

***Buffalo School District RE-4J***  
**Merino, Colorado**

**Financial Statements**

**For the Year ended June 30, 2019**

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## **Independent Auditors' Report**

Board of Education  
Buffalo School District RE-4J  
Merino, Colorado

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Buffalo School District RE-4J (the District), as of and for the year ended June 30, 2019, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the District's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

### **Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements**

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

### **Auditors' Responsibility**

Our responsibility is to express opinions on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditors' judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

## **Opinions**

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to 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 District as of June 30, 2019, 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.

## **Other Matters**

### *Required Supplementary Information*

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the management's discussion and analysis, budgetary comparison information and historical pension information and other post-employment benefit plan information listed in the table of contents be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board, who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consisted of inquiries of management 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.

### *Other Information*

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the District's basic financial statements. The other supplementary information 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 other supplementary information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the other supplementary information is fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the basic financial statements taken as a whole.

*Lauer, Szabo & Associates, P.C.*

Sterling, Colorado  
October 1, 2019

**Buffalo School District RE-4J  
Management Discussion and Analysis  
For Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2019**

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This section of Buffalo School District RE-4J's annual financial report presents its discussion and analysis of the District's financial performance during the year ended June 30, 2019.

**Financial Highlights**

- The assets and deferred outflows of resources of Buffalo School District RE-4J exceeded its liabilities and deferred inflows of resources at the close of the most recent fiscal year by \$1,614,053 (net position).
- The district's total net position increased by \$1,060,497.
- General revenues accounted for \$3,640,896 or 86% of the \$4,249,504 in total revenues. Program specific revenues in the form of charges for services, sales, and grants accounted for \$608,608 or 14% of revenues.
- The general fund ending fund balance reached \$1,998,775 with an increase of \$234,001 from last year.

**Overview of Financial Statements**

The discussion and analysis is intended to serve as an introduction to the School District's basic financial statements. A comparison to the prior year's activity is normally provided in the document. The basic financial statements consist of three components: 1) government-wide financial statements, 2) fund financial statements and 3) notes to the financial statements. This report also contains required supplementary information in addition to the basic financial statements.

**Government-wide Statements**

The Government-wide financial statements are designed to provide readers with information about the School District as a whole using accounting methods similar to those used by private-sector businesses.

The statement of net position includes all of the School District's assets and deferred outflows of resources, and liabilities and deferred inflows of resources, with the difference between the two 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 District 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 change occurs, regardless of the timing of related cash flows. Thus, revenues and expenses are reported in this statement for some items that will only result in cash flows in future fiscal periods (e.g., uncollected taxes and retiree's early retirement bonuses). In the government-wide financial statements, the School District's activities include the following:

- **Governmental activities:** Most of the School District's basic services are included here, such as instruction, transportation, maintenance and operations, administration and food service. Taxes and intergovernmental revenues principally support these activities.

### **Fund Financial Statements**

A fund is a grouping of related accounts that is used to maintain control over resources that have been segregated for specific activities or objectives. The fund financial statements provide more detailed information about the School District's operations, focusing on the most significant or "major" funds, not the School District as a whole. The School District has two kinds of funds: governmental funds and fiduciary funds.

### **Governmental Funds**

Most of the District's basic services are included in the governmental funds, which generally focus on (1) how cash and other financial assets that can readily be converted to cash flow in and out and (2) the balances left at year-end that are available for spending. Consequently, the governmental funds statements provide a detailed short-term view that helps determine the status of financial resources that can be spent in the near future to finance the School District's program.

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

The School District maintains three individual governmental funds. Information is presented separately in the governmental fund balance sheet and in the governmental fund statement of revenue, expenditures and change in fund balances for the General Fund, which is considered to be a major fund. Data for the other governmental funds are presented in a separate column. Individual fund data for the nonmajor, other governmental funds are provided elsewhere in this report.

The basic governmental fund financial statements can be found on pages 14-17 of this report.

## Fiduciary Funds

Fiduciary funds are used to count for resources held for the benefit of parties outside the school district. Fiduciary funds are not reflected in the government-wide financial statements because the resources of those funds are not available to support the School District's own programs. The basic fiduciary fund financial statements can be found on page 18 of 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. The notes to the financial statements may be found on pages 19-53 of this report.

## Other information

In addition to the basic financial statements, this report also presents other supplementary information concerning the School District's annual appropriated budgets with comparison statements that demonstrate compliance with budgets. Budgeted amounts may be found on pages 68-80 of this report.

## Financial Analysis of the School District as a Whole

As noted earlier, net position may serve over time as a useful indicator of the School District's financial position.

80 percent of the School District's assets are its investment in capital assets (e.g., land, buildings and equipment). The school District uses these assets to provide instruction and related services to its students.

The following table provides a summary of the district's net position as of June 30, 2019.

	Governmental Activities 2019	2018	Total Percentage Change 2018-2019
Current and Other assets	\$ 2,592,737	\$ 2,317,497	11.88%
Capital assets	9,016,875	9,144,425	-1.39%
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>11,609,612</b>	<b>11,461,922</b>	<b>1.29%</b>
Deferred outflows of resources	2,563,213	3,897,120	-34.23%
<b>Total assets and deferred outflows of resources</b>	<b>\$14,172,825</b>	<b>\$15,359,042</b>	<b>-7.72%</b>
Long term liabilities	\$7,254,453	\$13,633,169	-46.79%
Other liabilities	339,415	313,485	8.27%
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>7,593,868</b>	<b>13,946,654</b>	<b>-45.55%</b>
Deferred inflows of resources	4,964,904	858,832	478.10%
Net investment in capital assets	7,821,961	7,833,334	-0.15%
Restricted	339,867	324,634	4.69%
Unrestricted	(6,547,775)	(7,604,412)	-13.90%
<b>Total net position</b>	<b>1,614,053</b>	<b>553,556</b>	<b>191.58%</b>
<b>Total liabilities, deferred inflows of resources and net position</b>	<b>\$14,172,825</b>	<b>\$15,359,042</b>	<b>-7.72%</b>

Following is a summary of the School District's change in net position.

Revenues	Governmental Activities		Total Percentage Change 2018-2019
	2019	2018	
<b>Program Revenues</b>			
Charges for services	\$ 62,645	\$ 67,525	-7.23%
Operating Grants & Contributions	428,831	421,938	1.63%
Capital Grants & Contributions	117,132	-	N/A
<b>General Revenue</b>			
Property taxes	874,981	875,127	-0.02%
State equalization	2,553,596	2,415,482	5.72%
Other	212,319	131,563	61.38%
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>4,249,504</b>	<b>3,911,635</b>	<b>8.64%</b>
<b>Expenses</b>			
Instruction	1,581,119	3,442,198	-54.07%
Pupil & Instructional Services	214,092	330,054	-35.13%
Administration & Business	401,927	892,883	-54.99%
Maintenance & Operations	342,962	497,657	-31.08%
Transportation	136,351	253,242	-46.16%
Other	512,556	502,369	2.03%
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>3,189,007</b>	<b>5,918,403</b>	<b>-46.12%</b>
<b>Change in net position</b>	<b>\$ 1,060,497</b>	<b>\$ (2,006,768)</b>	<b>-152.85%</b>

### Governmental Activities

The primary source of operating revenue for school districts comes from the School Finance Act of 1994, as amended (SFA). Under the SFA the School District received \$10,718 per funded student. In fiscal year 2018-19 the funded pupil count was 303.1. Funding for the SFA comes from property taxes, specific ownership tax and state equalization. The School District receives approximately 78 percent of this funding from state equalization while the remaining amount comes from property taxes and specific ownership tax. The School District's assessed valuation generated \$624,108 and \$159,695 in property taxes for general purposes and debt service, respectively, for fiscal year 2018-2019.

### Governmental Funds

The focus of the School District's governmental funds is to provide information on near-term inflows, outflows, and balances of spendable resources. Such information is useful in assessing the School district's financing requirements. In particular, unassigned fund balance may serve as a useful measure of the School District's net resources available for spending at the end of the fiscal year.

At the end of the fiscal year, the School District's governmental funds reported combined ending fund balances of \$2,231,081, an increase of \$242,018 in comparison with the prior year. The general fund had a fund balance increase of \$234,001; the food service had a fund balance increase of \$26; and the bond redemption had a fund balance increase of \$7,991, respectively.

## General Fund Budget Highlights

The District's budget is prepared according to Colorado law and is based on accounting for transactions under generally accepted accounting principles. The most significant budgeted fund is the General Fund.

Difference between the final budget and actual amounts totaled an increase of \$2,226,627 and can be briefly summarized as follows:

- \$1,672,626 of beginning fund balance increase was set-aside in the contingency reserve.
- \$176,959 was allocated for transportation, maintenance and operations expenses including utilities not purchased by the general fund.

## Capital Assets and Debt Administration

### Capital Assets

The School Districts investment in capital assets for its governmental and business type activities as of June 30, 2019 amounts to \$9,016,875 (net of accumulated depreciation). This investment in capital assets includes land, buildings and improvements, equipment, construction in progress, and capital leases all with an original cost greater than \$5,000.

The School District's total capital assets at June 30, 2019 net of accumulated depreciation were as follows:

	<u>Governmental Activities</u>
Land	\$ 220,662
Construction in Progress	116,360
Building Improvements	8,559,549
Equipment & Furniture	38,287
Vehicles	82,017
Total	<u>\$ 9,016,875</u>

Additional information on the School District's capital assets can be found in note E to the basic financial statements.

### **Long-Term Debt**

At year-end, the School District's long-term debt of \$7,254,453 consisted of the following.

	<u>Governmental Activities</u>
Bond premium	\$ 59,109
Bonds payable	1,185,000
Net pension liability	5,676,688
Net OPEB liability	283,324
Compensated absences	<u>50,332</u>
Total	<u>\$ 7,254,453</u>

### **Economic Factors**

Some uncertainty clouds the prospects for the School District for the next year.

- Enrollment in the school district remained steady over the FY19 year. Projected FTE student count for FY20 is projected to remain steady.
- While the Colorado economy has rebounded and is leading the nation in the recovery, the school district continues to be impacted by the Budget Stabilization mechanism enacted by the Colorado Legislature.

### **Contacting the Districts Financial Management**

This financial report is designed to provide the District's citizens, taxpayers, parents, investors and creditors with a general overview of the District's finances and to demonstrate the district's accountability for the money it receives. If you have any questions about this report or need additional information, contact Buffalo School District RE-4J, 315 Lee Street, Merino, CO 80741.

## **Basic Financial Statements**

The basic financial statements of the District include the following:

*Government-wide financial statements.* The government-wide statements display information about the reporting government as a whole, except for its fiduciary activities.

*Fund financial statements.* The fund financial statements display information about major funds individually and nonmajor funds in the aggregate for governmental and enterprise funds.

*Notes to the financial statements.* The notes communicate information essential for fair presentation of the financial statements that is not displayed on the face of the financial statements. As such, the notes are an integral part of the basic financial statements.

**BUFFALO SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-4J**  
**Statement of Net Position**  
**June 30, 2019**

	<u>Governmental Activities</u>
<b>Assets</b>	
Cash	\$ 1,431,225
Cash with fiscal agent	231,674
Investments	800,748
Receivables	122,651
Inventory	6,439
Capital assets, net of depreciation	<u>9,016,875</u>
Total assets	11,609,612
<b>Deferred outflows of resources</b>	
Deferred charges on refundings of bonds	49,196
Pension and other postemployment benefit deferrals	<u>2,514,017</u>
Total deferred outflows of resources	<u>2,563,213</u>
Total assets and deferred outflows of resources	<u><u>\$ 14,172,825</u></u>
<b>Liabilities</b>	
Accounts payable	\$ 31,575
Accrued salaries and benefits	283,175
Accrued interest payable	3,104
Unearned revenue	21,561
Noncurrent liabilities	
Due within one year	115,000
Due in more than one year	<u>7,139,453</u>
Total liabilities	7,593,868
<b>Deferred inflows of resources</b>	
Pension and other postemployment benefit deferrals	4,964,904
<b>Net position</b>	
Net investment in capital assets	7,821,961
Restricted for:	
Emergencies	114,000
Debt service	225,155
Food service operations	712
Unrestricted (deficit)	<u>(6,547,775)</u>
Total net position	<u>1,614,053</u>
Total liabilities, deferred inflows of resources and net position	<u><u>\$ 14,172,825</u></u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

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**BUFFALO SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-4J**  
**Statement of Activities**  
**For the Year Ended June 30, 2019**

	<u>Expenses</u>	<u>Program Revenues</u>		
		<u>Charges for Services</u>	<u>Operating Grants and Contributions</u>	<u>Capital Grants and Contributions</u>
Governmental activities				
Instruction	\$ 1,581,119		\$ 329,728	
Supporting services				
Students	90,752		1,389	
Instructional staff	123,340		4,875	
General administration	109,146			
School administration	201,139			
Business services	91,642			
Operations and maintenance	342,962			
Student transportation	136,351		33,029	
Central support services	91,627			
Food service operations	146,520	\$ 62,645	59,810	\$ 9,511
Facilities acquisition				107,621
Interest and fiscal charges	37,831			
Unallocated depreciation *	236,578			
Total governmental activities	<u>\$ 3,189,007</u>	<u>\$ 62,645</u>	<u>\$ 428,831</u>	<u>\$ 117,132</u>

General revenues

Taxes

Property taxes, levied for general purposes

Property taxes, levied for debt service

Specific ownership taxes

Delinquent taxes and interest

State categorical aid

Earnings on investments

Other

Total general revenues

Change in net position

Net position at beginning of year

Net position at end of year

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

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

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Net (Expenses)  
Revenues and  
Changes in  
Net Position

Total  
Governmental  
Activities

\$ (1,251,391)

