can be found on its website at [www.newyorkclass.org](http://www.newyorkclass.org).

**5 – Receivables**

Receivables at year-end for individual major funds are as follows:

<u>Description</u>	<u>Governmental Activities</u>			<u>School Food</u>	<u>Total</u>
	<u>General</u>	<u>Special Aid</u>	<u>Service</u>		
Accounts receivable	\$ 45,296	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 45,296	
State and federal aid	1,383,172	549,979	101,473	2,034,624	
	<u>\$ 1,428,468</u>	<u>\$ 549,979</u>	<u>\$ 101,473</u>	<u>\$ 2,079,920</u>	

District management has deemed the amounts to be fully collectible.

**South Jefferson Central School District**  
**Notes to Financial Statements**  
**For the Year Ended June 30, 2025**

**6 – Capital assets and intangible lease assets**

**A) Capital assets activity was as follows:**

	<u>Beginning Balance</u>	<u>Additions/ Adjustments</u>	<u>Retirements/ Reclassifications</u>	<u>Ending Balance</u>
<b>Governmental activities:</b>				
<b>Capital assets that are not depreciated:</b>				
Land	\$ 345,900	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 345,900
Construction in progress	1,248,754	13,167,713	-	14,416,467
Total nondepreciable assets	<u>1,594,654</u>	<u>13,167,713</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>14,762,367</u>
<b>Capital assets that are depreciated:</b>				
Buildings	82,483,568	-	-	82,483,568
Furniture, vehicles and equipment	10,180,488	2,073,688	1,198,676	11,055,500
Total depreciable assets	<u>92,664,056</u>	<u>2,073,688</u>	<u>1,198,676</u>	<u>93,539,068</u>
<b>Less accumulated depreciation:</b>				
Buildings	36,983,492	1,634,185	-	38,617,677
Furniture, vehicles and equipment	6,249,024	1,085,042	1,198,676	6,135,390
Total accumulated depreciation	<u>43,232,516</u>	<u>2,719,227</u>	<u>1,198,676</u>	<u>44,753,067</u>
Total depreciated assets, net	<u>49,431,540</u>	<u>(645,539)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>48,786,001</u>
Capital assets, net	<u>\$ 51,026,194</u>	<u>\$ 12,522,174</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 63,548,368</u>
Depreciation expense was charged to governmental functions as follows:				
General support	\$ 249,795			
Instruction		1,749,393		
Pupil transportation		690,756		
School food service		<u>29,283</u>		
			\$ 2,719,227	

**B) Intangible lease assets**

The District has recognized a lease liability obligation and an intangible lease asset for agreements in accordance with the criteria set forth by GASB whereby the District obtains the right to the present service capacity of an underlying asset and the right to determine the nature and manner of an underlying asset's use for a period of one year or greater. The District has entered into such lease agreements for various items and other equipment with implicit interest rates ranging from 1.296% to 5.313%.

**South Jefferson Central School District**  
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**For the Year Ended June 30, 2025**

The following schedule summarizes the District's intangible lease asset activity for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2025:

	<u>Beginning Balance</u>	<u>Additions</u>	<u>Retirements/ Reclassifications</u>	<u>Ending Balance</u>
<b>Intangible lease assets</b>				
Furniture and equipment	\$ 1,435,881	\$ 218,397	\$ -	\$ 1,654,278
Less accumulated amortization	739,650	330,257	-	1,069,907
	<u>\$ 696,231</u>	<u>\$ (111,860)</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 584,371</u>

Amortization expense was charged to governmental functions as follows:

Instruction      \$330,257

**7 – Short-term debt**

Transactions in short-term debt for the year are summarized below:

	<u>Beginning Balance</u>	<u>Issued</u>	<u>Redeemed</u>	<u>Ending Balance</u>
BAN maturing 7/24/2025 at 4.5%	\$ -	\$ 10,000,000	\$ -	\$ 10,000,000
BAN maturing 2/7/2025 at 4.25%	2,172,200	-	2,172,200	-
BAN maturing 2/09/2026 at 4.00%	-	2,569,024	-	2,569,024
	<u>\$ 2,172,200</u>	<u>\$ 12,569,024</u>	<u>\$ 2,172,200</u>	<u>\$ 12,569,024</u>

Interest on short-term debt for the year was composed of:

Interest paid	\$ 92,062
Less interest accrued in the prior year	35,916
Less BAN premium	(83,579)
Plus interest accrued in the current year	455,603
<b>Total expense</b>	<b><u>\$ 500,002</u></b>

**8 – Long-term obligations**

In the fund financial statements, governmental funds recognize bond premiums and discounts during the current period. The face amount of debt issued is reported as other financing sources. Premiums received on debt issuances are reported as other financing sources while discounts on debt issuances are reported as other financing uses. Further, the unmatured principle of general long-term debt does not require current appropriation and expenditure of governmental fund financial resources.

**South Jefferson Central School District**  
**Notes to Financial Statements**  
**For the Year Ended June 30, 2025**

**Serial Bonds**

The School District borrows money in order to acquire land or equipment, construct buildings, or make improvements. This enables the cost of these capital assets to be borne by the present and future taxpayers receiving the benefit of the capital assets. These long-term liabilities are full faith and credit debt of the local government. The provisions will be in the General Fund's future budgets for capital indebtedness.

Long-term liability balances and activity are as follows:

	<u>Beginning Balance</u>			<u>Reductions</u>	<u>Ending Balance</u>		<u>Amounts due within one year</u>
<b>Government activities:</b>							
Bonds and notes payable:							
Serial bonds at 5%, Issued June 15, 2023							
Final payment due 6/15/2036	\$ 5,220,000	\$		-	\$ 360,000	\$ 4,860,000	\$ 380,000
Serial bonds at 1% - 2.25%, Issued June 18, 2015							
Final payment due 6/15/2025	505,000			-	505,000		
Serial bonds at 4%, Issued March 21, 2022							
Final payment due 4/15/2032	1,410,000			-	1,225,000	185,000	25,000
Serial bonds at 2% - 2.25%, Issued July 28, 2016							
Final payment due 6/15/2031	715,000			-	95,000	620,000	95,000
Premium on bonds	904,417			-	84,723	819,694	84,723
Deferred amount on refunding	(132,470)			-	(17,093)	(115,377)	(17,093)
<b>Total bonds payable</b>	<u>\$ 8,621,947</u>	<u>\$</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>\$ 2,252,630</u>	<u>\$ 6,369,317</u>	<u>\$ 567,630</u>	
<b>Other liabilities</b>							
Lease liabilities	\$ 558,494	\$ 195,210	\$ 298,715	\$ 454,989	\$ 215,638		
Compensated absences payable	291,807	192,685	-	484,492	56,838		
Other postemployment benefits payable	124,737,020		-	4,197,306	120,539,714		
Net pension liability - proportionate share	2,947,923			398,718	2,549,205		
<b>Total other long-term liabilities</b>	<u>128,535,244</u>	<u>\$ 387,895</u>	<u>\$ 4,894,739</u>	<u>\$ 124,028,400</u>	<u>\$ 272,476</u>		
	<u>\$ 137,157,191</u>	<u>\$ 387,895</u>	<u>\$ 7,147,369</u>	<u>\$ 130,397,717</u>	<u>\$ 840,106</u>		

**South Jefferson Central School District**  
**Notes to Financial Statements**  
**For the Year Ended June 30, 2025**

The General Fund has typically been used to liquidate long-term liabilities such as compensated absences. Additions and reductions to compensated absences are shown net.

