

Buffalo School District RE-4J
Merino, Colorado

Financial Statements

For the Year ended June 30, 2024

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Independent Auditors' Report

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

Opinions

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, 2024, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the District's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

In our opinion, 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, 2024, and the respective changes in financial position for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Basis for Opinions

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of the District, and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

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

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

Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

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

In performing the audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, we:

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

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

Required Supplementary Information

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

United States of America, which consisted of inquires 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 Supplementary Information

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the District's basic financial statements. The other supplementary information and the auditors' integrity report listed in the table of contents are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements or to the basic financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the other supplementary information and the auditors' integrity report are fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the basic financial statements taken as a whole.

Lauer, Szabo & Associates, P.C.

Sterling, Colorado
September 9, 2024

**Buffalo School District RE-4J
Management Discussion and Analysis
For Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024**

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, 2024.

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 \$6,630,474 (net position).
- The district's total net position increased by \$289,652.
- General revenues accounted for \$5,006,329 or 84% of the \$5,949,154 in total revenues. Program specific revenues in the form of charges for services, sales, and grants accounted for \$942,825 or 16% of revenues.
- The general fund ending fund balance reached \$2,371,561, with a decrease of \$2,000,669 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, pupil activities 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 one kind of fund: governmental 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 programs.

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 four 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 and Bond Redemption Fund, which are considered to be major funds. 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 16-19 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 20-55 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 72-84 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.

78 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, 2024.

	Governmental Activities		Total Percentage Change
	2024	2023	2023-2024
Current and Other assets	\$ 4,606,150	\$ 5,302,931	-13.14%
Capital assets	12,294,815	10,105,362	21.67%
Total assets	16,900,965	15,408,293	9.69%
Deferred outflows of resources	1,351,009	1,127,952	19.78%
Total assets and deferred outflows of resources	\$18,251,974	\$16,536,245	10.38%
Long term liabilities	\$ 9,551,833	\$ 8,968,200	6.51%
Other liabilities	1,629,924	398,403	309.11%
Total liabilities	11,181,757	9,366,603	19.38%
Deferred inflows of resources	439,743	828,820	-46.94%
Net investment in capital assets	10,417,817	8,985,160	15.94%
Restricted	824,259	2,883,369	-71.41%
Unrestricted	(4,611,602)	(5,527,707)	16.57%
Total net position	6,630,474	6,340,822	4.57%
Total liabilities, deferred inflows of resources and net position	\$18,251,974	\$16,536,245	10.38%

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

Revenues	Governmental Activities		Total Percentage Change
	2024	2023	2023-2024
Program Revenues			
Charges for services	\$ 32,595	\$ 91,338	-64.312%
Operating Grants & Contributions	910,230	909,197	0.11%
Capital Grants & Contributions	-	51,213	-100.00%
General Revenue			
Property taxes	1,416,728	1,254,705	12.91%
State equalization	3,201,220	2,863,695	11.79%
Other	388,381	333,386	16.50%
Total Revenue	5,949,154	5,503,534	8.10%
Expenses			
Instruction	3,031,334	3,062,748	-1.03%
Pupil & Instructional Services	291,409	337,900	-13.76%
Administration & Business	685,565	640,621	7.02%
Maintenance & Operations	512,921	535,978	-4.30%
Transportation	254,518	271,364	-6.21%
Other	883,755	684,227	29.16%
Total Expenses	5,659,502	5,532,838	2.29%
Change in net position	\$ 289,652	\$ (29,304)	1,088.44%

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 \$13,664 per funded student. In fiscal year 2023-24 the funded pupil count was 322.5. Funding for the SFA comes from property taxes, specific ownership tax and state equalization. The School District receives approximately 72 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 \$1,113,790 and \$162,978 in property taxes for general purposes and debt service, respectively, for fiscal year 2023-2024.

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 \$2,998,094, a decrease of \$1,904,037 in comparison with the prior year. The general fund had a fund balance decrease of \$2,000,669; the food service had a fund balance increase of \$41,767; the pupil activity fund had a fund balance increase of \$30,992; and the bond redemption had a fund balance increase of \$23,873.

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.

Differences between the final budget and actual amounts totaled an increase of \$2,718,011 and can be briefly summarized as follows:

- \$4,463,572 of beginning fund balance increase was set-aside in the contingency reserve.
- \$2,144,750 for LED/HVAC renovation project expenses not originally budgeted.

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, 2024 amounts to \$12,294,815 (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, 2024 net of accumulated depreciation were as follows:

	Governmental Activities
Land	\$ 220,662
Construction in Progress	2,559,750
Building Improvements	9,155,278
Furniture and Equipment	255,966
Licensed Vehicles	103,159
Total	<u>\$ 12,294,815</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 \$3,336,610 represented its compensated absences of \$64,843, financed purchases of \$2,677,772, general obligation bonds of \$570,000 and related bond premium of \$23,995.

Economic Factors

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

- Enrollment in the school district remained steady over the FY24 year. Projected FTE student count for FY25 is projected to decrease slightly.
- The District will complete a large LED/HVAC renovation through a capital lease project and is pursuing a federal safety grant in FY25.

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.

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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.

Fund financial statements. The fund financial statements display information about major funds individually and nonmajor funds in the aggregate for governmental 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, 2024

	Governmental Activities
Assets	
Cash	\$ 798,619
Cash with fiscal agent	1,691,496
Investments	2,079,655
Receivables	30,393
Inventory	5,987
Capital assets, net of depreciation	12,294,815
Total assets	16,900,965
Deferred outflows of resources	
Deferred charges on refundings of bonds	19,970
Pension deferrals	1,303,811
Other postemployment benefit deferrals	27,228
Total deferred outflows of resources	1,351,009
Total assets and deferred outflows of resources	\$ 18,251,974
Liabilities	
Accounts payable	\$ 79,255
Contracts payable	1,169,425
Accrued salaries and benefits	355,185
Unearned revenue	520
Accrued interest payable	25,539
Noncurrent liabilities	
Due within one year	219,071
Due in more than one year	3,117,539
Net pension liability	6,068,689
Net other post-employment benefit liability	146,534
Total liabilities	11,181,757
Deferred inflows of resources	
Pension deferrals	375,821
Other post-employment benefit deferrals	63,922
Total deferred inflows of resources	439,743
Net position	
Net investment in capital assets	10,417,817
Restricted for:	
Emergencies	170,000
Capital outlay	205,374
Debt service	298,579
Food service operations	150,306
Unrestricted (deficit)	(4,611,602)
Total net position	6,630,474
Total liabilities, deferred inflows of resources and net position	\$ 18,251,974

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, 2024

		Program Revenues		
		Charges for	Operating	Capital
	Expenses	Services	Grants and	Grants and
			Contributions	Contributions
Governmental activities				
Instruction	\$ 3,031,334		\$ 534,719	
Supporting services				
Students	172,710			
Instructional staff	118,699		4,500	
General administration	192,472			
School administration	348,079		800	
Business services	145,014			
Operations and maintenance	512,921		70,246	
Student transportation	254,518		44,088	
Central support services	190,957			
Food service operations	251,326	\$ 32,595	255,877	
Interest and fiscal charges	170,712			
Unallocated depreciation *	270,760			
Total governmental activities	\$ 5,659,502	\$ 32,595	\$ 910,230	\$ -
General revenues				
Taxes				
Property taxes, levied for general purposes				
Property taxes, levied for debt service				
Specific ownership taxes				
Delinquent taxes and interest				
State equalization				
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.