(89,363)  
(118,465)  
(109,146)  
(201,139)  
(91,642)  
(342,962)  
(103,322)  
(91,627)  
(14,554)  
107,621  
(37,831)  
(236,578)

(2,580,399)

624,108  
159,695  
89,263  
1,915  
2,553,596  
32,212  
180,107

3,640,896

1,060,497

553,556

\$ 1,614,053

**BUFFALO SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-4J**  
**Balance Sheet**  
**Governmental Funds**  
**June 30, 2019**

	General Fund	Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
<b>Assets</b>			
Cash	\$ 1,429,799	\$ 1,426	\$ 1,431,225
Cash with fiscal agent	8,193	223,481	231,674
Investments	800,748		800,748
Accrued interest on investments	4,632		4,632
Due from other funds		6,904	6,904
Property taxes receivable	26,000	6,653	32,653
Grants receivable	68,952		68,952
Other receivables	11,353	5,061	16,414
Inventory		6,439	6,439
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>\$ 2,349,677</b>	<b>\$ 249,964</b>	<b>\$ 2,599,641</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>			
Accounts payable	\$ 28,457	\$ 3,118	\$ 31,575
Due to other funds	6,904		6,904
Accrued salaries and benefits	283,175		283,175
Unearned revenues	12,000	9,561	21,561
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>330,536</b>	<b>\$ 12,679</b>	<b>343,215</b>
<b>Deferred inflows of resources</b>			
Deferred property tax revenues	20,366	4,979	25,345
<b>Total deferred inflows of resources</b>	<b>20,366</b>	<b>4,979</b>	<b>25,345</b>
<b>Fund balance</b>			
Nonspendable for inventory		6,439	6,439
Restricted for:			
Emergencies	114,000		114,000
Debt service		225,155	225,155
Food service operations		712	712
Assigned to track project	218,907		218,907
Assigned to capital projects	51,860		51,860
Unassigned	1,614,008		1,614,008
<b>Total fund balance</b>	<b>1,998,775</b>	<b>232,306</b>	<b>2,231,081</b>
<b>Total liabilities, deferred inflows of resources and fund balance</b>	<b>\$ 2,349,677</b>	<b>\$ 249,964</b>	<b>\$ 2,599,641</b>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

**BUFFALO SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-4J**  
**Reconciliation of the Balance Sheet of Governmental Funds to the Statement of Net Position**  
**June 30, 2019**

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

Total fund balance - governmental funds	\$ 2,231,081
Capital assets used in governmental activities are not financial resources and therefore are not reported as assets in governmental funds.	9,016,875
Property taxes receivable will be collected this year, but are not available soon enough to pay for the current period's expenditures, and therefore are deferred in the funds.	25,345
Accrued interest on long-term debt is not due and payable in the current period and therefore is not reported as a liability in the funds.	(3,104)
Long-term liabilities and related deferred outflows and inflows of resources including bonds payable, bond premium, deferred amounts on refunding, accrued compensated absences, and net pension and OPEB liabilities are not due and payable in the current period and therefore are not reported as liabilities in the funds.	<u>(9,656,144)</u>
Net position of the governmental activities	<u><u>\$ 1,614,053</u></u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

**BUFFALO SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-4J**  
**Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance**  
**Governmental Funds**  
**For the Year Ended June 30, 2019**

	General Fund	Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
<b>Revenues</b>			
Local sources	\$ 917,448	\$ 224,859	\$ 1,142,307
Intermediate sources	538		538
State sources	2,984,624	2,359	2,986,983
Federal sources	51,137	57,450	108,587
	<u>3,953,747</u>	<u>284,668</u>	<u>4,238,415</u>
<b>Total revenues</b>			
<b>Expenditures</b>			
Instruction	2,119,891		2,119,891
Supporting services	1,460,745	145,201	1,605,946
Capital outlay	116,360		116,360
Debt service			
Principal retirement		115,000	115,000
Interest and fiscal charges		39,200	39,200
	<u>3,696,996</u>	<u>299,401</u>	<u>3,996,397</u>
<b>Total expenditures</b>			
Excess of revenues over expenditures	256,751	(14,733)	242,018
<b>Other financing sources (uses)</b>			
Transfers in		22,750	22,750
Transfers out	(22,750)		(22,750)
	<u>(22,750)</u>	<u>22,750</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Total other financing sources (uses)</b>			
Net change in fund balance	234,001	8,017	242,018
Fund balance at beginning of year	<u>1,764,774</u>	<u>224,289</u>	<u>1,989,063</u>
Fund balance at end of year	<u>\$ 1,998,775</u>	<u>\$ 232,306</u>	<u>\$ 2,231,081</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

**BUFFALO SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-4J**  
**Reconciliation of the Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances**  
**of Governmental Funds to the Statement of Activities**  
**For the Year Ended June 30, 2019**

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

Net change in fund balances - governmental funds	\$ 242,018
Capital outlays to purchase or build capital assets are reported in governmental funds as expenditures. However, for governmental activities, those costs are shown in the statement of net position and allocated over their estimated useful lives as annual depreciation expense in the statement of activities. This is the amount by which depreciation exceeded capital outlays in the current period.	(127,550)
Because some property taxes will not be collected for several months after the fiscal year ends, they are not considered as "available" revenues in the governmental funds and are, instead, counted as deferred tax revenues. They are, however, recorded as revenues in the statement of activities.	7,101
Repayment of principal on general obligation bonds are expenditures in the governmental funds, but the repayment reduces the long-term liability in the statement of net position.	115,000
In the statement of activities, certain expenses related to the pension liabilities and related deferred outflows and inflows, as well as compensated absences and accrued interest payable, are measured by the amounts incurred or earned during the year. In the governmental funds, however, expenditures for those items are measured by the amount of financial resources used (essentially, the amounts actually paid).	<u>823,928</u>
Change in net position of governmental activities	<u><u>\$ 1,060,497</u></u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

**BUFFALO SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-4J**  
**Statement of Fiduciary Net Position**  
**Fiduciary Funds**  
**June 30, 2019**

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	<u>Agency Fund</u>
Assets	
Cash	\$ 184,156
Total assets	<u>\$ 184,156</u>
Liabilities	
Due to student groups	\$ 184,156
Total liabilities	<u>\$ 184,156</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

**BUFFALO SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-4J**  
**Notes to Financial Statements**

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**Note A – Summary of significant accounting policies**

This summary of the Buffalo School District RE-4J's significant accounting policies is presented to assist the reader in interpreting the financial statements and other data in this report. The policies are considered essential and should be read in conjunction with the accompanying financial statements.

The financial statements of the District have been prepared in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America as applied to local government units. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) is the accepted standard-setting body for establishing governmental accounting and financial principles. The more significant of the District's accounting policies are described below.

**A.1 – Reporting entity**

The Buffalo School District RE-4J is a school district governed by an elected five-member board of education. The financial reporting entity consists of (1) the primary government, (2) organizations for which the primary government is financially accountable, and (3) other organizations for which the nature and significance of their relationship with the primary government are such that exclusion would cause the reporting entity's financial statements to be misleading or incomplete. The reporting entity's financial statements should present the funds of the primary government (including its blended component units, which are, in substance, part of the primary government) and provide an overview of the discretely presented component units.

The District has examined other entities that could be included as defined in number 2 and 3 above. Based on these criteria, the District has no component units.

**A.2 – Fund accounting**

The District uses funds to report its financial position and results of operations. Fund accounting is designed to demonstrate legal compliance and to aid financial management by segregating transactions related to certain government functions or activities. A fund is a separate accounting entity with a self-balancing set of accounts.

Funds are classified into three categories: governmental, proprietary and fiduciary. Each category, in turn, is divided into separate "fund types." The District does not have any proprietary funds.

Governmental funds are used to account for all or most of a government's general activities, including the collection and disbursement of earmarked funds (special revenue funds), and the servicing of general long-term debt (debt service fund). The following are the District's major governmental funds:

**BUFFALO SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-4J**  
**Notes to Financial Statements**

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**Note A – Summary of significant accounting policies (Continued)**

General Fund – The General Fund is the operating fund of the District. It is used to account for all financial resources except those required to be accounted for in another fund. Major revenue sources include local property taxes, specific ownership taxes, and State of Colorado equalization funding, as determined by the School Finance Act of 1994, as amended.

Expenditures include all costs associated with the daily operation of the schools, except for certain capital outlay expenditures, risk-related transactions, debt service, food service operations and pupil activities.

The following are the District's nonmajor governmental funds:

Food Service Fund – This fund is a special revenue fund used to account for the financial activities associated with the District's food service operations.

Bond Redemption Fund – This fund is a debt service fund used to account for the revenues from a specific tax levy for the purpose of the repayment of debt principal, interest and other fiscal charges.

Fiduciary Funds focus on net position and changes in net position. The fiduciary fund category is split into four classifications: pension trust funds, investment trust funds, private-purpose trust funds and agency funds. Trust funds are used to account for assets held by the District under a trust agreement for individuals, private organizations or other governments and are therefore not available to support the District's own programs. Agency funds are custodial in nature (assets equal liabilities) and do not involve the measurement of results of operations. The District has one agency fund, the Pupil Activity Fund.

Pupil Activity Agency Fund – This fund is an agency fund used to record transactions related to school-sponsored pupil organizations and activities.

**Note A.3 – Basis of presentation**

Government-wide financial statements – The statement of net position and the statement of activities display information about the District as a whole. These statements include the financial activities of the primary government except for fiduciary funds. The statements distinguish between those activities of the District that are governmental and those that are considered business-type activities.

**BUFFALO SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-4J**  
**Notes to Financial Statements**

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**Note A – Summary of significant accounting policies (Continued)**

The government-wide statements are prepared using the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting. This is the same approach used in the preparation of the proprietary fund financial statements but differs from the manner in which governmental fund financial statements are prepared. Governmental fund financial statements therefore include reconciliations with a brief explanation to better identify the relationship between the government-wide statements and the statements for governmental funds.

The government-wide statement of activities presents a comparison between direct expenses and program revenues for each function or program of the District's governmental activities. Direct expenses are those that are specifically associated with a service, program or department and therefore are clearly identifiable to a particular function. Program revenues include charges paid by the recipient of the goods or services offered by the program and grants and contributions that are restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular program. Revenues, which are not classified as program revenues, are presented as general revenues of the District, with certain limited exceptions. The comparison of direct expenses with program revenues identifies the extent to which each business segment or governmental function is self-financing or draws from the general revenues of the District.

Fund financial statements – Fund financial statements report detailed information about the District. The focus of governmental fund financial statements is on major funds rather than reporting funds by type. Each major fund is presented in a separate column. Nonmajor funds are aggregated and presented in a single column. Fiduciary funds are reported by fund type.

The accounting and financial reporting treatment applied to a fund is determined by its measurement focus. All governmental fund types are accounted for using a flow of current financial resources management focus. The financial statements for governmental funds are a balance sheet, which generally includes only current assets, deferred outflows of resources, current liabilities, and deferred inflows of resources, and a statement of revenues, expenditures and changes in fund balance, which reports the sources (revenues and other financing sources) and uses (expenditures and other financing uses) of current financial resources.

Fiduciary funds focus on net position and changes in net position and are reported using accounting principles similar to proprietary funds. The District's fiduciary funds are presented in the fiduciary fund financial statements by type. Since by definition these assets are being held for the benefit of a third party and cannot be used to address the activities or obligations of the District, these funds are not incorporated into the government-wide financial statements.

**BUFFALO SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-4J**  
**Notes to Financial Statements**

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**Note A – Summary of significant accounting policies (Continued)**

**A.4 – Basis of accounting**

Basis of accounting determines when transactions are recorded in the financial records and reported on the financial statements. Government-wide financial statements are prepared using the accrual basis of accounting. Governmental funds use the modified accrual basis of accounting. Fiduciary funds also use the accrual basis of accounting.

Revenues – exchange and nonexchange transactions – Revenues resulting from exchange transactions, in which each party gives and receives essentially equal value, are recorded on the accrual basis when the exchange takes place. On a modified accrual basis, revenues are recorded in the fiscal year in which the resources are measurable and become available. Available means that the resources will be collected within the current fiscal year or are expected to be collected soon enough thereafter to be used to pay liabilities of the current fiscal year. For the District, available means expected to be received within sixty days of fiscal year-end.

Nonexchange transactions, in which the District receives value without directly giving equal value in return, include property taxes, grants, entitlements and donations. On an accrual basis, revenues from property taxes are recognized in the fiscal year for which the taxes are levied. State equalization monies are recognized as revenues during the period in which they are appropriated. Revenues from grants, entitlements and donations are recognized in the fiscal year in which all eligibility requirements have been satisfied. Eligibility requirements include timing requirements, which specify the year when the resources are required to be used or the fiscal year when use is first permitted, matching requirements, in which the District must provide local resources to be used for a specified purpose, and expenditure requirements, in which the resources are provided to the District on a reimbursement basis. On a modified accrual basis, revenue from nonexchange transactions must also be available before it can be recognized.

Under the modified accrual basis, the following revenue sources are considered to be both measurable and available at fiscal year-end: property taxes collected within sixty days after year-end, interest, tuition, grants and student fees.

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

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

**BUFFALO SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-4J**  
**Notes to Financial Statements**

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**Note A – Summary of significant accounting policies (Continued)**

Unearned revenue – Unearned revenues arise when potential revenue does not meet both the “measurable” and “available” criteria for recognition in the current period. Unearned revenues also arise when resources are received by the District before it has a legal claim to them, as when grant monies are received prior to meeting eligibility requirements. In subsequent periods, when both revenue recognition criteria are met, or when the District has a legal claim to the resources, the liability for unearned revenue is removed and the revenue is recognized.

Expenditures – The measurement focus of governmental fund accounting is on decreases in net financial resources (expenditures) rather than expenses. Expenditures are generally recognized in the accounting period in which the related fund liability is incurred, if measurable. Allocations of cost, such as depreciation and amortization, are not recognized in the governmental funds.