The following is a summary of debt service requirements for bonds payable:

Fiscal year ended June 30,	Principal	Interest	Premium/ Deferred Charges	Total
			on Refunding	
2026	\$ 500,000	\$ 263,613	\$ 67,630	\$ 831,243
2027	525,000	241,712	67,630	834,342
2028	550,000	218,713	67,630	836,343
2029	570,000	194,613	67,630	832,243
2030	590,000	169,513	67,630	827,143
2031-2035	2,850,000	441,350	309,733	3,601,083
2036	80,000	4,000	56,434	140,434
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$ 5,665,000</b>	<b>\$ 1,533,514</b>	<b>\$ 704,317</b>	<b>\$ 7,902,831</b>

Interest on long-term debt for the year was composed of:

Interest paid	\$ 343,875
Less interest accrued in the prior year	(23,493)
Amortization of bond premium/deferred charges on refunding	(67,630)
Plus interest accrued in the current year	<u>12,775</u>
<b>Total expense</b>	<b>\$ 265,527</b>

**Defeased Debt**

On April 15, 2022, the School District issued \$5,170,000 in general obligation bonds with an interest rate of 4.0% to advance refund \$5,255,000 of outstanding serial bonds issued in 2012 and 2014 with an average interest rate of 1.0% to 5.0%. The District received a premium of \$258,370 when the bonds were issued. The net proceeds of \$5,345,692 (after payment of \$82,678 in underwriting fees, insurance, and other issuance costs) were used to purchase United States government securities. Those securities were deposited in an irrevocable trust with an escrow agent to provide for all future debt service payments on the bonds. As a result, a portion of the 2012 and 2014 serial bonds are considered to be defeased, and the liability for those bonds has been removed from the School District's financial statements. At June 30, 2025, the balance of the advance refunded bonds was \$220,000. The economic gain (loss) on the transaction (the difference between the present values of the debt service payments on the old and new debt) is approximately \$80,781. The aggregate budgetary savings will be \$90,338.

**South Jefferson Central School District  
Notes to Financial Statements  
For the Year Ended June 30, 2025**

The deferred gain on the advance refunding of the 2012 and 2014 Series Bonds will be amortized on the district-wide financial statements using the straight-line method over ten years, the remaining time to maturity of the refunded bonds. Amortization in the amount of \$17,093 was recorded for the year ending June 30, 2025.

**Lease liability**

The District recognizes a lease liability obligation and an intangible lease asset for agreements whereby the District obtains the right to the present service capacity of an underlying asset and the right to determine the nature and manner of an underlying asset's use for a period of one year or greater. The District has entered into such lease agreements for various items and other equipment with implicit interest rates ranging from 1.296% to 5.313%.

Principal and interest expense paid on the District's lease liability amounted to \$298,715 and \$20,106, respectively, for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2025.

The following is a summary of lease liability requirements:

Fiscal year ended June 30	<u>Principal</u>	<u>Interest</u>
2026	\$ 215,638	\$ 19,581
2027	132,920	9,349
2028	106,431	4,520

**9 – Interfund Transactions – Governmental Funds**

Interfund transactions and balances are as follows:

Interfund receivables and payables, other than between governmental activities and fiduciary funds, are eliminated on the statement of net position. The District typically loans resources between funds for the purpose of mitigating the effects of transient cash flow issues. All interfund payables are expected to be repaid within one year.

	<u>Interfund</u>			
	<u>Receivable</u>	<u>Payable</u>	<u>Transfers In</u>	<u>Transfers Out</u>
General	\$ 3,914,874	\$ 830,309	\$ -	\$ 3,359,184
Special Aid	25,223	534,270	25,223	-
School Food Service	25,210	-	-	-
Debt Service	282,261	-	2,528,875	-
Capital Projects	737,101	3,620,090	805,086	-
Total Governmental Funds	<u>\$ 4,984,669</u>	<u>\$ 4,984,669</u>	<u>\$ 3,359,184</u>	<u>\$ 3,359,184</u>

**South Jefferson Central School District  
Notes to Financial Statements  
For the Year Ended June 30, 2025**

The District typically transfers from the General Fund to the Special Aid Fund, to cover the local share of programs and from the General Fund to the Debt Service Fund to pay long term debt payments.

The District made a transfer from the General Fund to the Capital Fund for a capital project.

**10 – Postemployment Benefits Obligation Payable**

*Plan Description*

The District administers a defined benefit OPEB plan that provides OPEB for all permanent full-time general employees of the District. The plan is a single-employer defined benefit OPEB plan (the Plan) administered by Article 11 of the State Compiled Statutes which grants the authority to establish and amend the benefit terms and financing requirements to the District's Board, subject to applicable collective bargaining and employment agreements, and Board of Education policy. The Plan does not issue a separate financial report since there are no assets legally segregated for the sole purpose of paying benefits under the Plan. No assets are accumulated in a trust that meets the criteria set forth by GASB.

*Funding Policy*

The obligations of the Plan members and employers are established by action of the District pursuant to applicable collective bargaining and other employment agreements. Employees contribute varying percentages of the premiums, depending on when retired and their applicable agreement. Employees are required to reach age 55 and have 10 years of service to qualify for other post-employment benefits. The District currently funds the Plan to satisfy current obligations on a pay-as-you-go basis. During the year ended June 30, 2025 approximately \$3,423,517 was paid on behalf of 223 retirees.

*Benefits Provided*

The District provides for continuation of medical and/or Medicare Part B benefits for certain retirees and their spouses. The benefit terms are dependent on which contract each employee falls under, retirees and their spouses receive benefits for the lifetime of the retired employee. The specifics of each contract are on file at the District offices and are available upon request.

**South Jefferson Central School District  
Notes to Financial Statements  
For the Year Ended June 30, 2025**

*Employees Covered by Benefit Terms* – At June 30, 2025, the following employees were covered by the benefit terms:

Inactive plan members or beneficiaries currently receiving benefit payments	223
Active plan members	198
Total plan members	<u>421</u>

*Net OPEB Liability*

The District's total OPEB liability of \$120,539,714 was measured as of June 30, 2025 and was determined by an actuarial valuation as of July 1, 2024.