Net (Expenses)
Revenues and
Changes in
Net Position

Total
Governmental
Activities

\$ (2,496,615)

(172,710)

(114,199)

(192,472)

(347,279)

(145,014)

(442,675)

(210,430)

(190,957)

37,146

(170,712)

(270,760)

(4,716,677)

1,113,790

162,978

138,103

1,857

3,201,220

102,459

285,922

5,006,329

289,652

6,340,822

\$ 6,630,474

BUFFALO SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-4J**Balance Sheet****Governmental Funds****June 30, 2024**

	General Fund	Bond Redemption Fund	Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
Assets				
Cash	\$ 472,635		\$ 325,984	\$ 798,619
Cash with fiscal agent	1,395,457	\$ 296,039		1,691,496
Investments	2,079,655			2,079,655
Property taxes receivable	21,082	3,090		24,172
Grants receivable	6,221			6,221
Inventory			5,987	5,987
Total assets	<u>\$ 3,975,050</u>	<u>\$ 299,129</u>	<u>\$ 331,971</u>	<u>\$ 4,606,150</u>
Liabilities				
Accounts payable	\$ 75,758		\$ 3,497	\$ 79,255
Contracts payable	1,169,425			1,169,425
Accrued salaries and benefits	355,185			355,185
Unearned revenues			520	520
Total liabilities	1,600,368	\$ -	4,017	1,604,385
Deferred inflows of resources				
Deferred property tax revenues	3,121	550		3,671
Total deferred inflows of resources	3,121	550	-	3,671
Fund balance				
Nonspendable for inventory			5,987	5,987
Restricted for:				
Emergencies	170,000			170,000
Capital outlay	205,374			205,374
Debt service		298,579		298,579
Food service operations			144,319	144,319
Committed to pupil activities			177,648	177,648
Assigned to capital outlay	27,524			27,524
Unassigned	1,968,663			1,968,663
Total fund balance	<u>2,371,561</u>	<u>298,579</u>	<u>327,954</u>	<u>2,998,094</u>
Total liabilities, deferred inflows of resources and fund balance	<u>\$ 3,975,050</u>	<u>\$ 299,129</u>	<u>\$ 331,971</u>	<u>\$ 4,606,150</u>

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, 2024**

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

Total fund balance - governmental funds \$ 2,998,094

Capital assets used in governmental activities are not financial resources and therefore are not reported as assets in governmental funds. 12,294,815

Certain 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. 3,671

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. (25,539)

Long-term liabilities and related deferred outflows and inflows of resources including financed purchases, 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. (8,640,567)

Net position of the governmental activities \$ 6,630,474

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, 2024

	General Fund	Bond Redemption Fund	Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
Revenues				
Local sources	\$ 1,468,580	\$ 176,573	\$ 274,962	\$ 1,920,115
Intermediate sources	756			756
State sources	3,658,294		134,944	3,793,238
Federal sources	114,577		121,957	236,534
Total revenues	5,242,207	176,573	531,863	5,950,643
Expenditures				
Instruction	2,700,466		231,101	2,931,567
Supporting services	4,296,188		248,003	4,544,191
Debt service				
Principal retirement	87,352	130,000		217,352
Interest and fiscal charges	138,870	22,700		161,570
Total expenditures	7,222,876	152,700	479,104	7,854,680
Excess of revenues over (under) expenditures	(1,980,669)	23,873	52,759	(1,904,037)
Other financing sources (uses)				
Transfers in			20,000	20,000
Transfers out	(20,000)			(20,000)
Total other financing sources (uses)	(20,000)	-	20,000	-
Net change in fund balance	(2,000,669)	23,873	72,759	(1,904,037)
Fund balance at beginning of year	4,372,230	274,706	255,195	4,902,131
Fund balance at end of year	\$ 2,371,561	\$ 298,579	\$ 327,954	\$ 2,998,094

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, 2024**

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

Net change in fund balances - governmental funds	\$ (1,904,037)
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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 capital outlays exceeded depreciation in the current period.	2,189,453
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Because some revenues 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 unearned revenues. They are, however, recorded as revenues in the statement of activities.	(13,945)
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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.	217,352
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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).	(199,171)
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Change in net position of governmental activities	<u><u>\$ 289,652</u></u>
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The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

BUFFALO SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-4J

Notes to Financial Statements

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 or fiduciary 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

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.

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.

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.

Pupil Activity Fund – This fund is a special revenue 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. The statements distinguish between those activities of the District that are governmental and those that are considered business-type activities.

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.

BUFFALO SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-4J
Notes to Financial Statements

Note A – Summary of significant accounting policies (Continued)

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.

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.

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.

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.

BUFFALO SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-4J
Notes to Financial Statements

Note A – Summary of significant accounting policies (Continued)

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.

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.

BUFFALO SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-4J
Notes to Financial Statements

Note A – Summary of significant accounting policies (Continued)

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.

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:

BUFFALO SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-4J
Notes to Financial Statements

Note A – Summary of significant accounting policies (Continued)

<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 20% of their 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.

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.

BUFFALO SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-4J
Notes to Financial Statements

Note A – Summary of significant accounting policies (Continued)

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.

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

BUFFALO SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-4J
Notes to Financial Statements

Note A – Summary of significant accounting policies (Continued)

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.

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.