**A.5 – Encumbrances**

Encumbrance accounting is utilized by the District to record purchase orders, contracts and other commitments for the expenditure of monies to assure effective budgetary control and accountability. Encumbrances outstanding at year-end are canceled and reappropriated in the ensuing year’s budget.

**A.6 – Short-term interfund receivables/payables**

During the course of operations, numerous transactions occur between individual funds for goods provided or services rendered. These receivables and payables are classified as internal balances on the government-wide statement of net position, and are classified as due from other funds or due to other funds on the balance sheet.

**A.7 – Inventories**

Food Service Fund – purchased inventories are stated at cost as determined by the first-in, first-out method. Commodity inventories are stated at the United States Department of Agriculture’s assigned values, which approximate fair value, at the date of receipt. Expenditures for food items are recorded when consumed. The federal government donates surplus commodities to the national school lunch program. Commodity distributions used by the District are recorded as revenues at the date of their consumption.

**A.8 – Capital assets**

General capital assets are those assets not specifically related to activities reported in the proprietary funds. These assets generally result from expenditures in the governmental funds. These assets are reported in the governmental activities column of the government-wide statement of net position, but are not reported in the fund financial statements.

**BUFFALO SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-4J**  
**Notes to Financial Statements**

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**Note A – Summary of significant accounting policies (Continued)**

All capital assets with a unit cost greater than \$5,000 are capitalized at cost (or estimated historical cost, if actual cost is not available) and updated for additions and retirements during the year. Donated capital assets are recorded at their fair value on the date received. Infrastructure assets, consisting of certain improvements other than buildings (such as parking facilities, sidewalks, landscaping and lighting systems) are capitalized along with other capital assets. Improvements to assets are capitalized; the cost of normal maintenance and repairs that do not add to the value of the asset or materially extend the life of the asset are not.

All reported capital assets are depreciated with the exception of land costs. Improvements are depreciated over the remaining useful lives of the related capital assets. Depreciation is computed using the straight-line method over the following useful lives:

<u>Description</u>	<u>Governmental Activities</u>
Buildings and improvements	20-50 years
Furniture and equipment	5-25 years
Licensed vehicles	7-10 years

**A.9 – Compensated absences**

District employees are entitled to certain compensated absences based on their length of employment. All employees are allowed ten days leave per year for sick leave which may be accumulated to a maximum of ninety-five days. Any instructional staff member who has served a minimum of ten years in the District and who is in good standing with the District upon leaving employment shall be paid one-half of the current substitute wage for any unused accumulated sick leave.

The entire compensated absence liability is reported on the government-wide financial statements.

For governmental fund financial statements, the current portion of unpaid compensated absences is the amount expected to be paid using expendable available resources. These amounts are recorded in the account “accrued compensated absences” in the fund from which the employees who have accumulated unpaid leave are paid. The noncurrent portion of the liability is not reported.

The amounts recorded as liabilities for all applicable compensated absences include salary-related payments associated with the payment of compensated absences, using the rates in effect at the balance sheet date.

**BUFFALO SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-4J**  
**Notes to Financial Statements**

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**Note A – Summary of significant accounting policies (Continued)**

**A.10 – Accrued liabilities and long-term obligations**

All payables, accrued liabilities and long-term obligations are reported in the government-wide financial statements.

In general, payables and accrued liabilities that will be paid from governmental funds are reported on the governmental fund financial statements regardless of whether they will be liquidated with current resources. However, the noncurrent portion of compensated absences and special termination benefits that will be paid from governmental funds are reported as a liability in the fund financial statements only to the extent that they will be paid with current, expendable, available financial resources. Bonds payable and other long-term obligations that will be paid from governmental funds are not recognized as a liability in the fund financial statements until due.

**A.11 – Fund balance**

The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) has issued Statement No. 54, *Fund Balance Reporting and Governmental Fund Type Definitions* (GASB 54). This Statement defines the different types of fund balances that a governmental entity must use for financial reporting purposes.

GASB 54 requires the fund balance amounts to be properly reported within one of the fund balance categories listed below.

*Nonspendable*, such as fund balance associated with inventories, prepaid expenditures, long-term loans and notes receivable, and property held for resale (unless the proceeds are restricted, committed or assigned),

*Restricted* fund balance category includes amounts that can be spent only for the specific purposes stipulated by constitution, external resource providers, or through enabling legislation.

*Committed* fund balance classification includes amounts that can be used only for the specific purposes determined by a formal action of the board of education (the District's highest level of decision-making authority).

*Assigned* fund balance classification is intended to be used by the government for specific purposes but do not meet the criteria to be classified as restricted or committed, and

*Unassigned* fund balance is the residual classification for the District's general fund and includes all spendable amounts not contained in the other classifications.

**BUFFALO SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-4J**  
**Notes to Financial Statements**

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**Note A – Summary of significant accounting policies (Continued)**

Committed fund balance is established by a formal passage of a resolution. This is typically done through the adoption and amendment of the budget. A fund balance commitment is further indicated in the budget document as a designation or commitment of the fund. Assigned fund balance is established by the board of education through adoption or amendment of the budget as intended for specific purpose (such as purchase of fixed assets, construction, debt service or for other purposes).

When both restricted and unrestricted resources are available in governmental funds, the District applies expenditures against restricted fund balance first, and followed by committed fund balance, assigned fund balance and unassigned fund balance.

**A.12 – Net position**

Net position represents the difference between assets and liabilities. Net investment in capital assets consists of capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation, reduced by the outstanding balances of any borrowings used for the acquisition, construction or improvement of those assets. Net position are reported as restricted when there are liabilities imposed on their use either through the enabling legislation adopted by the District or through external restrictions imposed by creditors, grantors or laws or regulations of other governments.

The District applies restricted resources when an expense is incurred for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted net position is available.

**A.13 – Interfund transactions**

Quasi-external transactions are accounted for as revenues, expenditures or expenses. Transactions that constitute reimbursements to a fund for expenditures/expenses initially made from it that are properly applicable to another fund, are recorded as expenditures/expenses in the reimbursing fund and as reductions of expenditures/expenses in the fund that is reimbursed. All other interfund transactions, except quasi-external transactions and reimbursements, are reported as transfers. In general, the effect of interfund activity has been eliminated from the government-wide financial statements.

**A.14 – Extraordinary and special items**

Extraordinary items are transactions or events that are both unusual in nature and infrequent in occurrence. Special items are transactions or events that are within the control of the board of education and that are either unusual in nature or infrequent in occurrence. Neither type of transaction occurred during the year.

**BUFFALO SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-4J**  
**Notes to Financial Statements**

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**Note B – Cash and investments**

**Cash and deposits**

Colorado State statutes govern the District's deposit of cash. The Public Deposit Protection Acts (PDPA) for banks and savings and loans require state regulators to certify eligible depositories for public deposits. The PDPA require eligible depositories with public deposits in excess of federal insurance levels to create a single institution collateral pool of defined eligible assets. Eligible collateral includes obligations of the United States, obligations of the State of Colorado or Colorado local governments and obligations secured by first lien mortgages on real property located in the state. The pool is to be maintained by another institution or held in trust for all uninsured public deposits as a group and not held in any individual government's name. The fair value of the assets in the pool must be at least equal to 102% of the aggregate uninsured deposits.

Custodial credit risk – deposits – Custodial credit risk is the risk that in the event of a bank failure, the District's deposits may not be returned to it. The District does not have a deposit policy for custodial credit risk. As of year-end, the District had total deposits of \$2,545,981, of which \$500,000 was insured and \$2,045,981 was collateralized with securities held by the pledging institution's trust department or agent in the District's name.

**Investments**

Authorized investments – Investment policies are governed by Colorado State Statutes and the District's own investment policies and procedures. Investments of the District may include:

- Obligations of the U.S. Government such as treasury bills, notes and bonds
- Certain international agency securities
- General obligation and revenue bonds of United States local government entities
- Bankers acceptances of certain banks
- Commercial paper
- Local government investment pools
- Written repurchase agreements collateralized by certain authorized securities
- Certain money market funds
- Guaranteed investment contracts

At year-end, the District only held investments in certificates of deposit which are maintained in the General Fund.

**BUFFALO SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-4J**  
**Notes to Financial Statements**

**Note C – Receivables**

Receivables at year-end consist of the following:

	<u>Governmental Activities</u>
Accrued interest receivable	\$ 4,632
Property taxes receivable	32,653
Grants receivable	68,952
Other receivables	<u>16,414</u>
 Total	 <u>\$ 122,651</u>

Property taxes are levied on December 15<sup>th</sup> and attach as a lien on property the following January 1<sup>st</sup>. They are payable in full by April 30<sup>th</sup> or are due in two equal installments on February 28<sup>th</sup> and June 15<sup>th</sup>. The Counties of Logan, Morgan and Washington bill and collect property taxes for all taxing entities within the Counties. The tax receipts collected by the counties are remitted to the District in the subsequent month.

**Note D – Interfund transactions**

The following is a summary of interfund borrowings and transfers for the year as presented in the fund financial statements:

<u>Due From</u>	<u>Due To</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Other governmental funds	General fund	<u>\$ 6,904</u>

All balances resulted from the time lag between the dates that (1) interfund reimbursable expenditures occur, (2) transactions are recorded in the accounting system, and (3) payments between funds are made.

	<u>Transfers In</u>	<u>Transfers Out</u>
<u>Governmental funds</u>		
General fund	\$ -	\$ 22,750
Other governmental funds	<u>22,750</u>	<u>-</u>
 Total	 <u>\$ 22,750</u>	 <u>\$ 22,750</u>

Transfers are used to move revenues from the fund that statute or budget requires to collect them to the fund that statute or budget requires to expend them. The District transferred funds in the amount of \$22,750 from the General Fund to the Other Governmental Funds to subsidize the costs of maintaining the District's food service operations.

**BUFFALO SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-4J**  
**Notes to Financial Statements**

**Note E – Capital assets**

Capital asset activity for the year was as follows:

	<u>Beginning Balance</u>	<u>Additions</u>	<u>Deletions/ Transfers</u>	<u>Ending Balance</u>
<b>Governmental activities</b>				
Capital assets, not being depreciated:				
Land	\$ 220,662	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 220,662
Construction in progress	<u>-</u>	<u>116,360</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>116,360</u>
Total capital assets, not being depreciated	220,662	116,360	-	337,022
Capital assets, being depreciated:				
Buildings and improvements	12,089,405	13,150	-	12,102,555
Furniture and equipment	158,007	15,780	-	173,787
Licensed vehicles	<u>555,079</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>555,079</u>
Total capital assets, being depreciated	<u>12,802,491</u>	<u>28,930</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>12,831,421</u>
Total capital assets	13,023,153	145,290	-	13,168,443
Less accumulated depreciation for:				
Buildings and improvements	(3,306,428)	(236,578)	-	(3,543,006)
Furniture and equipment	(124,582)	(10,918)	-	(135,500)
Licensed vehicles	<u>(447,718)</u>	<u>(25,344)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(473,062)</u>
Total accumulated depreciation	<u>(3,878,728)</u>	<u>(272,840)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(4,151,568)</u>
Governmental activities capital assets, net	<u>\$ 9,144,425</u>	<u>\$ (127,550)</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 9,016,875</u>

Depreciation expense was charged to programs of the District as follows:

Governmental activities	
Instruction	\$ 5,374
School administration	1,528
Operations and maintenance	8,072
Student transportation	19,970
Food service operations	1,318
Unallocated	<u>236,578</u>
Total depreciation expense	<u>\$ 272,840</u>

**BUFFALO SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-4J**  
**Notes to Financial Statements**

**Note F – Accrued salaries and benefits**

Salaries and benefits of certain contractually employed personnel are paid over a twelve-month period from September to August, but are earned during a school year of approximately nine to ten months. The salaries and benefits earned but not paid at year-end are estimated to be \$283,175. Accordingly, this accrued compensation is reflected as a liability in the accompanying financial statements.

**Note G – Long-term debt**

The following is a summary of the changes in long-term debt for the year:

	<u>Beginning</u> <u>Balances</u>	<u>Additions</u>	<u>Reductions</u>	<u>Ending</u> <u>Balances</u>	<u>Due within</u> <u>one year</u>
<b>Governmental activities</b>					
Compensated absences	\$ 45,696	\$ 4,636	\$ -	\$ 50,332	\$ -
Bonds payable	1,300,000	-	(115,000)	1,185,000	115,000
Bond premium	66,132	-	(7,023)	59,109	-
Net pension liability	11,948,499	-	(6,271,811)	5,676,688	-
Net OPEB liability	<u>272,842</u>	<u>10,482</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>283,324</u>	<u>-</u>
Total	<u>\$ 13,633,169</u>	<u>\$ 15,118</u>	<u>\$ (6,393,834)</u>	<u>\$ 7,254,453</u>	<u>\$ 115,000</u>

Payments on the bonds payable are made in the Bond Redemption Fund, while the compensated absences attributable to the governmental activities will be liquidated primarily by the General Fund. The District believes that the current portion of compensated absences is negligible and is therefore not reported. The net pension and OPEB liabilities attributable to the governmental activities will be liquidated primarily by the General Fund.

**Bonds payable**

General obligation bonds payable consist of the following individual issues:

\$1,355,000 general obligation refunding bonds, dated November 25, 2014, due in annual installments beginning in fiscal year 2015 ranging from \$20,000 to \$150,000; varying annual interest rates ranging from 2.00% to 3.50%, payable semi-annually on December 1<sup>st</sup> and June 1<sup>st</sup>.