*Actuarial Assumptions and Other Inputs*

The total OPEB liability at June 30, 2025 was determined using the following actuarial assumptions and other inputs, applied to all periods included in the measurement, unless otherwise specified:

Inflation	2.25% (Based on CPI)
Salary Increases	3.0%
Discount Rate	4.09% (Average of Bond-Buyer - 20 Bond GO, S&P Municipal Bond 20 Year High Grade Rate Index, and Fidelity GA AA 20 years)
Healthcare Cost Trend Rates	7.00%, decreasing to an ultimate rate of 4.50% for 2036 and later.
Retirees' Share of Benefit-Related Costs	0% to 100% of projected health insurance premiums for retirees.

Mortality rates were based on the Society of Actuaries Pub -2010 Public Retirement Plans Healthy Male and Female Total Data Set Headcount – Weighted Mortality tables based on Employee and Healthy Annuitant Tables for both pre- and post-retirement projected with mortality improvements using the most current Society of Actuaries Mortality Improvement Scale MP-2021.

Retirement participation rate assumed that 90% of eligible participants will elect medical coverage at retirement age, and 70% of active member's spouses will elect medical coverage. Additionally, a tiered approach based on age and years of service was used to determine retirement rate assumption.

**South Jefferson Central School District**  
**Notes to Financial Statements**  
**For the Year Ended June 30, 2025**

Termination rates are based on tables used by the New York State Teachers' Retirement System and the New York State and Local Retirement System for female employees. Rates are tiered based on the percentage of employees who will terminate employment at any given age each year, for reasons other than death or retirement.

The discount rate is based on an average of two 20-year bond indices as of June 30, 2025.

*Changes in the Total OPEB Liability*

Changes in the District's net OPEB liability were as follows:

	Total OPEB Liability <u>(a)</u>	Plan Fiduciary Net Position <u>(b)</u>	Net OPEB Liability <u>(a)</u>
Balance at June 30, 2024	<u>\$124,737,020</u>	\$ <u>-</u>	<u>\$124,737,020</u>
Changes for the year:			
Service cost	2,528,003	-	2,528,003
Interest	5,020,375	-	5,020,375
Contributions - employer	-	3,978,924	(3,978,924)
Changes of assumptions or other inputs	(7,766,760)	-	(7,766,760)
Benefit payments	<u>(3,978,924)</u>	<u>(3,978,924)</u>	<u>-</u>
Net changes	<u>(4,197,306)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(4,197,306)</u>
Balance at June 30, 2025	<u>\$120,539,714</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$120,539,714</u>

Changes of benefit terms reflect changes in assumptions and other inputs including a change in the discount rate from 4.0% in 2024 to a 4.09% in 2025.

*Sensitivity of the Total OPEB Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate*

The following presents the District's 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 (3.09%) or 1 percentage point higher (5.09%) than the current discount rate:

	1% Decrease	Discount Rate	1% Increase
Total OPEB Liability	<u>\$ 142,198,470</u>	<u>\$ 120,539,714</u>	<u>\$ 103,470,279</u>

**South Jefferson Central School District  
Notes to Financial Statements  
For the Year Ended June 30, 2025**

*Sensitivity of the Total OPEB Liability to Changes in the Healthcare Cost Trend Rates*

The following 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 costs trend rates that are 1 percentage point lower or 1 percentage point higher than the current healthcare cost trend rate:

	1% Decrease	Discount Rate	1% Increase
Total OPEB Liability	<u>\$ 102,313,088</u>	<u>\$ 120,539,714</u>	<u>\$ 144,217,905</u>

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

For the year ended June 30, 2025, the District recognized OPEB expense of \$11,745,931. At June 30, 2025, the District reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources to OPEB from the following sources:

	<u>Deferred Outflows of Resources</u>	<u>Deferred Inflows of Resources</u>
Differences between expected and actual experience	\$ -	\$ -
Changes in assumptions or other inputs	15,297,778	28,924,789
Contributions subsequent to the measurement period	3,883,233	-
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>\$ 19,181,011</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 28,924,789</u></b>

Amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB will be recognized in OPEB expense as follows:

For the year ended:

2026	\$ 3,822,877
2027	597,237
2028	(4,007,091)
2029	(4,961,585)
2030	(4,961,585)
Thereafter	(4,116,864)

**South Jefferson Central School District  
Notes to Financial Statements  
For the Year Ended June 30, 2025**

**11 – Risk Management**

**General**

The District is exposed to various risks of loss relative to torts, theft, damage, injuries, errors and omissions, natural disasters, and other risks. These risks are covered by commercial insurance purchased from independent third parties. Settled claims from these risks have not exceeded commercial insurance coverage for the past two years.

**Consortiums and Self-Insured Plans**

The District participates in South Jefferson Central School District Health Plan Trust for its employee health, dental and accident insurance coverage. The trust is operated for the benefit of the District and is considered a self-sustaining risk pool that will provide coverage for its members up to \$170,000 per insured event. The pool obtains independent coverage for insured events in excess of the \$170,000 limit, and the District has essentially transferred all related risk to the trust.

The District participates in the Black River Valley Schools Workers' Compensation Plan, a risk-sharing pool, to insure Workers' Compensation claims. This is a public entity risk pool created under Article 5 of the Workers' Compensation Law to finance liability and risks related to Workers' Compensation claims. The District's share of the liability for unbilled and open claims is \$0.

**12 – Commitments and contingencies**

The District has received grants, which are subject to audit by agencies of the State and Federal governments. Such audits may result in disallowances and a request for a return of funds. Based on prior years' experience, the District's administration believes disallowances, if any, will be immaterial.

**13 – Tax abatements**

The County of Jefferson entered into a property tax abatement program for the purpose of economic development. The School District property tax revenue was reduced by \$343,988. The District received Payment in Lieu of Tax (PILOT) payment totaling \$57,160.

**14 – Subsequent Events**

Management has evaluated subsequent events through October 28, 2025, the date on which the financial statements were available to be issued.

