

**CITY OF BAKER SCHOOL BOARD**

**BAKER, LOUISIANA**

**ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT**

**YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023**

**CITY OF BAKER SCHOOL BOARD  
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## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

\* A Professional Accounting Corporation

To James Stroder Superintendent,  
and the Members of the City of Baker School Board  
Baker, Louisiana

### 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 the City of Baker School Board (the School Board), as of and for the year ended June 30, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the School Board'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 the School Board, as of June 30, 2023, and the respective changes in financial position thereof for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

#### *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 Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of the School Board 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.

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

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

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinions. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with 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 School Board's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- Conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the School Board's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

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

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

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the management's discussion and analysis and other required supplementary information as listed in the table of contents be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with 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 the School Board's basic financial statements. The supplementary information as listed in the table of contents is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the basic financial statements. The accompanying schedule of expenditures of federal awards is presented for purposes of additional analysis as required by Title 2 U.S. *Code of Federal Regulations* (CFR) Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards*, and is also not a required part of the basic financial statements. 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 combining and individual nonmajor fund financial statements and the schedule of expenditures of federal awards are fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the basic financial statements as a whole.

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

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated December 22, 2023, on our consideration of the School Board's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters.

The purpose of that report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the School Board's internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the School Board's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

***Kolder, Slaven & Company, LLC***  
Certified Public Accountants

Abbeville, Louisiana  
December 22, 2023

**CITY OF BAKER SCHOOL BOARD  
MANAGEMENT’S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS  
AS OF JUNE 30, 2023**

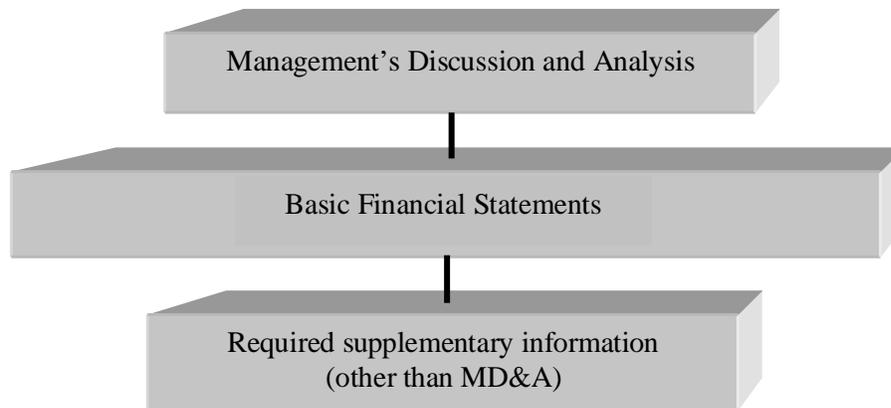
The Management’s Discussion and Analysis of the City of Baker School Board’s (the School Board) financial performance presents a narrative overview and analysis of the School Board’s financial activities for the year ended June 30, 2023. This document focuses on the current year’s activities, resulting changes, and currently known facts in comparison with the prior year’s information (where available).

**FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS**

- ★ The City of Baker School Board’s assets and deferred outflows of resources exceeded its liabilities and deferred inflows of resources at the close of fiscal year 2023 by approximately \$8.5 million.
- ★ At June 30, 2023, the deficit in unrestricted net position in the Statement of Net Position was primarily caused by the net pension liability, net other post-employment benefits obligation, and the related deferred inflows of resources, that totaled approximately \$14.7 million, \$6.6 million, and \$8.5 million, respectively.
- ★ Revenues exceeded expenses by approximately \$9 million on a full accrual basis for the 2023 fiscal year, representing a positive increase in the long-term financial condition of the School Board.
- ★ Ad valorem tax and sales and use taxes increased over the prior year by a total of approximately \$95,000 in comparison to 2022. Minimum Foundation Program (MFP) revenues decreased approximately \$20,000 in comparison to 2022. However, operating and capital grants increased by almost \$8 million, primarily as a result of ESSER funds and FEMA funds related to the Baker High School renovation.

**OVERVIEW OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

The following graphic illustrates the minimum requirements for Special Purpose Governments established by Governmental Accounting Standards Board.



These financial statements consist of three sections - Management’s Discussion and Analysis (this section), the basic financial statements (including the notes to the financial statements), and required supplementary information.

**Government-wide financial statements.** The *government-wide financial statements* are designed to provide readers with a broad overview of the School Board’s finances, in a manner similar to private sector business.

**CITY OF BAKER SCHOOL BOARD  
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS  
AS OF JUNE 30, 2023**

The *statement of net position* presents information on all of the School Board's assets, deferred outflows, liabilities and deferred inflows of resources, with the difference between the four reported as *net position*. Over time, increases or decreases in net position may serve as a useful indicator of whether the financial position of the School Board is improving or deteriorating.

The *statement of activities* presents information showing how the government's net position changed during the most recent fiscal year. All changes in net position are reported as soon as the underlying event giving rise to the change occurs, regardless of the timing of the cash flows. Thus, revenues and expenses are reported in this statement for some items that will only result in cash flows in future periods (e.g., uncollected taxes and earned but unused sick leave).

Both government-wide financial statements present functions of the School Board that are principally supported by taxes and intergovernmental revenues (governmental activities). The School Board has no functions or activities which are business-like in nature, meaning that they are primarily supported by user fees and charges for services, such as a municipally owned utility system. The governmental activities of the School Board include regular and special education programs, support services, administration, maintenance, student transportation, and school food services. The School Board contains no other units of government (component units) nor is it contained as a component unit of any other level of local or state government.

**Fund financial statements.** A *fund* is a grouping of related accounts that are used to maintain control over the resources that have been segregated for specific activities or objectives. The School Board, like other state and local governments, uses fund accounting to ensure and demonstrate compliance with finance related legal requirements. All of the funds of the School Board can be divided into two categories: governmental funds and fiduciary funds.

**Governmental funds.** *Governmental funds* are used to account for essentially the same functions as governmental activities in the government-wide financial statements. However, unlike the government-wide financial statements, governmental fund financial statements focus on *near term inflows and outflows of spendable resources*, as well as on *balances of spendable resources available* at the end of the fiscal year. Such information may be useful in evaluating a government's near-term financial requirements. Because of the focus of governmental funds is narrower than that of the government-wide financial statements, it is useful to compare the information presented for governmental funds with similar information presented for governmental activities in the government-wide financial statements. By doing so, readers may better understand the long-term impact of the School Board's near-term financing decisions. Both the governmental fund balance sheet and the governmental fund statement of revenues, expenditures, and changes in fund balance provide a reconciliation to facilitate this comparison between governmental funds and governmental activities. The School Board maintains several individual governmental funds. Information is presented separately in the government fund balance sheet and in the governmental fund statement of revenues, expenditures and changes in fund balances for the General Fund, Flood Recovery, Title I, and Food Service, which are the School Board's major funds. The remaining funds are combined into a single, aggregated presentation under the label of non-major governmental funds, which contains all other governmental funds. Individual fund data for each of these non-major funds is provided in the form of combining statements elsewhere in this report.

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

**CITY OF BAKER SCHOOL BOARD  
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS  
AS OF JUNE 30, 2023**

**FINANCIAL ANALYSIS OF THE ENTITY**

Statements of Net Position  
as of June 30, 2023 and 2022

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
<b>Assets</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 6,502,770	\$ 12,903,856
Receivables	10,939,293	2,792,150
Inventory	22,703	12,729
Other assets	27,683	27,683
Capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation	<u>20,336,798</u>	<u>12,467,069</u>
Total assets	37,829,247	28,203,487
Deferred outflows of resources	<u>11,050,844</u>	<u>6,075,661</u>
Total assets and deferred outflows of resources	<u>\$ 48,880,091</u>	<u>\$ 34,279,148</u>
<b>Liabilities</b>		
Accounts payable	\$ 963,944	\$ 33,081
Salaries and benefits payable	1,001,323	676,771
Long-term liabilities:		
Due within one year	368,609	343,139
Due in more than one year	8,085,632	8,431,401
Other post-employment benefit obligation	6,654,681	6,053,699
Net pension liability	<u>14,768,761</u>	<u>7,069,469</u>
Total liabilities	31,842,950	22,607,560
Deferred inflows of resources	<u>8,512,261</u>	<u>12,139,446</u>
Total liabilities and deferred inflows of resources	<u>40,355,211</u>	<u>34,747,006</u>
<b>Net position</b>		
Net investment in capital assets	13,824,545	12,467,069
Restricted	6,083,780	250,282
Unrestricted	<u>(11,383,445)</u>	<u>(13,185,209)</u>
Total net position	<u>8,524,880</u>	<u>(467,858)</u>
Total liabilities, deferred inflows of resource, and net position	<u>\$ 48,880,091</u>	<u>\$ 34,279,148</u>

**CITY OF BAKER SCHOOL BOARD  
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS  
AS OF JUNE 30, 2023**

**FINANCIAL ANALYSIS OF THE ENTITY (Continued)**

- Cash and cash equivalents decreased by approximately \$6.4 million over the prior fiscal year, which was primarily a result of spending down funds from the prior year bond issuance related to the Baker High renovation project. However, some of these amounts (approximately \$7 million) are reimbursable by FEMA (approximately \$6.3 million) and the Louisiana CDBG program (approximately \$700,000). Overall total assets increased by approximately \$9.6 million over the prior year, primarily related to the increase in receivables and construction in progress referenced above.
- Capital assets (reported net of accumulated depreciation), which accounts for 54% of the total assets of the School Board, increased by approximately \$7.8 million, net of accumulated depreciation, primarily related to the Baker High renovation project referenced above.
- The net pension liability and other post-employment benefits obligation increased approximately \$7.7 million and \$600,000, respectively. However, the deferred inflows of resources related to these liabilities decreased by approximately \$3.6 million.
- The unrestricted net deficit was reduced by approximately \$1.8 million or 14% as a result of the factors referenced above.

**CITY OF BAKER SCHOOL BOARD  
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS  
AS OF JUNE 30, 2023**

**FINANCIAL ANALYSIS OF THE ENTITY (Continued)**

Statements of Revenues and Expenses  
as of June 30, 2023 and 2022

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
Revenue		
Program revenues		
Charges for services	\$ 167,217	\$ 177,904
Operating grants	6,602,743	5,597,506
Capital grants	6,963,172	-
General revenues		
Taxes		
Ad valorem tax	2,549,012	2,610,130
Sales and use tax	5,100,341	4,943,548
State revenue sharing	44,034	46,007
Minimum foundation program	7,364,814	7,385,248
Other grants	408,945	517,337
Interest and investment earnings	328,438	1,408
Miscellaneous	111,428	174,101
Total revenue	<u>29,640,144</u>	<u>21,453,189</u>
Expenses		
Regular education programs	3,750,022	4,646,956
Special education programs	1,030,233	892,702
Other education programs	4,540,960	2,449,152
Pupil support services	701,155	649,020
Instructional staff services	933,013	784,406
General administrative services	740,426	605,362
School administrative services	1,017,321	1,054,017
Business and central services	442,181	357,602
Plant operation and maintenance	2,499,708	1,784,434
Transportation	812,185	679,444
Food services	1,013,205	843,026
Charter school appropriation	2,912,905	2,592,985
Interest on long-term debt	254,092	-
Bond issuance costs	-	188,310
Total expenses	<u>20,647,406</u>	<u>17,527,416</u>
Change in net position	<u>\$ 8,992,738</u>	<u>\$ 3,925,773</u>

**CITY OF BAKER SCHOOL BOARD  
MANAGEMENT’S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS  
AS OF JUNE 30, 2023**

**FINANCIAL ANALYSIS OF THE ENTITY (Continued)**

Revenue

- Operating and capital grant revenue, which accounts for approximately 46% of total revenues, increased by approximately \$8 million. Operating grants increased approximately \$1 million, primarily due to an increase in COVID-related ESSER grants. Additionally, capital grants increased by approximately \$7 million, primarily related to the FEMA and CDBG revenues for the Baker High renovation project referenced above.
- Local tax revenues consist of sales and property taxes and increased approximately \$100,000 total compared to 2022. These local tax revenues are approximately 26% of total revenue in 2023. There have been nominal increases in these tax resources over the past couple fiscal years.
- Minimum Foundation Program (MFP) revenue decreased by \$20,000, in comparison to fiscal 2022 as result of a slight decreased enrollment compared to the prior year. MFP revenues accounted for approximately 25% of total revenues in 2023.

Expense

- Overall expenses increased by approximately \$3.1 million or 18% from the prior year, primarily due to an increase in charter school appropriations of approximately \$300,000, an increase in interest on long-term debt of approximately \$250,000, and an increase in other educational expenditures of \$2.1 million, primarily as a result of the ESSER grants, as compared to 2022. All other expenses increased by approximately \$400,000 in total as compared to the prior year.

**CAPITAL ASSET AND DEBT ADMINISTRATION**

**Capital Assets**

At the end of fiscal 2023, the City of Baker School Board had approximately \$20.3 million invested in a broad range of capital assets, including land, building, and equipment. (See Table below). This amount represents a net increase (including additions and depreciation) of \$7.9 million from last year due to asset additions of approximately \$8.4 million and depreciation expense of approximately \$500,000.

Capital Assets at June 30,  
(Net of Accumulated Depreciation)

	2023	2022
Land	\$ 149,536	\$ 149,536
Construction in progress	12,675,147	4,298,203
Buildings and improvements	7,106,174	7,514,288
Furniture, Fixtures, and Equipment	405,941	505,042
	\$ 20,336,798	\$ 12,467,069

**CITY OF BAKER SCHOOL BOARD  
MANAGEMENT’S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS  
AS OF JUNE 30, 2023**

**Long-term debt**

The School Board’s long-term debt consists of the remaining balance owed on a 2022 \$8.2 million bond issuance, liability for compensated absences, claims and judgements, an obligation for postemployment benefits (OPEB), and the School Board’s net pension liability.

Long-Term Debt at June 30,

	2023	2022
Bonds payable	\$ 7,925,000	\$ 8,200,000
Claims and judgements	11,872	11,872
Compensated absences	517,369	562,668
Net pension liability	14,768,761	7,069,469
Net other post-employment benefit obligations	6,654,681	6,053,699
	<b>\$ 29,877,683</b>	<b>\$ 21,897,708</b>

**VARIATIONS BETWEEN ORIGINAL AND FINAL BUDGETS**

Budget amendments were adopted during the year ended June 30, 2023 for the General Fund to better reflect actual operations as they evolved through the fiscal year. Amendments included increases in projected sales tax revenues and decreases in ad valorem taxes and decreases in MFP funding due to a decrease in student enrollment. Additionally, there were amendments to decrease expenditures related to various instructional and education programs, along with an increase to charter school appropriations.

**ECONOMIC FACTORS AND NEXT YEAR’S BUDGETS**

For the fiscal year 2023-2024, the School Board anticipates a break-even budget its General Fund due to a slight decrease in revenues, primarily related to a conservative forecast for sales tax revenues. Additionally, the School Board is anticipating a slight increase in operating expenditures.

The City of Baker School Board’s elected and appointed officials considered the following factors and indicators when setting next year’s budget, rates, and fees. These factors and indicators include:

- Ad-valorem and sales tax revenues are budgeted conservatively, with a decrease of approximately \$300,000 as compared to fiscal year ended June 30,2023. Sales tax revenues have been much higher than historical amounts in the previous two fiscal years. As a result, the budget was established to be more consistent with long-term historical amounts.
- MFP revenue is projected to remain consistent with fiscal year 2023.
- Indirect cost transfers into the general fund are expected to decrease slightly due to reduced ESSER grant funding in fiscal year 2023.
- Charter school appropriations are expected to decrease approximately \$200,000 in 2024 as compared to 2023.

**CITY OF BAKER SCHOOL BOARD  
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS  
AS OF JUNE 30, 2023**

**CONTACTING THE SCHOOL BOARD'S MANAGEMENT**

This financial report is designed to provide a general overview of the School Board's finances for those with an interest in the School Board's financial position and operations. Questions concerning any of the information provided in this report or request for additional financial information should be addressed to Ms. Sidney Stewart, Business Manager, City of Baker School Board, P.O Box 680, Baker, LA 70704-0680, 225-774-5795.

**CITY OF BAKER SCHOOL BOARD**  
**BAKER, LOUISIANA**  
**STATEMENT OF NET POSITION**  
**JUNE 30, 2023**

<b>ASSETS</b>	
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 4,169,445
Restricted cash	2,333,325
Receivables:	
Taxes	819,918
Due from other governments	10,119,375
Prepaid expenses	27,683
Inventory	22,703
Noncurrent assets:	
Non-depreciable	12,824,683
Depreciable, net	7,512,115
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>37,829,247</b>
<b>DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES</b>	
Deferred pension contributions	2,078,807
Deferred amounts related to other post employment benefits	1,509,372
Deferred amounts related to net pension liability	7,462,665
<b>TOTAL DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES</b>	<b>11,050,844</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS &amp; DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES</b>	<b>\$ 48,880,091</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>	
Accounts payable	\$ 963,944
Salaries and benefits payable	1,001,323
Long-term liabilities:	
Due within one year	368,609
Due in more than one year	8,085,632
Other post-employment benefit obligation	6,654,681
Net pension liability	14,768,761
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>31,842,950</b>
<b>DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES</b>	
Deferred amounts related to net pension liability	5,191,770
Deferred amounts related to other postemployment benefits	3,320,491
<b>TOTAL DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES</b>	<b>8,512,261</b>
<b>NET POSITION</b>	
Net investment in capital assets	13,824,545
Restricted	6,083,780
Unrestricted	(11,383,445)
<b>TOTAL NET POSITION</b>	<b>8,524,880</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES, DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES, AND NET POSITION</b>	<b>\$ 48,880,091</b>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this statement.