\$ 1,185,000

**BUFFALO SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-4J**  
**Notes to Financial Statements**

**Note G – Long-term debt (Continued)**

The following schedule represents the District's debt service requirements to maturity for all outstanding bonded indebtedness:

<u>Year ended June 30,</u>	<u>Principal</u>	<u>Interest</u>	<u>Total</u>
2020	\$ 115,000	\$ 36,100	\$ 151,100
2021	120,000	33,150	153,150
2022	120,000	29,550	149,550
2023	130,000	25,800	155,800
2024	130,000	21,900	151,900
2025-2028	<u>570,000</u>	<u>40,775</u>	<u>610,775</u>
Totals	<u>\$ 1,185,000</u>	<u>\$ 187,275</u>	<u>\$ 1,372,275</u>

**Note H – Defined benefit pension plan**

Summary of significant accounting policies

*Pensions.* The District participates in the School Division Trust Fund (SCHDTF), a cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan administered by the Public Employees' Retirement Association of Colorado ("PERA"). The net pension liability, deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions, pension expense, information about the fiduciary net position and additions to/deductions from the fiduciary net position of the SCHDTF have been determined using the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting. For this purpose, benefit payments (including refunds of employee contributions) are recognized when due and payable in accordance with the benefit terms. Investments are reported at fair value.

The Colorado General Assembly passed significant pension reform through Senate Bill (SB) 18-200: *Concerning Modifications To the Public Employees' Retirement Association Hybrid Defined Benefit Plan Necessary to Eliminate with a High Probability the Unfunded Liability of the Plan Within the Next Thirty Years.* The bill was signed into law by Governor Hickenlooper on June 4, 2018. A brief description of some of the major changes to plan provisions required by SB 18-200 for the SCHDTF are listed below. A full copy of the bill can be found online at [www.leg.colorado.gov](http://www.leg.colorado.gov).

- Increases employer contribution rates for the SCHDTF by 0.25 percent on July 1, 2019.
- Increases employee contribution rates for the SCHDTF by a total of 2 percent (to be phased in over a period of 3 years starting on July 1, 2019).

**BUFFALO SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-4J**  
**Notes to Financial Statements**

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**Note H – Defined benefit pension plan (Continued)**

- As specified in C.R.S. Section 24-51-413, the State is required to contribute \$225 million each year to PERA starting on July 1, 2018. A portion of the direct distribution payment is allocated to the SCHDTF based on the proportionate amount of the annual payroll of the SCHDTF to the total annual payroll of the SCHDTF, State Division Trust Fund, Judicial Division Trust Fund, and Denver Public Schools Division Trust Fund. A portion of the direct distribution allocated to the SCHDTF is considered a nonemployer contribution for financial reporting purposes.
- Modifies the retirement benefits, including temporarily suspending and reducing the annual increase for all current and future retirees, increases the highest average salary for employees with less than five years of service credit on December 31, 2019 and raises the retirement age for new employees.
- Member contributions, employer contributions, the direct distribution from the State, and the annual increases will be adjusted based on certain statutory parameters beginning July 1, 2020, and then each year thereafter, to help keep PERA on path to full funding in 30 years.

**General information about the pension plan**

*Plan description.* Eligible employees of the District are provided with pensions through the School Division Trust Fund (SCHDTF) – a cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan administered by PERA. Plan benefits are specified in Title 24, Article 51 of the Colorado Revised Statutes (C.R.S.), administrative rules set forth at 8 C.C.R. 1502-1, and applicable provisions of the federal Internal Revenue Code. Colorado State law provisions may be amended from time to time by the Colorado General Assembly. PERA issues a publicly available comprehensive annual financial report (CAFR) that can be obtained at [www.copera.org/investments/pera-financial-reports](http://www.copera.org/investments/pera-financial-reports).

*Benefits provided as of December 31, 2018.* PERA provides retirement, disability, and survivor benefits. Retirement benefits are determined by the amount of service credit earned and/or purchased, highest average salary, the benefit structure(s) under which the member retires, the benefit option selected at retirement, and age at retirement. Retirement eligibility is specified in tables set forth at C.R.S. Section 24-51-602, 604, 1713, and 1714.

The lifetime retirement benefit for all eligible retiring employees under the PERA benefit structure is the greater of the:

- Highest average salary multiplied by 2.5 percent and then multiplied by years of service credit.

**BUFFALO SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-4J**  
**Notes to Financial Statements**

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**Note H – Defined benefit pension plan (Continued)**

- The value of the retiring employee's member contribution account plus a 100 percent match on eligible amounts as of the retirement date. This amount is then annuitized into a monthly benefit based on life expectancy and other actuarial factors.

The lifetime retirement benefit for all eligible retiring employees under the Denver Public Schools (DPS) benefit structure is the greater of the:

- Highest average salary multiplied by 2.5 percent and then multiplied by years of service credit.
- \$15 times the first 10 years of service credit plus \$20 times service credit over 10 years plus a monthly amount equal to the annuitized member contribution account balance based on life expectancy and other actuarial factors.

In all cases the service retirement benefit is limited to 100 percent of highest average salary and also cannot exceed the maximum benefit allowed by federal Internal Revenue Code.

Members may elect to withdraw their member contribution accounts upon termination of employment with all PERA employers; waiving rights to any lifetime retirement benefits earned. If eligible, the member may receive a match of either 50 percent or 100 percent on eligible amounts depending on when contributions were remitted to PERA, the date employment was terminated, whether 5 years of service credit has been obtained and the benefit structure under which contributions were made.

As of December 31, 2018, benefit recipients who elect to receive a lifetime retirement benefit are generally eligible to receive post-retirement cost-of-living adjustments in certain years, referred to as annual increases in the C.R.S. Pursuant to SB 18-200, there are no annual increases (AI) for 2018 and 2019 for all benefit recipients. Thereafter, benefit recipients under the PERA benefit structure who began eligible employment before January 1, 2007 and all benefit recipients of the DPS benefit structure will receive an annual increase, unless PERA has a negative investment year, in which case the annual increase for the next three years is the lesser of 1.5 percent or the average of the Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) for the prior calendar year. Benefit recipients under the PERA benefit structure who began eligible employment after January 1, 2007 will receive the lesser of an annual increase of 1.5 percent or the average CPI-W for the prior calendar year, not to exceed 10 percent of PERA's Annual Increase Reserve (AIR) for the SCHDTF. The automatic adjustment provision may raise or lower the aforementioned AI for a given year by up to one-quarter of 1 percent based on the parameters specified in C.R.S. Section 24-51-413.

**BUFFALO SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-4J**  
**Notes to Financial Statements**

**Note H – Defined benefit pension plan (Continued)**

Disability benefits are available for eligible employees once they reach five years of earned service credit and are determined to meet the definition of disability. The disability benefit amount is based on the retirement benefit formula(s) shown above considering a minimum 20 years of service credit, if deemed disabled.

Survivor benefits are determined by several factors, which include the amount of earned service credit, highest average salary of the deceased, the benefit structure(s) under which service credit was obtained, and the qualified survivor(s) who will receive the benefits.

*Contributions provisions as of June 30, 2019.* Eligible employees, the District and the State are required to contribute to the SCHDTF at a rate set by Colorado statute. The contribution requirements for the SCHDTF are established under C.R.S. Section 24-51-401, *et seq.* and Section 24-51-413. Eligible employees are required to contribute 8 percent of their PERA-includable salary during the period of July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019. Employer contribution requirements are summarized in the table below:

	January 1, 2018 Through <u>December 31, 2018</u>	January 1, 2019 Through <u>June 30, 2019</u>
Employer contribution rate	10.15%	10.15%
Amount of employer contribution apportioned to the Health Care Trust Fund as specified in C.R.S. Section 24-51-208(1)(f)	<u>(1.02)%</u>	<u>(1.02)%</u>
Amount apportioned to the SCHDTF	9.13%	9.13%
Amortization Equalization Disbursement (AED) as specified in C.R.S. Section 24-51-411	4.50%	4.50%
Supplemental Amortization Equalization Disbursement (SAED) as specified in C.R.S. Section 24-51-411	<u>5.50%</u>	<u>5.50%</u>
Total employer contribution rate to the SCHDTF	<u>19.13%</u>	<u>19.13%</u>

Contribution rates for the SCHDTF are expressed as a percentage of salary as defined in C.R.S. Section 24-51-101(42).

As specified in C.R.S. Section 24-51-413, the State is required to contribute \$225 million each year to PERA starting on July 1, 2018. A portion of the direct distribution payment is allocated to the SCHDTF based on the proportionate amount of annual payroll of the SCHDTF to the total annual payroll of the SCHDTF, State Division Trust Fund, Judicial Division Trust Fund, and Denver Public Schools Division Trust Fund. A portion of the direct distribution allocated to the SCHDTF is considered a nonemployer contribution for financial reporting purposes.

**BUFFALO SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-4J**  
**Notes to Financial Statements**

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**Note H – Defined benefit pension plan (Continued)**

Employer contributions are recognized by the SCHDTF in the period in which the compensation becomes payable to the member and the District is statutorily committed to pay the contributions to the SCHDTF. Employer contributions recognized by the SCHDTF from the District were \$350,595 for the year.

Pension liabilities, pension expense, and deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions

The net pension liability for the SCHDTF was measured as of December 31, 2018, and the total pension liability used to calculate the net pension liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of December 31, 2017. Standard update procedures were used to roll-forward the total pension liability to December 31, 2018. The District's proportion of the net pension liability was based on the District's contributions to the SCHDTF for the calendar year 2018 relative to the total contributions of participating employers and the State as a nonemployer contributing entity.

At year-end, the District reported a liability of \$5,676,688 for its proportionate share of the net pension liability that reflected a reduction for support from the State as a nonemployer contributing entity. The amount recognized by the District as its proportionate share of the net pension liability, the related support from the State as a nonemployer contributing entity, and the total portion of the net pension liability that was associated with the District were as follows:

District's proportionate share of the net pension liability	\$ 5,676,688
The State's proportionate share of the net pension liability as a nonemployer contributing entity associated with the District	<u>776,208</u>
Total	<u>\$ 6,452,896</u>

At December 31, 2018, the District's proportion was 0.0321 percent, which was a decrease of 0.0049 percent from its proportion measured as of December 31, 2017.

For the year ended June 30, 2019, the District recognized pension income of \$432,224 and revenue of \$50,090 for support from the State as a nonemployer contributing entity. At year-end, the District reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions from the following sources:

**BUFFALO SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-4J**  
**Notes to Financial Statements**

**Note H – Defined benefit pension plan (Continued)**

	Deferred Outflows of Resources	Deferred Inflows of Resources
Difference between expected and actual experience	\$ 205,806	\$ -
Changes of assumptions or other inputs	1,203,222	3,530,289
Net difference between projected and actual earnings on pension plan investments	783,041	529,576
Changes in proportion and differences between contributions recognized and proportionate share of contributions	120,747	899,340
Contributions subsequent to the measurement date	<u>177,630</u>	<u>-</u>
Total	<u>\$ 2,490,446</u>	<u>\$ 4,959,205</u>

\$177,630 reported as deferred outflows of resources related to pensions, resulting from contributions subsequent to the measurement date, will be recognized as a reduction of the net pension liability in the subsequent year. Other amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions will be recognized in pension expense as follows:

Year Ended <u>June 30, _____</u>	<u>Amount</u>
2020	\$ (373,847)
2021	(1,441,303)
2022	(1,000,495)
2023	<u>169,256</u>
Totals	<u>\$ (2,646,389)</u>

*Actuarial assumptions.* The total pension liability in the December 31, 2017 actuarial valuation was determined using the following actuarial cost method, actuarial assumptions and other inputs:

**BUFFALO SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-4J**  
**Notes to Financial Statements**

**Note H – Defined benefit pension plan (Continued)**

Actuarial cost method	Entry age
Price inflation	2.40 percent
Real wage growth	1.10 percent
Wage inflation	3.50 percent
Salary increases, including wage inflation	3.50 – 9.70 percent
Long-term investment rate of return, net of pension plan investment expenses, including price inflation	7.25 percent
Discount rate	4.78 percent
Post-retirement benefit increases:	
PERA benefit structure hired prior to 1/1/07; and DPS benefit structure (automatic)	2.00 percent compounded annually
PERA benefit structure hired after 12/31/06 (ad hoc, substantively automatic)	Financed by the Annual Increase Reserve

The revised assumptions shown below were reflected in the roll-forward calculation of the total pension liability from December 31, 2017 to December 31, 2018:

Discount rate	7.25 percent
Post-retirement benefit increases:	
PERA benefit structure hired prior to 1/1/07; and DPS benefit structure (automatic)	0% through 2019 and 1.5% compounded annually, thereafter
PERA benefit structure hired after 12/31/06 (ad hoc, substantively automatic)	Financed by the Annual Increase Reserve

Healthy mortality assumptions for active members reflect the RP-2014 White Collar Employee Mortality Table, a table specifically developed for actively working people. To allow for an appropriate margin of improved mortality prospectively, the mortality rates incorporate a 70 percent factor applied to male rates and a 55 percent factor applied to female rates.

Healthy, post-retirement mortality assumptions reflect the RP-2014 White Collar Healthy Annuitant Mortality Table, adjusted as follows:

- **Males:** Mortality improvement projected to 2018 using the MP-2015 projection scale, a 93 percent factor applied to rates for ages less than 80, a 113 percent factor applied to rates for ages 80 and above, and further adjustments for credibility.
- **Females:** Mortality improvement projected to 2020 using the MP-2015 projection scale, a 68 percent factor applied to rates for ages less than 80, a 106 percent factor applied to rates for ages 80 and above, and further adjustments for credibility.

**BUFFALO SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-4J**  
**Notes to Financial Statements**

**Note H – Defined benefit pension plan (Continued)**

For disabled retirees, the mortality assumption was based on 90 percent of the RP-2014 Disabled Retiree Mortality Table.