South Jefferson Central School District  
 Required Supplementary Information  
 Schedule of Changes in the District's Total  
 OPEB Liability and Related Ratios  
 June 30, 2025

SS #1

Measurement date	June 30, 2025	June 30, 2024	June 30, 2023	June 30, 2022	June 30, 2021	June 30, 2020	June 30, 2019	June 30, 2018
<b>Total OPEB Liability</b>								
Service cost	\$ 2,528,003	\$ 2,414,209	\$ 2,528,889	\$ 3,786,581	\$ 3,251,977	\$ 2,616,568	\$ 2,372,352	\$ 2,763,397
Interest	5,020,375	4,962,351	5,601,409	2,830,148	2,210,543	2,523,909	2,794,911	2,455,885
Differences between expected and actual experience in the measurement of the total OPEB liability	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,477,603	
Changes of assumptions or other inputs	(7,766,760)	(4,814,528)	(28,890,610)	9,902,846	42,199,602	7,724,476	(1,984,525)	(8,180,446)
Benefit payments	<u>(3,978,924)</u>	<u>(3,767,589)</u>	<u>(3,751,180)</u>	<u>(2,958,582)</u>	<u>(2,730,170)</u>	<u>(2,566,213)</u>	<u>(2,268,700)</u>	<u>(2,220,712)</u>
Net change in total OPEB liability	(4,197,306)	(1,205,557)	(25,511,492)	13,560,993	44,931,952	10,298,740	4,391,641	(5,181,876)
Total OPEB liability - beginning	<u>124,737,020</u>	<u>125,942,577</u>	<u>150,454,069</u>	<u>136,893,076</u>	<u>91,961,124</u>	<u>81,662,384</u>	<u>77,270,743</u>	<u>82,452,619</u>
Total OPEB liability - ending	<u>\$ 120,539,714</u>	<u>\$ 124,737,020</u>	<u>\$ 125,942,577</u>	<u>\$ 150,454,069</u>	<u>\$ 136,893,076</u>	<u>\$ 91,961,124</u>	<u>\$ 81,662,384</u>	<u>\$ 77,270,743</u>
Covered payroll	<u>\$ 17,040,661</u>	<u>\$ 14,471,114</u>	<u>\$ 14,471,114</u>	<u>\$ 12,504,448</u>	<u>\$ 12,504,448</u>	<u>\$ 15,859,062</u>	<u>\$ 15,859,062</u>	<u>\$ 15,490,742</u>
Total OPEB liability as a percentage of covered payroll	707.37%	861.97%	870.30%	1203.20%	1094.76%	579.86%	514.93%	498.82%

Note: The District does not have assets accumulated in a trust that meets the criteria in paragraph 4 of GASB Statement No. 75 *Accounting and Financial Reporting for Postemployment Benefits Other than Pensions* to pay OPEB benefits. The District currently contributes enough money to the plan to satisfy current obligations on a pay-as-you-go basis.

10 years of historical information will not be available upon implementation. An additional year of historical information will be added each year subsequent to the year of implementation until 10 years of historical data is available.

See paragraph on supplementary schedules included in independent auditors' report.

## Required Supplementary Information

## Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance -

## Budget And Actual - General Fund

For the Year Ended June 30, 2025

	Original Budget	Final Budget	Actual (Budgetary Basis)	Final Budget Variance With Budgetary Actual
<b>Revenues</b>				
Local Sources				
Real property taxes	\$ 8,721,000	\$ 8,721,000	\$ 7,931,767	\$ (789,233)
Other tax items	58,500	58,500	862,041	803,541
Charges for services	41,000	41,000	253,165	212,165
Use of money and property	5,000	5,000	412,449	407,449
Sale of property and compensation for loss	37,000	37,000	350,389	313,389
Miscellaneous	166,500	166,500	341,210	174,710
Total Local Sources	9,029,000	9,029,000	10,151,021	1,122,021
State sources	33,618,572	33,618,572	32,704,405	(914,167)
Federal sources	-	-	18,430	18,430
Total Revenues	42,647,572	42,647,572	42,873,856	226,284
<b>Appropriated Fund Balance</b>				
Appropriated reserves	1,500,000	1,500,000		
Prior year's encumbrances	510,730	510,730		
Total Appropriated Fund Balance	2,010,730	2,010,730		
Total Revenues, Other Sources and Appropriated Fund Balance	<u>\$ 44,658,302</u>	<u>\$ 44,658,302</u>		

## Note to Required Supplementary Information

Budget basis of accounting

Budgets are adopted on the modified accrual basis of accounting consistent with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

## Required Supplementary Information

## Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance -

## Budget and Actual - General Fund

For the Year Ended June 30, 2025

Expenditures	Original Budget	Final Budget	Actual (Budgetary Basis)	Year-end Encumbrances	Final Budget Variance With Budgeting Actual and Encumbrances	
					Budgeting	Actual
General Support						
Board of education	\$ 46,824	\$ 60,824	\$ 46,090	\$ 171	\$ 14,563	
Central administration	229,452	235,452	228,887	-	6,565	
Finance	451,234	459,614	416,871	-	42,743	
Staff	237,716	296,216	283,969	-	12,247	
Central services	3,182,031	3,165,031	2,684,120	28,285	452,626	
Special items	637,178	698,178	634,008	44,131	20,039	
Total General Support	4,784,435	4,915,315	4,293,945	72,587	548,783	
Instruction						
Instruction, administration and improvement	1,183,703	1,181,419	1,056,696	2,405	122,318	
Teaching - regular school	11,303,327	11,711,242	10,773,306	2,493	935,443	
Programs for children with handicapping conditions	3,569,135	3,255,135	2,987,885	2,276	264,974	
Occupational education	1,209,663	1,209,663	1,202,320	-	7,343	
Teaching - special school	22,173	74,173	67,537	-	6,636	
Instructional media	804,243	742,743	627,031	67	115,645	
Pupil services	2,164,657	2,231,646	1,862,270	-	369,376	
Total Instruction	20,256,901	20,406,021	18,577,045	7,241	1,821,735	
Pupil Transportation	3,002,620	2,848,620	2,170,079	624	677,917	
Employee Benefits	11,959,230	11,833,230	10,198,919	-	1,634,311	
Debt Service	1,118,155	1,118,155	1,151,483	-	(33,328)	
Total Expenditures	41,121,341	41,121,341	36,391,471	80,452	4,649,418	
Other Financing Uses						
Transfers to other funds	3,536,961	3,536,961	3,359,184	-	177,777	
Total Expenditures and Other Uses	\$44,658,302	\$44,658,302	\$39,750,655	\$ 80,452	\$ 4,827,195	
Net change in fund balances				3,123,201		
Fund balance - beginning				14,387,393		
Fund balance - ending				\$17,510,594		

## Note to Required Supplementary Information

## Budget basis of accounting

Budgets are adopted on the modified accrual basis of accounting consistent with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

South Jefferson Central School District  
 Required Supplementary Information  
 Schedules of District Contributions  
 NYSTRS Pension Plan  
 Last 10 Fiscal Years  
 For the Year Ended June 30, 2025