BUFFALO SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-4J
Notes to Financial Statements

Note B – Cash and investments (Continued)

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 \$863,380, of which \$250,000 was insured and \$613,380 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

During the year, the District invested in Colotrust (the Trust), an investment vehicle established for local government entities in Colorado to pool surplus funds. The State Securities Commission administers and enforces all State statutes governing the Trust. The Trust operates similarly to a money market fund and each share is equal in value to \$1.00. The Trust offers shares in two portfolios, COLOTRUST PRIME and COLOTRUST PLUS+. Both portfolios may invest in U.S. Treasury securities and repurchase agreements collateralized by U.S. Treasury securities. COLOTRUST PLUS+ may also invest in certain obligations of U.S. government agencies, highest rated commercial paper and repurchase agreements collateralized by certain obligations of U.S. government agencies. A designated custodial bank serves as custodian for the Trust's portfolios pursuant to a custodian agreement. The custodian acts as safekeeping agent for the Trust's investment portfolios and provides services as the depository in connection with direct investments and withdrawals. As of June 30, 2024, the District had invested 2,079,655 in COLOTRUST PLUS+, an SEC Rule 2a7-like investment pool. Investments are valued at the net asset value (NAV) of \$1.00. The investment pools are routinely monitored by the Colorado Division of Securities with regard to operations and investments.

<u>Investment type</u>	<u>Fair value</u>	<u>Investment maturities (in years)</u>		
		<u>Less than 1</u>	<u>1-5</u>	<u>6-10</u>
Investment in Colotrust	<u>\$ 2,079,655</u>	<u>\$ 2,079,655</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>

BUFFALO SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-4J
Notes to Financial Statements

Note B – Cash and investments (Continued)

Interest rate risk – The District does not have a formal investment policy that limits investment maturities as a means of managing its exposure to fair value losses arising from increasing rates.

Credit risk – State law limits investments in commercial paper, corporate bonds, and mutual bond funds to the highest rating from at least one nationally recognized rating agency at the time of purchase. The District has no investment policy that would further limit its investment choices. At year-end, the District's investment in Colostrust was rated AAAM by Standard and Poor's.

Note C – Receivables

Receivables at year-end consist of the following:

	<u>Governmental Activities</u>
Property taxes receivable	\$ 24,172
Grants receivable	<u>6,221</u>
Total	<u>\$ 30,393</u>

Property taxes are levied on December 15th and attach as a lien on property the following January 1st. They are payable in full by April 30th or are due in two equal installments on February 28th and June 15th. 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 transfers for the year as presented in the fund financial statements:

	<u>Transfers In</u>	<u>Transfers Out</u>
<u>Governmental funds</u>		
General fund	\$ -	\$ 20,000
Other governmental funds	<u>20,000</u>	<u>-</u>
Total	<u>\$ 20,000</u>	<u>\$ 20,000</u>

BUFFALO SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-4J
Notes to Financial Statements

Note D – Interfund transactions (Continued)

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. During the year, the District transferred funds in the amount of \$20,000 from the General Fund to the Other Governmental Funds to subsidize the costs of pupil activities.

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>
Governmental activities				
Capital assets, not being depreciated:				
Land	\$ 220,662	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 220,662
Construction in progress	<u>479,279</u>	<u>2,257,308</u>	<u>(176,837)</u>	<u>2,559,750</u>
Total capital assets, not being depreciated	699,941	2,257,308	(176,837)	2,780,412
Capital assets, being depreciated:				
Buildings and improvements	13,827,507	-	176,837	14,004,344
Furniture and equipment	284,632	167,333	-	451,965
Licensed vehicles	<u>546,774</u>	<u>74,900</u>	<u>(231,665)</u>	<u>390,009</u>
Total capital assets, being depreciated	<u>14,658,913</u>	<u>242,233</u>	<u>(54,828)</u>	<u>14,846,318</u>
Total capital assets	15,358,854	2,499,541	(231,665)	17,626,730
Less accumulated depreciation for:				
Buildings and improvements	(4,578,306)	(270,760)	-	(4,849,066)
Furniture and equipment	(177,645)	(18,354)	-	(195,999)
Licensed vehicles	<u>(497,541)</u>	<u>(20,974)</u>	<u>231,665</u>	<u>(286,850)</u>
Total accumulated depreciation	<u>(5,253,492)</u>	<u>(310,088)</u>	<u>231,665</u>	<u>(5,331,915)</u>
Governmental activities capital assets, net	<u>\$ 10,105,362</u>	<u>\$ 2,189,453</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 12,294,815</u>

BUFFALO SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-4J
Notes to Financial Statements

Note E – Capital assets (Continued)

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

Governmental activities	
Instruction	\$ 3,244
Operations and maintenance	13,131
Student transportation	19,630
Food service operations	3,323
Unallocated	<u>270,760</u>
Total depreciation expense	<u>\$ 310,088</u>

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 \$355,185. 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 Balances</u>	<u>Additions</u>	<u>Reductions</u>	<u>Ending Balances</u>	<u>Due within one year</u>
Governmental activities					
Compensated absences	\$ 60,709	\$ 4,134*	\$ -	\$ 64,843	\$ -
Bonds payable	700,000	-	(130,000)	570,000	135,000
Bond premium	31,018	-	(7,023)	23,995	-
Financed purchase	<u>2,765,124</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(87,352)</u>	<u>2,677,772</u>	<u>84,071</u>
Total	<u>\$ 3,556,851</u>	<u>\$ 4,134</u>	<u>\$ (224,735)</u>	<u>\$ 3,336,610</u>	<u>\$ 219,071</u>

*The change in the compensated absences liability is presented as a net change.

Payments on the bonds payable are made in the Bond Redemption Fund, while the payments on the financed purchase are made in the General Fund. The District believes that the current portion of compensated absences is negligible and is therefore not reported.

BUFFALO SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-4J
Notes to Financial Statements

Note G – Long-term debt (Continued)

Bonds payable

General obligation bonds payable consists 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 1st and June 1st. \$ 570,000

Financed Purchase

Building Improvements – In May 2023, the District entered into an agreement with Capital One Public Funding, LLC in the amount of \$2,765,124, to make various energy efficient upgrades to the District's current buildings. The agreement called for a twenty-year term with annual renewal options. Semi-annual payments of \$113,111 are due on May 1st and November 1st of each year, with a final payment due in May 2043. The fixed interest rate over the term is 5.350%.

The agreement contains a provision that, in the event of default, the lessor may declare all rental payments and other amounts payable by the District to the end of the then current original term or renewal term to be due. The District will remain liable for all covenants and indemnities under the agreement and for all legal fees and other costs and expenses, including court costs, incurred by the lessor with respect to the enforcement of the remedies on default listed in the agreement or any other remedy available to the lessor.

The following schedule represents the District's debt service requirements to maturity for the outstanding long-term debt at year-end:

<u>Year Ending December 31,</u>	<u>Bonds Payable</u>		<u>Financed Purchase</u>	
	<u>Principal</u>	<u>Interest</u>	<u>Principal</u>	<u>Interest</u>
2025	\$ 135,000	\$ 17,588	\$ 84,071	\$ 142,151
2026	140,000	12,775	88,629	137,593
2027	145,000	7,787	93,434	132,788
2028	150,000	2,625	98,500	127,723
2029	-	-	103,840	122,382
2030-2034	-	-	610,003	521,108
2035-2039	-	-	794,291	336,821
2040-2043	-	-	805,004	99,885
Totals	<u>\$ 570,000</u>	<u>\$ 40,775</u>	<u>\$ 2,677,772</u>	<u>\$ 1,620,451</u>

BUFFALO SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-4J
Notes to Financial Statements

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 (FNP) and additions to/deductions from the FNP 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.