The actuarial assumptions used in the December 31, 2016 valuations were based on the results of the 2016 experience analysis for the periods January 1, 2012, through December 31, 2015, as well as, the October 28, 2016, actuarial assumptions workshop and were adopted by the PERA Board during the November 18, 2016 Board meeting.

The long-term expected return on plan assets is reviewed as part of regular experience studies prepared every four or five years for PERA. Recently, this assumption has been reviewed more frequently. The most recent analyses were outlined in presentations to PERA's Board on October 28, 2016.

Several factors were considered in evaluating the long-term rate of return assumption for the SCHDTF, including long-term historical data, estimates inherent in current market data, and a log-normal distribution analysis in which best-estimate ranges of expected future real rates of return (expected return, net of investment expense and inflation) were developed for each major asset class. These ranges were 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 then adding expected inflation.

As of the most recent adoption of the long-term expected rate of return by the PERA Board, the target asset allocation and best estimates of geometric real rates of return for each major asset class are summarized in the following table:

<u>Asset Class</u>	<u>Target Allocation</u>	<u>30 Year Expected Geometric Real Rate of Return</u>
U.S. equity – large cap	21.20%	4.30%
U.S. equity – small cap	7.42%	4.80%
Non U.S. equity – developed	18.55%	5.20%
Non U.S. equity – emerging	5.83%	5.40%
Core fixed income	19.32%	1.20%
High yield	1.38%	4.30%
Non U.S. fixed income - developed	1.84%	0.60%
Emerging market debt	0.46%	3.90%
Core real estate	8.50%	4.90%
Opportunity fund	6.00%	3.80%
Private equity	8.50%	6.60%
Cash	1.00%	0.20%
Total	<u>100.00%</u>	

**BUFFALO SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-4J**  
**Notes to Financial Statements**

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**Note H – Defined benefit pension plan (Continued)**

In setting the long-term expected rate of return, projections employed to model future returns provide a range of expected long-term returns that, including expected inflation, ultimately support a long-term expected rate of return assumption of 7.25%.

*Discount rate.* The discount rate used to measure the total pension liability was 7.25 percent. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate applied the actuarial cost method and assumptions shown above. In addition, the following methods and assumptions were used in the projection of cash flows:

- Total covered payroll for the initial projection year consists of the covered payroll of the active membership present on the valuation date and the covered payroll of future plan members assumed to be hired during the year. In subsequent projection years, total covered payroll was assumed to increase annually at a rate of 3.50%.
- Employee contributions were assumed to be made at the member contribution rates in effect for each year, including the scheduled increases in SB 18-200. Employee contributions for future plan members were used to reduce the estimated amount of total service costs for future plan members.
- Employer contributions were assumed to be made at rates equal to the fixed statutory rates specified in law for each year, including the scheduled increase in SB 18-200. Employer contributions also include the current and estimated future AED and SAED, until the actuarial value funding ratio reaches 103%, at which point, the AED and SAED will each drop 0.50% every year until they are zero. Additionally, estimated employer contributions included reductions for the funding of the AIR and retiree health care benefits. For future plan members, employer contributions were further reduced by the estimated amount of total service costs for future plan members not financed by their member contributions.
- As specified in law, the State will provide an annual direct distribution of \$225 million (actual dollars), commencing July 1, 2018, that is proportioned between the State, School, Judicial, and DPS Division Trust Funds based upon the covered payroll of each Division. The annual direct distribution ceases when all Division Trust Funds are fully funded.
- Employer contributions and the amount of total service costs for future plan members were based upon a process to estimate future actuarially determined contributions assuming an analogous future plan member growth rate.

**BUFFALO SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-4J**  
**Notes to Financial Statements**

**Note H – Defined benefit pension plan (Continued)**

- The AIR balance was excluded from the initial fiduciary net position, as, per statute, AIR amounts cannot be used to pay benefits until transferred to either the retirement benefits reserve or the survivor benefits reserve, as appropriate. AIR transfers to the fiduciary net position and the subsequent AIR benefit payments were estimated and included in the projections.
- Benefit payments and contributions were assumed to be made at the middle of the year.

Based on the above assumptions and methods, the projection test indicates the SCHDTF's fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments of current members. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return of 7.25 percent on pension plan investments was applied to all periods of projected benefit payments to determine the total pension liability. The discount determination does not use the municipal bond rate, and therefore, the discount rate is 7.25 percent.

As of the prior measurement date, the long-term expected rate of return on plan investments of 7.25 percent and the municipal bond index rate of 3.43 percent were used in the discount rate determination resulting in a discount rate of 4.78 percent, 2.47 percent lower compared to the current measurement date.

*Sensitivity of the District's proportionate share of the net pension liability to changes in the discount rate.* The following presents the proportionate share of the net pension liability calculated using the discount rate of 7.25 percent, as well as what the proportionate share of the net pension liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1-percentage-point lower (6.25 percent) or 1-percentage-point higher (8.25 percent) than the current rate:

	1% Decrease <u>(6.25%)</u>	Current Discount Rate <u>(7.25%)</u>	1% Increase <u>(8.25%)</u>
Proportionate share of the net pension liability	\$ 7,216,938	\$ 5,676,688	\$ 4,384,159

*Pension plan fiduciary net position.* Detailed information about the SCHDTF's fiduciary net position is available in PERA's CAFR which can be obtained at [www.copera.org/investments/pera-financial-reports](http://www.copera.org/investments/pera-financial-reports).

Payables to the pension plan

The District did not report any payables to the pension plan at year-end.

**BUFFALO SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-4J**  
**Notes to Financial Statements**

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**Note I – Defined contribution pension plan**

Voluntary Investment Program

*Plan description.* Employees of the District that are also members of the SCHDTF may voluntarily contribute to the Voluntary Investment Program, an Internal Revenue Code Section 401(k) defined contribution plan administered by PERA. Title 24, Article 51, Part 14 of the C.R.S., as amended, assigns the authority to establish the Plan provisions to the PERA Board of Trustees. PERA issues a publicly available comprehensive annual financial report which includes additional information on the Voluntary Investment Program. That report can be obtained at [www.copera.org/investments/pera-financial-reports](http://www.copera.org/investments/pera-financial-reports).

*Funding policy.* The Voluntary Investment Program is funded by voluntary member contributions up to the maximum limits set by the Internal Revenue Service, as established under Title 24, Article 51, Section 1402 of the C.R.S., as amended. The District does not offer matching contributions to its employees. Employees are immediately vested in their own contributions and investment earnings. For the year ended, program members contributed \$29,230 for the Voluntary Investment Program.

**Note J – Defined benefit other post-employment benefit (OPEB) plan**

Summary of significant accounting policies

*OPEB.* The District participates in the Health Care Trust Fund (HCTF), a cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit OPEB fund administered by the Public Employees' Retirement Association of Colorado ("PERA"). The net OPEB liability, deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB, OPEB expense, information about the fiduciary net position and additions to/deductions from the fiduciary net position of the HCTF have been determined using the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting. For this purpose, benefits paid on behalf of health care participants are recognized when due and/or payable in accordance with the benefit terms. Investments are reported at fair value.

General information about the OPEB plan

*Plan description.* Eligible employees of the District are provided with OPEB through the HCTF – a cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit OPEB plan administered by PERA. The HCTF is established under Title 24, Article 51, Part 12 of the Colorado Revised Statutes (C.R.S.), as amended. Colorado State law provisions may be amended from time to time by the Colorado General Assembly. Title 24, Article 51, Part 12 of the C.R.S., as amended, sets forth a framework that grants authority to the PERA Board to contract, self-insure, and authorize disbursements necessary in order to carry out the purposes of the PERACare program, including the administration of the premium subsidies. Colorado State law provisions may be amended from time to time by the Colorado General Assembly. PERA issues a publicly available comprehensive annual financial report (CAFR) that can be obtained at [www.copera.org/investments/pera-financial-reports](http://www.copera.org/investments/pera-financial-reports).

**BUFFALO SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-4J**  
**Notes to Financial Statements**

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**Note J – Defined benefit other post-employment benefit (OPEB) plan (Continued)**

*Benefits provided.* The HCTF provides a health care premium subsidy to eligible participating PERA benefit recipients and retirees who choose to enroll in one of the PERA health care plans, however, the subsidy is not available if only enrolled in the dental and/or vision plan(s). The health care premium subsidy is based upon the benefit structure under which the member retires and member's years of service credit. For members who retire having service credit with employers in the Denver Public Schools (DPS) Division and one or more of the other four Divisions (State, School, Local Government and Judicial), the premium subsidy is allocated between the HCTF and the Denver Public Schools Health Care Trust Fund (DPS HCTF). The basis for the amount of the premium subsidy funded by each trust fund is the percentage of the member contribution account balance from each division as it relates to the total member contribution account balance from which the retirement benefit is paid.

C.R.S. Section 24-51-1202 et seq. specifies the eligibility for enrollment in the health care plans offered by PERA and the amount of the premium subsidy. The law governing a benefit recipient's eligibility for the subsidy and the amount of the subsidy differs slightly depending under which benefit structure the benefits are calculated. All benefit recipients under the PERA benefit structure and all retirees under the DPS benefit structure are eligible for a premium subsidy, if enrolled in a health care plan under PERACare. Upon the death of a DPS benefit structure retiree, no further subsidy is paid.

Enrollment in the PERACare is voluntary and is available to benefit recipients and their eligible dependents, certain surviving spouses, and divorced spouses and guardians, among others. Eligible benefit recipients may enroll into the program upon retirement, upon the occurrence of certain life events, or on an annual basis during an open enrollment period.

*PERA Benefit Structure*

The maximum service-based premium subsidy is \$230 per month for benefit recipients who are under 65 years of age and who are not entitled to Medicare; the maximum service-based subsidy is \$115 per month for benefit recipients who are 65 years of age or older or who are under 65 years of age and entitled to Medicare. The basis for the maximum service-based subsidy, in each case, is for benefit recipients with retirement benefits based on 20 or more years of service credit. There is a 5 percent reduction in the subsidy for each year less than 20. The benefit recipient pays the remaining portion of the premium to the extent the subsidy does not cover the entire amount.

**BUFFALO SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-4J**  
**Notes to Financial Statements**

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**Note J – Defined benefit other post-employment benefit (OPEB) plan (Continued)**

For benefit recipients who have not participated in Social Security and who are not otherwise eligible for premium-free Medicare Part A for hospital-related services, C.R.S. Section 24-51-1206(4) provides an additional subsidy. According to the statute, PERA cannot charge premiums to benefit recipients without Medicare Part A that are greater than premiums charged to benefit recipients with Part A for the same plan option, coverage level, and service credit. Currently, for each individual PERACare enrollee, the total premium for Medicare coverage is determined assuming plan participants have both Medicare Part A and Part B and the difference in premium cost is paid by the HCTF or the DPS HCTF on behalf of benefit recipients not covered by Medicare Part A.

*DPS Benefit Structure*

The maximum service-based premium subsidy is \$230 per month for retirees who are under 65 years of age and who are not entitled to Medicare; the maximum service-based subsidy is \$115 per month for retirees who are 65 years of age or older or who are under 65 years of age and entitled to Medicare. The basis for the maximum subsidy, in each case, is for retirees with retirement benefits based on 20 or more years of service credit. There is a 5 percent reduction in the subsidy for each year less than 20. The retiree pays the remaining portion of the premium to the extent the subsidy does not cover the entire amount.

For retirees who have not participated in Social Security and who are not otherwise eligible for premium-free Medicare Part A for hospital-related services, the HCTF or the DPS HCTF pays an alternate service-based premium subsidy. Each individual retiree meeting these conditions receives the maximum \$230 per month subsidy reduced appropriately for service less than 20 years, as described above. Retirees who do not have Medicare Part A pay the difference between the total premium and the monthly subsidy.

*Contributions.* Pursuant to Title 24, Article 51, Section 208(1)(f) of the C.R.S., as amended, certain contributions are apportioned to the HCTF. PERA-affiliated employers of the State, School, Local Government, and Judicial Divisions are required to contribute at a rate of 1.02 percent of PERA-includable salary into the HCTF.

Employer contributions are recognized by the HCTF in the period in which the compensation becomes payable to the member and the District is statutorily committed to pay the contributions. Employer contributions recognized by the HCTF from the District were \$18,694 for the year ended.

**BUFFALO SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-4J**  
**Notes to Financial Statements**

**Note J – Defined benefit other post-employment benefit (OPEB) plan (Continued)**

OPEB liabilities, OPEB expense, and deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB

At year-end, the District reported a liability of \$283,324 for its proportionate share of the net OPEB liability. The net pension OPEB liability for the HCTF was measured as of December 31, 2018, and the total OPEB liability used to calculate the net OPEB liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of December 31, 2017. Standard update procedures were used to roll-forward the total OPEB liability to December 31, 2018. The District's proportion of the net OPEB liability was based on the District's contributions to the HCTF for the calendar year 2018 relative to the total contributions of participating employers to the HCTF.

At December 31, 2018, the District's proportion was 0.0208 percent, which was a decrease of 0.0002 percent from its proportion measured as of December 31, 2017.