**CITY OF BAKER SCHOOL BOARD  
BAKER, LOUISIANA  
STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023**

		Program Revenues			Net (Expense) Revenue and Changes in Net Position
Expenses	Charges for Services	Operating Grants and Contributions	Capital Grants and Contributions	Governmental Activities	
<u>Functions/Programs</u>					
Instruction:					
Regular education programs	\$ 3,750,022	\$ -	\$ 34,413	\$ -	\$ (3,715,609)
Special education programs	1,030,233	-	427,556	-	(602,677)
Other education programs	4,540,960	166,185	1,611,456	-	(2,763,319)
Support Services:					
Pupil support services	701,155	-	-	-	(701,155)
Instructional staff services	933,013	-	-	-	(933,013)
General administration services	740,426	-	3,637,897	-	2,897,471
School administration services	1,017,321	-	-	-	(1,017,321)
Business and central services	442,181	-	-	-	(442,181)
Plant operation and maintenance	2,499,708	-	-	-	(2,499,708)
Transportation	812,185	-	-	-	(812,185)
Food services	1,013,205	1,152	891,421	-	(120,632)
Appropriation to charter schools	2,912,905	-	-	-	(2,912,905)
Facilities construction and repairs	-	-	-	6,963,172	6,963,172
Interest on long-term debt	254,092	-	-	-	(254,092)
<b>Total Governmental Activities</b>	<b>\$ 20,647,406</b>	<b>\$ 167,337</b>	<b>\$ 6,602,743</b>	<b>\$ 6,963,172</b>	<b>(6,914,154)</b>
General Revenues:					
Local sources:					
Ad valorem taxes				\$ 2,549,012	
Sales and use taxes				5,100,341	
State revenue sharing				44,034	
Grants and contributions not restricted to specific purposes:					
Minimum foundation program (MFP)					7,364,814
Other grants					408,945
Earnings on investments					328,438
Other					111,308
					15,906,892
					Change in Net Position 8,992,738
					Net Position - beginning of year (467,858)
					Net Position - end of year \$ 8,524,880

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this statement.

**CITY OF BAKER SCHOOL BOARD  
BAKER, LOUISIANA  
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS  
BALANCE SHEET  
JUNE 30, 2023**

	General	Capital Project Flood Recovery	Title I	School Food Service	ESSER	Non-major Governmental	Total
<b>ASSETS</b>							
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 3,826,605	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 342,677	\$ 4,169,282
Restricted cash	-	2,333,488	-	-	-	-	2,333,488
Receivables:							
Due from other governments	34,124	7,299,712	514,771	85,740	1,916,852	268,176	10,119,375
Taxes	819,918	-	-	-	-	-	819,918
Due from other funds	5,991,967	-	-	-	-	-	5,991,967
Prepaid expenses	27,268	-	-	-	-	415	27,683
Inventory	-	-	-	22,703	-	-	22,703
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$ 10,699,882</b>	<b>\$ 9,633,200</b>	<b>\$ 514,771</b>	<b>\$ 108,443</b>	<b>\$ 1,916,852</b>	<b>\$ 611,268</b>	<b>\$ 23,484,416</b>
<b>LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES</b>							
Liabilities:							
Accounts payable	\$ 33,046	\$ 920,578	\$ 8,574	\$ -	\$ 330	\$ 1,416	\$ 963,944
Salaries and benefits payable	1,001,323	-	-	-	-	-	1,001,323
Due to other funds	-	3,053,914	506,197	281,432	1,916,522	233,902	5,991,967
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>1,034,369</b>	<b>3,974,492</b>	<b>514,771</b>	<b>281,432</b>	<b>1,916,852</b>	<b>235,318</b>	<b>7,957,234</b>
Fund balances:							
Nonspendable related to inventory	-	-	-	22,703	-	-	22,703
Nonspendable related to prepaid expenses	27,268	-	-	-	-	415	27,683
Restricted for flood recovery capital project	-	5,658,708	-	-	-	-	5,658,708
Restricted for other education programs	-	-	-	-	-	426,324	426,324
Unassigned	9,638,245	-	-	(195,692)	-	(50,789)	9,391,764
<b>TOTAL FUND BALANCES</b>	<b>9,665,513</b>	<b>5,658,708</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(172,989)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>375,950</b>	<b>15,527,182</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES</b>	<b>\$ 10,699,882</b>	<b>\$ 9,633,200</b>	<b>\$ 514,771</b>	<b>\$ 108,443</b>	<b>\$ 1,916,852</b>	<b>\$ 611,268</b>	<b>\$ 23,484,416</b>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this statement.

**CITY OF BAKER SCHOOL BOARD  
BAKER, LOUISIANA**

**RECONCILIATION OF THE GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS BALANCE SHEET  
TO THE STATEMENT OF NET POSITION  
JUNE 30, 2023**

Total Fund Balances at June 30, 2023 - Governmental Funds		\$	15,527,182
Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of net position is different due to the following:			
Capital assets used in governmental activities are not financial resources and therefore are not reported in governmental funds			
Cost of capital assets at June 30, 2023	28,350,733		
Less: Accumulated depreciation as of June 30, 2023	<u>(8,013,935)</u>		20,336,798
Long-term liabilities are not due and payable in the current period and therefore not reported in the governmental funds.			
Long-term liabilities at June 30, 2023:			
Bonds payable	(7,925,000)		
Claims payable	(11,872)		
Compensated absences payable	(517,369)		
Net other post-employment benefit obligation	(6,654,681)		
Net pension liability	<u>(14,768,761)</u>		(29,877,683)
Deferred inflows and outflows of resources are not reported in the governmental funds.			
Deferred outflows of resources - deferred pension contributions	2,078,807		
Deferred outflows of resources related to net pension liability	7,462,665		
Deferred outflows of resources related to other postemployment benefits	1,509,372		
Deferred inflows of resources related to net pension liability	(5,191,770)		
Deferred inflows of resources related to other postemployment benefits	<u>(3,320,491)</u>		<u>2,538,583</u>
Total Net Position at June 30, 2023 - Governmental Activities		\$	<u><u>8,524,880</u></u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this statement.

**CITY OF BAKER SCHOOL BOARD**  
**BAKER, LOUISIANA**  
**GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS**  
**STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023**

	General	Capital Project Flood Recovery	Title I	School Food Service	ESSER	Other Non- Major	Total
<b>REVENUES</b>							
Local sources:							
Ad valorem taxes	\$ 2,549,012	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,549,012
Sales and use tax	5,100,341	-	-	-	-	-	5,100,341
Earnings on investments	159,186	169,252	-	-	-	-	328,438
Food sales	-	-	-	1,152	-	-	1,152
Other	58,267	-	-	-	-	166,185	224,452
State sources:							
Minimum foundation program (MFP)	7,353,842	-	-	10,972	-	-	7,364,814
Restricted grants-in-aid	129,762	-	-	19,911	-	293,685	443,358
Other	44,034	-	-	-	-	-	44,034
Federal grants	-	6,963,172	1,470,592	891,421	3,618,858	640,500	13,584,543
<b>TOTAL REVENUES</b>	<b>15,394,444</b>	<b>7,132,424</b>	<b>1,470,592</b>	<b>923,456</b>	<b>3,618,858</b>	<b>1,100,370</b>	<b>29,640,144</b>
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>							
Current:							
Instruction:							
Regular education programs	3,397,873	-	-	-	494,854	-	3,892,727
Special education programs	940,003	-	-	-	15,290	114,873	1,070,166
Other education programs	811,665	-	1,148,757	-	2,112,188	581,846	4,654,456
Support:							
Pupil support services	522,461	-	-	-	118,675	-	641,136
Instructional staff services	509,583	-	262,682	-	74,955	200,479	1,047,699
General administration services	701,683	-	-	-	2,990	-	704,673
School administration services	1,040,080	-	-	-	17,958	-	1,058,038
Business and central services	294,260	-	-	-	3,067	-	297,327
Plant operation and maintenance	1,766,276	-	33,640	-	177,785	-	1,977,701
Transportation	691,739	-	-	-	65,358	-	757,097
Food services	6,781	-	-	878,320	145,145	-	1,030,246
Central services	155,369	-	-	-	2,490	-	157,859
State appropriations to charter schools	2,912,905	-	-	-	-	-	2,912,905
Facility construction and capital outlay	-	8,376,944	-	-	31,462	-	8,408,406
Debt service:							
Principal and interest	529,092	-	-	-	-	-	529,092
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>14,279,770</b>	<b>8,376,944</b>	<b>1,445,079</b>	<b>878,320</b>	<b>3,262,217</b>	<b>897,198</b>	<b>29,139,528</b>
<b>EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER (UNDER) EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>1,114,674</b>	<b>(1,244,520)</b>	<b>25,513</b>	<b>45,136</b>	<b>356,641</b>	<b>203,172</b>	<b>500,616</b>
<b>OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)</b>							
Transfers in	400,929	-	-	-	-	-	400,929
Transfers out	-	-	(25,513)	-	(356,641)	(18,775)	(400,929)
<b>TOTAL OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)</b>	<b>400,929</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(25,513)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(356,641)</b>	<b>(18,775)</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUES AND OTHER FINANCING SOURCES OVER EXPENDITURES AND OTHER USES</b>	<b>1,515,603</b>	<b>(1,244,520)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>45,136</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>184,397</b>	<b>500,616</b>
FUND BALANCES - beginning of year	8,149,910	6,903,228	-	(218,125)	-	191,553	15,026,566
FUND BALANCES - end of year	<b>\$ 9,665,513</b>	<b>\$ 5,658,708</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ (172,989)</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 375,950</b>	<b>\$ 15,527,182</b>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this statement.

**CITY OF BAKER SCHOOL BOARD  
BAKER, LOUISIANA**

**RECONCILIATION OF THE GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS  
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND  
CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES TO THE STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023**

Excess (deficiency) of Revenues and Other Financing Sources over Expenditures and Other Uses - Total Governmental Funds	\$	500,616
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Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of activities are different due to the following:

Governmental funds report capital outlays as expenditures. However, in the statement of activities the cost of those assets is allocated over their estimated useful lives and reported as depreciation expense.

Capital outlay and other expenditures capitalized	8,408,406	
Depreciation expense for year ended June 30, 2023	<u>(538,677)</u>	7,869,729

Principal payments on long-term debt represent the use of financial resources in governmental funds. However, these payments reduce the long-term liability in the statement of net position and are not considered expenses within the statement of activities.

Principal payments on debt		<u>275,000</u>
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Certain expenses reported in the statement of activities do not require the use of current financial resources and therefore are not reported as expenditures in governmental funds.

Change in net pension liability and deferred inflows and outflows in accordance with GASB 68	241,687	
Other post-employment benefit expense	60,407	
Change in compensated absences payable	<u>45,299</u>	<u>347,393</u>

Change in Net Position - Governmental Activities	\$	<u><u>8,992,738</u></u>
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The accompanying notes are an integral part of this statement.

**CITY OF BAKER SCHOOL BOARD**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
June 30, 2023

**NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

The accompanying basic financial statements of the City of Baker School Board (School System) have been prepared in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP) as applied to governmental units. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) is the accepted standards-setting body for establishing governmental accounting and financial reporting.

**Reporting Entity**

The City of Baker School Board was created by Louisiana Revised Statute LSA-R.S. 17:51 to provide public education within the boundaries of the City of Baker. The School Board is authorized by LSA-R.S 17:51 to establish policies and regulations for its own government consistent with the laws of the state of Louisiana and the regulations of the Louisiana Board of Elementary and Secondary Education. The School Board is comprised of five members who are elected from five districts for terms of four years.

The School Board operates five schools within the City of Baker, Louisiana, with a total enrollment of approximately 1,200 pupils. In conjunction with the regular educational programs, some of these schools offer special education and/or adult education programs. In addition, the School Board provides transportation and school food services for the students.

The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Codification of Governmental Accounting and Financial Reporting Standards establishes criteria for determining the governmental reporting entity and component units that should be included within the reporting entity. Under provisions of this Statement, the School Board is considered a primary government, since it is a special purpose government that has a separately elected governing body, is legally separate, and is fiscally independent of other state or local governments. Fiscally independent means that the School Board may, without the approval or consent of another governmental entity, determine or modify its own budget, levy its own taxes or set rates or charges, and issue bonded debt. The School Board also has no component units, defined by GASB as other legally separate organizations for which the elected School Board members are financially accountable. There are no other primary governments with which the School Board has a significant relationship.

**Basis of Presentation and Accounting**

The School Board's Basic Financial Statements consist of the government-wide statements (on all of the non-fiduciary activities) and the fund financial statements (individual major fund, combined non-major funds, and the combined fiduciary funds.) The statements are prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America as applied to governmental entities.

## **NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)**

### **Government-Wide Financial Statements (GWFS)**

The Government-Wide Financial Statements present all of the non-fiduciary fund activity of the School Board and were prepared using the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting. Under the accrual basis of accounting, revenues are recorded when earned and expenses are recorded when a liability has been incurred, regardless of the timing of the related cash flows. Sales taxes are recognized when the underlying sales transactions occur and property taxes are recognized when a legally enforceable claim arises. Grants and similar items are recognized as revenue as soon as all eligibility requirements imposed by the provider have been met.

The Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities were prepared using the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting. This statement demonstrates the degree to which direct expenses of a given function are offset by program revenues. Program revenues include 1) charges for services provided, 2) operating grants and contributions, and 3) capital grants and contributions; program revenues reduce the cost of the function to be financed from the School Board's general revenues. Charges for services are primarily derived from cafeteria sales. Operating grants and contributions consist of the many educational grants received from the federal and state government. Capital grants and contributions consist of public assistance grants from the federal and state government.

The School Board reports all direct expenses by function in the Statement of Activities. Direct expenses are those that are clearly identifiable with a function.

### **Fund Financial Statements (FFS)**

The accounts of the School Board are organized and operated on the basis of funds. A fund is an independent fiscal and accounting entity with a self-balancing set of accounts. Fund accounting segregates funds according to their intended purpose and is used to aid management in demonstrating compliance with finance-related legal and contractual provisions. Funds are maintained consistent with legal and managerial requirements.

The funds of the School Board are classified into two categories: governmental and fiduciary. The School Board does not have any fiduciary funds as of and for the year ended June 30, 2023. In turn, each category is divided into separate fund types. The fund classification and a description of each existing fund type follow:

(Continued)

## **NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)**

### **Governmental Funds**

Governmental Funds are used to account for the School Board's activities, including the collection and disbursement of specific or legally restricted monies, the acquisition or construction of fixed assets, and the servicing of long-term debt. The School Board reports the following major governmental funds:

General Fund is the primary operating fund of the School System. It accounts for all financial resources of the School System, except those required to be accounted for in another fund.

Capital Project Flood Recovery Fund is used to account for the proceeds of funds received from FEMA as part of a plan to rebuild school facilities and replenish equipment damaged in the Flood of 2016. Additionally, this fund accounts for the proceeds of the 2022 bond issuance, and all other resources and expenditures related to the restoration of Baker High School.

Title I Fund is used to account for funds received and expended related to the Title I program, which is administered by the State to provide supplementary instruction for at-risk students.

The Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) Fund is used to account for federal emergency relief funds to address the impact of COVID-19 on elementary and secondary schools across the nation.

School Food Service Fund is used to account for activities of the School System's food service program.

Governmental fund types use the flow of current financial resources measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting. Under the modified accrual basis of accounting, revenues are recognized when susceptible to accrual (i.e., when they are "measurable and available"). "Measurable" means the amount of the transaction can be determined and "available" means collectible within the current period or soon enough thereafter to pay liabilities of the current period. The School Board considers all revenues available within 60 days after year-end for property taxes. Expenditures are recorded when the related fund liability is incurred, except for unmatured principal and interest on general long-term debt which is recognized when due, and certain compensated absences and claims and judgments which are recognized when the obligations are expected to be liquidated with expendable available financial resources.

With this measurement focus, only current assets and current liabilities are generally included on the balance sheet. Operating statements of these funds present increases and decreases in current net position. The governmental funds use the following practices in recording revenues and expenditures:

## **NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)**

### **Governmental Funds (Continued)**

#### **Revenues**

Ad valorem taxes are recognized when a legally enforceable claim arises (generally when levied) and the resources are available.

Sales and use taxes are recognized when the underlying exchange transaction occurs and the resources are available.

Entitlements and shared revenues (which include the state Minimum Foundation Program revenue, state revenue sharing, and federal and state grants) are recorded as unrestricted grants in-aid at the time of receipt or earlier if the susceptible to accrual criteria are met. Expenditure-driven grants are recognized as revenue when the qualifying expenditures have been incurred and all other grant requirements have been met.

Other receipts become measurable and available when cash is received by the School Board and are recognized as revenue at that time.

#### **Expenditures**

Salaries and benefits are recorded as earned. Salaries for nine-month employees are accrued as of June 30, 2023.

Vendor payments are recorded as the obligation is incurred.

Other Financing Sources (Uses) consist of transfers between funds that are not expected to be repaid, capital lease transactions, sales of fixed assets, debt extinguishments, and long-term debt proceeds, and are recognized at the time the underlying events occur.

#### **Cash and Investments**

Cash consists of demand deposits. Time deposits and those investments with original maturities of 90 days or less are categorized as cash equivalents.

Under state law, the School Board may deposit funds in demand deposits, interest-bearing demand deposits, money market accounts, or time deposits with state banks organized under Louisiana law and national banks having their principal offices in Louisiana. Investments are generally restricted to debt securities backed by the U.S. Government or its agencies.

#### **Short-term Interfund Receivables/Payable**

During the course of operations, numerous transactions occur between individual funds for goods provided or services rendered. These receivables and payables are classified as interfund receivables/payables on the governmental funds balance sheet.

## **NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)**

### **Elimination and Reclassification**

In the process of aggregating data for the statement of net position and the statement of activities, some amounts reported as interfund activity and balances in the funds were eliminated or reclassified. Interfund receivables and payables were eliminated to minimize the "grossing up" effect on assets and liabilities within the governmental activities column.

### **Inventory**

Inventory of the school food service special revenue fund consists of food purchased by the School Board and commodities granted by the United States Department of Agriculture through the Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry. The commodities are recorded as revenues when consumed; however, all inventory items are recorded as expenditures when used. All purchased inventory items are valued at cost using first-in, first-out (FIFO) method, and commodities are assigned values based on information provided by the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

### **Capital Assets**

All capital assets are capitalized at historical cost or estimated historical costs for assets where actual historical cost is not available. Donated assets are recorded as capital assets at their estimated fair market value at the date of donation. The School Board maintains a \$5,000 threshold level for capitalizing assets.

Capital assets are recorded in the GWFS but are not reported in the FFS. All depreciable capital assets are depreciated using the straight-line method over their estimated useful lives. Since surplus assets are sold for an immaterial amount when declared as no longer needed for public school purposes by the School System, no salvage value is taken into consideration for depreciation purposes. Useful lives are approximately 5 to 10 years for furniture and equipment; and 40 years for buildings and improvements.

### **Compensated Absences**

All 12-month employees earn up to twenty days of vacation leave each year, depending on their length of service with the School System. Vacation leave can be accumulated up to 50 days. Upon separation, all unused vacation is paid to the employee.