Supplemental Schedule #3

	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016
Contractually Required Contribution	\$ 1,365,400	\$ 1,312,904	\$ 1,229,323	\$ 1,152,125	\$ 1,035,275	\$ 1,263,133	\$ 1,149,978	\$ 1,273,039	\$ 1,566,583	\$ 1,871,452
Contributions in Relation to the Contractually Required Contribution	1,365,400	1,312,904	1,229,323	1,152,125	1,035,275	1,263,133	1,149,978	1,273,039	1,566,583	1,871,452
Contribution Deficiency (Excess)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
District's Covered-Employee Payroll	\$13,396,656	\$12,943,370	\$11,946,777	\$12,046,421	\$10,839,287	\$11,331,888	\$11,083,487	\$11,178,699	\$11,814,351	\$10,695,234
Contributions as a Percentage of Covered-Employee Payroll	10.19%	10.14%	10.29%	9.56%	9.55%	11.15%	10.38%	11.39%	13.26%	17.50%

Schedules of District Contributions  
 NYERS Pension Plan  
 Last 10 Fiscal Years  
 For the Year Ended June 30, 2025

	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016
Contractually Required Contribution	\$ 648,536	\$ 625,415	\$ 522,901	\$ 660,740	\$ 658,746	\$ 528,027	\$ 481,103	\$ 495,713	\$ 530,000	\$ 633,478
Contributions in Relation to the Contractually Required Contribution	648,536	625,415	522,901	660,740	658,746	528,027	481,103	495,713	530,000	633,478
Contribution Deficiency (Excess)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
District's Covered-Employee Payroll	\$ 6,151,462	\$ 5,027,344	\$ 4,698,256	\$ 4,014,538	\$ 3,431,573	\$ 3,821,275	\$ 3,825,624	\$ 3,462,308	\$ 3,544,472	\$ 3,545,219
Contributions as a Percentage of Covered-Employee Payroll	10.54%	12.44%	11.13%	16.46%	19.20%	13.82%	12.58%	14.32%	14.95%	17.87%

See paragraph on supplementary schedules included in independent auditors' report.

## South Jefferson Central School District

## Supplemental Schedule #4

## Required Supplementary Information

## Schedules of District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability

## NYSTRS Pension Plan

## Last 10 Fiscal Years

For the Year Ended June 30, 2025

	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016
Measurement date	6/30/2024	6/30/2023	6/30/2022	6/30/2021	6/30/2020	6/30/2019	6/30/2018	6/30/2017	6/30/2016	6/30/2015
District's Proportion of the Net Pension Liability (Asset)	0.0667950%	0.0647210%	0.0661030%	0.0637730%	0.067141%	0.067890%	0.068043%	0.068200%	0.069310%	0.071070%
District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability (Asset)	\$ (1,992,896)	\$ 740,136	\$ 1,268,438	\$ (11,051,322)	\$ 1,855,295	\$ (1,763,778)	\$ (1,230,402)	\$ (518,387)	\$ 742,339	\$ (7,381,930)
District's Covered-Employee Payroll	\$ 13,396,656	\$ 12,943,370	\$ 11,946,777	\$ 12,046,421	\$ 10,839,287	\$ 11,331,888	\$ 11,083,487	\$ 11,178,699	\$ 11,814,351	\$ 10,695,234
District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability (Asset) as a Percentage of its Covered-Employee Payroll	-14.87%	5.72%	10.62%	-91.74%	17.12%	-15.56%	-11.10%	-4.63%	-6.28%	-69.02%
Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total Pension Liability (Asset)	102.09%	111.48%	98.60%	113.20%	97.80%	102.20%	101.53%	-100.66%	99.01%	110.46%

## Schedules of District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability

## NYSERS Pension Plan

## Last 10 Fiscal Years

For the Year Ended June 30, 2025

	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016
Measurement date	3/31/2025	3/31/2024	3/31/2023	3/31/2022	3/31/2021	3/31/2020	3/31/2019	3/31/2018	3/31/2017	3/31/2016
District's Proportion of the Net Pension Liability (Asset)	0.0148679%	0.0149944%	0.0134342%	0.0120726%	0.012317%	0.012278%	0.011556%	0.012105%	0.012409%	0.012886%
District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability (Asset)	\$ 2,549,205	\$ 2,207,787	\$ 2,880,834	\$ (986,885)	\$ 12,264	\$ 3,251,372	\$ 818,763	\$ 390,690	\$ 1,165,951	\$ 2,068,243
District's Covered-Employee Payroll	\$ 6,151,462	\$ 5,027,344	\$ 4,698,256	\$ 4,014,538	\$ 3,431,573	\$ 3,821,275	\$ 3,825,624	\$ 3,462,308	\$ 3,544,472	\$ 3,545,219
District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability (Asset) as a Percentage of its Covered-Employee Payroll	41.44%	43.92%	61.32%	-24.58%	0.36%	85.09%	21.40%	11.28%	32.89%	58.34%
Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total Pension Liability (Asset)	93.08%	93.88%	90.78%	103.65%	99.95%	86.39%	96.27%	98.24%	94.70%	90.68%

See paragraph on supplementary schedules included in independent auditors' report.

**South Jefferson Central School District  
Schedule of Change from Adopted Budget to Final Budget  
And the Real Property Tax Limit - General Fund  
For the Year Ended June 30, 2025**

Supplemental Schedule #5

**Change from Adopted Budget to Final Budget**

Adopted Budget	\$ 44,147,572
Additions:	
Prior year's encumbrances	<u>510,730</u>
Original budget	44,658,302
Budget revisions:	
Donations	<u>-</u>
Final budget	<u>\$ 44,658,302</u>

**Section 1318 of Real Property Tax Law Limit Calculation**

Maximum allowed (4% of 2025-2026 budget of \$44,006,306)	\$ <u>1,760,252</u>
General Fund Balance Subject to Section 1318 of Real Property Tax Law:	
Unrestricted fund balance:	
Assigned fund balance	2,580,452
Unassigned fund balance	<u>9,331,580</u>
Total unrestricted fund balance	\$ <u>11,912,032</u>
Less:	
Appropriated fund balance	2,500,000
Encumbrances included in assigned fund balance	<u>80,452</u>
Total adjustments	<u>2,580,452</u>
General Fund Balance Subject to Section 1318 of Real Property Tax Law	\$ <u>9,331,580</u>
Actual percentage	<u>21.21%</u>

See paragraph on supplementary schedules included in independent auditors' report.