For the year ended June 30, 2019, the District recognized OPEB expense of \$24,407. At year-end, the District reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB from the following sources:

	<u>Deferred Outflows of Resources</u>	<u>Deferred Inflows of Resources</u>
Difference between expected and actual experience	\$ 1,037	\$ 432
Changes of assumptions or other inputs	1,987	-
Net difference between projected and actual earnings on OPEB plan investments	5,025	3,424
Changes in proportion and differences between contributions recognized and proportionate share of contributions	6,051	1,843
Contributions subsequent to the measurement date	<u>9,471</u>	<u>-</u>
Total	<u>\$ 23,571</u>	<u>\$ 5,699</u>

\$9,471 reported as deferred outflows of resources related to OPEB, resulting from contributions subsequent to the measurement date, will be recognized as a reduction of the net OPEB liability in the subsequent year. Other amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB will be recognized in OPEB expense as follows:

**BUFFALO SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-4J**  
**Notes to Financial Statements**

**Note J – Defined benefit other post-employment benefit (OPEB) plan (Continued)**

Year Ended June 30, _____	Amount
2020	\$ 1,791
2021	1,791
2022	1,791
2023	2,931
2024	99
2025	<u>(2)</u>
Totals	<u>\$ 8,401</u>

*Actuarial assumptions.* The total OPEB liability in the December 31, 2017 actuarial valuation was determined using the following actuarial cost method, actuarial assumptions and other inputs:

Actuarial cost method	Entry age
Price inflation	2.40 percent
Real wage growth	1.10 percent
Wage inflation	3.50 percent
Salary increases, including wage inflation	3.50 percent in aggregate
Long-term investment rate of return, net of OPEB plan investment expenses, including price inflation	7.25 percent
Discount rate	7.25 percent
Health care cost trend rates	
PERA benefit structure:	
Service-based premium subsidy	0.00 percent
PERACare Medicare plans	5.00 percent
Medicare Part A premiums	3.25 percent for 2018, gradually rising to 5.00 percent in 2025
DPS benefit structure:	
Service-based premium subsidy	0.00 percent
PERACare Medicare plans	N/A
Medicare Part A premiums	N/A

Calculations are based on the benefits provided under the terms of the substantive plan in effect at the time of each actuarial valuation and on the pattern of sharing costs between employers of each fund to that point.

**BUFFALO SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-4J**  
**Notes to Financial Statements**

**Note J – Defined benefit other post-employment benefit (OPEB) plan (Continued)**

The actuarial assumptions used in the December 31, 2017, valuations were based on the results of the 2016 experience analysis for the periods January 1, 2012 through December 31, 2015, as well as, the October 28, 2016, actuarial assumptions workshop and were adopted by the PERA Board during the November 18, 2016, Board meeting. In addition, certain actuarial assumptions pertaining to per capita health care costs and their related trends are analyzed and reviewed by PERA’s actuary, as discussed below.

In determining the additional liability for PERACare enrollees who are age sixty-five or older and who are not eligible for premium-free Medicare Part A, the following monthly costs/premiums are assumed for 2018 for the PERA Benefit Structure:

<u>Medicare Plan</u>	Cost for Members Without Medicare Part A	Premiums for Members Without Medicare Part A
Self-funded Medicare Supplement Plans	\$736	\$367
Kaiser Permanente Medicare Advantage HMO	602	236
Rocky Mountain Health Plans Medicare HMO	611	251
UnitedHealthcare Medicare HMO	686	213

The 2018 Medicare Part A premium is \$422 per month.

In determining the additional liability for PERACare enrollees in the PERA Benefit Structure who are age sixty-five or older and who are not eligible for premium-free Medicare Part A, the following chart details the initial expected value of Medicare Part A benefits, age adjusted to age 65 for the year following the valuation date:

<u>Medicare Plan</u>	Cost for Members Without Medicare Part A
Self-funded Medicare Supplement Plans	\$289
Kaiser Permanente Medicare Advantage HMO	300
Rocky Mountain Health Plans Medicare HMO	270
UnitedHealthcare Medicare HMO	400

All costs are subject to the health care cost trend rates, as discussed below.

**BUFFALO SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-4J**  
**Notes to Financial Statements**

**Note J – Defined benefit other post-employment benefit (OPEB) plan (Continued)**

Health care cost trend rates reflect the change in per capita health costs over time due to factors such as medical inflation, utilization, plan design, and technology improvements. For the PERA benefit structure, health care cost trend rates are needed to project the future costs associated with providing benefits to those PERACare enrollees not eligible for premium-free Medicare Part A.

Health care cost trend rates for the PERA benefit structure are based on published annual health care inflation surveys in conjunction with actual plan experience (if credible), building block models and heuristics developed by health plan actuaries and administrators, and projected trends for the Federal Hospital Insurance Trust Fund (Medicare Part A premiums) provided by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services. Effective December 31, 2017, the health care cost trend rates for Medicare Part A premiums were revised to reflect the current expectation of future increases in rates of inflation applicable to Medicare Part A premiums.

The PERA benefit structure health care cost trend rates that were used to measure the total OPEB liability are summarized in the table below:

<u>Year</u>	<u>PERACare Medicare Plans</u>	<u>Medicare Part A Premiums</u>
2018	5.00%	3.25%
2019	5.00%	3.50%
2020	5.00%	3.75%
2021	5.00%	4.00%
2022	5.00%	4.25%
2023	5.00%	4.50%
2024	5.00%	4.75%
2025+	5.00%	5.00%

Mortality assumptions for the determination of the total pension liability for each of the Division Trust Funds as show below are applied, as applicable, in the determination of the total OPEB liability for the HCTF. Affiliated employers of the State, School, Local Government, and Judicial Divisions participate in the HCTF.

Healthy mortality assumptions for active members were based on the RP-2014 White Collar Employee Mortality Table, a table specifically developed for actively working people. To allow for an appropriate margin of improved mortality prospectively, the mortality rates incorporate a 70 percent factor applied to male rates and a 55 percent factor applied to female rates.

**BUFFALO SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-4J**  
**Notes to Financial Statements**

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**Note J – Defined benefit other post-employment benefit (OPEB) plan (Continued)**

Healthy, post-retirement mortality assumptions for the State and Local Government Divisions were based on the RP-2014 Healthy Annuitant Mortality Table, adjusted as follows:

- **Males:** Mortality improvement projected to 2018 using the MP-2015 projection scale, a 73 percent factor applied to rates for ages less than 80, a 108 percent factor applied to rates for ages 80 and above, and further adjustments for credibility.
- **Females:** Mortality improvement projected to 2020 using the MP-2015 projection scale, a 78 percent factor applied to rates for ages less than 80, a 109 percent factor applied to rates for ages 80 and above, and further adjustments for credibility.

Healthy, post-retirement mortality assumptions for the School and Judicial Divisions were based on the RP-2014 White Collar Healthy Annuitant Mortality Table, adjusted as follows:

- **Males:** Mortality improvement projected to 2018 using the MP-2015 projection scale, a 93 percent factor applied to rates for ages less than 80, a 113 percent factor applied to rates for ages 80 and above, and further adjustments for credibility.
- **Females:** Mortality improvement projected to 2020 using the MP-2015 projection scale, a 68 percent factor applied to rates for ages less than 80, a 106 percent factor applied to rates for ages 80 and above, and further adjustments for credibility.

For disabled retirees, the mortality assumption was based on 90 percent of the RP-2014 Disabled Retiree Mortality Table.

The following health care costs assumptions were updated and used in the measurement of the obligations for the HCTF.

- Initial per capita health care costs for those PERACare enrollees under the PERA benefit structure who are expected to attain age 65 and older ages and are not eligible for premium-free Medicare Part A benefits were updated to reflect the change in costs for the 2018 plan year.
- The health care cost trend rates for Medicare Part A premiums were revised to reflect the then-current expectation of future increases in rates of inflation applicable to Medicare Part A premiums.

The long-term expected return on plan assets is reviewed as part of regular experience studies prepared every four or five years for PERA. Recently, this assumption has been reviewed more frequently. The most recent analyses were outlined in presentations to PERA's Board on October 28, 2016.

**BUFFALO SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-4J**  
**Notes to Financial Statements**

**Note J – Defined benefit other post-employment benefit (OPEB) plan (Continued)**

Several factors were considered in evaluating the long-term rate of return assumption for the HCTF, including long-term historical data, estimates inherent in current market data, and a log-normal distribution analysis in which best-estimate ranges of expected future real rates of return (expected return, net of investment expense and inflation) were developed for each major asset class. These ranges were 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 then adding expected inflation.

As of the most recent adoption of the long-term expected rate of return by the PERA Board, the target asset allocation and best estimates of geometric real rates of return for each major asset class are summarized in the following table:

<u>Asset Class</u>	<u>Target Allocation</u>	<u>30 Year Expected Geometric Real Rate of Return</u>
U.S. equity – large cap	21.20%	4.30%
U.S. equity – small cap	7.42%	4.80%
Non U.S. equity – developed	18.55%	5.20%
Non U.S. equity – emerging	5.83%	5.40%
Core fixed income	19.32%	1.20%
High yield	1.38%	4.30%
Non U.S. fixed income - developed	1.84%	0.60%
Emerging market debt	0.46%	3.90%
Core real estate	8.50%	4.90%
Opportunity fund	6.00%	3.80%
Private equity	8.50%	6.60%
Cash	<u>1.00%</u>	0.20%
Total	<u>100.00%</u>	

In setting the long-term expected rate of return, projections employed to model future returns provide a range of expected long-term returns that, including expected inflation, ultimately support a long-term expected rate of return assumption of 7.25%.

*Sensitivity of the District's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability to changes in the Health Care Cost Trend Rates.* The following presents the net OPEB liability using the current health care cost trend rates applicable to the PERA benefit structure, as well as if it were calculated using health care cost trend rates that are one percentage point lower or one percentage point higher than the current rates:

**BUFFALO SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-4J**  
**Notes to Financial Statements**

**Note J – Defined benefit other post-employment benefit (OPEB) plan (Continued)**

	<u>1% Decrease in Trend Rates</u>	<u>Current Trend Rates</u>	<u>1% Increase in Trend Rates</u>
PERACare Medicare trend rate	4.00%	5.00%	6.00%
Initial Medicare Part A trend rate	2.25%	3.25%	4.25%
Ultimate Medicare Part A trend rate	<u>4.00%</u>	<u>5.00%</u>	<u>6.00%</u>
Net OPEB Liability	\$ 275,500	\$ 283,324	\$ 292,322

*Discount rate.* The discount rate used to measure the total OPEB liability was 7.25 percent. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate applied the actuarial cost method and assumptions shown above. In addition, the following methods and assumptions were used in the projection of cash flows:

- Updated health care cost trend rates for Medicare Part A premiums as of the December 31, 2018 measurement date.
- Total covered payroll for the initial projection year consists of the covered payroll of the active membership present on the valuation date and the covered payroll of future plan members assumed to be hired during the year. In subsequent projection years, total covered payroll was assumed to increase annually at a rate of 3.50%.
- Employer contributions were assumed to be made at rates equal to the fixed statutory rates specified in law and effective as of the measurement date.
- Employer contributions and the amount of total service costs for future plan members were based upon a process to estimate future actuarially determined contributions assuming an analogous future plan member growth rate.
- Transfers of a portion of purchase service agreements intended to cover the costs associated with OPEB benefits were estimated and included in the projections.
- Benefit payments and contributions were assumed to be made at the middle of the year.

Based on the above assumptions and methods, the projection test indicates the HCTF's fiduciary net position was projected to make all projected future benefit payments of current members. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return of 7.25 percent on OPEB plan investments was applied to all periods of projected benefit payments to determine the total OPEB liability. The discount rate determination does not use the municipal bond index rate, and therefore, the discount rate is 7.25 percent.

**BUFFALO SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-4J**  
**Notes to Financial Statements**

**Note J – Defined benefit other post-employment benefit (OPEB) plan (Continued)**

*Sensitivity of the District's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability to changes in the discount rate.* The following presents the proportionate share of the net OPEB liability calculated using the discount rate of 7.25 percent, as well as what the proportionate share of the OPEB liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1-percentage-point lower (6.25 percent) or 1-percentage-point higher (8.25 percent) than the current rate:

	1% Decrease <u>(6.25%)</u>	Current Discount Rate <u>(7.25%)</u>	1% Increase <u>(8.25%)</u>
Proportionate share of the net OPEB liability	\$ 317,015	\$ 283,324	\$ 254,521

*OPEB plan fiduciary net position.* Detailed information about the HCTF's fiduciary net position is available in PERA's CAFR which can be obtained at [www.copera.org/investments/pera-financial-reports](http://www.copera.org/investments/pera-financial-reports).

Payables to the OPEB plan

The District did not report any payables to the OPEB plan at year-end.

**Note K – Risk management**

The District is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; injuries to employees; and natural disasters. The District participates in the Colorado School Districts Self-Insurance Pool (the Pool). The Pool's objectives are to provide member school districts defined property and liability coverage's through self-insurance and excess insurance purchased from commercial companies. The District pays an annual contribution to the Pool for its insurance coverage's. The District's contribution for the year was \$75,946. The District continues to carry commercial insurance for all other risks of loss, including workers' compensation and employee health and accident insurance. Settled claims resulting from these risks have not exceeded commercial insurance coverage or the deductible in any of the past three fiscal years. There has been no significant reduction in insurance coverage from the prior year in any of the major categories of risk.

**BUFFALO SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-4J**  
**Notes to Financial Statements**

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**Note L – Commitments and contingencies**

Federal and state funding

The District receives revenues from various federal and state grant programs which are subject to final review and approval by the grantor agencies. The amount, if any, of expenditures which may be disallowed by the granting agencies cannot be determined at this time although the District expects such amounts, if any, to be immaterial.

TABOR Amendment

In November 1992, Colorado voters passed an amendment, commonly known as the Taxpayer's Bill of Rights (TABOR), to the State Constitution (Article X, Section 20) which limits the revenue raising and spending abilities of state and local governments. The limits on property taxes, revenue, and "fiscal year spending" include allowable annual increases tied to inflation and local growth in student enrollment. Fiscal year spending as defined by the amendment excludes spending from certain revenue and financing sources such as federal funds, gifts, property sales, fund transfers, damage awards, and fund reserves (balances). The amendment requires voter approval for any increase in mill levy or tax rates, new taxes, or creation of multi-year debt. Revenue earned in excess of the "spending limit" must be refunded or approved to be retained by the District under specified voting requirements by the entire electorate. On November 7, 1995, the voters of the District approved a ballot initiative permitting the District to retain, appropriate, and utilize, by retention for reserve, carryover fund balance, or expenditure, the full proceeds and revenues received from every source whatsoever, without limitation, in this fiscal year and all subsequent fiscal years notwithstanding any limitation of Article X, Section 20 of the Colorado Constitution. TABOR is complex and subject to judicial interpretation. The District believes it is in compliance with the requirements of TABOR. However, the District has made certain interpretations of TABOR's language in order to determine its compliance. The District has reserved funds in the General Fund in the amount of \$114,000 for the emergency reserve.