All School Board employees earn up to twelve days of sick leave each year, depending upon the length of service and employment status. Sick leave can be accumulated without limitation. Upon retirement or death, unused accumulated sick leave of up to 25 days is paid to the employee or to the employee's estate at the employee's current rate of pay. Under the Louisiana Teachers' Retirement System, and the Louisiana School Employees' Retirement System, all unpaid sick leave is used in the retirement computation as earned service.

## **NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)**

### **Compensated Absences (Continued)**

The School Board's recognition and measurement criteria for compensated absences follows:

Accounting standards provide that vacation leave and other compensated absences with similar characteristics should be accrued as a liability as the benefits are earned by the employees if both of the following conditions are met:

- a. The employees' rights to receive compensation are attributable to services already rendered.
- b. It is probable that the employer will compensate the employees for the benefits through paid time off or some other means, such as cash payments at termination or retirement.

Accounting standards further provide that a liability for sick leave should be accrued using one of the following termination approaches:

- a. An accrual for earned sick leave should be made only to the extent it is probable that the benefits will result in termination payments, rather than be taken as absences due to illness or other contingencies, such as medical appointments and funerals.
- b. Alternatively, a governmental entity should estimate its accrued sick leave liability based on the sick leave accumulated at the balance sheet date by those employees who currently are eligible to receive termination payments as well as other employees who are expected to become eligible in the future to receive such payments. The School Board uses this approach.

### **Restricted Net Position**

For the government-wide statement of net position, net position is reported as restricted when constraints placed on net position use are either externally imposed by creditors (such as debt covenants), grantors, contributors, laws or regulations of other governments; or imposed by law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation.

When both restricted and unrestricted resources are available for use, it is the government's policy to use restricted resources first, then unrestricted resources as they are needed.

(Continued)

## **NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)**

### **Fund Balance of Fund Financial Statements**

Accounting standards require governmental fund balances to be reported in as many as five classifications as listed below:

Non-spendable - represent balances that are not expected to be converted to cash.

Restricted - represent balances where constraints have been established by parties outside of the School Board or by enabling legislation.

Committed - represent balances where constraints have been established by formal action of the Board of the School System. A simple majority vote in a public meeting is required to establish, modify, or rescind a fund balance commitment.

Assigned - represent balances where informal constraints have been established by the School Board or committee or delegate thereof but are neither restricted nor committed.

Unassigned - represent balances for which there are no constraints.

When expenditures are incurred for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted amounts are available, the School Board reduces restricted amounts first, followed by unrestricted amounts. When expenditures are incurred for purposes for which committed, assigned, and unassigned amounts are available, the School Board reduces committed amounts first, followed by assigned amounts, and then unassigned amounts.

### **Interfund Activity**

Interfund activity is reported as loans, reimbursements, or transfers. Loans are reported as interfund receivables and payables as appropriate and are subject to elimination upon consolidation. (Reimbursements are when one fund incurs a cost, charges the appropriate benefiting fund and reduces its related cost as a reimbursement.) All other interfund transactions are treated as transfers. Transfers between governmental funds are netted as part of the reconciliation to the government-wide financial statements.

### **Sales and Use Taxes**

The voters of the City of Baker School Board authorized the School Board to levy and collect a permanent sales and use tax for 2% of all taxable activity within the geographical confines of the school district. Revenues generated by the tax must be used to supplement other revenues available to the School System, to pay for salary and benefits of school personnel, and to maintain and operate the school system. The receipt and expenditure of the sales and use taxes are included in the operations of the General Fund.

## **NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)**

### **Use of Estimates**

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statement and the reported amounts of revenues and expenditures during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

### **Pension Plans**

The City of Baker School Board is a participating employer in three defined benefit pension plans as described in Note 5. For purposes of measuring the Net Pension Liability, deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions, and pension expense, information about the fiduciary net position of each of the plans, and additions to/deductions from each plans' fiduciary net position have been determined on the same basis as they are reported by each of the plans. For this purpose, benefit payments (including refunds of employee contributions) are recognized when due and payable in accordance with the benefit terms. Investments have been reported at fair value within each plan.

### **Other Postemployment Benefits**

The total OPEB liability is reported in compliance with GASB Statement No. 75 because the School Board does not pre-fund the OPEB plan in a trust that meets the criteria in the GASB standards. The total OPEB liability represents the actuarial present value of projected OPEB benefit payments attributable to employees' past service as of June 30, 2023.

## **NOTE 2 - AD VALOREM TAXES**

The School Board levies taxes on real and business personal property located within the City of Baker's boundaries. Property taxes are levied by the School Board on property values assessed by the East Baton Rouge Parish Tax Assessor, except for public utility property which is assessed by the Louisiana Tax Commission. Assessed values are approved by the Louisiana Tax Commission. The East Baton Rouge Parish Sheriff's Office bills and collects property taxes for the School System. Collections are remitted to the School Board monthly.

Ad valorem taxes are assessed and levied on a calendar year basis by the East Baton Rouge Parish Assessor's Office, based on the assessed value on January 1 of the assessment year. However, before taxes can be levied, the tax rolls must be submitted to the State Tax Commission for approval. Taxes are billed on November 30, and are due by December 31. An enforceable lien attaches on the property as of January 1. After December 31, taxes become delinquent and interest and penalty accrue. Taxes are generally collected in January, February and March of the following fiscal year.

**NOTE 2 - AD VALOREM TAXES (CONTINUED)**

Total net assessed value less homestead exemption was \$58,435,368 in calendar year 2022. Louisiana state law exempts the first \$75,000 of assessed value of a taxpayer's primary residence from parish property taxes.

State law requires the sheriff to collect property taxes in the calendar year in which the assessment is made. Property taxes become delinquent January 1 of the following year. If taxes are not paid by the due date, taxes bear interest at the rate of 1.25% per month until the taxes are paid. After notice is given to the delinquent taxpayers, the sheriff is required by the Constitution of the State of Louisiana to sell the least amount of property necessary to settle the taxes and interest owed.

Property taxes are recorded in the general fund on the basis explained in Note 1. Revenues in such funds are recognized in the accounting period in which an enforceable legal claim arises to the extent available. All taxes are considered fully collectible; therefore, no allowance for uncollectible taxes is provided.

A summary of the various taxes levied for 2023 is as follows:

	<u>Authorized Millage</u>	<u>Levied Millage</u>	<u>Expiration Date</u>
City-wide taxes			
Constitutional tax	5.00	5.00	N/A
Special school maintenance tax	38.20	38.20	12/31/2032

**NOTE 3 - DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS**

**Deposits**

The carrying amount (book balance) of the School Board's deposits of cash and cash equivalents with the financial institutions was \$6,502,770 as of June 30, 2023.

Deposits in financial institutions can be exposed to custodial credit risk. Custodial credit risk for deposits is the risk that in the event of financial institution failure, the School Board's deposits may not be returned. The School Board does not have a policy for custodial credit risk. However, to mitigate this risk, state law requires deposits to be secured by federal deposit insurance or the pledge of securities owned by the fiscal agent financial institution. These deposits are stated at cost, which approximates fair value. The market value of the pledged securities plus the federal deposit insurance must at all times equal the amount on deposit with the fiscal agent bank. These securities are held in the name of the School Board or the pledging fiscal agent bank by a holding or custodial bank that is mutually acceptable to both parties.

**NOTE 3 - DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS (CONTINUED)**

As of June 30, 2023, the School Board's deposit balances (bank balances) of its cash and cash equivalents are comprised as follows:

Demand deposit accounts with financial institutions	\$ 5,619,323
Investments in Louisiana Asset Management Pool (LAMP)	22,867
Money market funds backed by U.S. securities	<u>2,333,325</u>
Total bank balances	<u>\$ 7,975,515</u>

Bank balances of demand deposit accounts with financial institutions are secured as follows:

Federal deposit insurance (FDIC)	372,383
Pledged securities	<u>5,246,940</u>
Total demand deposits	<u>\$ 5,619,323</u>

There were no deposits exposed to custodial credit risk as of June 30, 2023.

(Continued)

## NOTE 4 - CAPITAL ASSETS

Capital assets and depreciation activity as of and for the year ended June 30, 2023, is as follows:

	Beginning Balance	Increases	Decreases	Ending Balance
<b>Capital assets not being depreciated:</b>				
Land	\$ 149,536	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 149,536
Construction in progress	<u>4,298,203</u>	<u>8,376,944</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>12,675,147</u>
Total	<u>4,447,739</u>	<u>8,376,944</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>12,824,683</u>
<b>Capital assets being depreciated:</b>				
Buildings and improvements	14,383,755	-	-	14,383,755
Furniture, fixtures, and equipment	<u>1,110,833</u>	<u>31,462</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,142,295</u>
Total	<u>15,494,588</u>	<u>31,462</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>15,526,050</u>
<b>Less accumulated depreciation for:</b>				
Buildings and improvements	(6,869,467)	(408,114)	-	(7,277,581)
Furniture, fixtures, and equipment	<u>(605,791)</u>	<u>(130,563)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(736,354)</u>
Total	<u>(7,475,258)</u>	<u>(538,677)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(8,013,935)</u>
Total capital assets, being depreciated, net	<u>8,019,330</u>	<u>(507,215)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>7,512,115</u>
Total capital assets, net	<u>\$ 12,467,069</u>	<u>\$ 7,869,729</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 20,336,798</u>

Depreciation expense of \$538,677 for the year ended June 30, 2023, was charged to the following governmental functions:

Regular education programs	\$ 64,641
Plant operation and maintenance	<u>474,036</u>
	<u>\$ 538,677</u>

## NOTE 5 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS

The City of Baker School Board (the School System) is a participating employer in multiple cost-sharing defined benefit pension plans. These plans are administered by three public employee retirement systems, the Teachers' Retirement System of Louisiana (TRSL), the Louisiana School Employees' Retirement System (LSERS), and the Louisiana State Employees' Retirement System (LASERS). Article X, Section 29(F) of the Louisiana Constitution of 1974 assigns the authority to establish and amend benefit provisions of these plans to the State Legislature. Each system is administered by a separate board of trustees and all Systems are component units of the State of Louisiana.

Each of the Systems issues an annual publicly available financial report that includes financial statements and required supplementary information for the system. These reports may be obtained by writing, calling or downloading the reports as follows:

TRSL:	LSERS:	LASERS:
8401 United Plaza Blvd.	8660 United Plaza Blvd.	8401 United Plaza Blvd.
P.O. Box 94123	Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804	1 <sup>st</sup> Floor
Baton Rouge, Louisiana	(225) 925-6484	Baton Rouge, Louisiana
70804-9123	www.lasers.net	70809
(225) 925-6446		(225) 922-0600
www.trsl.org		www.lasersonline.org

The School Board implemented Government Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement 68 on Accounting and Financial Reporting for Pensions and Statement 71 on Pension Transition for Contributions Made Subsequent to the Measurement Date - an Amendment of GASB 68. These standards require the School Board to record its proportional share of each of the pension plans Net Pension Liability and report the following disclosures:

### **Plan Descriptions:**

#### **Teachers' Retirement System of Louisiana (TRSL)**

The Teachers' Retirement System of Louisiana (TRSL) is the administrator of a cost-sharing multiple employer defined benefit plan. The plan provides retirement, disability, and survivor benefits to employees who meet the legal definition of a "teacher" as provided for in LRS 11:701. The School Board has participants in TRSL's Regular Plan and in Plan A. Eligibility for retirement benefits for these plans and the calculation of retirement benefits are provided for in LRS 11:761. Most members are eligible to receive retirement benefits 1) at the age of 60 with 5 years of creditable service, 2) at the age of 55 with at least 25 years of creditable service, or 3) at any age with at least 30 years of creditable service. Retirement benefits are calculated by applying a percentage ranging from 2% to 3% of final average salary multiplied by years of service. Final average salary is based upon the member's highest successive 36 months (highest successive 60 months for members employed after January 1, 2011).

## **NOTE 5 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS (CONTINUED)**

### **Teachers' Retirement System of Louisiana (TRSL) (continued)**

In lieu of terminating employment and accepting a service retirement, an eligible member can begin participation in the Deferred Retirement Option Program (DROP) on the first retirement eligibility date for a period not to exceed the 3rd anniversary of retirement eligibility. Delayed participation reduces the three-year participation period. During participation, benefits otherwise payable are fixed, and deposited in an individual DROP account. Upon termination of DROP, the member can continue employment and earn additional accruals to be added to the fixed pre-DROP benefit. Upon termination of employment, the member is entitled to the fixed benefit, an additional benefit based on post-DROP service (if any), and the individual DROP account balance which can be paid in a lump sum or an additional annuity based upon the account balance.

Under LRS 11:778, members who have suffered a qualified disability are eligible for disability benefits if employed prior to January 1, 2011 and have five or more years creditable service, or if employed on or after January 1, 2011 and attained at least 10 years of creditable service. Members employed prior to January 1, 2011 receive disability benefits equal to 2 ½% of his average compensation multiplied by his years of creditable service, but not more than 50% of his average compensation subject to statutory minimums. Members employed on or after January 1, 2011 receive disability benefits equal to the regular retirement formula without reduction by reason of age.

Survivor benefits are provided for in LRS 11:762. In order for survivor benefits to be paid, the deceased member must have been in state service at the time of death and must have a minimum of five years of service credit, at least two of which were earned immediately prior to death, or must have had a minimum of twenty years of service credit regardless of when earned. Survivor benefits are equal to 50% of the benefit to which the member would have been entitled if he had retired on the date of his death using a factor of 2 ½% regardless of years of service or age, or \$600 per month, whichever is greater.

### **Louisiana School Employees' Retirement System (LSERS)**

The Louisiana School Employees' Retirement System (LSERS) is the administrator of a cost-sharing multiple employer defined benefit pension plan. The plan provides retirement, disability, and survivor benefits to school employees as defined in LRS 11:1002. Eligibility for retirement benefits and the calculation of retirement benefits are provided for in LRS 11:1141. Members who joined the system on or before June 30, 2010 are eligible for regular retirement benefits upon attaining 30 years of service at any age, 25 years of service and aged 55 years, 20 years of service regardless of age with an actuarially reduced benefit, or 10 years of service and aged 60 years. Members who joined the system after June 30, 2010 are eligible for regular retirement upon attaining at least 5 years of service and aged 60 years or 20 years of service regardless of age with an actuarially reduced benefit. limitation, multiplied by the number of years of service limited to 100% of final average compensation plus a supplementary allowance of \$2 per month for each year of service.

## **NOTE 5 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS (CONTINUED)**

### **Louisiana School Employees' Retirement System (LSERS) (continued)**

For members employed prior to July 1, 2010, the maximum retirement benefit is equal to 3 1/3% of the average compensation for the three highest consecutive years of service (five highest consecutive years for members employed between July 1, 2006 and June 30, 2010), subject to a 10% salary limitation. For members employed on or after July 1, 2010, the maximum retirement benefit is equal to 2 1/2% of the average compensation for the five highest consecutive years of service, subject to a 15% salary limitation, multiplied by the number of years of service limited to 100% of final average compensation plus a supplementary allowance of \$2 per month for each year of service. Members of the System may elect to participate in the Deferred Retirement Option Plan, (DROP) and defer the receipt of benefits. The election may be made only one time and the duration is limited to three years. Once an option has been selected, no change is permitted. Upon the effective date of the commencement of participation in the DROP Plan, active membership in the regular retirement plan of the System terminates. Average compensation and creditable service remain as they existed on the effective date of commencement of participation in the System. The monthly retirement benefits, that would have been payable had the person elected to cease employment and receive a service retirement allowance, are paid into the Deferred Retirement Option Plan Fund Account. The System maintains subaccounts within this account reflecting the credits attributed to each participant in the DROP program. Interest credited and payments from the DROP account are made in accordance with Louisiana Revised Statutes 11:152(F)(3). Upon termination of participation in both the DROP program and employment, a participant may receive his DROP monies either in a lump sum payment from the account or systematic disbursements.

The System also provides for deferred benefits for vested members who terminate before being eligible for retirement once the member reaches the appropriate age for retirement, benefits become payable. LRS 11:1147 provides that members are eligible to retire and receive disability benefits if the member has attained at least 5 years of creditable service (10 years of creditable service if employed on or after July 1, 2006), if the member is not eligible for regular retirement and has become totally and permanently disabled. Disability benefits are equal to 2 1/2% of his average compensation multiplied by his years of creditable service, but not less than 33 1/3% of his average compensation for members employed prior to July 1, 2006 and 3% of his average compensation multiplied by his years of creditable service for members employed between July 1, 2006 and June 30, 2010. For those employed on or after July 1, 2010 disability benefits are equivalent to the regular retirement formula without reduction by reason of age. Pursuant to LRS 11:1151, survivor benefits of up to 75% of the members salary are available for surviving spouses and minor children of members with at least five years of service.

## **NOTE 5 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS (CONTINUED)**

### **Louisiana State Employees' Retirement System (LASERS)**

The System was established for the purpose of providing retirement allowances and other benefits as stated under the provisions of La. R.S. 11:401, as amended, for eligible state officers, employees and their beneficiaries. The projection of benefit payments in the calculation of the total pension liability includes all benefits to be provided to current active and inactive employees through the System in accordance with the benefit terms and any additional legal agreements to provide benefits that are in force at the measurement date. Rank and file members hired prior to July 1, 2006, may either retire with full benefits at any age upon completing 30 years of creditable service and at age 60 upon completing ten years of creditable service depending on their plan. Those members hired between July 1, 2006 and June 30, 2015, may retire at age 60 upon completing five years of creditable service and those hired on or after July 1, 2015 may retire at age 62 upon completing five years of creditable service. The basic annual retirement benefit for members is equal to 2.5% to 3.5% of average compensation multiplied by the number of years of creditable service. Additionally, members may choose to retire with 20 years of service at any age, with an actuarially reduced benefit.

The State Legislature authorized LASERS to establish a Deferred Retirement Option Plan (DROP). When a member enters DROP, their status changes from active member to retiree even though they continue to work and draw their salary for a period of up to three years. The election is irrevocable once participation begins. During DROP participation, accumulated retirement benefits that would have been paid to each retiree are separately tracked. For members who entered DROP prior to January 1, 2004, interest at a rate of one-half percent less than the System's realized return on its portfolio (not to be less than zero) will be credited to the retiree after participation ends. At that time, the member must choose among available alternatives for the distribution of benefits that have accumulated in the DROP account. Members who enter DROP on or after January 1, 2004, are required to participate in LASERS Self-Directed Plan (SDP) which is administered by a third-party provider. The SDP allows DROP participants to choose from a menu of investment options for the allocation of their DROP balances. Participants may diversify their investments by choosing from an approved list of mutual funds with different holdings, management styles, and risk factors.