**South Jefferson Central School District**  
**Schedule of Project Expenditures -**  
**Capital Projects Fund**  
**For the Year Ended June 30, 2025**

Project Title	Expenditures						Methods of Financing				Fund Balance June 30, 2025
	Original Appropriation	Revised Appropriation	Prior Years	Current Year	Total	Unexpended Balance	Proceeds of Obligations	State Source	Local Sources	Total	
Buses*	\$ 1,825,829	\$ 1,825,829	\$ -	\$ 1,825,829	\$ 1,825,829	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 740,600	\$ 740,600		(2,350,080)
2025-2026 Capital Outlay	100,000	100,000	-	3,000	3,000	-	-	-	-	-	(97,000)
2023 Building Reconstruction	17,100,000	17,100,000	1,248,754	13,164,712	14,413,466	-	-	-	2,535,086	2,535,086	(11,878,783)
	<u>\$ 19,025,829</u>	<u>\$ 19,025,829</u>	<u>\$ 1,248,754</u>	<u>\$ 14,993,541</u>	<u>\$ 16,242,295</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 3,275,686</u>	<u>\$ 3,275,686</u>	<u>\$ (14,325,863)</u>	

\* Buses are financed by BANs when purchased.  
 Only current year appropriations are listed.

**South Jefferson Central School District  
Net Investment in Capital Assets  
For the Year Ended June 30, 2025**

Supplemental Schedule #7

Capital assets, net	\$ 64,132,739
Add:	115,377
Deferred charge on bond refunding	
Deduct:	
Bond anticipation notes	\$ 12,569,024
Short-term portion of bonds payable	500,000
Short-term portion of lease liabilities	215,638
Long-term portion of bonds payable	5,165,000
Long-term portion of lease liabilities	239,351
Premium on bonds payable	<u>819,694</u>
	<u>19,508,707</u>
Net Investment in capital assets	<u>\$ 44,739,409</u>

See paragraph on supplementary schedules included in independent auditors' report.

**STACKEL & NAVARRA, C.P.A., P.C.**  
*CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS*

COMMUNITY BANK BUILDING – 216 WASHINGTON STREET  
WATERTOWN, NEW YORK 13601-3336  
TELEPHONE 315/782-1220  
FAX 315/782-0118

Robert F. Stackel, C.P.A.  
Jacob Navarra, C.P.A.  
Mark B. Hills, C.P.A.

**Independent Auditors' 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***

Board of Education  
South Jefferson Central School District  
Adams, New York

We have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of South Jefferson Central School District, as of and for the year ended June 30, 2025, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise South Jefferson Central School District's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated October 28, 2025.

**Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting**

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

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

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

**STACKEL & NAVARRA, C.P.A., P.C.**

*CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS*

any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses may exist that have not been identified.

**Report on Compliance and Other Matters**

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether South Jefferson Central School District's financial statements are free of material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit, and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed one instance of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards* and which is described in the accompanying schedule of findings and questioned costs as item 2025-1.

**Purpose of this Report**

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

*Stackel & Navarra, CPA, PC*

Stackel & Navarra, C.P.A., P.C.

Watertown, NY

October 28, 2025

# STACKEL & NAVARRA, C.P.A., P.C.

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

COMMUNITY BANK BUILDING – 216 WASHINGTON STREET

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## **Independent Auditors' Report on Compliance for Each Major Program and on Internal Control Over Compliance Required by the Uniform Guidance**

Board of Education  
South Jefferson Central School District

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

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

We have audited South Jefferson Central School District'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 South Jefferson Central School District's major federal programs for the year ended June 30, 2025. South Jefferson Central School District's major federal programs are identified in the summary of auditors' results section of the accompanying schedule of findings and questioned costs.

In our opinion, South Jefferson Central School District complied, in all material respects, with the types of compliance requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on each of its major federal programs for the 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; the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States; and the audit requirements of Title 2 U.S. *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (Uniform Guidance). Our responsibilities under those standards and the Uniform Guidance are further described in the Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance section of our report.

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

### ***Responsibilities of Management for Compliance***

Management is responsible for compliance with the requirements referred to above and for the design, implementation, and the 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 South Jefferson Central School District's federal programs.

### ***Auditors' 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 South Jefferson Central School District's compliance based on our audit. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, *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 South Jefferson Central School District's compliance with the requirements of each major federal program as a whole.

In performing an audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, *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 South Jefferson Central School District's compliance with the compliance requirements referred to above and performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances.
- Obtain an understanding of the South Jefferson Central School District's internal control over compliance relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances and to test and report on internal control over compliance in accordance with the Uniform Guidance, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the South Jefferson Central School District's internal control over compliance. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.

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

### Report on Internal Control over Compliance

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

Our consideration of internal control over compliance was for the limited purpose described in the Auditors' 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 been 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.

*Stackel & Navarra, CPA, PC*

Watertown, NY  
October 28, 2025

**South Jefferson School District**  
**Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards**  
**For the Year Ended June 30, 2025**

<b>Federal/Grantor/Pass-Through Grantor/Program Title</b>	<b>Assistance Listing Number</b>	<b>Agency or Pass-through Number</b>
<b>U.S. Department of Education</b>		
<b>Passed-through NYS Education Department:</b>		
Special Education Cluster:		
IDEA - Part B (Section 619)	84.173	0033250314 \$ 7,598
IDEA - Part B (Section 611)	84.027	0032250314 <u>482,019</u>
Total Special Education Cluster		<u>489,617</u>
Education Stabilization Fund		
COVID 19 - American Rescue Plan - Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund	84.425U	5883-21-1155 155,562
COVID 19 - American Rescue Plan - Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund	84.425U	5882-21-1155 265,177
COVID 19 - American Rescue Plan - Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund	84.425U	5884-21-1155 175,184
COVID 19 - American Rescue Plan - Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund	84.425U	5880-21-1155 <u>122,839</u>
Total Education Stabilization Fund		718,762
Title I - ESEA - Basic Grant	84.010	0021251155 415,344
Title IV Part A - Student Support & Academic Enrichment	84.424	0204251155 31,653
Title IIA - Supporting Effective Instruction	84.367	0147251155 <u>64,214</u>
Total Passed-through NYS Education Department		<u>1,719,590</u>
Total U.S. Department of Education		<u>1,719,590</u>

See notes to Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards.

**South Jefferson School District**  
**Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards**  
**For the Year Ended June 30, 2025**

<b>Federal/Grantor/Pass-Through Grantor/Program Title</b>	<b>Assistance Listing Number</b>	<b>Agency or Pass-through Number</b>
<b>U.S. Department of Agriculture</b>		
<b>Passed-through NYS Education Department:</b>		
Child Nutrition Cluster:		
Non-cash assistance (food distribution)		
National School Lunch Program	10.555	<u>99,158</u>
Cash assistance		
National School Lunch Program	10.555	576,529
School Breakfast Program	10.553	130,486
Summer Food Service Program for Children	10.559	42,794
After School Snack Program	10.555	2,241
Supply Chain Assistance	10.555	<u>4,872</u>
Cash Assistance Subtotal		<u>756,922</u>
Total Child Nutrition Cluster		<u>856,080</u>
Total Passed-through NYS Education Department		<u>856,080</u>
Total U.S. Department of Agriculture		<u>856,080</u>
<b>U.S. Department of Defense</b>		
<b>District Programs:</b>		
Impact Aid	12.558	18,430
Competitive Grants: Promoting K-12 Student Achievement at Military Connected Schools	12.556	<u>157,268</u>
Total U.S. Department of Defense		<u>175,698</u>
Total Federal Awards Expended		<u>\$ 2,751,368</u>

See notes to Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards.