**Note M – Joint venture**

The District participates in the Northeast Colorado Board of Cooperative Educational Services (BOCES). This joint venture does not meet the criteria for inclusion within the reporting entity because the BOCES:

- is financially independent and responsible for its own financing deficits and entitles to its own surpluses,
- has a separate governing board from that of the District,
- has a separate management which is responsible for the day to day operations and is accountable to the separate board,

**BUFFALO SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-4J**  
**Notes to Financial Statements**

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**Note M – Joint venture (Continued)**

- governing board and management have the ability to significantly influence operations by approving budgetary requests and adjustments, signing contracts, hiring personnel, exercising control over facilities and determining the outcome or disposition of matters affecting the recipients of services provided, and
- has absolute authority over all funds and fiscal responsibility including budgetary responsibility and reporting to state agencies and controls fiscal management.

The District has one member on the board. This board has final authority for all budgeting and financing of the joint venture.

Separate financial statements of the Northeast Colorado Board of Cooperative Educational Services are available by contacting their administrative office in Haxtun, Colorado.

For the year, the District's contribution was \$140,077.

**Note N – Prior-year defeasance of debt**

In prior years, the District defeased certain general obligation bonds by placing the proceeds of new bonds in an irrevocable trust to provide for all future debt service payments on the old bonds. Accordingly, the trust account assets and the liability for the defeased bonds are not included in the District's financial statements. At year-end, \$1,130,000 of bonds outstanding are considered defeased.

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### **Required Supplementary Information**

Required supplementary information includes financial information and disclosures that are required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board but are not considered a part of the basic financial statements. Such information includes:

- Budgetary Comparison Schedule – General Fund
- Schedule of the District’s Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability – PERA’s School Division Trust Fund
- Schedule of District Contributions – PERA’s School Division Trust Fund
- Schedule of the District’s Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability – PERA’s Health Care Trust Fund
- Schedule of District Contributions – PERA’s Health Care Trust Fund

**BUFFALO SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-4J**  
**General Fund**  
**Budgetary Comparison Schedule**  
**For the Year Ended June 30, 2019**

	Budgeted Amounts		Actual	Variance with Final Budget Favorable (Unfavorable)
	Original	Final		
<b>Revenues</b>				
Local sources	\$ 736,900	\$ 755,779	\$ 917,448	\$ 161,669
Intermediate sources	750	682	538	(144)
State sources	2,677,488	3,039,269	2,984,624	(54,645)
Federal sources	72,275	39,375	51,137	11,762
<b>Total revenues</b>	<b>3,487,413</b>	<b>3,835,105</b>	<b>3,953,747</b>	<b>118,642</b>
<b>Expenditures</b>				
Instruction	2,131,811	2,123,883	2,119,891	3,992
Supporting services	1,670,602	1,619,522	1,460,745	158,777
Capital outlay		399,700	116,360	283,340
Appropriated reserves	1,247,775	1,672,626		1,672,626
<b>Total expenditures</b>	<b>5,050,188</b>	<b>5,815,731</b>	<b>3,696,996</b>	<b>2,118,735</b>
Excess of revenues over (under) expenditures	(1,562,775)	(1,980,626)	256,751	2,237,377
<b>Other financing uses</b>				
Transfers out	(5,000)	(12,000)	(22,750)	(10,750)
<b>Net change in fund balance</b>	<b>\$ (1,567,775)</b>	<b>\$ (1,992,626)</b>	<b>234,001</b>	<b>\$ 2,226,627</b>
Fund balance at beginning of year			1,764,774	
Fund balance at end of year			<b>\$ 1,998,775</b>	

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**BUFFALO SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-4J**  
**Schedule of the District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability <sup>1</sup>**  
**PERA's School Division Trust Fund**  
**June 30, 2019**

	<u>June 30, 2019</u>	<u>June 30, 2018</u>	<u>June 30, 2017</u>	<u>June 30, 2016</u>
District's proportion of the net pension liability	0.0321%	0.0370%	0.0360%	0.0370%
District's proportionate share of the net pension liability	\$ 5,676,688	\$ 11,948,499	\$ 10,709,591	\$ 5,670,582
State's proportionate share of the net pension liability	<u>776,208</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Total	<u>\$ 6,452,896</u>	<u>\$ 11,948,499</u>	<u>\$ 10,709,591</u>	<u>\$ 5,670,582</u>
District's covered payroll	\$ 1,761,255	\$ 1,704,413	\$ 1,602,835	\$ 1,615,782
District's proportionate share of the net pension liability as a percentage of its covered payroll	322.31%	701.03%	668.17%	350.95%
Plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of the total pension liability	57.01%	43.96%	43.10%	59.20%

\* The amounts presented for each fiscal year were determined as of the calendar year-end that occurred within the fiscal year.

<sup>1</sup> Information is not available prior to June 30, 2014. In future reports, additional years will be added until 10 years of historical data are presented.

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<u>June 30, 2015</u>	<u>June 30, 2014</u>
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0.0400%	0.0400%
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\$ 5,357,151	\$ 5,148,874
--------------	--------------

<u>\$ 5,357,151</u>	<u>\$ 5,148,874</u>
---------------------	---------------------

\$ 1,655,870	\$ 1,627,346
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323.52%	316.40%
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62.84%	64.06%
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**BUFFALO SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-4J**  
**Schedule of District Contributions <sup>1</sup>**  
**PERA's School Division Trust Fund**  
**June 30, 2019**

	<u>June 30, 2019</u>	<u>June 30, 2018</u>	<u>June 30, 2017</u>	<u>June 30, 2016</u>
Contractually required contribution	\$ 350,595	\$ 325,583	\$ 307,759	\$ 283,878
Contributions in relation to the contractually required contribution	<u>(350,595)</u>	<u>(325,583)</u>	<u>(307,759)</u>	<u>(283,878)</u>
Contribution deficiency (excess)	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>
District's covered payroll	\$ 1,832,696	\$ 1,724,344	\$ 1,674,130	\$ 1,600,666
Contributions as a percentage of covered payroll	19.13%	18.88%	18.38%	17.73%

<sup>1</sup> Information is not available prior to June 30, 2014. In future reports, additional years will be added until 10 years of historical data are presented.

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<u>June 30, 2015</u>	<u>June 30, 2014</u>
\$ 276,899	\$ 263,221
<u>(276,899)</u>	<u>(263,221)</u>
<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>
\$ 1,640,013	\$ 1,648,243
16.88%	15.97%

**BUFFALO SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-4J**  
**Schedule of the District's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability <sup>1</sup>**  
**PERA's Health Care Trust Fund**  
**June 30, 2019**

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	<u>June 30, 2019</u>	<u>June 30, 2018</u>	<u>June 30, 2017</u>
District's proportion of the net OPEB liability	0.0208%	0.0210%	0.0203%
District's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability	\$ 283,324	\$ 272,842	\$ 263,188
District's covered payroll	\$ 1,761,255	\$ 1,704,413	\$ 1,602,835
District's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability as a percentage of its covered payroll	16.09%	16.01%	16.42%
Plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of the total OPEB liability	17.03%	17.53%	16.72%

\* The amounts presented for each fiscal year were determined as of the calendar year-end that occurred within the fiscal year.

<sup>1</sup> Information is not available prior to June 30, 2017. In future reports, additional years will be added until 10 years of historical data are presented.

**BUFFALO SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-4J**  
**Schedule of District Contributions <sup>1</sup>**  
**PERA's Health Care Trust Fund**  
**June 30, 2019**

	<u>June 30, 2019</u>	<u>June 30, 2018</u>	<u>June 30, 2017</u>
Contractually required contribution	\$ 18,694	\$ 17,588	\$ 17,076
Contributions in relation to the contractually required contribution	<u>(18,694)</u>	<u>(17,588)</u>	<u>(17,076)</u>
Contribution deficiency (excess)	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>
District's covered payroll	\$ 1,832,696	\$ 1,724,344	\$ 1,674,130
Contributions as a percentage of covered payroll	1.02%	1.02%	1.02%

<sup>1</sup> Information is not available prior to June 30, 2017. In future reports, additional years will be added until 10 years of historical data are presented.

**BUFFALO SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-4J**  
**Notes to the Required Supplementary Information**

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**Note A – Budgetary data**

The District adheres to the following procedures in compliance with Colorado Revised Statutes, establishing the budgetary data in the financial statements:

1. Budgets are required by state law for all funds. Prior to May 31, the superintendent of schools submits to the board of education a proposed budget for the fiscal year commencing the following July 1. The budget includes proposed expenditures and the means of financing them.
2. Public hearings are conducted by the board of education to obtain taxpayer comments.
3. Prior to June 30, the budget is adopted by formal resolution.
4. Prior to January 31, the board of education submits its adopted annual budget to the department of education.
5. Expenditures may not legally exceed appropriations at the fund level. Authorization to transfer budgeted amounts between departments within any fund and reallocation of budget line items within any department in the General Fund rests with the superintendent of schools. Revisions that alter the total expenditures of any fund must be approved by the board of education.
6. Budgets for all funds are adopted on a basis consistent with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.
7. Budgeted amounts reported in the accompanying financial statements are as originally adopted and as amended by the board of education throughout the year. After budget approval, the District board of education may approve supplemental appropriations if an occurrence, condition, or need exists which was not known at the time the budget was adopted.
8. Appropriations lapse at year-end.

**Note B – Factors affecting trends in amounts reported in the pension and OPEB schedules**

Information about factors that significantly affect trends in the amounts reported in the Schedules of the District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension and OPEB Liabilities and the Schedules of District Contributions is available in PERA's comprehensive annual financial report which can be obtained at [www.copera.org/investments/pera-financial-reports](http://www.copera.org/investments/pera-financial-reports).

### **Other Supplementary Information**

Other supplementary information includes financial statements and schedules not required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board, nor a part of the basic financial statements, but are presented for purposes of additional analysis.

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## **General Fund**

The General Fund accounts for all transactions of the District not required to be accounted for in other funds. This fund represents an accounting of the District's ordinary operations financed primarily from property and specific ownership taxes and state aid. It is the most significant fund in relation to the District's overall operations. The schedules of revenues and expenditures are included to provide a greater level of detail to the reader of the financial statements.

**BUFFALO SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-4J**  
**General Fund**  
**Budgetary Comparison Schedule - Revenues**  
**For the Year Ended June 30, 2019**

	Budgeted Amounts		Actual	Variance with Final Budget Favorable (Unfavorable)
	Original	Final		
Revenues				
Local sources				
Property taxes	\$ 650,011	\$ 650,011	\$ 618,126	\$ (31,885)
Specific ownership taxes	69,189	79,000	89,263	10,263
Delinquent taxes and interest	2,000	2,000	1,522	(478)
Earnings on investments	1,500	4,000	28,968	24,968
Other local sources	14,200	20,768	178,353	157,585
Services within the BOCES			1,216	1,216
Total local sources	736,900	755,779	917,448	161,669
Intermediate sources	750	682	538	(144)
State sources				
Equalization	2,546,888	2,522,597	2,553,596	30,999
Vocational education	30,000	37,543	38,291	748
Transportation	30,000	31,194	33,029	1,835
ELPA professional development	300	662	662	-
English language proficiency	200	652	652	-
BEST capital construction		369,683	107,621	(262,062)
READ Act	5,000	3,339	3,339	-
State grants to libraries	3,500	3,500	3,500	-
National board certification	1,600	1,600	1,600	-
Small rural schools funding			113,472	113,472
Additional at-risk funding	1,000	1,000	1,255	255
State on-behalf payment			46,101	46,101
Services within the BOCES	59,000	67,499	81,506	14,007
Total state sources	2,677,488	3,039,269	2,984,624	(54,645)
Federal sources				
Title IV Part A	10,000			-
Title II Part A	8,275	8,275	8,640	365
Food service equipment grant			9,511	9,511
REAP	28,000			-
Services within the BOCES	26,000	31,100	32,986	1,886
Total federal sources	72,275	39,375	51,137	11,762
Total revenues	\$ 3,487,413	\$ 3,835,105	\$ 3,953,747	\$ 118,642

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**BUFFALO SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-4J**  
**General Fund**  
**Budgetary Comparison Schedule - Expenditures**  
**For the Year Ended June 30, 2019**

	Budgeted Amounts		Actual	Variance with Final Budget Favorable (Unfavorable)
	Original	Final		
<b>Expenditures</b>				
<b>Instruction</b>				
Salaries	\$ 1,290,852	\$ 1,275,309	\$ 1,303,395	\$ (28,086)
Employee benefits	472,885	459,057	457,334	1,723
Purchased services	220,534	206,832	199,466	7,366
Supplies and materials	111,500	147,131	133,206	13,925
Property	30,000	30,000	21,020	8,980
Other	6,040	5,554	5,470	84
<b>Total instruction</b>	<b>2,131,811</b>	<b>2,123,883</b>	<b>2,119,891</b>	<b>3,992</b>
<b>Supporting services</b>				
<b>Students</b>				
Salaries	108,778	99,914	98,776	1,138
Employee benefits	32,160	29,223	30,924	(1,701)
Purchased services	1,100	2,400	2,085	315
Supplies and materials	550	550	555	(5)
<b>Total students</b>	<b>142,588</b>	<b>132,087</b>	<b>132,340</b>	<b>(253)</b>
<b>Instructional staff</b>				
Salaries	39,947	40,773	39,947	826
Employee benefits	17,431	16,686	17,049	(363)
Purchased services	42,000	42,000	44,220	(2,220)
Supplies and materials	28,748	34,569	29,778	4,791
Property	28,000		4,400	(4,400)
Other	2,500	3,775	4,765	(990)
<b>Total instructional staff</b>	<b>158,626</b>	<b>137,803</b>	<b>140,159</b>	<b>(2,356)</b>
<b>General administration</b>				
Salaries	101,372	101,785	101,778	7
Employee benefits	31,121	30,421	35,521	(5,100)
Purchased services	15,400	13,700	13,375	325
Other	1,700	1,700	1,325	375
<b>Total general administration</b>	<b>149,593</b>	<b>147,606</b>	<b>151,999</b>	<b>(4,393)</b>