Certain eligible surviving dependents receive benefits based on the deceased member's compensation and their relationship to the deceased. The deceased regular member hired before January 1, 2011 who was in state service at the time of death must have a minimum of five years of service credit, at least two of which were earned immediately prior to death, or who had a minimum of twenty years of service credit regardless of when earned in order for a benefit to be paid to a minor or handicapped child. Benefits are payable to an unmarried child until age 18, or age 23 if the child remains a full-time student. The aforementioned minimum service credit requirement is ten years for a surviving spouse with no minor children, and benefits are to be paid for life to the spouse or qualified handicapped child.

**NOTE 5 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS (CONTINUED)**

**Funding Policy**

Article X, Section 29(E)(2)(a) of the Louisiana Constitution of 1974 assigns the Legislature the authority to determine employee contributions. Employer contributions are actuarially determined using statutorily established methods on an annual basis and are constitutionally required to cover the employer's portion of the normal cost and provide for the amortization of the unfunded accrued liability. Employer contributions are adopted by the Legislature annually upon recommendation of the Public Retirement Systems' Actuarial Committee (PRSAC).

Contributions to the plans are required and determined by State statute (which may be amended) and are expressed as a percentage of covered payroll. The contribution rates in effect for the year ended June 30, 2022, for the School Board and covered employees were as follows:

	<u>School</u>	<u>Employees</u>
<b>School Employees' Retirement System (LSERS)</b>		
Members hired prior to 07/01/2010	28.70%	8.00%
Members hired on or after 07/01/2010	28.70%	8.00%
<b>Teachers' Retirement System (TRSL)</b>		
K-12 Regular Plan	25.20%	8.00%
Higher Ed Regular Plan	24.50%	8.00%
Plan A	25.20%	9.10%
Plan B	25.20%	5.00%
<b>State Employees' Retirement System (LASERS)</b>		
Regular Employees hired before 7/01/06	39.50%	7.50%
Regular Employees hired on or after 7/01/06	39.50%	8.00%
Regular Employees hired on or after 1/01/11	39.50%	8.00%
Regular Employees hired on or after 7/01/15	39.50%	8.00%

(Continued)

**NOTE 5 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS (CONTINUED)**

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

The following schedule lists the School Board's proportionate share of the Net Pension Liability allocated by each of the pension plans for based on the June 30, 2022 measurement date. The School Board uses this measurement to record its Net Pension Liability and associated amounts as of June 30, 2023 in accordance with GASB Statement 68. The schedule also includes the proportionate share allocation rate used at June 30, 2022 along with the change compared to the June 30, 2021 rate. The School Board's proportion of the Net Pension Liability was based on a projection of the Agency's long-term share of contributions to the pension plan relative to the projected contributions of all participating employers, actuarially determined.

	Net Pension Liability at June 30, 2022	Current Measurement Rate	Previous Measurement Rate	Increase (Decrease)
LSERS	\$ 1,263,774	0.19004%	0.12193%	0.06811%
TRSL	13,107,647	0.13729%	0.11894%	0.01835%
LASERS	<u>397,340</u>	0.00526%	0.00255%	0.00271%
Total	<u>\$ 14,768,761</u>			

The following schedule list each pension plan's recognized pension expense plus employer's amortization of change in proportionate share and differences between employer contributions and proportionate share of contributions by the School Board for the year ended June 30, 2023:

	Pension Expense (Benefit)
School Employees' Retirement System (LSERS)	\$ 189,752
Teachers' Retirement System (TRSL)	1,532,047
State Employees' Retirement System (LASERS)	<u>106,819</u>
Total	<u>\$ 1,828,618</u>

(Continued)

**NOTE 5 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS (CONTINUED)**

The School Board reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions from the following sources:

	Deferred Outflows of Resources	Deferred Inflows of Resources
Differences between expected and actual experience	\$ 234,171	\$ (37,801)
Changes of assumptions	936,916	-
Net difference between projected and actual earnings on pension plan investments	5,395,634	(4,652,341)
Changes in proportion and differences between Employer contributions and proportionate share of contribution	895,944	(501,628)
Employer contributions subsequent to the measurement date	<u>2,078,807</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>\$ 9,541,472</u>	<u>\$ (5,191,770)</u>

Summary totals of deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources by pension plan:

	Deferred Outflows of Resources	Deferred Inflows of Resources
School Employees' Retirement System	\$ 537,213	\$ (89,360)
Teachers' Retirement System	8,804,394	(5,100,391)
State Employees' Retirement System	<u>199,865</u>	<u>(2,019)</u>
	<u>\$ 9,541,472</u>	<u>\$ (5,191,770)</u>

The School Board reported a total of \$2,078,807 as deferred outflow of resources related to pension contributions made subsequent to the measurement period of June 30, 2022, which will be recognized as a reduction in Net Pension Liability in the subsequent period. The following schedule list the pension contributions made subsequent to the measurement period for each pension plan:

	Subsequent Contributions
School Employees' Retirement System	\$ 165,280
Teachers' Retirement System	1,869,369
State Employees' Retirement System	<u>44,158</u>
	<u>\$ 2,078,807</u>

**NOTE 5 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS (CONTINUED)**

Other amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions will be recognized in pension expense (benefit) as follows:

Year	LSERS	TRSL	LASERS	Total
2023	138,923	248,873	77,435	\$ 465,231
2024	153,811	53,630	62,407	269,848
2025	(73,070)	(131,884)	(8,093)	(213,047)
2026	62,909	1,664,015	21,939	1,748,863
	\$ 282,573	\$ 1,834,634	\$ 153,688	\$ 2,270,895

**Actuarial Assumptions**

A summary of the actuarial methods and assumptions used in determining the total pension liability for each pension plan as of June 30, 2022 are as follows:

	Measurement/ Valuation Date	Expected Remaining Service Lives	Investment Rate of Return
<b>LSERS</b>	June 30, 2022	3 years	6.8%, net of plan investment expenses
<b>TRSL</b>	June 30, 2022	5 years	7.25% net of investment expenses
<b>LASERS</b>	June 30, 2022	2 years	7.25% per annum, net of investment expenses

(Continued)

**NOTE 5 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS (CONTINUED)**

	<b>TRSL</b>	<b>LSERS</b>	<b>LASERS</b>
<b>Actuarial Cost Method</b>	Entry Age Normal	Entry Age Normal	Entry Age Normal
<b>Actuarial Assumptions:</b>			
<b>Inflation Rate</b>	2.30% per annum	2.50% per annum	2.30% per annum
<b>Mortality</b>	Active members - RP-2014 White Collar Employee tables, adjusted by 1.010 for males and by 0.997 for females. Non-Disabled retiree/inactive members - RP-2014 White Collar Healthy Annuitant tables, adjusted by 1.366 for males and by 1.189 for females. Disability retiree mortality - RP-2014 Disability tables, adjust by 1.111 for males and by 1.134 for females.	Mortality rates were projected based on RP-2014 Healthy Annuitant Mortality Table, RP-2014 Sex Distinct Mortality Table and RP-2014 Sex Distinct Disabled Mortality Table.	Non-disabled members - Mortality rates were based on the RP-2014 Healthy Mortality Table with mortality improvement projected using the MP-2018 Mortality Improvement Scale, applied on a fully generational basis. Disabled members - Mortality rates based on the RP-2000 Disabled Retiree Mortality Table, with no projection for mortality improvement.
<b>Termination, Disability, and Retirement</b>	Termination, disability, and retirement assumptions were projected based on a five year (July 1, 2012 - June 30, 2017) experience study of the System's members.	Termination, disability, and retirement assumptions were projected based on a four year (July 1, 2013 - June 30, 2017) experience study of the System's members.	Termination, disability, and retirement assumptions were projected based on a five-year (2014-2018) experience study of the System's members for 2019.
<b>Salary Increases</b>	3.1% - 4.60% varies depending on duration of service	2013-2017 experience study, 3.25%.	Salary increases were projected based on a 2014-2018 experience study of the System's members. The salary increase ranges for regular members is 3.0% - 12.8%.
<b>Cost of Living Adjustments</b>	None	None	The present value of future retirement benefits is based on benefits currently being paid by the System and includes previously granted cost of living increases. The projected benefit payments do not include provisions for potential future increases not yet authorized by the Board of Trustees as they were deemed not to be substantively automatic.

(Continued)

**NOTE 5 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS (CONTINUED)**

**Actuarial Assumptions (Continued)**

The following schedule list the methods used by each of the retirement systems in determining the long-term rate of return on pension plan investments:

<u>TRSL</u>	<u>LSERS</u>	<u>LASERS</u>
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 pension plan investment expenses and inflation) are developed for each major asset class. These ranges are combined to produce the long term expected rate of return by weighing the expected future real rates of return by the target asset allocation percentage and by adding expected inflation of 2.3% and an adjustment for the effect of rebalancing/diversification. The resulting expected long-term rate of return was 8.32% for 2022.	The long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments was determined using a triangulation method which integrated the CAPM pricing model (top-down), a treasury yield curve approach (bottom-up) and an equity building-block model (bottom-up). Risk return and correlations are projected on a forward looking basis in equilibrium, in which best-estimates of expected future real rates of return (expected returns, net of pension plan investment expense and inflation) are developed for each major asset class. These rates are combined to produce the long term expected rate of return by weighting the expected future real rates of return by the target asset allocation percentage and by adding expected inflation .	The long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments was determined using a building-block method in which best-estimates ranges of expected future real rates of return (expected returns, net of pension plan investment expense and inflation) are developed for each major asset class. These ranges are combined to produce the long-term expected rate of return by weighting the expected future real rates of return by the target asset allocation percentage and by adding expected inflation of 2.30% and an adjustment for the effect of rebalancing/diversification. The resulting expected long-term rate of return is 8.34% for 2022.

(Continued)

## NOTE 5 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS (CONTINUED)

### Actuarial Assumptions (Continued)

The following table provides a summary of the best estimates of arithmetic/geometric real rates of return for each major asset class included in each of the Retirement Systems target asset allocations as of June 30, 2022:

Asset Class	Target Allocation			Long - Term Expected Real Rate of Return		
	LSERS	TRSL	LASERS	LSERS	TRSL	LASERS
Domestic Equity		27%			4.15%	4.57%
International Equity		19%			5.16%	5.76%
Equity	39%		57%	2.67%		
Private Equity		25.5%			8.15%	
Domestic Fixed Income		13%			0.85%	1.48%
Fixed Income	26%		14%	0.73%		
International Fixed Income		5.5%			-0.10%	5.04%
Alternatives	23%		22%	1.85%		8.30%
Real Estate	12%			0.62%		
Other		10%	7%		3.72%	0.39%
Total	<u>100%</u>	<u>100%</u>	<u>100%</u>	5.87%	6.02%	6.04%
Inflation				<u>2.30%</u>	<u>2.30%</u>	<u>2.30%</u>
Expected Arithmetic Nominal Return				<u>8.17%</u>	<u>8.32%</u>	<u>8.34%</u>

### Discount Rate

The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed that plan member contributions will be made at the current contribution rate and that sponsor contributions will be made at rates equal to the difference between actuarially determined contribution rates and the member rate. Based on those assumptions, each of the pension plan's fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments of current plan members. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments was applied to all periods of projected benefit payments to determine the total pension liability. The discount rate used to measure the total pension liability for LSERS, TRSL, and LASERS changed to 6.80%, 7.25%, and 7.25%, respectively for the year ended June 30, 2022 (measurement date). Previously, the discount rate used to measure the total pension liability for LSERS, TRSL, and LASERS was 6.90%, 7.40%, and 7.40%, respectively for the year ended June 30, 2021 (measurement date).

(Continued)

**NOTE 5 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS (CONTINUED)**

**Sensitivity of the Employer's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate**

The following table presents the School Board's proportionate share of the Net Pension Liability (NPL) using the discount rate of each Retirement System as well as what the School Board's proportionate share of the NPL would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is one percentage-point lower or one percentage-point higher than the current rate used by each of the Retirement Systems:

	<u>1.0% Decrease</u>	<u>Current Discount Rate</u>	<u>1.0% Increase</u>
<b>LSERS</b>			
Discount Rates	5.80%	6.80%	7.80%
Shares of Net Pension Liability	\$ 1,767,330	\$ 1,263,774	\$ 833,383
<b>TRSL</b>			
Discount Rates	6.25%	7.25%	8.25%
Shares of Net Pension Liability	\$ 18,001,302	\$ 13,107,647	\$ 8,664,083
<b>LASERS</b>			
Discount Rates	6.25%	7.25%	8.25%
Shares of Net Pension Liability	\$ 499,970	\$ 397,340	\$ 303,757

**NOTE 6 - OTHER POST-EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS (OPEB)**

**Plan description**

The School Board provides certain continuing health care and life insurance benefits for its retired employees. The City of Baker School Board's OPEB Plan (the OPEB Plan) is a single-employer defined benefit OPEB plan administered by the School Board. The authority to establish and/or amend the obligation of the employer, employees, and retirees rests with the School Board. No assets are accumulated in a trust that meets the criteria in Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Codification Section P52 *Postemployment Benefits Other Than Pensions—Reporting For Benefits Not Provided Through Trusts That Meet Specified Criteria—Defined Benefit*.

(Continued)

## **NOTE 6 - OTHER POST-EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS (OPEB) (CONTINUED)**

### **Benefits provided**

Medical benefits are provided to employees upon actual retirement. Most employees are covered by the Teachers' Retirement System of Louisiana (TRSL), the Louisiana State Employees' Retirement System (LASERS) or the Louisiana School Employees' Retirement System (LSRS). We have assumed a composite retirement (D.R.O.P. entry) eligibility provision are as follows: 30 years of service at any age; age 55 and 25 years of service; age 60 and 10 years of service; or age 65 and 5 years of service. Employees hired on or after January 1, 2011, must have attained at least age 60 at retirement (or D.R.O.P. entry) to avoid actuarial reduction in the retirement benefit. Former employees of the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board who were over age 30 in 2003 have been assumed to have been hired at age 30 for purposes of determining retirement (D.R.O.P. entry) eligibility. Complete plan provisions are contained in the official plan documents.

### **Data used in calculations**

Active employee and retiree census data were provided by the administrative staff of the School System. Data for active and retired employees included date of birth, date of hire and/or retirement, medical coverage type (single, employee/child, family, etc.) and the current total portion of the premiums paid by the employer and employee/retiree. The valuation used the "Closed Group" method; i.e., the employees and retirees as of the valuation date were used and employees to be hired in the future were not considered. Employees were assumed to continue the same types of coverage into retirement, except that employee and employee/spouse were substituted for employee/child and family, respectively, after age 65.

### **Method of determining value of benefits**

The "value of benefits" has been assumed to be the portion of the premium after retirement date expected to be paid by the employer for each retiree and has been used as the basis for calculating the actuarial present value of OPEB benefits to be paid. The employer pays varying percentages of the retiree premium according to a schedule based on service, but the service is only up to ten years, for which 100% is paid by the employer. The rates provided are "blended" rates for active and retired. Since GASB 74/75 requires the use of "unblended" rates, we have used estimated "unblended" rates as follows.

The pre-Medicare employer provided rates were determined by adding 30% to the currently prevailing blended rates. The post-Medicare employer provided rates were determined by subtracting 20% from the currently prevailing blended rates.

## NOTE 6 - OTHER POST-EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS (OPEB) (CONTINUED)

### Actuarial Assumptions and Basis

The total OPEB liability in the June 30, 2023 actuarial valuation was determined using the following actuarial assumptions and other inputs, applied to all periods included in the measurement, unless otherwise specified:

Inflation	2.50%
Salary increases	4.0%, including inflation
Discount rate	3.54% annually (Beginning of Year to Determine ADC) 3.65% annually (As of End of Year Measurement Date)
Healthcare cost trend rates	5.50% annually for ten years, 4.50% thereafter
Mortality	SOA RP-2000 Table

The discount rate was based on the Bond Buyers' 20 Year General Obligation municipal bond index as of June 30, 2023, the end of the applicable measurement period.

The actuarial assumptions used in the June 30, 2023 valuation were based on the results of ongoing evaluations of the assumptions from July 1, 2009 to June 30, 2023.

### Actuarial cost method (ARC)

The ARC is determined using the Individual Entry Age Normal Cost Method. Each employee's service costs are calculated as a level percentage of that employee's projected pay. The attribution period extends from the first period for which the employee provides service under the benefit terms through the assumed commencement of benefit payments for that employee. The employer portion of the cost for retiree medical care in each future year is determined by projecting the current cost levels using the healthcare cost trend rate and discounting this projected amount to the valuation date using the other described pertinent actuarial assumptions, including the investment return assumption (discount rate), morality, and turnover.

### Actuarial value of plan assets

Since the OPEB obligation is not being funded, the actuarial value of assets is zero.

### Mortality

Mortality rates were based on the SOA RP-2000 Table without projection with 50%/50% unisex blend. Projected future mortality improvement has not been used since it is our opinion that this table contains a substantial conservative margin for the population involved in this valuation.

**NOTE 6 - OTHER POST-EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS (OPEB) (CONTINUED)**

**Discount rate**

This plan is a defined benefit OPEB plan which does not meet the requirements of paragraph 4 of the GASB Statement No. 75. We have therefore used a discount rate of 3.65%, which was based on the average of the Bond Buyers' 20 Year General Obligation municipal bond index as of June 30, 2023, the end of the applicable measurement period and 3.54% as of June 30, 2022, the measurement date at the end of the immediately preceding measurement period.

**Post-retirement benefit increases**

The plan benefit provisions in effect for retirees as of the valuation date have been used and it has been assumed for valuation purposes that there will not be any changes in the future.

**Expected time of commencement of benefits**

It is assumed that entitlement to benefits will commence for years after the assumed earliest eligibility to retire as described previously in "benefits provided". The four year period covers three years in D.R.O.P. plus one additional year.

**Turnover**

An age-related turnover scale based on actual experience as described by administrative staff has been used. The rates, when applied to the active employee census, produce an annual turnover of approximately 10%.

**Employees covered by benefit terms**

At June 30, 2023, the following employees were covered by the benefit terms:

Inactive employees or beneficiaries currently receiving benefit payments	24
Inactive employees entitled to but not yet receiving benefit payments	-
Active employees	<u>108</u>
Total	<u>132</u>

**Total OPEB Liability**

The School Board's total OPEB liability of \$6,654,681 was measured as of June 30, 2023 and was determined by an actuarial valuation as of that date.