**South Jefferson School District  
Notes to Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards  
For the Year Ended June 30, 2025**

**1 – Summary of certain significant accounting policies:**

The accompanying schedule of expenditures of federal awards presents the activity of federal award programs administered by the District, which is described in Note I to the District's accompanying financial statements, using the modified accrual basis of accounting. Federal awards that are included in the schedule may be received directly from federal agencies, as well as federal awards that are passed through from other government agencies. The information 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). Therefore, some amounts presented in this schedule may differ from amounts presented in, or used in the preparation of, the financial statements.

Indirect costs may be included in the reported expenditures, to the extent that they are included in the federal financial reports used as a source of the data presented. The District's policy is to not charge federal award programs with indirect costs. The District has not elected to use the 10% de minimis indirect cost rate.

Matching costs (the District's share of certain program costs) are not included in the reported expenditures. The basis of accounting varies by federal program consistent with the underlying regulations pertaining to each program. The amounts reported as federal expenditures were obtained from the federal financial reports for the applicable program periods. The amounts reported in these reports are prepared from records maintained for each program, which are reconciled with the District's financial reporting system.

**2 – Food distribution:**

Nonmonetary assistance is recorded in the schedule at the fair market value of the commodities received and disbursed. The District was granted \$99,158 of commodities under the National School Lunch Programs.

**3 – Scope of Audit:**

All federal grants of the District are included in the scope of the single audit.

**4 – Subrecipients:**

No amounts were provided to subrecipients.

**5 – Other disclosures:**

No insurance is carried specifically to cover equipment purchased with federal funds. Any equipment purchased with federal funds has only a nominal value, and is covered by the District's casualty insurance policies.

There were no loans or loan guarantees outstanding at year-end.

**South Jefferson Central School District  
Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs  
Year Ended June 30, 2025**

**Section I - Summary of Auditor's Results**

***Financial Statements***

Type of auditor's opinion(s) issued: Unmodified

Internal control over financial reporting:

Material weakness (es) identified?	<input type="checkbox"/> yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no
Significant deficiency (ies) identified?	<input type="checkbox"/> yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> none reported
Noncompliance material to financial statements noted?	<input type="checkbox"/> yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no

***Federal Awards***

Internal control over major programs:

Material weakness (es) identified?	<input type="checkbox"/> yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no
Significant deficiency (ies) identified?	<input type="checkbox"/> yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> none reported

Type of auditor's opinion(s) issued on compliance for major programs: Unmodified

Any audit findings disclosed that are required to be reported in accordance with the Uniform Guidance  yes  no

Identification of major programs:

<u>Name of federal program</u>	<u>Assistance Listing</u>
Child Nutrition Cluster:	
National School Lunch Program	10.555
School Breakfast Program	10.553
Summer Food Service Program for children	10.559

Dollar threshold used to distinguish between Type A and Type B Programs \$750,000

Auditee qualified as low risk?  yes  no

**South Jefferson Central School District  
Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs  
Year Ended June 30, 2025**

**Section II - Financial Statements Findings**

At June 30, 2025, the School District appropriated \$2,500,000 of fund balance for the 2025-2026 fiscal year leaving a balance of \$9,331,580 unassigned. The amount left unappropriated is in excess of four percent of the ensuing fiscal year balance by \$7,571,328.

**Recommendation:** The School District should implement procedures to ensure compliance with the 4% unassigned fund balance limit.

**Corrective Action Planned:** The District is aware that it exceeded the four percent limitation. The District is implementing procedures to better track budgetary expenditures throughout the year in order to more accurately predict the year-end fund balance during the budget development process. Another strategy in response to this finding is that the District recently established and funded a Reserve Fund for required contributions to the NYS Teachers Retirement System (NYSTRS), a Reserve for ERS, a Reserve for Worker's Compensation, and most recently a Capital Reserve. With our Building Conditions Survey being conducted in 2024-25, we now have a clear road map on the infrastructure needs of the District and will be allocating a portion of this unassigned fund balance to the Capital reserve to ease the tax payer burden on the next Capital Project.

Name(s) of contact person(s) responsible for corrective action: Business Administrator, Josh Hartshorne

**Anticipated completion date:** The District will continue to keep this in the forefront as future budgets and long-term plans are developed and updated. Other NYSED allowable reserve fund options will be explored as opportunities to appropriate unassigned fund balance. The District will review fund balance and allocate funding estimates to reserves by June 30, 2026.

**Section III - Federal Award Findings and Questioned Costs**

NONE

**South Jefferson Central School District  
Schedule of Prior Audit Findings  
Year Ended June 30, 2025**

Finding: Undesignated fund balance exceeded the four percent limitation.

Status: Noted again in current year.

**South Jefferson Central School District  
Corrective Action Plan 24-25**

**Finding 1 - Extraclassroom Fund**

In the Extraclassroom Activity Fund, we noted that there are activity accounts that are no longer in existence. In addition, there were activities that have had no activity over the past two years. During our testing we discovered one payment to a vendor that did not have a signed payment order.

**Recommendation:**

The activity accounts that are listed for nonexistent activities should be removed from the Fund. If there are activities that will not be viable going forward, they should be closed out and discontinued. We also recommend that NYSED Pamphlet 2, The Safeguarding, Accounting, and Auditing of Extraclassroom Activity Funds, be reviewed. It is important that the Extraclassroom Activity Fund provide learning experiences for students in the business procedures needed to safeguard collection, deposit, and disbursement of money along with the collection of sales tax on taxable transactions. All cash receipts and disbursements should be properly authorized by all parties and profit and loss statements should be prepared for all fundraisers.

**Corrective Action Planned:**

Non-existent activities and will be removed accordingly. A thorough review of all accounts will be undertaken to ensure that any accounts that do not have any activity will be removed. In addition, the district will also review those fundraising activities to ensure that profit and loss statements are prepared accordingly. Extraclass NYSED Pamphlet 2 will be re-distributed to all of those that work in this fund.

**Name(s) of contact person(s) responsible for corrective action:**

Central Treasurer, Heather Tyo

**Anticipated completion date:**

June 30, 2026

**Finding 2 – Closing Checklist**

Auditors noted that various accounts were not reconciled at the time of their audit procedures. This also resulted in a delay of the timing of the completion of the audit

**Recommendation:**

That management implement a Closing Procedures Checklist to assist in the closing process and help ensure that the necessary steps are taken to reconcile and close the District's accounts in a timely manner.