General Information about the Pension Plan

Plan description. Eligible employees of the District are provided with pensions through the 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 annual comprehensive financial report (ACFR) that can be obtained at www.copera.org/investments/pera-financial-reports.

Benefits provided as of December 31, 2023. 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% and then multiplied by years of service credit.
- The value of the retiring employee's member contribution account plus a 100% 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:

BUFFALO SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-4J
Notes to Financial Statements

Note H – Defined benefit pension plan (Continued)

- Highest average salary multiplied by 2.5% 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% 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% or 100% 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.

Upon meeting certain criteria, benefit recipients who elect to receive a lifetime retirement benefit generally receive post-retirement cost-of-living adjustments, referred to as annual increases in the C.R.S. Subject to the automatic adjustment provision (AAP) under C.R.S. § 24-51-413, eligible benefit recipients under the PERA benefit structure who began membership before January 1, 2007, and all eligible benefit recipients of the DPS benefit structure will receive the maximum annual increase (AI) or AI cap of 1.00% unless adjusted by the AAP. Eligible benefit recipients under the PERA benefit structure who began membership on or after January 1, 2007, will receive the lesser of an annual increase of the 1.00% AI cap or the average increase of the Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers for the prior calendar year, not to exceed a determined increase that would exhaust 10% of PERA's Annual Increase Reserve (AIR) for the SCHDTF. The AAP may raise or lower the aforementioned AI cap by up to 0.25% based on the parameters specified in C.R.S. § 24-51-413.

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 lifetime 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, 2024: Eligible employees of 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. § 24-51-401, et

BUFFALO SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-4J
Notes to Financial Statements

Note H – Defined benefit pension plan (Continued)

seq. and § 24-51-413. Eligible employees are required to contribute 11.00% of their PERA-includable salary during the period of July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024. Employer contribution requirements are summarized in the table below:

	July 1, 2023 Through <u>June 30, 2024</u>
Employer contribution rate	11.40%
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>
Amount apportioned to the SCHDTF	10.38%
Amortization Equalization Disbursement (AED) as specified in C.R.S. Section 24-51-411	4.50%
Supplemental Amortization Equalization Disbursement (SAED) as specified in C.R.S. Section 24-51-411	<u>5.50%</u>
Total employer contribution rate to the SCHDTF	<u>20.38%</u>

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

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 \$470,275 for the year ended June 30, 2024.

For purposes of GASB 68 paragraph 15, a circumstance exists in which a nonemployer contributing entity is legally responsible for making contributions to the SCHDTF and is considered to meet the definition of a special funding situation. As specified in C.R.S. § 24-51-414, the State is required to contribute a \$225 million direct distribution 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. The direct distribution from the State was suspended in 2020. To compensate PERA for the suspension, C.R.S. §§ 24-51-414(6-8) required restorative payment by providing an accelerated payment in 2022. In 2022, the State Treasurer issued payment for the direct distribution of \$225 million plus an additional amount of \$380 million. Due to the advanced payment made in 2022, the State reduced the distribution in 2023 to \$35 million. Additionally, the newly added C.R.S. § 24-51-414(9) providing compensatory payment of \$14.561 million for 2023 only.

BUFFALO SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-4J
Notes to Financial Statements

Note H – Defined benefit pension plan (Continued)

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, 2023, and the total pension liability used to calculate the net pension liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of December 31, 2022. Standard update procedures were used to roll-forward the total pension liability to December 31, 2023. The District's proportion of the net pension liability was based on the District's contributions to the SCHDTF for the calendar year 2023 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 \$6,068,689 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	\$ 6,068,689
The State's proportionate share of the net pension liability as a nonemployer contributing entity associated with the District	<u>133,068</u>
Total	<u>\$ 6,201,757</u>

At December 31, 2023, the District's proportion was 0.0343%, which was an increase of 0.0056% from its proportion measured as of December 31, 2022.

For the year ended June 30, 2024, the District recognized pension expense of \$704,906 and revenue of \$10,138 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)

	<u>Deferred Outflows of Resources</u>	<u>Deferred Inflows of Resources</u>
Difference between expected and actual experience	\$ 286,706	\$ -
Changes of assumptions or other inputs	-	-
Net difference between projected and actual earnings on pension plan investments	183,523	-
Changes in proportion and differences between contributions recognized and proportionate share of contributions	596,224	375,821
Contributions subsequent to the measurement date	<u>237,358</u>	<u>-</u>
Total	<u>\$ 1,303,811</u>	<u>\$ 375,821</u>

\$237,358 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:

<u>Year Ended June 30, __</u>	<u>Amount</u>
2025	\$ 4,749
2026	395,834
2027	411,348
2028	<u>(121,299)</u>
Totals	<u>\$ 690,632</u>

Actuarial assumptions. The total pension liability in the December 31, 2022 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	2.30%
Real wage growth	0.70%
Wage inflation	3.00%
Salary increases, including wage inflation:	3.40%–11.00%
Long-term investment rate of return, net of pension plan investment expenses, including price inflation	7.25%
Discount rate	7.25%
Post-retirement benefit increases:	
PERA benefit structure hired prior to 1/1/07 and DPS benefit structure (compounded annually)	1.00%
PERA benefit structure hired after 12/31/06 ¹	Financed by the AIR

¹ Post-retirement benefit increases are provided by the AIR, accounted separately within each Division Trust Fund, and subject to moneys being available; therefore, liabilities related to increases for members of these benefit tiers can never exceed available assets.

The mortality tables described below are generational mortality tables developed on a benefit-weighted basis.

Pre-retirement mortality assumptions were based upon the PubT-2010 Employee Table with generational projection using scale MP-2019.

Post-retirement non-disabled mortality assumptions were based upon the PubT-2010 Healthy Retiree Table, adjusted as follows:

- **Males:** 112% of the rates prior to age 80 and 94% of the rates for ages 80 and older, with generational projection using scale MP-2019.
- **Females:** 83% of the rates prior to age 80 and 106% of the rates for ages 80 and older, with generational projection using scale MP-2019.

Post-retirement non-disabled beneficiary mortality assumptions were based upon the Pub-2010 Contingent Survivor Table, adjusted as follows:

- **Males:** 97% of the rates for all ages, with generational projection using scale MP-2019.
- **Females:** 105% of the rates for all ages, with generational projection using scale MP-2019.