**NOTE 6 - OTHER POST-EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS (OPEB) (CONTINUED)**

**Changes in the total OPEB liability**

	<u>Amount</u>
Balance at June 30, 2022	\$ <u>6,053,699</u>
Changes for the year:	
Service cost	317,365
Interest	211,709
Differences between expected and actual experience	332,485
Changes in assumption	(114,135)
Benefit payments and net transfers	<u>(146,442)</u>
Net change	<u>600,982</u>
Balance at June 30, 2023	\$ <u>6,654,681</u>
Covered-employee payroll	5,206,745
Net OPEB liability as a percentage of covered-employee payroll	127.81%

**Sensitivity of the total OPEB liability to changes in the discount rate**

The following presents the total OPEB liability of the School Board, as well as what the School Board's total OPEB liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1-percentage-point lower (2.65%) or 1-percentage-point higher (4.65%) than the current discount rate:

	<b>1.0% Decrease (2.65%)</b>	<b>Current Discount Rate (3.65%)</b>	<b>1.0% Increase (4.65%)</b>
Total OPEB liability	\$ 8,073,037	\$ 6,654,681	\$ 5,557,527

**Sensitivity of the total OPEB liability to changes in the healthcare cost trend rates**

The following presents the total OPEB liability of the School Board, as well as what the School Board's total OPEB liability would be if it were calculated using healthcare cost trend rates that are 1-percentage-point lower (4.5%) or 1-percentage-point higher (6.5%) than the current healthcare trend rates:

	<b>1.0% Decrease (4.5%)</b>	<b>Current Trend (5.5%)</b>	<b>1.0% Increase (6.5%)</b>
Total OPEB liability	\$ 5,682,323	\$ 6,654,681	\$ 7,920,706

**NOTE 6 - OTHER POST-EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS (OPEB) (CONTINUED)**

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

For the year ended June 30, 2023, the School Board recognized OPEB expense of \$86,035. At June 30, 2023, the School Board reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB from the following sources:

	Deferred Outflows of Resources	Deferred Inflows of Resources
Differences between expected and actual experience	\$ 663,748	\$ 2,023,760
Changes of assumptions	<u>845,624</u>	<u>1,296,731</u>
Total	<u>\$ 1,509,372</u>	<u>\$ 3,320,491</u>

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

Year	Amount
2024	\$ (443,039)
2025	(443,039)
2026	(443,039)
2027	(649,196)
2028	58,191
2029 and thereafter	<u>108,897</u>
Total	<u>\$ (1,811,119)</u>

**Funding Policy**

The School Board recognizes the cost of providing post-employment medical benefits (School Board's portion of the retiree medical benefit premiums) as an expense when the benefit premiums were due and thus financed the cost of the post-employment benefits on a pay-as-you-go basis. The other postemployment benefits liability is typically liquidated through the General Fund.

(Continued)

**NOTE 7 - LONG-TERM LIABILITIES**

The following is a summary of the changes in general long-term obligations for the year ended June 30, 2023:

	July 1, 2022	Additions	Deductions	June 30, 2023	Amount due in one year
Bonds Payable	\$ 8,200,000	\$ -	\$ (275,000)	\$ 7,925,000	\$ 305,000
Compensated Absences	562,668	285,442	(330,741)	517,369	51,737
Claims & Judgements	11,872	-	-	11,872	11,872
	<u>\$ 8,774,540</u>	<u>\$ 285,442</u>	<u>\$ (605,741)</u>	<u>\$ 8,454,241</u>	<u>\$ 368,609</u>

The State Bond Commission approved Louisiana Community Development Authority revenue bonds not exceeding \$14,610,000, in one or more series, to provide financing of the demolition, construction, reconstruction, renovation, and improvement of the flood-damaged Baker High School, including all furnishing, fixtures, and facilities incidental or necessary in connection therewith (the Project).

The City of Baker School District Project Series 2022 bonds were issued March 1, 2022 in the amount of \$8,200,000, and mature on March 1, 2042. The Series 2022 bonds shall bear interest from the date thereof, payable on March 1<sup>st</sup> and September 1<sup>st</sup> of each year, commencing September 1, 2022, at 3.35% interest.

The majority of the long-term liabilities will be liquidated through the General Fund.

In accordance with LSA-R.S. 39:562(L), the School Board is legally restricted from incurring long-term bonded debt in excess of 35 percent of the assessed value of taxable property (including homestead exempt and nonexempt property) within the parish. At June 30, 2023, the statutory limit is \$27,798,302.

Future debt service requirements for the School Board’s outstanding bonds are as follows:

Year Ending June 30	Principal	Interest	Total
2024	\$ 305,000	\$ 265,488	\$ 570,488
2025	315,000	255,270	570,270
2026	325,000	244,717	569,717
2027	335,000	233,830	568,830
2028	350,000	222,608	572,608
2029 - 2033	1,920,000	929,960	2,849,960
2034 - 2038	2,275,000	585,412	2,860,412
2039 - 2042	2,100,000	178,723	2,278,723
	<u>\$ 7,925,000</u>	<u>\$ 2,916,008</u>	<u>\$ 10,841,008</u>

**NOTE 8 - INTERFUND TRANSACTIONS**

The primary purpose of interfund advances is to cover expenditures on cost reimbursement grant programs until reimbursements are received from the granting agencies. Interfund balances as of June 30, 2023 are as follows:

Interfund Receivable		Interfund Payable	
General	\$ 5,991,967	General	\$ -
Capital Project - Flood Recovery	-	Capital Project - Flood Recovery	3,053,914
Title I	-	Title I	506,197
ESSER	-	ESSER	1,916,522
School Food Service	-	School Food Service	281,432
Non-Major	-	Non-Major	233,902
	<u>\$ 5,991,967</u>		<u>\$ 5,991,967</u>

The purpose of interfund transfers is to cover operating expenditures of the general fund through indirect cost recoveries charged to grant programs and to transfer general fund surplus to the capital projects fund to be used for capital improvements. Transfers during 2023 were as follows:

Transfers In		Transfers Out	
General	\$ 400,929	General	\$ -
Title I	-	Title I	(25,513)
ESSER	-	ESSER	(356,641)
Non-Major	-	Non-Major	(18,775)
	<u>\$ 400,929</u>		<u>\$ (400,929)</u>

**NOTE 9 - CONTINGENCIES**

The School Board manages its exposure under general liability, fleet, workers' compensation, and errors and omissions through the purchase of commercial insurance. There have been no significant reductions in the insurance coverage during the year, nor have settlements exceeded coverage for the last three years.

**Litigation**

The School Board is a defendant in several lawsuits. Management and legal counsel for the School Board believe that the potential claims against the School Board not covered by insurance would not materially affect the School Board's financial position. An accrual of \$11,872 has been made within the statement of net position to cover any potential exposure.

**Grant Disallowances**

The School Board participates in several state and federally assisted grant programs. The programs are subject to compliance audits under the single audit approach as well as audits conducted by the Louisiana, the U.S. Department of Education, and FEMA. Such audits could lead to requests for reimbursement by the grantor agency for expenditures disallowed under terms of the grants.

**NOTE 10 - COMMITMENTS**

The School Board has a one-year lease remaining for school buses that renew on an annual basis. The pricing for the agreement varies and is adjusted annually based on the type of bus and quantity of buses needed. The lease payments are generally made on a semi-annual basis.

Lease payments made during 2023 totaled approximately \$167,000 for the school bus lease arrangement. The estimated payment amount for fiscal year ending June 30, 2024 is expected to remain consistent with 2023.

**NOTE 11 - ON-BEHALF PAYMENTS**

The accompanying financial statements include on-behalf payments made by the Parish Tax Collector for \$53,675 to the Teacher’s Retirement System of Louisiana for employee retirement benefits.

**NOTE 12 - APPROPRIATIONS TO CHARTER SCHOOLS AND OTHER AGENCIES**

General Fund appropriations to Charter Schools and other agencies during the year ended June 30, 2023, were as follows:

	<u>Amount</u>
Madison Prep	\$ 72,181
Louisiana Key Academy	67,203
GEO Prep Mid-City	19,912
Impact Charter	1,102,627
Advantage Charter Academy	1,106,638
GEO Prep Academy	74,670
GEO Next Generation High	49,780
Collegiate Academy	119,472
GEO Prep Baker	136,895
Louisiana Virtual Charter Academy	53,762
University View Academy	<u>109,765</u>
Total	<u>\$ 2,912,905</u>

**NOTE 13 - TAX REVENUES ABATED**

The Louisiana Industrial Ad Valorem Tax Exemption program (Louisiana Administrative Code, Title 13, Chapter 5) is a state incentive program which abates, up to ten years, local ad valorem taxes on a manufacturer's new investment and annual capitalized additions related to the manufacturing site. Applications to exempt qualified property for five years are approved by the Board of Commerce and Industry. The exemption may be renewed for an additional five years. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023, there were no City of Baker School Board ad valorem tax revenues abated by the state of Louisiana through the Louisiana Industrial Ad Valorem Tax Exemption program.

**NOTE 14 - COMPENSATION OF BOARD MEMBERS**

The following represents the compensation paid to individual board members for the year ended June 30, 2023:

	<u>Amount</u>
Shona Boxie (July 2022 - December 2022)	\$ 3,600
Sharlous Booker (July 2022 - December 2022)	3,000
Elaine Davis (July 2022 - December 2022)	3,000
Joyce Burgess (July 2022 - June 2023)	6,600
Vanessa Parker (July 2022 - December 2022)	3,000
Monique Butler (January 2023 - June 2023)	3,000
Linda Perkins (January 2023 - June 2023)	3,000
Alteen Profit (January 2023 - June 2023)	3,000
Clara Joseph (January 2023 - June 2023)	<u>3,000</u>
	<u>\$ 31,200</u>

**NOTE 15 - SCHEDULE OF COMPENSATION, BENEFITS, AND OTHER PAYMENTS TO AGENCY HEAD**

The schedule of compensation, benefits, and other payments to the Superintendent during the year ended June 30, 2023, is as follows:

**Dr. De'Ette Perry, Superintendent, July 2022 - June 2023**

Purpose	<u>Amount</u>
Salary	\$ 144,200
Benefits - Medicare	2,091
Benefits - Life Insurance	316
Benefits - Workers' Comp.	994
Auto Allowance	7,200
Technology Allowance	6,000
Travel Expense Reimbursement	<u>1,429</u>
Total	<u>\$ 162,230</u>

**James Stroder, Interim Superintendent, March 2023 - June 2023**

Purpose	<u>Amount</u>
Salary	\$ 31,250
Benefits - Medicare	453
Benefits - Workers' Comp.	188
Auto Allowance	1,800
Travel Expense Reimbursement	<u>358</u>
Total	<u>\$ 34,049</u>

**NOTE 16 - FUND BALANCE DEFICIT**

As of June 30, 2023, the School Food Service Fund, Vocational Education Fund, SRCL Fund, and Special Education Funds had deficit fund balances of \$172,989, \$5,442, \$21,889, and \$23,043, respectively. These fund deficits will be reimbursed by a transfer from the General Fund in 2024.

**NOTE 17 - SUBSEQUENT EVENTS**

Management has evaluated events and transactions for potential recognition or disclosure through December 22, 2023, which was the date the financial statements were available to be issued.

**REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**

**CITY OF BAKER SCHOOL BOARD  
BAKER, LOUISIANA  
GENERAL FUND  
BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023**

	Original Budget	Final Budget	Actual	Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)
<b>REVENUES</b>				
Local sources:				
Taxes:				
Ad-valorem	\$ 2,599,804	\$ 2,498,375	\$ 2,549,012	\$ 50,637
Sales and use	4,535,205	4,891,478	5,100,341	208,863
Earnings on investments	1,500	14,500	159,186	144,686
Other	150,500	157,600	58,267	(99,333)
State sources:				
Minimum foundation program	7,677,499	7,267,193	7,353,842	86,649
Revenue Sharing	44,500	44,500	44,034	(466)
Other restricted revenues	90,861	90,861	129,762	38,901
TOTAL REVENUES	<u>15,099,869</u>	<u>14,964,507</u>	<u>15,394,444</u>	<u>429,937</u>
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>				
Current:				
Instruction:				
Regular education programs	3,614,332	3,614,332	3,397,873	216,459
Special education programs	987,559	987,559	940,003	47,556
Vocational Programs	286,628	185,586	195,284	(9,698)
Other instructional programs	471,877	471,877	439,176	32,701
Special programs	131,346	105,708	177,205	(71,497)
Support services:				
Pupil support services	587,680	587,680	522,461	65,219
Instructional staff services	560,149	522,620	509,583	13,037
General administration services	955,182	897,085	701,683	195,402
School administration services	1,061,274	1,061,274	1,040,080	21,194
Business administration services	304,906	304,906	294,260	10,646
Plant services	1,487,552	1,607,726	1,766,276	(158,550)
Student transportation services	832,424	832,424	691,739	140,685
Central services	203,812	168,425	155,369	13,056
Food services	-	-	6,781	(6,781)
State appropriation to charter schools	2,779,501	2,912,905	2,912,905	-
Debt service	527,571	527,571	529,092	(1,521)
Capital outlay	324,907	324,907	-	324,907
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	<u>15,116,700</u>	<u>15,112,585</u>	<u>14,279,770</u>	<u>832,815</u>
EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER (UNDER) EXPENDITURES	(16,831)	(148,078)	1,114,674	1,262,752
<b>OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)</b>				
Transfers out	(12,114)	(10,972)	-	10,972
Transfers in	171,112	171,112	400,929	229,817
TOTAL OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)	<u>158,998</u>	<u>160,140</u>	<u>400,929</u>	<u>240,789</u>
<b>EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUES AND OTHER FINANCING SOURCES OVER EXPENDITURES AND OTHER USES</b>	142,167	12,062	1,515,603	1,503,541
FUND BALANCES - beginning of year	<u>8,149,910</u>	<u>8,149,910</u>	<u>8,149,910</u>	<u>-</u>
FUND BALANCES - end of year	<u>\$ 8,292,077</u>	<u>\$ 8,161,972</u>	<u>\$ 9,665,513</u>	<u>\$ 1,503,541</u>

**CITY OF BAKER SCHOOL BOARD  
BAKER, LOUISIANA  
TITLE I FUND  
BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023**

	Original Budget	Final Budget	Actual	Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)
<b>REVENUES</b>				
Federal grants	\$ 900,354	\$ 1,589,586	\$ 1,470,592	\$ (118,994)
TOTAL REVENUES	900,354	1,589,586	1,470,592	(118,994)
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>				
Current:				
Instruction:				
Other education programs	900,354	1,589,586	1,148,757	440,829
Support services:				
Instructional staff services	-	-	262,682	(262,682)
Plant operation and maintenance	-	-	33,640	(33,640)
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	900,354	1,589,586	1,445,079	144,507
EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER (UNDER) EXPENDITURES	-	-	25,513	25,513
<b>OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)</b>				
Operating transfers out	-	-	(25,513)	(25,513)
EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUES AND OTHER FINANCING SOURCES OVER EXPENDITURES AND OTHER USES	-	-	-	-
FUND BALANCES - beginning of year	-	-	-	-
FUND BALANCES - end of year	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -

**CITY OF BAKER SCHOOL BOARD  
 BAKER, LOUISIANA  
 SCHOOL FOOD SERVICE FUND  
 BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE  
 FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023**

	Original Budget	Final Budget	Actual	Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)
<b>REVENUES</b>				
Local sources:				
Food sales	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,152	\$ 1,152
State sources:				
Minimum foundation program			10,972	10,972
Revenue Sharing			19,911	19,911
Federal grants	878,267	878,267	891,421	13,154
<b>TOTAL REVENUES</b>	878,267	878,267	923,456	45,189
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>				
Current:				
Food services	878,267	878,267	878,320	\$ (53)
<b>EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER     (UNDER) EXPENDITURES</b>	-	-	45,136	45,136
FUND BALANCES - beginning of year	-	-	(218,125)	(218,125)
FUND BALANCES - end of year	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (172,989)	\$ (172,989)

**CITY OF BAKER SCHOOL BOARD  
BAKER, LOUISIANA  
ESSER FUND  
BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023**

	Original Budget	Final Budget	Actual	Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)
<b>REVENUES</b>				
Federal grants	\$ 8,918,349	\$ 9,119,369	3,618,858	\$ (5,500,511)
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>				
Current:				
Instruction:				
Regular education programs	1,352,847	1,383,340	494,854	888,486
Special education programs	41,800	42,742	15,290	27,452
Vocational Programs	11,490	11,749	4,203	7,546
Special programs	5,762,874	5,892,770	2,107,985	3,784,785
Support services:				
Pupil support services	324,437	331,750	118,675	213,075
Instructional staff services	204,914	209,533	74,955	134,578
General administration services	8,174	8,358	2,990	5,368
School administration services	49,094	50,201	17,958	32,243
Business administration services	8,385	8,574	3,067	5,507
Plant services	486,034	496,990	177,785	319,205
Student transportation services	178,678	182,705	65,358	117,347
Central services	6,807	6,961	2,490	4,471
Food services	396,802	405,746	145,145	260,601
Facility acquisition & construction	86,013	87,950	31,462	56,488
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	8,918,349	9,119,369	3,262,217	5,857,152
EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER (UNDER) EXPENDITURES	-	-	356,641	356,641
<b>OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)</b>				
Operating transfers out	-	-	(356,641)	(356,641)
<b>EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUES AND OTHER FINANCING SOURCES OVER EXPENDITURES AND OTHER USES</b>	-	-	-	-
FUND BALANCES - beginning of year	-	-	-	-
FUND BALANCES - end of year	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -

**CITY OF BAKER SCHOOL SYSTEM**  
**NOTES TO BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2022**

**BUDGETS**

**General Budget Practices**

The School System follows these procedures in establishing the budgetary data reflected in the financial statements.

State statute requires budgets to be adopted for the general fund and all special revenue funds.

Each year, prior to September, the Superintendent submits to the System proposed annual budgets for the general fund and special revenue funds. Public hearings are conducted, prior to the System's approval, to obtain taxpayer comments. The operating budgets include proposed expenditures and the means of financing them.

Appropriations (unexpended budget balances) lapse at year-end.

Formal Budget integration (within the accounting records) is employed as a management control device. All budgets are controlled at the function level. Budget amounts included in the accompanying financial statements consist of those presented in the original budget adopted by the System and as amended by the System.

**Encumbrances**

Encumbrance accounting, under which purchase orders are recorded to reserve that portion of the applicable appropriation, is not employed.