**Management's Response**

The District that there were a number of reconciliation items that should have occurred in advance of the audit and that there is a need to create & adhere to the closing checklist to ensure a much timelier audit in the future. This will be created, reviewed and implemented throughout the year.

**Name(s) of contact person(s) responsible for corrective action:**

Treasurer, Katie Dandrow & Business Administrator, Josh Hartshorne

**Anticipated completion date:**

June 30, 2026

### **Finding 3 - Excess Fund Balance**

At June 30, 2025, the School District appropriated \$2,500,000 of fund balance for the 2025-2026 fiscal year leaving a balance of \$9,331,580 unassigned. The amount left unappropriated is in excess of four percent of the ensuing fiscal year balance by \$7,571,328.

**Recommendation:**

The School District should implement procedures to ensure compliance with the 4% unassigned fund balance limit.

**Corrective Action Planned:**

The District is aware that it exceeded the four percent limitation. The District is implementing procedures to better track budgetary expenditures throughout the year in order to more accurately predict the year-end fund balance during the budget development process. Another strategy in response to this finding is that the District recently established and funded a Reserve Fund for required contributions to the NYS Teachers Retirement System (NYSTRS), a Reserve for ERS, a Reserve for Worker's Compensation, and most recently a Capital Reserve. With our Building Conditions Survey being conducted in 2024-25, we now have a clear road map on the infrastructure needs of the District and will be allocating a portion of this unassigned fund balance to the Capital reserve to ease the tax payer burden on the next Capital Project.

**Name(s) of contact person(s) responsible for corrective action:**

Business Administrator, Josh Hartshorne

**Anticipated completion date:**

The District will continue to keep this in the forefront as future budgets and long-term plans are developed and updated. Other NYSED allowable reserve fund options will be explored as opportunities to appropriate unassigned fund balance. The District will review fund balance and allocate funding estimates to reserves by June 30, 2026.

## FORM OF BOND COUNSEL'S OPINION

February 5, 2026

South Jefferson Central School District  
 Counties of Jefferson, Lewis and Oswego  
 State of New York

Re: South Jefferson Central School District, Jefferson, Lewis and Oswego Counties, New York  
 \$2,902,522 Bond Anticipation Notes, 2026

Ladies and Gentlemen:

We have examined a record of proceedings relating to the issuance of \$2,902,522 Bond Anticipation Notes, 2026 (referred to herein as the "Notes"), of the South Jefferson Central School District, Jefferson, Lewis and Oswego Counties, State of New York (the "District"). The Notes are dated February 5, 2026 and are being issued pursuant to the Constitution and laws of the State of New York, including the Education Law and Local Finance Law, a resolution of the District in respect of the Notes and a Certificate of Determination dated on or before February 5, 2026 of the President of the Board of Education relative to the form and terms of the Notes.

In our opinion, the Notes are valid and legally binding general obligations of the District for which the District has validly pledged its faith and credit and, unless paid from other sources, all taxable real property within the District is subject to levy of ad valorem real estate taxes to pay the Notes and interest thereon without limitation of rate or amount. The enforceability of rights or remedies with respect to the Notes may be limited by bankruptcy, insolvency, or other laws affecting creditors' rights or remedies heretofore or hereinafter enacted.

The Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code"), establishes certain requirements that must be met subsequent to the issuance and delivery of the Notes in order that interest on the Notes be and remain excluded from gross income under Section 103 of the Code. The President of the Board of Education of the District, in executing the Arbitrage and Use of Proceeds Certificate, has certified to the effect that the District will comply with the provisions and procedures set forth therein and that it will do and perform all acts and things necessary or desirable to assure that interest on the Notes is excluded from gross income under Section 103 of the Code. We have examined such Arbitrage and Use of Proceeds Certificate of the District delivered concurrently with the delivery of the Notes, and, in our opinion, such certificate contains provisions and procedures under which such requirements can be met.

In our opinion, interest on the Notes is excluded from gross income for federal income tax purposes under Section 103 of the Code, and is excluded from adjusted gross income for purposes of New York State and New York City personal income taxes. Interest on the Notes is not treated as a preference item in calculating the alternative minimum tax under the Code, however, interest on the Notes is included in the "adjusted financial statement income" of certain corporations that are subject to the alternative minimum tax under Section 55 of the Code. We express no opinion regarding other tax consequences related to the ownership or disposition of, or the accrual or receipt of interest on, the Notes.

The opinions expressed herein are based on an analysis of existing laws, regulations, rulings and court decisions and cover certain matters not directly addressed by such authorities. Such opinions may be affected by actions taken or omitted or events occurring after the date hereof. We have not undertaken to determine or to inform any person, whether any such actions are taken or omitted or events do occur or any other matters come to our attention after the date hereof. Our engagement with respect to the Notes has concluded with their issuance, and we disclaim any obligation to update this opinion. We have assumed, without undertaking to verify, the accuracy of the factual matters represented, warranted or certified in the documents. Furthermore, we have assumed compliance with all covenants and agreements contained in the Arbitrage and Use of Proceeds Certificate, including without limitation covenants and agreements compliance with which is necessary to assure that future actions, omissions or events will not cause interest on the Notes to be included in gross income for federal income tax purposes or adjusted gross income for purposes of personal income taxes imposed by the State of New York and the City of New York. We call attention to the fact that the rights and obligations under the Notes and the Arbitrage and Use of Proceeds Certificate and their enforceability may be subject to bankruptcy, insolvency, reorganization, arrangement, fraudulent conveyance, moratorium or other laws relating to or affecting creditors' rights, to the application of equitable principles, to the exercise of judicial discretion in appropriate cases and to the limitations on legal remedies against New York municipal corporations such as the School District. We express no opinion with respect to any indemnification, contribution, penalty, choice of law, choice of forum, or waiver provisions contained in the foregoing documents.

The scope of our engagement in relation to the issuance of the Notes has extended solely to the examination of the facts and law incident to rendering the opinions expressed herein. The opinions expressed herein are not intended and should not be construed to express or imply any conclusion that the amount of real property subject to taxation within the boundaries of the School District, together with other legally available sources of revenue, if any, will be sufficient to enable the School District to pay the principal of or interest on the Notes as the same respectively become due and payable. Reference should be made to the Official Statement for factual information, which, in the judgment of the School District would materially affect the ability of the School District to pay such principal and interest. We have not verified the accuracy, completeness or fairness of the factual information contained in the Official Statement and, accordingly, no opinion is expressed by us as to whether the School District, in connection with the sale of the Notes, has made any untrue statement of a material fact, or omitted to state a material fact necessary in order to make any statements made, in light of the circumstances under which they were made, not misleading.

We have examined the first executed Note of each said issue and, in our opinion, the form of said Note and its execution are regular and proper.

Very truly yours,

Trespasz Law Offices, LLP