BUFFALO SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-4J
Notes to Financial Statements

Note H – Defined benefit pension plan (Continued)

Disabled mortality assumptions were based upon the PubNS-2010 Disabled Retiree Table using 99% of the rates for all ages with generational projection using scale MP-2019.

The actuarial assumptions used in the December 31, 2022, valuation were based on the 2020 experience analysis, dated October 28, 2020, for the period January 1, 2016, through December 31, 2019. Revised economic and demographic assumptions were adopted by the PERA Board on November 20, 2020.

The long-term expected return on plan assets is reviewed as part of regularly scheduled experience studies prepared at least every five years and asset/liability studies performed every three to five years for PERA. The most recent analyses were outlined in the Experience Study report dated October 28, 2020.

Several factors are considered in evaluating the long-term rate of return assumption, 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 percentages and then adding expected inflation.

The PERA Board first adopted the 7.25% long-term expected rate of return as of November 18, 2016. Following an asset/liability study, the Board reaffirmed the assumed rate of return at the Board's November 15, 2019, meeting, to be effective January 1, 2020. As of the most recent reaffirmation of the long-term rate of return, the target asset allocation, and best estimates of geometric real rates of return for each major asset class are summarized in the table as follows:

<u>Asset Class</u>	<u>Target Allocation</u>	<u>30 Year Expected Geometric Real Rate of Return</u>
Global Equity	54.00%	5.60%
Fixed Income	23.00%	1.30%
Private Equity	8.50%	7.10%
Real Estate	8.50%	4.40%
Alternatives	<u>6.00%</u>	4.70%
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 nominal rate of return assumption of 7.25%.

BUFFALO SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-4J
Notes to Financial Statements

Note H – Defined benefit pension plan (Continued)

Discount rate. The discount rate used to measure the total pension liability was 7.25%. 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 3.00%.
- 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 and required adjustments resulting from the 2018 and 2020 AAP assessments. 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 and required adjustments resulting from the 2018 and 2020 AAP assessments. Employer contributions also include 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 reflect 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, as a nonemployer contributing entity, will provide an annual direct distribution of \$225 million 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.
- The AIR balance was excluded from the initial FNP, 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 FNP and the subsequent AIR benefit payments were estimated and included in the projections.

BUFFALO SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-4J
Notes to Financial Statements

Note H – Defined benefit pension plan (Continued)

- Benefit payments and contributions were assumed to be made at the middle of the year.
- Beginning with the December 31, 2023 measurement date and thereafter, the FNP as of the current measurement date is used as a starting point for the GASB 67 projections test.

Based on the above assumptions and methods, the SCHDTF's FNP 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% on pension plan investments was applied to all periods of projected benefit payments to determine the total pension liability. The discount rate determination does not use the municipal bond index rate, and therefore, the discount rate is 7.25%. There was no change in the discount rate from the prior 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%, as well as what the proportionate share of the net pension liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is one percentage point lower (6.25%) or one percentage point higher (8.25%) than the current rate:

	1% Decrease (6.25%)	Current Discount Rate (7.25%)	1% Increase (8.25%)
Proportionate share of the net pension liability	\$ 8,114,847	\$ 6,068,689	\$ 4,362,441

Pension plan fiduciary net position. Detailed information about the SCHDTF's FNP is available in PERA's ACFR which can be obtained at 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

Note I – Defined contribution pension plan

Voluntary Investment Program (PERAPlus 401(k) Plan)

Plan description - Employees of the District that are also members of the SCHDTF may voluntarily contribute to the Voluntary Investment Program (PERAPlus 401(k) Plan), 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 ACFR which includes additional information on the PERAPlus 401(k) Plan. That report can be obtained at www.copera.org/investments/pera-financial-reports.

Funding policy - The PERAPlus 401(k) Plan 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 June 30, 2024, program members contributed \$76,259 for the PERAPlus 401(k) Plan.

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 (FNP) and additions to/deductions from the FNP 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, and 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 by the Colorado General Assembly. PERA issues a publicly available annual comprehensive financial report (ACFR) that can be obtained at www.copera.org/investments/pera-financial-reports.

BUFFALO SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-4J
Notes to Financial Statements

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 the 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. § 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 health benefits program 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 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% 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

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. § 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 maximum service-based subsidy, in each case, is for retirees with retirement benefits based on 20 or more years of service credit. There is a 5% 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% 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 \$23,538 for the year ended June 30, 2024.

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 \$146,543 for its proportionate share of the net OPEB liability. The net OPEB liability for the HCTF was measured as of December 31, 2023, and the total OPEB liability used to calculate the net OPEB liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of December 31, 2022. Standard update procedures were used to roll-forward the total OPEB liability to December 31, 2023. The District's proportion of the net OPEB liability was based on the District's contributions to the HCTF for the calendar year 2023 relative to the total contributions of participating employers to the HCTF.

At December 31, 2023, the District's proportion was 0.0205%, which was a decrease of 0.0013% from its proportion measured as of December 31, 2023.

For the year ended June 30, 2024, the District recognized OPEB expense of \$(2,604). 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	\$ -	\$ 31,554
Changes of assumptions or other inputs	1,877	16,303
Net difference between projected and actual earnings on OPEB plan investments	5,113	-
Changes in proportion and differences between contributions recognized and proportionate share of contributions	8,357	16,065
Contributions subsequent to the measurement date	<u>11,881</u>	<u>-</u>
Total	<u>\$ 27,228</u>	<u>\$ 63,922</u>

\$11,881 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)

<u>Year Ended June 30,</u>	<u>Amount</u>
2025	\$ (18,411)
2026	(10,630)
2027	(4,231)
2028	(9,535)
2029	(4,280)
2030	<u>(1,488)</u>
Total	<u>\$ (48,575)</u>

Actuarial assumptions. The total OPEB liability in the December 31, 2022 actuarial valuation was determined using the following actuarial cost method, actuarial assumptions and other inputs for the School Division:

Actuarial cost method	Entry age
Price inflation	2.30%
Real wage growth	0.70%
Wage inflation	3.00%
Salary increases, including wage inflation	3.40%-11.00%
Long-term investment rate of return, net of OPEB plan investment expenses, including price inflation	7.25%
Discount rate	7.25%
Health care cost trend rates	
PERA benefit structure:	
Service-based premium subsidy	0.00%
PERACare Medicare plans	7.00% in 2023, gradually decreasing to 4.50% in 2033
Medicare Part A premiums ¹	3.50% in 2023, gradually increasing to 4.50% in 2035
DPS benefit structure:	
Service-based premium subsidy	0.00%
PERACare Medicare plans	N/A
Medicare Part A premiums	N/A

¹ UnitedHealthcare MAPD PPO plans are 0% for 2023.