**Budget Basis of Accounting**

All governmental funds' budgets are prepared on the modified accrual basis of accounting, a basis consistent with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP). Budgeted amounts are originally adopted or amended by the System. Legally, the System must adopt a balanced budget; that is, total budgeted revenues and other financing sources including fund balance must equal or exceed total budgeted expenditures and other financing uses. State statutes require the System to amend its budget when revenues plus projected revenues within a fund are expected to be less than budgeted revenues by five percent or more and/or expenditures within a fund are expected to exceed budgeted expenditures by five percent or more. The School System approves budgets at the functional level and management can transfer amounts between line items within a function.

**CITY OF BAKER SCHOOL SYSTEM**

**Schedule of Changes in Net OPEB Liability and Related Ratios for the  
For the Year Ended June 30, 2023**

<b>Total OPEB Liability</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2018</b>
Service cost	\$ 317,365	\$ 390,029	\$ 369,195	\$ 301,621	\$ 274,625	\$ 292,310
Interest	211,709	211,153	193,559	266,256	250,797	233,230
Differences between expected and actual experience	332,485	(2,724,609)	382,446	(282,720)	293,279	(137,905)
Changes of assumptions	(114,135)	(1,519,708)	225,549	1,016,491	445,817	(301,568)
Benefit payments	(146,442)	(157,522)	(149,411)	(151,914)	(123,553)	(117,112)
<b>Net change in total OPEB liability</b>	<b>600,982</b>	<b>(3,800,657)</b>	<b>1,021,338</b>	<b>1,149,734</b>	<b>1,140,965</b>	<b>(31,045)</b>
<b>Total OPEB liability - beginning</b>	<b>6,053,699</b>	<b>9,854,356</b>	<b>8,833,018</b>	<b>7,683,284</b>	<b>6,542,319</b>	<b>6,573,364</b>
<b>Total OPEB liability - ending</b>	<b>\$ 6,654,681</b>	<b>\$ 6,053,699</b>	<b>\$ 9,854,356</b>	<b>\$ 8,833,018</b>	<b>\$ 7,683,284</b>	<b>\$ 6,542,319</b>
Covered-employee payroll	\$ 5,206,745	\$ 5,006,485	\$ 5,201,457	\$ 5,001,401	\$ 5,548,064	\$ 5,334,677
Net OPEB liability as a percentage of covered-employee payroll	127.81%	120.92%	189.45%	176.61%	138.49%	122.64%

**Notes to Schedule:**

*Benefit Changes.* There were no changes of benefit terms for the year ended June 30, 2023.

*Changes of Assumptions.* In 2019, the discount rate used decreased from 3.87% to 3.50%.

In 2020, the discount rate used decreased from 3.50% to 2.21%.

In 2021, the discount rate used decreased from 2.21% to 2.16%.

In 2022, the discount rate used increased from 2.16% to 3.54%.

In 2023, the discount rate used increased from 3.54% to 3.65%.

This schedule is intended to show information for 10 years. Additional years will be displayed as they become available.

There are no assets accumulated in a trust.

**CITY OF BAKER SCHOOL SYSTEM  
BAKER, LOUISIANA**

**SCHEDULE OF CONTRIBUTIONS TO EACH RETIREMENT SYSTEM  
COST SHARING PLANS ONLY**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023**

Pension Plan	Year	Contractually Required Contribution	Contribution in Relation to Contractually Required Contribution	Contribution Deficiency (Excess)	Employer's Covered Payroll	Contributions as a % of Covered Employee Payroll
<b>Teachers Retirement System of Louisiana</b>						
	2023	1,869,369	1,869,369	-	6,918,325	27.0205%
	2022	1,987,687	1,987,687	-	7,462,338	26.6362%
	2021	1,675,418	1,675,418	-	6,224,447	26.9167%
	2020	1,867,875	1,867,875	-	6,829,211	27.3513%
	2019	2,083,769	2,083,769	-	7,834,408	26.5977%
	2018	2,008,020	2,008,020	-	7,592,328	26.4480%
	2017	2,142,700	2,142,700	-	8,402,745	25.5000%
	2016	1,914,774	1,914,774	-	7,277,202	26.3120%
	2015	2,842,607	2,842,607	-	10,152,168	28.0000%
<b>Louisiana School Employees Retirement System</b>						
	2023	165,280	165,280	-	575,889	28.7000%
	2022	187,882	187,882	-	597,619	31.4384%
	2021	107,815	107,815	-	366,739	29.3983%
	2020	127,426	127,426	-	433,397	29.4017%
	2019	121,329	121,329	-	431,926	28.0902%
	2018	124,387	124,387	-	451,016	27.5793%
	2017	105,920	105,920	-	387,985	27.3000%
	2016	135,773	135,773	-	449,581	30.1999%
	2015	218,864	218,864	-	657,982	33.2629%
<b>Louisiana State Employees Retirement System</b>						
	2023	44,158	44,158	-	111,792	39.5000%
	2022	42,223	42,223	-	106,934	39.4851%
	2021	20,714	20,714	-	51,656	40.0999%
	2020	20,731	20,731	-	50,937	40.6993%
	2019	17,014	17,014	-	42,164	40.3520%
	2018	34,641	34,641	-	91,400	37.9004%

*Schedule is intended to show information for 10 years. Additional years will be displayed as they become available.*

**CITY OF BAKER SCHOOL SYSTEM  
BAKER, LOUISIANA**

**SCHEDULE OF THE PROPORTIONATE SHARE OF THE NET PENSION LIABILITY  
COST SHARING PLANS ONLY**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023 (\*)**

Pension Plan:	Year	Employer's Proportion of the Net Pension Liability (Asset)	Employer's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability (Asset)	Employer's Covered Payroll	Employer's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability (Asset) as a Percentage of its Covered-Employee Payroll	Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total Pension Liability
<b>Teachers Retirement System of Louisiana</b>						
	2023	0.1373%	13,107,647	7,462,338	175.6507%	72.40%
	2022	0.1189%	6,349,775	6,224,447	102.0135%	83.90%
	2021	0.1371%	15,245,854	6,829,211	223.2447%	65.60%
	2020	0.1527%	15,152,360	7,834,408	193.4078%	68.60%
	2019	0.1530%	15,032,644	7,592,328	197.9978%	68.20%
	2018	0.1443%	14,794,689	8,402,745	176.0697%	65.60%
	2017	0.1309%	15,361,134	7,277,202	211.0857%	59.90%
	2016	0.1756%	18,878,956	10,152,168	185.9598%	62.50%
	2015	0.1939%	19,814,863	9,617,165	206.0364%	63.70%
<b>Louisiana School Employees Retirement System</b>						
	2023	0.1900%	1,263,774	597,619	211.4682%	76.31%
	2022	0.1219%	579,563	366,739	158.0315%	82.51%
	2021	0.1464%	1,176,373	433,397	271.4308%	69.67%
	2020	0.1473%	1,031,534	431,926	238.8219%	73.49%
	2019	0.1620%	1,082,329	451,016	239.9757%	74.44%
	2018	0.1377%	881,218	387,985	227.1268%	75.03%
	2017	0.1596%	1,203,697	449,581	267.7375%	70.09%
	2016	0.2368%	1,501,689	657,982	228.2265%	74.49%
	2015	0.2152%	1,247,389	596,600	209.0830%	76.18%
<b>Louisiana State Employees Retirement System</b>						
	2023	0.0053%	397,340	106,934	371.5750%	63.70%
	2022	0.0026%	140,131	51,656	271.2773%	72.78%
	2021	0.0025%	203,707	50,937	399.9195%	58.00%
	2020	0.0026%	188,802	42,164	447.7801%	62.90%
	2019	0.0052%	351,363	91,400	384.4234%	64.30%
	2018	0.0064%	449,640	119,098	377.5378%	62.50%

*Schedule is intended to show information for 10 years. Additional years will be displayed as they become available.*

(\*) The amounts presented have a measurement date of the previous fiscal year end.

**CITY OF BAKER SCHOOL SYSTEM**  
**NOTES TO REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023**

**Change of Benefit Terms Include:**

Teachers Retirement System of Louisiana

- There were no changes of benefit terms for the years ended June 30, 2023, 2022, 2021, 2020, 2019, and 2018.

Louisiana School Employees Retirement System

- There were no changes of benefit terms for the years ended June 30, 2023, 2022, 2021, 2020, 2019, and 2018.

Louisiana State Employees Retirement System

- There were no changes of benefit terms for the years ended June 30, 2023, 2022, 2021, 2020, 2019, and 2018.

**Change of Assumptions**

Teachers Retirement System of Louisiana

- In 2023, (valuation date June 30, 2022), the discount rate used to measure total pension liability changed from 7.40% to 7.25%.
- In 2022, (valuation date June 30, 2021), the discount rate used to measure total pension liability changed from 7.45% to 7.40%.
- In 2021, (valuation date June 30, 2020), the discount rate used to measure total pension liability changed from 7.55% to 7.45%.
- In 2020, (valuation date June 30, 2019), the discount rate used to measure total pension liability changed from 7.65% to 7.55%.
- In 2019 (valuation date June 30, 2018), the discount rate used to measure total pension liability changed from 7.70% to 7.65%.
- In 2018 (valuation date June 30, 2017), the discount rate used to measure total pension liability changed from 7.75% to 7.70%

Louisiana School Employees Retirement System

- In 2023 (valuation date June 30, 2022), the following changes of assumptions were incorporated:
  - The discount rate used to measure total pension liability decreased from 6.90% to 6.80%,

## Louisiana School Employees Retirement System (Continued)

- In 2022 (valuation date June 30, 2021), the following changes of assumptions were incorporated:
  - The discount rate used to measure total pension liability decreased from 7.00% to 6.90%,
- In 2020 (valuation date June 30, 2019), the following changes of assumptions were incorporated:
  - The discount rate used to measure total pension liability decreased from 7.0625% to 7.00%,
- In 2019 (valuation date June 30, 2018), the following changes of assumptions were incorporated:
  - The discount rate used to measure total pension liability decreased from 7.125% to 7.0625%,
  - The inflation rate decreased from 2.625% to 2.50%,
  - The mortality assumption was updated to reflect the results of the new experience study and was based on the RP-2014 Healthy Annuitant, Sex Distinct Employee, and Sex Distinct Disabled Lives mortality tables with generational projections using the full generational scale MP2017. The previous valuation set mortality from the RP-2000 Combined Healthy Sex Distinct and Disabled Lives mortality tables with no projection scale.
  - The salary increase assumption was updated to 3.25% to reflect the results of the new experience study and change to the inflation rate. The previous valuation included a range of 3.075% to 5.375%.

## Louisiana State Employees Retirement System

- In 2022 (valuation date June 30, 2021), the discount rate used to measure total pension liability changed from 7.55% to 7.40%.
- In 2021 (valuation date June 30, 2020), the discount rate used to measure total pension liability changed from 7.60% to 7.55% and the inflation rate decreased from 2.5% to 2.3% per annum.
- In 2020 (valuation date June 30, 2019), the discount rate used to measure total pension liability changed from 7.65% to 7.60%.
  - In 2020 (valuation date June 30, 2019), the inflation rate decreased from 2.75% to 2.5% per annum.
  - The salary increase assumption was updated to use the range 3.2% - 13.0% to reflect the results of the new experience study. The previous valuation included a range of 3.8% to 12.8%.
- In 2019 (valuation date June 30, 2018), the discount rate used to measure total pension liability changed from 7.70% to 7.65%.

**OTHER SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**

**CITY OF BAKER SCHOOL SYSTEM**  
**NON-MAJOR GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS DESCRIPTIONS**

**Vocational Education** – This fund accounts for a federal grant, the goal of which is to provide salaries, supplies, and equipment to be used in vocational education programs.

**Title II** – This fund accounts for the federal grants which combine the Eisenhower Professional Development State Grants and Class-Size Reduction programs into one program that focuses on preparing, training and recruiting high quality teachers.

**State Grants** – This fund is used to account for special non-federal grants received from various departments of the State of Louisiana.

**Special Education** – This fund accounts for amounts received under The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), which is a federally financed program providing free appropriate education for all identified handicapped children from 3 to 21 years of age in the least restrictive environment.

**Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)** – This fund is for a pre-GED/Skills Option Program which is a counseling and guidance program with components for pre-GED academic, workplace readiness and skills instructions for students who are at risk of dropping out of high school.

**Direct Student Services** – This fund is for grant allotments to support the School System’s students in gaining access to academic courses, credentials, and services that are not otherwise available within the schools.

**School Redesign** – This fund accounts for amounts received under the School Redesign grants which are intended to support school systems as they build and execute plans focused on core academics, special populations, and talent, in an effort to improve struggling schools.

**SRCL** – This is a grant fund aimed at improving the reading and writing skills of students. The funds support the school systems in their literacy efforts to benefit children from birth through twelfth grade.

**Student Activity Funds** – This is a fund which accounts for the various student activities of the schools within the district such as athletics, clubs, and other student organizations.

**CITY OF BAKER SCHOOL BOARD  
BAKER, LOUISIANA  
NONMAJOR GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS  
BALANCE SHEET  
JUNE 30, 2023**

	Vocational Education	Title II	State Grants	TANF	Direct Student Services	School Redesign	SRCL	Special Education	Student Activity Funds	Total
<b>ASSETS</b>										
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 15,803	\$ 232,924	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 93,950	\$ 342,677
Receivables:										
Due from other governments	4,713	31,339	18,645	63,750	-	-	-	149,729	-	268,176
Prepaid expenses	415	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	415
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$ 5,128</b>	<b>\$ 31,339</b>	<b>\$ 34,448</b>	<b>\$ 296,674</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 149,729</b>	<b>\$ 93,950</b>	<b>\$ 611,268</b>
<b>LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES</b>										
Liabilities:										
Accounts payable	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,416	\$ -	\$ 1,416
Due to other funds	10,570	30,087	-	-	-	-	21,889	171,356	-	233,902
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>10,570</b>	<b>30,087</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>21,889</b>	<b>172,772</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>235,318</b>
Fund balances:										
Nonspendable related to prepaid expenses	415	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	415
Restricted	-	1,252	34,448	296,674	-	-	-	-	93,950	426,324
Unassigned	(5,857)	-	-	-	-	-	(21,889)	(23,043)	-	(50,789)
<b>TOTAL FUND BALANCES</b>	<b>(5,442)</b>	<b>1,252</b>	<b>34,448</b>	<b>296,674</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(21,889)</b>	<b>(23,043)</b>	<b>93,950</b>	<b>375,950</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES</b>	<b>\$ 5,128</b>	<b>\$ 31,339</b>	<b>\$ 34,448</b>	<b>\$ 296,674</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 149,729</b>	<b>\$ 93,950</b>	<b>\$ 611,268</b>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this statement.

**CITY OF BAKER SCHOOL BOARD  
BAKER, LOUISIANA  
NONMAJOR GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS  
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES  
FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023**

	Vocational Education	Title II	State Grants	TANF	Direct Student Services	School Redesign	SRCL	Special Education	Student Activity Funds	Total
<b>REVENUES</b>										
Local sources:										
Other	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 166,185	\$ 166,185
State sources:										
Restricted grants-in-aid	-	-	50,339	243,346	-	-	-	-	-	293,685
Federal grants	4,114	90,352	-	-	46,398	53,041	-	446,595	-	640,500
<b>TOTAL REVENUES</b>	<b>4,114</b>	<b>90,352</b>	<b>50,339</b>	<b>243,346</b>	<b>46,398</b>	<b>53,041</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>446,595</b>	<b>166,185</b>	<b>1,100,370</b>
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>										
Current:										
Instruction:										
Regular education programs	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Special education programs	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	114,873	-	114,873
Other education programs	4,114	88,652	38,076	91,309	27,623	53,041	-	123,336	155,695	581,846
Support:										
Instructional staff services	-	1,700	-	-	-	-	-	198,779	-	200,479
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>4,114</b>	<b>90,352</b>	<b>38,076</b>	<b>91,309</b>	<b>27,623</b>	<b>53,041</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>436,988</b>	<b>155,695</b>	<b>897,198</b>
<b>EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUES AND OTHER FINANCING SOURCES OVER EXPENDITURES AND OTHER USES</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>12,263</b>	<b>152,037</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>9,607</b>	<b>10,490</b>	<b>184,397</b>
FUND BALANCES - beginning of year	(5,442)	1,252	22,185	144,637	-	-	(21,889)	(32,650)	83,460	191,553
FUND BALANCES - end of year	<u>\$ (5,442)</u>	<u>\$ 1,252</u>	<u>\$ 34,448</u>	<u>\$ 296,674</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ (21,889)</u>	<u>\$ (23,043)</u>	<u>\$ 93,950</u>	<u>\$ 375,950</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this statement.

**CITY OF BAKER SCHOOL BOARD  
 BAKER, LOUISIANA  
 LCDBG PROGRAM\*  
 SCHEDULE OF REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES  
 FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023**

<b>REVENUES</b>		
LCDBG Program		<u>\$ 696,317</u>
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>		
Construction services		<u>696,317</u> **
EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER (UNDER) EXPENDITURES		<u><u>\$ -</u></u>

- \* The activity from the LCDBG Program is reported in the Capital Project Flood Recovery fund.
- \*\* Revenues are reported as federal grants in the Capital Project Flood Recovery fund.
- \*\*\* Expenses are reported as facility construction and capital outlay in the Capital Project Flood Recovery fund.

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

To James Stroder Superintendent,  
and the Members of the City of Baker School Board  
Baker, Louisiana

We have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the City of Baker School Board, (the School Board) as of and for the year ended June 30, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the School Board's basic financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated December 22, 2023.

### Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the School Board's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the School Board's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the School Board'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 any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified.

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

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

### **Purpose of this Report**

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the 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. However, under Louisiana Revised Statute 24:513, this report is distributed by the Legislative Auditor as a public document.

***Kolder, Slaven & Company, LLC***  
Certified Public Accountants

Abbeville, Louisiana  
December 22, 2023

# KOLDER, SLAVEN & COMPANY, LLC

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

To James Stroder Superintendent,  
and the Members of the City of Baker School Board  
Baker, Louisiana

### Report on Compliance for Each Major Federal Program

#### Opinion on Each Major Federal Program

We have audited the City of Baker School Board's (the School Board) compliance with the types of compliance requirements identified as subject to audit in the *OMB Compliance Supplement* that could have a direct and material effect on each of the School Board's major federal programs for the year ended June 30, 2023. The School Board's major federal programs are identified in the summary of auditor's results section of the accompanying schedule of findings and questioned costs.

In our opinion, the School Board complied, in all material respects, with the types of compliance requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on the major federal program for the year ended June 30, 2023

#### *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 Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance section of our report.