	Budgeted Amounts		Actual	Variance with Final Budget Favorable (Unfavorable)
	Original	Final		
School administration				
Salaries	209,798	208,611	205,933	2,678
Employee benefits	74,818	72,803	71,146	1,657
Purchased services	6,000	7,000	7,427	(427)
Supplies and materials	750	750	581	169
Other	2,425	2,425	1,230	1,195
Total school administration	293,791	291,589	286,317	5,272
Business services				
Salaries	39,402	39,815	41,507	(1,692)
Employee benefits	16,155	15,537	16,560	(1,023)
Purchased services	1,900	2,600	2,623	(23)
Supplies and materials	500	500	488	12
Other	49,400	46,000	47,940	(1,940)
Total business services	107,357	104,452	109,118	(4,666)
Operations and maintenance				
Salaries	96,883	98,457	92,881	5,576
Employee benefits	45,115	43,440	43,149	291
Purchased services	150,000	150,000	155,522	(5,522)
Supplies and materials	75,000	100,000	82,445	17,555
Property	153,000	156,300	6,269	150,031
Other	5,000	5,000	13,150	(8,150)
Total operations and maintenance	524,998	553,197	393,416	159,781
Student transportation services				
Salaries	71,500	72,324	70,960	1,364
Employee benefits	23,741	23,670	23,241	429
Purchased services	21,300	10,000	6,884	3,116
Supplies and materials	58,049	57,442	45,173	12,269
Property	25,000			-
Total student transportation services	199,590	163,436	146,258	17,178

(Continued)

**BUFFALO SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-4J**  
**General Fund**  
**Budgetary Comparison Schedule - Expenditures**  
**For the Year Ended June 30, 2019**

(Continued)	Budgeted Amounts		Actual	Variance with Final Budget Favorable (Unfavorable)
	Original	Final		
Central supporting services				
Purchased services	94,059	89,352	91,627	(2,275)
Total central supporting services	94,059	89,352	91,627	(2,275)
Food service operations				
Property			9,511	(9,511)
Total food service operations	-	-	9,511	(9,511)
Total supporting services	1,670,602	1,619,522	1,460,745	158,777
Capital outlay				
Facilities acquisitions				
Property		399,700	116,360	283,340
Total capital outlay	-	399,700	116,360	283,340
Appropriated reserves	1,247,775	1,672,626		1,672,626
Total expenditures	<u>\$ 5,050,188</u>	<u>\$ 5,815,731</u>	<u>\$ 3,696,996</u>	<u>\$ 2,118,735</u>

**Combining Statements and Budgetary Comparison Schedules –  
Nonmajor Governmental Funds**

The District reports the following nonmajor governmental funds:

Special Revenue Funds – These funds account for the proceeds of specific revenue sources that are legally restricted to expenditures for specified purposes.

- Food Service Fund – This fund is used to record financial transactions related to the District’s food service operations.

Debt Service Funds – These funds account for the accumulation of resources for, and the payment of, general long-term debt principal and interest.

- Bond Redemption Fund – The revenues from a tax levy for the purpose of satisfying bonded indebtedness obligations, both principal and interest and related expenditures, shall be recorded in this fund.

**BUFFALO SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-4J**  
**Nonmajor Governmental Funds**  
**Combining Balance Sheet**  
**June 30, 2019**

	Food Service Fund	Bond Redemption Fund	Total
<b>Assets</b>			
Cash	\$ 1,426		\$ 1,426
Cash with fiscal agent		\$ 223,481	223,481
Due from other funds	6,904		6,904
Property taxes receivable		6,653	6,653
Other receivables	5,061		5,061
Inventory	6,439		6,439
	<u>19,830</u>	<u>230,134</u>	<u>249,964</u>
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>\$ 19,830</b>	<b>\$ 230,134</b>	<b>\$ 249,964</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>			
Accounts payable	\$ 3,118		\$ 3,118
Unearned revenues	9,561		9,561
	<u>12,679</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>12,679</u>
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>12,679</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>12,679</b>
<b>Deferred inflows of resources</b>			
Deferred property tax revenues		4,979	4,979
	<u>-</u>	<u>4,979</u>	<u>4,979</u>
<b>Total deferred inflows of resources</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>4,979</b>	<b>4,979</b>
<b>Fund balance</b>			
Nonspendable for inventory	6,439		6,439
Restricted for food service	712		712
Restricted for debt service		225,155	225,155
	<u>7,151</u>	<u>225,155</u>	<u>232,306</u>
<b>Total fund balance</b>	<b>7,151</b>	<b>225,155</b>	<b>232,306</b>
<b>Total liabilities, deferred inflows of resources and fund balance</b>			
	<u>\$ 19,830</u>	<u>\$ 230,134</u>	<u>\$ 249,964</u>

**BUFFALO SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-4J**  
**Nonmajor Governmental Funds**  
**Combining Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance**  
**For the Year Ended June 30, 2019**

	Food Service Fund	Bond Redemption Fund	Total
<b>Revenues</b>			
Local sources	\$ 62,668	\$ 162,191	\$ 224,859
State sources	2,359		2,359
Federal sources	57,450		57,450
<b>Total revenues</b>	<b>122,477</b>	<b>162,191</b>	<b>284,668</b>
<b>Expenditures</b>			
Supporting services	145,201		145,201
Debt service			
Principal retirement		115,000	115,000
Interest and fiscal charges		39,200	39,200
<b>Total expenditures</b>	<b>145,201</b>	<b>154,200</b>	<b>299,401</b>
<b>Excess of revenues over (under) expenditures</b>	<b>(22,724)</b>	<b>7,991</b>	<b>(14,733)</b>
<b>Other financing sources</b>			
Transfers in	22,750		22,750
<b>Net change in fund balances</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>7,991</b>	<b>8,017</b>
Fund balance at beginning of year	7,125	217,164	224,289
Fund balance at end of year	<u>\$ 7,151</u>	<u>\$ 225,155</u>	<u>\$ 232,306</u>

**BUFFALO SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-4J**  
**Food Service Fund**  
**Budgetary Comparison Schedule**  
**For the Year Ended June 30, 2019**

	Budgeted Amounts		Actual	Variance with Final Budget Favorable (Unfavorable)
	Original	Final		
<b>Revenues</b>				
Local sources	\$ 73,350	\$ 69,125	\$ 62,668	\$ (6,457)
State sources	2,600	2,000	2,359	359
Federal sources	66,050	65,200	57,450	(7,750)
<b>Total revenues</b>	<b>142,000</b>	<b>136,325</b>	<b>122,477</b>	<b>(13,848)</b>
<b>Expenditures</b>				
Purchased services	136,025	136,125	88,202	47,923
Supplies and materials	10,975	12,200	56,999	(44,799)
Appropriated reserves		6,914		6,914
<b>Total expenditures</b>	<b>147,000</b>	<b>155,239</b>	<b>145,201</b>	<b>10,038</b>
<b>Excess of revenues over (under) expenditures</b>	<b>(5,000)</b>	<b>(18,914)</b>	<b>(22,724)</b>	<b>(3,810)</b>
<b>Other financing sources</b>				
Transfers in	5,000	12,000	22,750	10,750
<b>Net change in fund balance</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ (6,914)</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>\$ 6,940</b>
Fund balance at beginning of year			7,125	
Fund balance at end of year			<b>\$ 7,151</b>	

**BUFFALO SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-4J**  
**Bond Redemption Fund**  
**Budgetary Comparison Schedule**  
**For the Year Ended June 30, 2019**

	Budgeted Amounts		Actual	Variance with Final Budget Favorable (Unfavorable)
	Original	Final		
Revenues				
Local sources				
Property taxes	\$ 158,000	\$ 159,000	\$ 158,576	\$ (424)
Delinquent taxes and interest	700	350	393	43
Earnings on investments	1,000	2,250	3,222	972
Total revenues	159,700	161,600	162,191	591
Expenditures				
Debt service				
Principal	115,000	115,000	115,000	-
Interest and fiscal charges	39,700	39,350	39,200	150
Appropriated reserves	135,000	220,314		220,314
Total expenditures	289,700	374,664	154,200	220,464
Net change in fund balance	\$ (130,000)	\$ (213,064)	7,991	\$ 221,055
Fund balance at beginning of year			217,164	
Fund balance at end of year			\$ 225,155	

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## **Budgetary Comparison Schedule - Fiduciary Fund**

These funds focus on net position and changes in net position. The fiduciary fund category is split into four classifications: pension trust funds, investment trust funds, private-purpose trust funds and agency funds.

Agency funds – These funds are used to report resources held by the District in a purely custodial capacity (assets equal liabilities). These funds typically involve only the receipt, temporary investment, and remittance of fiduciary resources to individuals, private organizations, or other governments.

- Pupil Activity Fund – This fund is used to record transactions related to school-sponsored pupil organizations and activities. These activities are self-supporting and do not receive any direct or indirect support within the fund.

**BUFFALO SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-4J**  
**Pupil Activity Agency Fund**  
**Budgetary Comparison Schedule**  
**For the Year Ended June 30, 2019**

	Budgeted Amounts		Actual	Variance with Final Budget Favorable (Unfavorable)
	Original	Final		
Additions				
Fundraising and other events	\$ 140,000	\$ 140,000	\$ 177,564	\$ 37,564
Deductions				
Pupil activity expenditures	140,000	140,000	137,006	2,994
Appropriated reserves	140,000	143,598		143,598
Total deductions	280,000	283,598	137,006	146,592
Excess of additions over (under) deductions	\$ (140,000)	\$ (143,598)	40,558	\$ 184,156
Due to student groups at beginning of year			143,598	
Due to student groups at end of year			\$ 184,156	

**Colorado Department of Education  
Supplementary Schedule**

Auditors' integrity report – This fiscal-year report is required by the Colorado Department of Education to maintain statewide consistency in financial reporting. This report is also used to gather financial data that could affect future state funding.

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**LAUER, SZABO &  
ASSOCIATES, PC**

*Certified Public Accountants*

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**Independent Auditors' Report on Auditors' Integrity Report**

Board of Education  
Buffalo School District RE-4J  
Merino, Colorado

We have audited the financial statements of the Buffalo School District RE-4J (the District) as of and for the year ended June 30, 2019, and our report thereon dated October 1, 2019, which expressed an unmodified opinion on those financial statements, appears on pages 1-2. Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on the financial statements as a whole. The Auditors' Integrity Report is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the 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 financial statements. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the information is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the financial statements as a whole.

*Lauer, Szabo & Associates, P.C.*

Sterling, Colorado  
October 1, 2019



**Colorado Department of Education**

Auditors Integrity Report  
District: 1860 - Buffalo RE-4J

Fiscal Year 2018-19

Colorado School District/BOCES

Revenues, Expenditures, & Fund Balance by Fund

Fund Type & Number	Beg Fund Balance & Prior Per Adj (6880*)	1000 - 5999 Total Revenues & Other Sources	0001-0999 Total Expenditures & Other Uses	6700-6799 & Prior Per Adj (6880*) Ending Fund Balance
Governmental	+		-	=
10 General Fund	1,764,774	3,888,127	3,654,126	1,998,775
18 Risk Mgmt Sub-Fund of General Fund	0	0	0	0
19 Colorado Preschool Program Fund	0	42,870	42,870	0
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>1,764,774</b>	<b>3,930,998</b>	<b>3,696,996</b>	<b>1,998,775</b>
11 Charter School Fund	0	0	0	0
20,26-29 Special Revenue Fund	0	0	0	0
06 Supplemental Cap Const. Tech. Main. Fund	0	0	0	0
21 Food Service Spec Revenue Fund	7,125	145,227	145,201	7,151
22 Govt Designated-Purpose Grants Fund	0	0	0	0
23 Pupil Activity Special Revenue Fund	0	0	0	0
24 Full Day Kindergarten Mill Levy Override	0	0	0	0
25 Transportation Fund	0	0	0	0
31 Bond Redemption Fund	217,164	162,191	154,200	225,155
39 Certificate of Participation (COP) Debt Service Fund	0	0	0	0
41 Building Fund	0	0	0	0
42 Special Building Fund	0	0	0	0
43 Capital Reserve Capital Projects Fund	0	0	0	0
46 Supplemental Cap Const. Tech. Main Fund	0	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>1,989,063</b>	<b>4,238,416</b>	<b>3,996,397</b>	<b>2,231,081</b>
<b>Proprietary</b>				
50 Other Enterprise Funds	0	0	0	0
64 (63) Risk-Related Activity Fund	0	0	0	0
60,65-69 Other Internal Service Funds	0	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Fiduciary</b>				
70 Other Trust and Agency Funds	0	0	0	0
72 Private Purpose Trust Fund	0	0	0	0
73 Agency Fund	0	0	0	0
74 Pupil Activity Agency Fund	143,598	177,564	137,006	184,156
79 GASB 34:Permanent Fund	0	0	0	0
85 Foundations	0	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>143,598</b>	<b>177,564</b>	<b>137,006</b>	<b>184,156</b>

FINAL