BUFFALO SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-4J
Notes to Financial Statements

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

Each year the per capita health care costs are developed by plan option; currently based on 2023 premium rates for the UnitedHealthcare Medicare Advantage Prescription Drug (MAPD) PPO plan #1, the UnitedHealthcare MAPD PPO plan #2, and the Kaiser Permanente MAPD HMO plan. Actuarial morbidity factors are then applied to estimate individual retiree and spouse costs by age, gender, and health care cost trend. This approach applies for all members and is adjusted accordingly for those not eligible for premium-free Medicare Part A for the PERA benefit structure.

Age-Related Morbidity Assumptions		
Participant Age	Annual Increase (Male)	Annual Increase (Female)
65-68	2.2%	2.3%
69	2.8%	2.2%
70	2.7%	1.6%
71	3.1%	0.5%
72	2.3%	0.7%
73	1.2%	0.8%
74	0.9%	1.5%
75-85	0.9%	1.3%
86 and older	0.0%	0.0%

Sample Age	MAPD PPO #1 with Medicare Part A		MAPD PPO #2 with Medicare Part A		MAPD HMO (Kaiser) with Medicare Part A	
	Retiree/Spouse		Retiree/Spouse		Retiree/Spouse	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
65	\$1,692	\$1,406	\$579	\$481	\$1,913	\$1,589
70	\$1,901	\$1,573	\$650	\$538	\$2,149	\$1,778
75	\$2,100	\$1,653	\$718	\$566	\$2,374	\$1,869

BUFFALO SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-4J
Notes to Financial Statements

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

Sample Age	MAPD PPO #1 without Medicare Part A		MAPD PPO #2 without Medicare Part A		MAPD HMO (Kaiser) without Medicare Part A	
	Retiree/Spouse		Retiree/Spouse		Retiree/Spouse	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
65	\$6,469	\$5,373	\$4,198	\$3,487	\$6,719	\$5,581
70	\$7,266	\$6,011	\$4,715	\$3,900	\$7,546	\$6,243
75	\$8,026	\$6,319	\$5,208	\$4,101	\$8,336	\$6,563

The 2023 Medicare Part A premium is \$506 per month.

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

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 industry methods developed by health plan actuaries and administrators. In addition, projected trends for the Federal Hospital Insurance Trust Fund (Medicare Part A premiums) provided by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services are referenced in the development of these rates. Effective December 31, 2022, 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 used to measure the total OPEB liability are summarized in the table below:

BUFFALO SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-4J
Notes to Financial Statements

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

<u>Year</u>	<u>PERACare Medicare Plans</u>	<u>Medicare Part A Premiums</u>
2023	7.00%	3.50%
2024	6.75%	3.50%
2025	6.50%	3.75%
2026	6.25%	3.75%
2027	6.00%	4.00%
2028	5.75%	4.00%
2029	5.50%	4.00%
2030	5.25%	4.25%
2031	5.00%	4.25%
2032	4.75%	4.25%
2033	4.50%	4.25%
2034	4.50%	4.25%
2035+	4.50%	4.50%

Mortality assumptions used in the December 31, 2022, valuation for the determination of the total pension liability for each of the Division Trust Funds as shown below, reflect generational mortality and were applied, as applicable, in the determination of the total OPEB liability for the HCTF, but developed on a headcount-weighted basis. Affiliated employers of the State, School, Local Government and Judicial Divisions participate in the HCTF.

Pre-retirement mortality assumptions for the School Division were based upon the PubT-2010 Employee Table with generational projection using scale MP-2019.

Post-retirement non-disabled mortality assumptions for the School Division were based upon the PubT-2010 Healthy Retiree Table, adjusted as follows:

- **Males:** 112% of the rates prior to age 80 and 94% of the rates for ages 80 and older, with generational projection using scale MP-2019.
- **Females:** 83% of the rates prior to age 80 and 106% of the rates for ages 80 and older, with generational projection using scale MP-2019.

Post-retirement non-disabled beneficiary mortality assumptions were based upon the Pub-2010 Contingent Survivor Table, adjusted as follows:

- **Males:** 97% of the rates for all ages, with generational projection using scale MP-2019.
- **Females:** 105% of the rates for all ages, with generational projection using scale MP-2019.

BUFFALO SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-4J
Notes to Financial Statements

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

Disabled mortality assumptions for members other than Safety Officers were based upon the PubNS-2010 Disabled Retiree Table using 99% of the rates for all ages with generational projection using scale MP-2019.

The following health care costs assumptions were updated and used in the roll-forward calculation for the HCTF:

- Per capita health care costs in effect as of the December 31, 2022, valuation date for those PERACare enrollees under the PERA benefit structure who are expected to be age 65 and older and are not eligible for premium-free Medicare Part A benefits have been updated to reflect costs for the 2023 plan year.
- The morbidity rates used to estimate individual retiree and spouse costs by age and by gender were updated effective for the December 31, 2022, actuarial valuation. The revised morbidity rate factors are based on a review of historical claims experience by age, gender, and status (active versus retired) from actuary's claims data warehouse.
- The health care cost trend rates applicable to health care premiums were revised to reflect the then current expectation of future increases in those premiums.

Actuarial assumptions pertaining to per capita health care costs and their related trend rates are analyzed and updated annually by PERA Board's actuary, as discussed above.

The actuarial assumptions used in the December 31, 2022, valuations were based on the 2020 experience analysis, dated October 28, 2020, and November 4, 2020, for the period January 1, 2016, through December 31, 2019. Revised economic and demographic assumptions were adopted by PERA's Board on November 20, 2020.

The long-term expected return on plan assets is reviewed as part of regularly scheduled experience studies performed at least every five years, and asset/liability studies, performed every three to five years for PERA. The most recent analyses were outlined in the Experience Study report dated October 28, 2020.

Several factors are considered in evaluating the long-term rate of return assumption, 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 percentages and then adding expected inflation.

BUFFALO SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-4J
Notes to Financial Statements

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

The PERA Board first adopted the 7.25% long-term expected rate of return as of November 18, 2016. Following an asset/liability study, the Board reaffirmed the assumed rate of return at the Board's November 15, 2019, meeting, to be effective January 1, 2020. As of the most recent reaffirmation of the long-term rate of return, the target asset allocation and best estimates of geometric real rates of return for each major asset class are summarized in the table as follows:

<u>Asset Class</u>	<u>Target Allocation</u>	<u>30 Year Expected Geometric Real Rate of Return</u>
Global Equity	54.00%	5.60%
Fixed Income	23.00%	1.30%
Private Equity	8.50%	7.10%
Real Estate	8.50%	4.40%
Alternatives	6.00%	4.70%
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 nominal 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:

	<u>1% Decrease in Trend Rates</u>	<u>Current Trend Rates</u>	<u>1% Increase in Trend Rates</u>
Initial PERACare Medicare trend rate ¹	5.75%	6.75%	7.75%
Ultimate PERACare Medicare trend rate	3.50%	4.50%	5.50%
Initial Medicare Part A trend rate	2.50%	3.50%	4.50%
Ultimate Medicare Part A trend rate	3.50%	4.50%	5.50%
Net OPEB Liability	\$ 142,329	\$ 146,534	\$ 151,109

¹For the January 1, 2024, plan year.