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

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

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

## ***Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance***

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether material noncompliance with the compliance requirements referred to above occurred, whether due to fraud or error, and express an opinion on the School Board'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 School Board'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 School Board'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 School Board's internal control over compliance relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances and to test and report on internal control over compliance in accordance with the Uniform Guidance, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the School Board'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 combination of deficiencies, in internal control over compliance, such that there is a reasonable possibility that material noncompliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. A *significant deficiency in internal control over compliance* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control over compliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program that is less severe than a material weakness in internal control over compliance, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control over compliance was for the limited purpose described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance section above and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control over compliance that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies in

internal control over compliance. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over compliance that we consider to be material weaknesses, as defined above. However, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies in internal control over compliance may exist that were not identified.

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

The purpose of this report on internal control over compliance is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over compliance and the results of that testing based on the requirements of the Uniform Guidance. Accordingly, this report is not suitable for any other purpose. However, under Louisiana Revised Statute 24:513, this report is distributed by the Legislative Auditor as a public document.

***Kolder, Slaven & Company, LLC***  
Certified Public Accountants

Abbeville, Louisiana  
December 22, 2023

**CITY OF BAKER SCHOOL BOARD  
BAKER, LOUISIANA**

**SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023**

Federal Grantor/ Pass-Through Grantor/ Program Name	Grantor Project Number	Assistance Listing Number	Expenditures 2023
<b><u>UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE</u></b>			
Pass-through program from Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry:			
Food Distribution - Commodities		10.555	\$ 65,892
Pass-through program from Louisiana Department of Education:			
School Lunch Program		10.555	822,905
Summer Feeding		10.559	2,624
<b>Total Department of Agriculture and Forestry</b>			<b>891,421</b>
<b><u>FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY (FEMA)</u></b>			
Pass-through program from Louisiana Governor's Office of Homeland Security & Emergency Preparedness			
Disaster Grants - Public Assistance - Louisiana Severe Storms and Flooding	LA-4277	97.036	6,266,855
<b><u>US DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT (HUD)</u></b>			
Pass-through program from Restore Louisiana Infrastructure			
Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery Program	B-16-DL-22-0001	14.228	696,317
<b><u>UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION</u></b>			
Passed through Louisiana Department of Education:			
IDEA Special Education Regular Project	28-18-B1-68	84.027A	323,260
<b>Subtotal CFDA No. 84.027A</b>			<b>323,260</b>
Direct Student Services	28-19-DS-68	84.010A	46,398
Title I Regular Project	28-18-T1-68	84.010A	1,374,368
School Redesign Planning	28-16-RD1	84.010A	53,041
<b>Subtotal CFDA No. 84.010A</b>			<b>1,473,807</b>
IDEA Special Education Preschool Project	28-13-P1-68	84.173A	5,361
Vocational Education - Carl Perkins	28-18-02-68	84.048A	4,114
Comprehensive Literacy State Development Program Grant (CLSD)		84.371C	96,224
Title II Regular Project	28-18-50-68	84.367A	90,352
Title IV Student Support & Academic Enrichment	28-18-71-68	84.424A	117,974
Elementary & Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ESSER) - COVID-19	28-20-ESRF-19	84.425D	1,016,143
Elementary & Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ESSER) - COVID-19	28-20-ESRF-19	84.425U	2,602,715
<b>Subtotal CFDA No. 84.425</b>			<b>3,618,858</b>
<b>Total Department of Education</b>			<b>5,729,950</b>
 Total Expenditures of Federal Awards			 <b>\$ 13,584,543</b>
Child Nutrition Cluster	\$		891,421
Special Education Cluster	\$		328,621

See the accompanying notes to the schedule of expenditures of federal awards.

**CITY OF BAKER SCHOOL SYSTEM**  
**NOTES TO SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023**

**NOTE A - BASIS OF PRESENTATION**

The accompanying schedule of expenditures of federal awards includes the federal grant activity of the City of Baker School System and is presented on the modified accrual basis of accounting. The information in this schedule is presented in accordance with the requirements of OMB Uniform Guidance, Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations. Therefore, some amounts presented in this schedule may differ from amounts presented in or used in the preparation of the basic financial statements.

**NOTE B - NON-MONETARY ASSISTANCE**

Non-monetary assistance is reported in the schedule at the fair market value of the commodities received and disbursed. At June 30, 2023, the School System had food commodities totaling \$11,596 in inventory. Commodities received, which are non-cash revenues, are valued using pricing provided by the United States Department of Agriculture.

**NOTE C - DE MINIMUS COST RATE**

During the year ended June 30, 2023, the City of Baker School System did not elect to use the 10% de minimus cost rate as covered in §200.414 of the Uniform Guidance.

**NOTE D - AMOUNTS PASSED THROUGH TO SUB-RECIPIENTS**

During the year ended June 30, 2023, the City of Baker School System did not pass through any federal funding to sub-recipients.

CITY OF BAKER SCHOOL BOARD  
Baker, Louisiana

Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs  
Year Ended June 30, 2023

Part I. Summary of Auditor's Results:

**Financial Statements**

Type of auditor's report issued: Unmodified

Internal control over financial reporting:

Material weakness(es) identified? \_\_\_\_\_ Yes     X  No  
Significant deficiencies identified? \_\_\_\_\_ Yes     X  None reported

Noncompliance material to financial statements noted? \_\_\_\_\_ Yes     X  No

**Federal Awards**

Internal control over major programs:

Material weakness(es) identified? \_\_\_\_\_ Yes     X  No  
Significant deficiencies identified? \_\_\_\_\_ Yes     X  None reported

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

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

Major programs:

<u>CFDA Numbers</u>	<u>Name of Federal Program or Cluster</u>
84.425	Education Stabilization Fund – COVID 19
84.010	Title I
97.036	Public Assistance Disaster Grants

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

Auditee qualified as low-risk auditee? \_\_\_\_\_ Yes     X  No

CITY OF BAKER SCHOOL BOARD  
Baker, Louisiana

Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs (continued)  
Year Ended June 30, 2023

Part II. Findings which are required to be reported in accordance with generally accepted *Governmental Auditing Standards*:

A. Internal Control Findings –

None reported.

B. Compliance Findings –

None reported.

Part III. Findings and questioned costs for Federal awards which include audit findings as defined in 2 CFR section 200 of the Uniform Guidance:

There are no findings to be reported under this section.

CITY OF BAKER SCHOOL BOARD  
Baker, Louisiana

Summary Schedule of Prior Year Audit Findings  
Year Ended June 30, 2023

Finding 2022-001

Financial Records/Reconciliations

*Condition:*

Several of the School Board's funds were not timely monitored for overspending and/or submission of reimbursement requests and corrections were not made until the annual year-end financial statement closeout process.

*Recommendation:*

The School System should consider implementing additional controls and dedicate appropriate staffing resources to business operations to permit timely and accurate financial recordings and reconciliations.

*Current Status:*

Resolved.

Finding 2022-002

Late Report Issuance

*Condition:*

The School Board failed to submit its annual financial report to the Legislative Auditor's Office by the statutory deadline.

*Recommendation:*

The School Board should take the necessary steps to ensure that all financial records are accurate and made available to the School Board's auditors well in advance of the statutory deadline to allow for timely completion of the audit.

*Current Status:*

Resolved.

**SCHEDULES REQUIRED BY STATE LAW**  
**(R.S. 24:514 - PERFORMANCE AND STATISTICAL DATA)**

# KOLDER, SLAVEN & COMPANY, LLC

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## Independent Accountant's Report on Applying Agreed-Upon Procedures

To the City of Baker School Board,  
the Louisiana Department of Education,  
and the Louisiana Legislative Auditor:

We have performed the procedures enumerated below on the performance and statistical data accompanying the annual financial statements of the City of Baker School Board (School Board) for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2023; and to determine whether the specified schedules are free of obvious errors and omissions, in compliance with Louisiana Revised Statute 24:514 I. Management of the School Board is responsible for its performance and statistical data.

The School Board has agreed to and acknowledged that the procedures performed are appropriate to meet the intended purpose of the engagement which is to perform specified procedures on the performance and statistical data accompanying the annual financial statements. Additionally, the Louisiana Department of Education, and the Louisiana Legislative Auditor have agreed to and acknowledged that the procedures performed are appropriate for their purpose. This report may not be suitable for any other purposes. The procedures performed may not address all the items of interest to a user of this report and may not meet the needs of all users of this report and, as such, users are responsible for determining whether the procedures performed are appropriate for their purposes.

The procedures and associated findings are as follows:

### **General Fund Instructional and Support Expenditures and Certain Local Revenue Sources (Schedule 1)**

1. We selected a sample of 25 transactions, reviewed supporting documentation, and observed that the sampled expenditures/revenues are classified correctly and are reported in the proper amounts among the following amounts reported on the schedule:

- Total General Fund Instructional Expenditures
- Total General Fund Equipment Expenditures
- Total Local Taxation Revenue
- Total Local Earnings on Investment in Real Property
- Total State Revenue in Lieu of Taxes
- Nonpublic Textbook Revenue
- Nonpublic Transportation Revenue

There were no exceptions noted.

**Class Size Characteristics (Schedule 2)**

2. We obtained a list of classes by school, school type, and class size as reported on the schedule. We then traced a sample of 10 classes to the October 1 roll books for those classes and observed that the class was properly classified on the schedule.

There were two exceptions noted.

**Education Levels/Experience of Public School Staff (NO SCHEDULE)**

3. We obtained October 1<sup>st</sup> PEP data submitted to the Department of Education (or equivalent listing prepared by management), including full-time teachers, principals, and assistant principals by classification, as well as their level of education and experience, and obtained management’s representation that the data/listing was complete. We then selected a sample of 25 individuals, traced to each individual’s personnel file, and observed that each individual’s education level and experience was properly classified on the PEP data or equivalent listing prepared by management.

There were four exceptions noted.

**Public School Staff Data: Average Salaries (NO SCHEDULE)**

4. We obtained June 30<sup>th</sup> PEP data submitted to the Department of Education (or equivalent listing provided by management) of all classroom teachers, including base salary, extra compensation, and ROTC or rehired retiree status, as well as full-time equivalents, and obtained management’s representation that the data/listing was complete. We then selected a sample of 25 individuals, traced to each individual’s personnel file, and observed that each individual’s salary, extra compensation, and full-time equivalents were properly included on the PEP data (or equivalent listing prepared by management).

There were seventeen exceptions noted.

We were engaged by the School Board to perform this agreed-upon procedures engagement and conducted our engagement in accordance with attestation standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, and the standards applicable to attestation engagements contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the United States Comptroller General. We were not engaged to and did not conduct an examination or review engagement, the objective of which would be the expression of an opinion or conclusion, respectively, on the performance and statistical data. Accordingly, we do not express such an opinion or conclusion. Had we performed additional procedures, other matters might have come to our attention that would have been reported to you.

We are required to be independent of the School Board and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements related to our agreed-upon procedures engagement.

This report is intended solely to describe the scope of testing performed on the performance and statistical data accompanying the annual financial statements of the School Board, as required by Louisiana Revised Statue 24:514, and the result of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on control or compliance. Accordingly, this report is not suitable for any other purpose. Under Louisiana Revised Statute 24:513, this report is distributed by the Louisiana Legislative Auditor as a public document.

***Kolder, Slaven & Company, LLC***  
Certified Public Accountants

Abbeville, Louisiana  
December 22, 2023

**CITY OF BAKER SCHOOL BOARD**  
**Baker, Louisiana**  
**Schedules Required by State Law (R.S. 24:514 - Performance and Statistical Data)**  
**As of and for the Year Ended June 30, 2023**

**Schedule 1 - General Fund Instructional and Support Expenditures and Certain Local Revenue Sources**

This schedule includes general fund instructional and equipment expenditures. It also contains local taxation revenue, earnings on investments, revenue in lieu of taxes, and nonpublic textbook and transportation revenue. This data is used either in the Minimum Foundation Program (MFP) formula or is presented annually in the MFP 70% Expenditure Requirement Report.

**Schedule 2 (Formerly Schedule 6) Class Size Characteristics**

This schedule includes the percent and number of classes with student enrollment in the following ranges: 1-20, 21-26, 27-33, and 34+ students.

CITY OF BAKER SCHOOL BOARD  
Baker, Louisiana  
Schedule 1

General Fund Instructional and Support Expenditures  
and Certain Local Revenue Sources  
For the Year Ended June 30, 2023

**General Fund Instructional and Equipment Expenditures**

General fund instructional expenditures:

Teacher and student interaction activities:

Classroom teacher salaries	\$ 2,677,103	
Other instructional staff salaries	558,304	
Instructional staff employee benefits	1,449,414	
Purchased professional and technical services	161,938	
Instructional materials and supplies	47,711	
Instructional equipment	-	
Total teacher and student interaction activities		\$ 4,894,470

Other instructional activities:

Pupil support activities	525,211	
Less: Equipment for pupil support activities	-	
Net pupil support activities		525,211
Instructional staff services	511,442	
Less: Equipment for instructional staff services	-	
Net instructional staff services		511,442

School Administration

Less: Equipment for school administration	-	
Net school administration		1,040,083

Total general fund instructional expenditures \$ 6,989,647

Total general fund equipment expenditures (Object 730; Function series 1000-4000) \$ -

**Certain Local Revenue Sources**

Local taxation revenue:

Constitutional ad valorem taxes	\$ 287,674
Renewable ad valorem tax	2,198,083
Debt service ad valorem tax	-
Up to 1% of collections by the Sheriff on taxes other than school taxes	53,675
Sales and use taxes	5,096,638
Total local taxation revenue	<u>\$ 7,636,070</u>

Local earnings on investment in real property:

Earnings from 16th section property	\$ -
Earnings from other real property	-
Total local earnings on investment in real property	<u>\$ -</u>

State revenue in lieu of taxes:

Revenue sharing - constitutional tax	\$ 44,034
Revenue sharing - other taxes	-
Revenue sharing - excess portion	-
Other revenue in lieu of taxes	-
Total state revenue in lieu of taxes	<u>\$ 44,034</u>

Nonpublic textbook revenue \$ -

Nonpublic transportation revenue \$ -

CITY OF BAKER SCHOOL BOARD  
 Baker, Louisiana  
 Schedule 2

Class Size Characteristics  
 As of October 1, 2022

School Type	Class Size Range							
	1 - 20		21 - 26		27 - 33		34+	
	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number
Elementary	51.5%	68	27.3%	36	17.4%	23	3.8%	5
Elementary Activity Classes	61.9%	13	4.8%	1	14.3%	3	19.0%	4
Middle/Jr. High	39.1%	18	50.0%	23	10.9%	5	0.0%	-
Middle/Jr. High Activity Classes	61.5%	8	30.8%	4	7.7%	1	0.0%	-
High	60.7%	91	29.3%	44	10.0%	15	0.0%	-
High Activity Classes	57.9%	11	36.8%	7	5.3%	1	0.0%	-
Combination	0.0%	-	0.0%	-	0.0%	-	0.0%	-
Combination Activity Classes	0.0%	-	0.0%	-	0.0%	-	0.0%	-

Note: The Board of Elementary and Secondary Education has set specific limits on the maximum size of classes at various grade levels. The maximum enrollment in grades K-3 is 26 and maximum enrollment in grades 4-12 is 33 students. These limits do not apply to activity classes such as physical education, chorus, band, and other classes without maximum enrollment standards. Therefore, these classes are included only as separate line items.

**City of Baker School Board**  
Baker, Louisiana

Statewide Agreed-Upon Procedures

Fiscal period July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023

# KOLDER, SLAVEN & COMPANY, LLC

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## INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANT'S REPORT ON APPLYING AGREED-UPON PROCEDURES

To the Members of the  
City of Baker School Board  
and the Louisiana Legislative Auditor:

We have performed the procedures enumerated below on the control and compliance (C/C) areas identified in the Louisiana Legislative Auditor's (LLA's) Statewide Agreed-Upon Procedures (SAUPs) for the fiscal period July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023. City of Baker School Board's (The School Board) management is responsible for those C/C areas identified in the SAUPs.

The School Board has agreed to and acknowledged that the procedures performed are appropriate to meet the intended purpose of the engagement, which is to perform specified procedures on the C/C areas identified in LLA's SAUPs for the fiscal period July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023. Additionally, LLA has agreed to and acknowledged that the procedures performed are appropriate for its purposes. This report may not be suitable for any other purpose. The procedures performed may not address all the items of interest to a user of this report and may not meet the needs of all users of this report and, as such, users are responsible for determining whether the procedures performed are appropriate for their purposes.

The procedures and associated findings are as follows:

### ***Written Policies and Procedures***

1. Obtain and inspect the entity's written policies and procedures and observe whether they address each of the following categories and subcategories if applicable to public funds and the entity's operations:
  - a) ***Budgeting***, including preparing, adopting, monitoring, and amending the budget.
  - b) ***Purchasing***, including (1) how purchases are initiated, (2) how vendors are added to the vendor list, (3) the preparation and approval process of purchase requisitions and purchase orders, (4) controls to ensure compliance with the Public Bid Law, and (5) documentation required to be maintained for all bids and price quotes.
  - c) ***Disbursements***, including processing, reviewing, and approving.
  - d) ***Receipts/Collections***, including receiving, recording, and preparing deposits. Also, policies and procedures should include management's actions to determine the completeness of all collections for each type of revenue or agency fund additions (e.g., periodic confirmation with outside parties, reconciliation to utility billing after cutoff procedures, reconciliation of traffic ticket number sequences, agency fund forfeiture monies confirmation).

- e) **Payroll/Personnel**, including (1) payroll processing, (2) reviewing and approving time and attendance records, including leave and overtime worked, and (3) approval process for employee rates of pay or approval and maintenance of pay rate schedules.
- f) **Contracting**, including (1) types of services requiring written contracts, (2) standard terms and conditions, (3) legal review, (4) approval process, and (5) monitoring process.
- g) **Travel and Expense Reimbursement**, including (1) allowable expenses, (2) dollar thresholds by category of expense, (3) documentation requirements, and (4) required approvers.
- h) **Credit Cards (and debit cards, fuel cards, purchase cards)**, including (1) how cards are to be controlled, (2) allowable business uses, (3) documentation requirements, (4) required approvers of statements, and (5) monitoring card usage (e.g., determining the reasonableness of fuel card purchases).
- i) **Ethics**, including (1) the prohibitions as defined in Louisiana Revised Statute (R.S.) 42:1111-1121, (2) actions to be taken if an ethics violation takes place, (3) system to monitor possible ethics violations, and (4) a requirement that documentation is maintained to demonstrate that all employees and officials were notified of any changes to the entity's ethics policy.
- j) **Debt Service**, including (1) debt issuance approval, (2) continuing disclosure/EMMA reporting requirements, (3) debt reserve requirements, and (4) debt service requirements.
- k) **Information Technology Disaster Recovery/Business Continuity**, including (1) identification of critical data and frequency of data backups, (2) storage of backups in a separate physical location isolated from the network, (3) periodic testing/verification that backups can be restored, (4) use of antivirus software on all systems, (5) timely application of all available system and software patches/updates, and (6) identification of personnel, processes, and tools needed to recover operations after a critical event.
- l) **Prevention of Sexual Harassment**, including R.S. 42:342-344 requirements for (1) agency responsibilities and prohibitions, (2) annual employee training, and (3) annual reporting.

### ***Board or Finance Committee***

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- 2. Obtain and inspect the board/finance committee minutes for the fiscal period, as well as the board's enabling legislation, charter, bylaws, or equivalent document in effect during the fiscal period, and:
  - a) Observe that the board/finance committee met with a quorum at least monthly, or on a frequency in accordance with the board's enabling legislation, charter, bylaws, or other equivalent document.
  - b) For those entities reporting on the governmental accounting model, observe whether the minutes referenced or included monthly budget-to-actual comparisons on the general fund, quarterly budget-to-actual, at a minimum, on proprietary funds, and semi-annual budget-to-actual, at a minimum on all special revenue funds. *Alternatively, for those entities reporting on the not-for-profit accounting model, observe that the minutes referenced or included financial activity relating to public funds if those public funds comprised more than 10% of the entity's collections during the fiscal period.*
  - c) For governmental entities, obtain the prior year audit report and observe the unassigned fund balance in the general fund. If the general fund had a negative ending unassigned fund balance in the prior year audit report, observe that the minutes for at least one meeting during the fiscal period referenced or included a formal plan to eliminate the negative unassigned fund balance in the general fund.
  - d) Observe whether the board/finance committee received written updates of the progress of resolving audit finding(s), according to management's corrective action plan at each meeting until the findings are considered fully resolved.

### ***Bank Reconciliations***

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3. Obtain a listing of entity bank accounts for the fiscal period from management and management's representation that the listing is complete. Ask management to identify the entity's main operating account. Select the entity's main operating account and randomly select 4 additional accounts (or all accounts if less than 5). Randomly select one month from the fiscal period, obtain and inspect the corresponding bank statement and reconciliation for each selected account, and observe that:
  - a) Bank reconciliations include evidence that they were prepared within 2 months of the related statement closing date (e.g., initialed and dated, electronically logged);
  - b) Bank reconciliations include written evidence that a member of management or a board member who does not handle cash, post ledgers, or issue checks has reviewed each bank reconciliation (e.g., initialed and dated, electronically logged); and
  - c) Management has documentation reflecting it has researched reconciling items that have been outstanding for more than 12 months from the statement closing date, if applicable.

### ***Collections (excluding electronic funds transfers)***

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4. Obtain a listing of deposit sites for the fiscal period where deposits for cash/checks/money orders (cash) are prepared and management's representation that the listing is complete. Randomly select 5 deposit sites (or all deposit sites if less than 5).
5. For each deposit site selected, obtain a listing of collection locations and management's representation that the listing is complete. Randomly select one collection location for each deposit site (e.g., 5 collection locations for 5 deposit sites), obtain and inspect written policies and procedures relating to employee job duties (if there are no written policies or procedures, then inquire of employees about their job duties) at each collection location, and observe that job duties are properly segregated at each collection location such that
  - a) Employees responsible for cash collections do not share cash drawers/registers;
  - b) Each employee responsible for collecting cash is not also responsible for preparing/making bank deposits, unless another employee/official is responsible for reconciling collection documentation (e.g. pre-numbered receipts) to the deposit;
  - c) Each employee responsible for collecting cash is not responsible for posting collection entries to the general ledger or subsidiary ledgers, unless another employee/official is responsible for reconciling ledger postings to each other and to the deposit; and
  - d) The employee(s) responsible for reconciling cash collections to the general ledger and/or subsidiary ledgers, by revenue source and/or agency fund additions, is (are) not also responsible for collecting cash, unless another employee/official verifies the reconciliation.
6. Obtain from management a copy of the bond or insurance policy for theft covering all employees who have access to cash. Observe that the bond or insurance policy for theft was in force during the fiscal period.
7. Randomly select two deposit dates for each of the 5 bank accounts selected for Bank Reconciliations procedures #3 (select the next deposit date chronologically if no deposits were made on the dates randomly selected and randomly select a deposit if multiple deposits are made on the same day). *Alternately, the practitioner may use a source document other than bank statements when selecting the deposit dates for testing, such as a cash collection log, daily revenue report, receipt book, etc.* Obtain supporting documentation for each of the 10 deposits and:
  - a) Observe that receipts are sequentially pre-numbered.
  - b) Trace sequentially pre-numbered receipts, system reports, and other related collection documentation to the deposit slip.

- c) Trace the deposit slip total to the actual deposit per the bank statement.
- d) Observe that the deposit was made within one business day of receipt at the collection location (within one week if the depository is more than 10 miles from the collection location or the deposit is less than \$100 and the cash is stored securely in a locked safe or drawer).
- e) Trace the actual deposit per the bank statement to the general ledger.

***Non-Payroll Disbursements (excluding card purchases, travel reimbursements, and petty cash purchases)***

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- 8. Obtain a listing of locations that process payments for the fiscal period and management's representation that the listing is complete. Randomly select 5 locations (or all locations if less than 5).
- 9. For each location selected under procedure #8 above, obtain a listing of those employees involved with non-payroll purchasing and payment functions. Obtain written policies and procedures relating to employee job duties (if the agency has no written policies and procedures, then inquire of employees about their job duties), and observe that job duties are properly segregated such that
  - a) At least two employees are involved in initiating a purchase request, approving a purchase, and placing an order or making the purchase;
  - b) At least two employees are involved in processing and approving payments to vendors;
  - c) The employee responsible for processing payments is prohibited from adding/modifying vendor files, unless another employee is responsible for periodically reviewing changes to vendor files;
  - d) Either the employee/official responsible for signing checks mails the payment or gives the signed checks to an employee to mail who is not responsible for processing payments; and
  - e) Only employees/officials authorized to sign checks approve the electronic disbursement (release) of funds, whether through automated clearinghouse (ACH), electronic funds transfer (EFT), wire transfer, or some other electronic means.

[Note: Findings related to controls that constrain the legal authority of certain public officials (e.g., mayor of a Lawrason Act municipality); should not be reported.]
- 10. For each location selected under #8 above, obtain the entity's non-payroll disbursement transaction population (excluding cards and travel reimbursements) and obtain management's representation that the population is complete. Randomly select 5 disbursements for each location, obtain supporting documentation for each transaction and
  - a) Observe whether the disbursement, whether by paper or electronic means, matched the related original itemized invoice and that supporting documentation indicates that deliverables included on the invoice were received by the entity, and
  - b) Observe whether the disbursement documentation included evidence (e.g., initial/date, electronic logging) of segregation of duties tested under #9, as applicable.
- 11. Using the entity's main operating account and the month selected in Bank Reconciliations procedure #3, randomly select 5 non-payroll-related electronic disbursements (or all electronic disbursements if less than 5) and observe that each electronic disbursement was (a) approved by only those persons authorized to disburse funds (e.g., sign checks) per the entity's policy, and (b) approved by the required number of authorized signers per the entity's policy. Note: If no electronic payments were made from the main operating account during the month selected the practitioner should select an alternative month and/or account for testing that does include electronic disbursements.

### ***Credit Cards/Debit Cards/Fuel Cards/Purchase Cars (Cards)***

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12. Obtain from management a listing of all active credit cards, bank debit cards, fuel cards, and purchase cards (cards) for the fiscal period, including the card numbers and the names of the persons who maintained possession of the cards. Obtain management's representation that the listing is complete.
13. Using the listing prepared by management, randomly select 5 cards (or all cards if less than 5) that were used during the fiscal period. Randomly select one monthly statement or combined statement for each card (for a debit card, randomly select one monthly bank statement). Obtain supporting documentation, and
  - a) Observe whether there is evidence that the monthly statement or combined statement and supporting documentation (e.g., original receipts for credit/debit card purchases, exception reports for excessive fuel card usage) were reviewed and approved, in writing (or electronically approved), by someone other than the authorized card holder (those instances requiring such approval that may constrain the legal authority of certain public officials, such as the mayor of a Lawrason Act municipality, should not be reported); and
  - b) Observe that finance charges and late fees were not assessed on the selected statements.
14. Using the monthly statements or combined statements selected under #13 above, excluding fuel cards, randomly select 10 transactions (or all transactions if less than 10) from each statement, and obtain supporting documentation for the transactions (e.g. each card should have 10 transactions subject to inspection). For each transaction, observe that it is supported by (1) an original itemized receipt that identifies precisely what was purchased, (2) written documentation of the business/public purpose, and (3) documentation of the individuals participating in meals (for meal charges only). For missing receipts, the practitioner should describe the nature of the transaction and observe whether management had a compensating control to address missing receipts, such as a "missing receipt statement" that is subject to increased scrutiny.

### ***Travel and Travel-Related Expense Reimbursements (excluding card transactions)***

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15. Obtain from management a listing of all travel and travel-related expense reimbursements during the fiscal period and management's representation that the listing or general ledger is complete. Randomly select 5 reimbursements and obtain the related expense reimbursement forms/prepaid expense documentation of each selected reimbursement, as well as the supporting documentation. For each of the 5 reimbursements selected:
  - a) If reimbursed using a per diem, observe that the approved reimbursement rate is no more than those rates established either by the State of Louisiana or the U.S. General Services Administration ([www.gsa.gov](http://www.gsa.gov));
  - b) If reimbursed using actual costs, observe that the reimbursement is supported by an original itemized receipt that identifies precisely what was purchased;
  - c) Observe that each reimbursement is supported by documentation of the business/public purpose (for meal charges, observe that the documentation includes the names of those individuals participating) and other documentation required by Written Policies and Procedures (procedure #1g); and
  - d) Observe that each reimbursement was reviewed and approved, in writing, by someone other than the person receiving reimbursement.

### ***Contracts***

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16. Obtain from management a listing of all agreements/contracts for professional services, materials and supplies, leases, and construction activities that were initiated or renewed during the fiscal period. *Alternately, the practitioner may use an equivalent selection source, such as an active vendor list.* Obtain management's representation that the listing is complete. Randomly select 5 contracts (or all contracts if less than 5) from the listing, excluding the practitioner's contract, and

- a) Observe whether the contract was bid in accordance with the Louisiana Public Bid Law (e.g., solicited quotes or bids, advertised), if required by law;
- b) Observe whether the contract was approved by the governing body/board, if required by policy or law (e.g., Lawrason Act, Home Rule Charter);
- c) If the contract was amended (e.g., change order), observe that the original contract terms provided for such an amendment and that amendments were made in compliance with the contract terms (e.g. if approval is required for any amendment, the documented approval); and
- d) Randomly select one payment from the fiscal period for each of the 5 contracts, obtain the supporting invoice, agree the invoice to the contract terms, and observe that the invoice and related payment agreed to the terms and conditions of the contract.

### ***Payroll and Personnel***

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17. Obtain a listing of employees and officials employed during the fiscal period and management's representation that the listing is complete. Randomly select 5 employees or officials, obtain related paid salaries and personnel files, and agree paid salaries to authorized salaries/pay rates in the personnel files.
18. Randomly select one pay period during the fiscal period. For the 5 employees or officials selected under #17 above, obtain attendance records and leave documentation for the pay period, and:
  - a) Observe that all selected employees or officials documented their daily attendance and leave (e.g., vacation, sick, compensatory). (Note: Generally, officials are not eligible to earn leave and do not document their attendance and leave. However, if the official is earning leave according to policy and/or contract, the official should document his/her daily attendance and leave.);
  - b) Observe whether supervisors approved the attendance and leave of the selected employees/officials;
  - c) Observe that any leave accrued or taken during the pay period is reflected in the entity's cumulative leave records; and
  - d) Observe the rate paid to the employees or officials agrees to the authorized salary/pay rate found within the personnel file.
19. Obtain a listing of those employees or officials that received termination payments during the fiscal period and management's representation that the list is complete. Randomly select two employees or officials and obtain related documentation of the hours and pay rates used in management's termination payment calculations and the entity's policy on termination payments. Agree the hours to the employee or official's cumulative leave records, agree the pay rates to the employee's or official's authorized pay rates in the employee's or official's personnel files, and agree the termination payment to entity policy.
20. Obtain management's representation that employer and employee portions of third-party payroll related amounts (e.g., payroll taxes, retirement contributions, health insurance premiums, garnishments, workers' compensation premiums, etc.) have been paid, and any associated forms have been filed, by required deadlines.

### ***Ethics***

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21. Using the 5 randomly selected employees/officials from Payroll and Personnel procedure #17 obtain ethics documentation from management, and:
  - a) Observe whether the documentation demonstrates that each employee/official completed one hour of ethics training during the calendar year as required by R.S. 42:1170
  - b) Observe that the entity maintains documentation which demonstrates each employee and official were notified of any changes to the entity's ethics policy during the fiscal period, as applicable.
22. Inquire and/or observe whether the agency has appointed an ethics designee as required by R.S. 42:1170.

### ***Debt Service***

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23. Obtain a listing of bonds/notes and other debt instruments issued during the fiscal period and management's representation that the listing is complete. Select all debt instruments on the listing, obtain supporting documentation, and observe that State Bond Commission approval was obtained for each bond/note issued as required by Article VII, Section 8 of the Louisiana Constitution.
24. Obtain a listing of bonds/notes outstanding at the end of the fiscal period and management's representation that the listing is complete. Randomly select one bond/note, inspect debt covenants, obtain supporting documentation for the reserve balance and payments, and agree actual reserve balances and payments to those required by debt covenants (including contingency funds, short-lived asset funds, or other funds required by the debt covenants).

### ***Fraud Notice***

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25. Obtain a listing of misappropriations of public funds and assets during the fiscal period and management's representation that the listing is complete. Select all misappropriations on the listing, obtain supporting documentation, and observe that the entity reported the misappropriation(s) to the legislative auditor and the district attorney of the parish in which the entity is domiciled. As required by R.S. 24:523.
26. Observe that the entity has posted on its premises and website, the notice required by R.S. 24:523.1 concerning the reporting of misappropriation, fraud, waste, or abuse of public funds.

### ***Information Technology Disaster Recovery/Business Continuity***

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27. Perform the following procedures, verbally discuss the results with management, and report "We performed the procedure and discussed the results with management."
  - a) Obtain and inspect the entity's most recent documentation that it has backed up its critical data (if there is no written documentation, then inquire of personnel responsible for backing up critical data) and observe evidence that such backup (a) occurred within the past week, (b) was not stored on the government's local server or network, and (c) was encrypted.
  - b) Obtain and inspect the entity's most recent documentation that it has tested/verified that its backups can be restored (if no written documentation, then inquire of personnel responsible for testing/verifying backup restoration) and observe evidence that the test/verification was successfully performed within the past 3 months.
  - c) Obtain a listing of the entity's computers currently in use and their related locations, and management's representation that the listing is complete. Randomly select 5 computers and observe while management demonstrates that the selected computers have current and active antivirus software and that the operating system and accounting system software in use are currently supported by the vendor.
28. Randomly select 5 terminated employees (or all terminated employees if less than 5) using the list of terminated employees obtained in procedure #19. Observe evidence that the selected terminated employees have been removed or disabled from the network.

### ***Prevention of Sexual Harassment***

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29. Using the 5 randomly selected employees/officials from Payroll and Personnel procedure #17, obtain sexual harassment training documentation from management, and observe that the documentation demonstrates each employee/official completed at least one hour of sexual harassment training during the calendar year as required by R.S 42:343.
30. Observe that the entity has posted its sexual harassment policy and complaint procedure on its website (or in a conspicuous location on the entity's premises if the entity does not have a website).

31. Obtain the entity's annual sexual harassment report for the current fiscal period, observe that the report was dated on or before February 1, and observe that it includes the applicable requirements of R.S. 42:344:
- a) Number and percentage of public servants in the agency who have completed the training requirements;
  - b) Number of sexual harassment complaints received by the agency;
  - c) Number of complaints which resulted in a finding that sexual harassment occurred;
  - d) Number of complaints in which the finding of sexual harassment resulted in discipline or corrective action; and
  - e) Amount of time it took to resolve each complaint.

**Findings:**

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**Policies & Procedures:**

*The School Board does not have written policies and procedures addressing annual reporting of sexual harassment.*

*The School Board does not have written policies and procedures requiring that documentation is maintained to demonstrate that all employees and officials were notified of any changes in the entity's ethics policy.*

**Board or Finance Committee:**

*The board/finance committee did not receive written updates of the progress of resolving audit findings(s), according to management's corrective action plan at each meeting until the findings were considered fully resolved.*

**Bank Reconciliations:**

*One of the bank statements selected for testing did not have evidence of management researching reconciling items that have been outstanding for more than 12 months.*

**Cash Collections:**

*For one transaction tested, the deposit was made in more than 1 business day.*

*For five transactions tested, management was unable to provide documentation that influenced evidence of segregation of duties.*

*For one transaction tested, management was unable to provide appropriate supporting documentation.*

**Disbursements:**

*At four locations tested, the employee responsible for processing payments is not prohibited from adding/modifying vendor files.*

*For five transactions tested, management was unable to provide documentation that included evidence of segregation of duties.*

*For one transaction tested, management was unable to provide appropriate supporting documentation.*

***Ethics:***

*For one individual tested, an ethics certificate was not provided.*

***Sexual Harassment:***

*The report that management provided was not sufficient with the guidelines.*

***Management's Response:***

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The School Board concurs with the exceptions and is working to address the deficiencies identified.

We were engaged by the School Board to perform this agreed-upon procedures engagement and conducted our engagement in accordance with attestation standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and applicable standards of *Government Auditing Standards*. We were not engaged to and did not conduct an examination or review engagement, the objective of which would be the expression of an opinion or conclusion, respectively, on those C/C areas identified in the SAUPs. Accordingly, we do not express such an opinion or conclusion. Had we performed additional procedures, other matters might have come to our attention that would have been reported to you.

We are required to be independent of the School Board and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements related to our agreed-upon procedures engagement.

This report is intended solely to describe the scope of testing performed on those C/C areas identified in the SAUPs, and the result of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on control or compliance. Accordingly, this report is not suitable for any other purpose. Under Louisiana Revised Statute 24:513, this report is distributed by the LLA as a public document.

***Kolder, Slaven & Company, LLC***  
Certified Public Accountants

Abbeville, Louisiana  
December 22, 2023