Discount rate. The discount rate used to measure the total OPEB liability was 7.25%. 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:

BUFFALO SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-4J
Notes to Financial Statements

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

- Updated health care cost trend rates for Medicare Part A premiums as of the December 31, 2023, 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 3.00%.
- 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.
- Estimated transfers of dollars into the HCTF representing a portion of purchase service agreements intended to cover the costs associated with OPEB benefits.
- Benefit payments and contributions were assumed to be made at the middle of the year.
- Beginning with the December 31, 2023 measurement date and thereafter, the FNP as of the current measurement date is used as a starting point for the GASB 74 projection test.
- As of the December 31, 2023, measurement date, the FNP and related disclosure components for the HCTF reflect payments related to the disaffiliation of Tri-County Health Department as a PERA-affiliated employer, effective December 31, 2022. As of the December 31, 2023, year-end, PERA recognized two additions for accounting and financial reporting purposes: a \$24 million payment received on December 4, 2023, and a \$2 million receivable. The employer disaffiliation payment and receivable allocations to the HCTF and Local Government Division Trust Fund were \$1.033 million and \$24.967 million, respectively.

Based on the above assumptions and methods, the FNP for the HCTF 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% 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%. There was no change in the discount rate from the prior measurement date.

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%, as well as what the proportionate share of the net OPEB liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is one-percentage-point lower (6.25%) or one-percentage-point higher (8.25%) 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	\$ <u>173,076</u>	\$ <u>146,534</u>	\$ <u>123,829</u>

OPEB plan fiduciary net position. Detailed information about the HCTF's FNP is available in PERA's ACFR which can be obtained at 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 \$180,483. 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

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 \$170,000 for the emergency reserve.

Local government budget laws

Expenditures in the Pupil Activity Fund exceeded their appropriation by \$8,285, which may be a violation of local government budget laws.

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:

BUFFALO SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-4J
Notes to Financial Statements

Note M – Joint venture (Continued)

- 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,
- 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 \$94,270.

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, \$570,000 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, 2024

	Budgeted Amounts			Variance with Final Budget Favorable (Unfavorable)
	Original	Final	Actual	
Revenues				
Local sources	\$ 1,483,635	\$ 1,571,993	\$ 1,468,580	\$ (103,413)
Intermediate sources	700	700	756	56
State sources	3,490,018	3,564,114	3,658,294	94,180
Federal sources	78,289	84,382	114,577	30,195
Total revenues	5,052,642	5,221,189	5,242,207	21,018
Expenditures				
Instruction	2,733,457	2,778,553	2,700,466	78,087
Supporting services	2,325,463	2,469,922	4,296,188	(1,826,266)
Debt service				
Principal	87,352	87,352	87,352	-
Interest and fiscal charges	138,870	138,870	138,870	-
Appropriated reserves	1,758,134	4,463,572		4,463,572
Total expenditures	7,043,276	9,938,269	7,222,876	2,715,393
Excess of revenues under expenditures	(1,990,634)	(4,717,080)	(1,980,669)	2,736,411
Other financing uses				
Transfers out		(1,600)	(20,000)	(18,400)
Total other financing uses	-	(1,600)	(20,000)	(18,400)
Net change in fund balance	\$ (1,990,634)	\$ (4,718,680)	(2,000,669)	\$ 2,718,011
Fund balance at beginning of year			4,372,230	
Fund balance at end of year			\$ 2,371,561	

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BUFFALO SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-4J
Schedule of the District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability
PERA's School Division Trust Fund
June 30, 2024

	<u>June 30, 2024</u>	<u>June 30, 2023</u>	<u>June 30, 2022</u>	<u>June 30, 2021</u>
District's proportion of the net pension liability	0.0343%	0.0287%	0.0343%	0.0368%
District's proportionate share of the net pension liability	\$ 6,068,689	\$ 5,232,966	\$ 3,995,766	\$ 5,565,578
State's proportionate share of the net pension liability	<u>133,068</u>	<u>1,524,939</u>	<u>458,064</u>	<u>-</u>
Total	<u>\$ 6,201,757</u>	<u>\$ 6,757,905</u>	<u>\$ 4,453,830</u>	<u>\$ 5,565,578</u>
District's covered payroll	\$ 2,268,763	\$ 2,217,040	\$ 2,145,871	\$ 1,969,122
District's proportionate share of the net pension liability as a percentage of its covered payroll	267.49%	236.03%	186.21%	282.64%
Plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of the total pension liability	64.74%	61.79%	74.86%	66.99%

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

<u>June 30, 2020</u>	<u>June 30, 2019</u>	<u>June 30, 2018</u>	<u>June 30, 2017</u>	<u>June 30, 2016</u>	<u>June 30, 2015</u>
0.0326%	0.0321%	0.0370%	0.0360%	0.0370%	0.0400%
\$ 4,864,070	\$ 5,676,688	\$ 11,948,499	\$ 10,709,591	\$ 5,670,582	\$ 5,357,151
<u>616,945</u>	<u>776,208</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
<u>\$ 5,481,015</u>	<u>\$ 6,452,896</u>	<u>\$ 11,948,499</u>	<u>\$ 10,709,591</u>	<u>\$ 5,670,582</u>	<u>\$ 5,357,151</u>
\$ 1,912,941	\$ 1,761,255	\$ 1,704,413	\$ 1,602,835	\$ 1,615,782	\$ 1,655,870
254.27%	322.31%	701.03%	668.17%	350.95%	323.52%
64.52%	57.01%	43.96%	43.10%	59.20%	62.84%

BUFFALO SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-4J
Schedule of District Contributions
PERA's School Division Trust Fund
June 30, 2024

	<u>June 30, 2024</u>	<u>June 30, 2023</u>	<u>June 30, 2022</u>	<u>June 30, 2021</u>
Contractually required contribution	\$ 470,275	\$ 453,199	\$ 437,585	\$ 405,613
Contributions in relation to the contractually required contribution	<u>(470,275)</u>	<u>(453,199)</u>	<u>(437,585)</u>	<u>(405,613)</u>
Contribution deficiency (excess)	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>
District's covered payroll	\$ 2,307,686	\$ 2,223,742	\$ 2,201,150	\$ 2,040,306
Contributions as a percentage of covered payroll	20.38%	20.38%	19.88%	19.88%

<u>June 30, 2020</u>	<u>June 30, 2019</u>	<u>June 30, 2018</u>	<u>June 30, 2017</u>	<u>June 30, 2016</u>	<u>June 30, 2015</u>
\$ 383,409	\$ 350,595	\$ 325,583	\$ 307,759	\$ 283,878	\$ 276,899
<u>(383,409)</u>	<u>(350,595)</u>	<u>(325,583)</u>	<u>(307,759)</u>	<u>(283,878)</u>	<u>(276,899)</u>
<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>
\$ 1,978,372	\$ 1,832,696	\$ 1,724,344	\$ 1,674,130	\$ 1,600,666	\$ 1,640,013
19.38%	19.13%	18.88%	18.38%	17.73%	16.88%

BUFFALO SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-4J
Schedule of the District's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability¹
PERA's Health Care Trust Fund
June 30, 2024

	<u>June 30, 2024</u>	<u>June 30, 2023</u>	<u>June 30, 2022</u>	<u>June 30, 2021</u>
District's proportion of the net OPEB liability	0.0205%	0.0218%	0.0224%	0.0213%
District's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability	\$ 146,543	\$ 178,383	\$ 193,317	\$ 202,438
District's covered payroll	\$ 2,268,763	\$ 2,217,040	\$ 2,145,871	\$ 1,969,122
District's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability as a percentage of its covered payroll	6.46%	8.05%	9.01%	10.28%
Plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of the total OPEB liability	46.16%	38.57%	39.40%	32.78%

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

¹ 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.

<u>June 30, 2020</u>	<u>June 30, 2019</u>	<u>June 30, 2018</u>	<u>June 30, 2017</u>
0.0213%	0.0208%	0.0210%	0.0203%
\$ 239,128	\$ 283,324	\$ 272,842	\$ 263,188
\$ 1,912,941	\$ 1,761,255	\$ 1,704,413	\$ 1,602,835
12.50%	16.09%	16.01%	16.42%
24.49%	17.03%	17.53%	16.72%

BUFFALO SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-4J
Schedule of District Contributions¹
PERA's Health Care Trust Fund
June 30, 2024

	<u>June 30, 2024</u>	<u>June 30, 2023</u>	<u>June 30, 2022</u>	<u>June 30, 2021</u>
Contractually required contribution	\$ 23,538	\$ 22,682	\$ 22,452	\$ 20,811
Contributions in relation to the contractually required contribution	<u>(23,538)</u>	<u>(22,682)</u>	<u>(22,452)</u>	<u>(20,811)</u>
Contribution deficiency (excess)	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>
District's covered payroll	\$ 2,307,686	\$ 2,223,742	\$ 2,201,150	\$ 2,040,306
Contributions as a percentage of covered payroll	1.02%	1.02%	1.02%	1.02%

¹ 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.

<u>June 30, 2020</u>	<u>June 30, 2019</u>	<u>June 30, 2018</u>	<u>June 30, 2017</u>
\$ 20,179	\$ 18,694	\$ 17,588	\$ 17,076
<u>(20,179)</u>	<u>(18,694)</u>	<u>(17,588)</u>	<u>(17,076)</u>
<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>
\$ 1,978,372	\$ 1,832,696	\$ 1,724,344	\$ 1,674,130
1.02%	1.02%	1.02%	1.02%

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

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.

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, 2024

	Budgeted Amounts			Variance with Final Budget Favorable (Unfavorable)
	Original	Final	Actual	
Revenues				
Local sources				
Property taxes	\$ 1,118,382	\$ 1,134,460	\$ 1,124,412	\$ (10,048)
Specific ownership taxes	96,953	99,575	138,103	38,528
Delinquent taxes and interest	3,000	3,000	1,596	(1,404)
Earnings on investments	42,000	42,000	91,150	49,150
Other local sources	223,300	292,958	113,319	(179,639)
Total local sources	1,483,635	1,571,993	1,468,580	(103,413)
Intermediate sources	700	700	756	56
State sources				
Equalization	3,150,357	3,173,257	3,201,220	27,963
English language proficiency	1,543	2,320	2,321	1
Transportation	32,000	41,182	44,088	2,906
State grants to libraries	4,500	4,500	4,500	-
Small rural schools funding	121,000	124,423	124,423	-
Additional at-risk funding			1,331	1,331
Career success pilot program		1,627	1,627	-
READ Act	2,618	2,618	5,373	2,755
MOE hold harmless funds		33,924	6,221	(27,703)
On behalf payment			10,138	10,138
Revenue from other agencies	35,000	35,000	67,368	32,368
Services within the BOCES	143,000	145,263	189,684	44,421
Total state sources	3,490,018	3,564,114	3,658,294	94,180
Federal sources				
Title II Part A	5,699	5,651	1,707	(3,944)
Summer EBT			800	800
SNAP P:EBT		653		(653)
REAP	37,000	42,488	42,488	-
Services within the BOCES	35,590	35,590	69,582	33,992
Total federal sources	78,289	84,382	114,577	30,195
Total revenues	\$ 5,052,642	\$ 5,221,189	\$ 5,242,207	\$ 21,018

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BUFFALO SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-4J
General Fund
Budgetary Comparison Schedule - Expenditures
For the Year Ended June 30, 2024

	Budgeted Amounts		Actual	Variance with Final Budget Favorable (Unfavorable)
	Original	Final		
Expenditures				
Instruction				
Salaries	\$ 1,660,505	\$ 1,661,982	\$ 1,672,973	\$ (10,991)
Employee benefits	622,451	599,203	598,061	1,142
Purchased services	243,876	269,194	184,601	84,593
Supplies and materials	181,925	199,487	210,962	(11,475)
Property	18,500	42,462	28,963	13,499
Other	6,200	6,225	4,906	1,319
Total instruction	2,733,457	2,778,553	2,700,466	78,087
Supporting services				
Students				
Salaries	121,792	124,615	124,615	-
Employee benefits	35,804	35,479	36,046	(567)
Purchased services	3,180	3,180	2,011	1,169
Supplies and materials	500	500	96	404
Total students	161,276	163,774	162,768	1,006
Instructional staff				
Salaries	54,583	54,583	52,545	2,038
Employee benefits	20,452	19,318	19,945	(627)
Purchased services	75,000	75,000	30,939	44,061
Supplies and materials	18,199	18,151	10,578	7,573
Property	37,000	32,488		32,488
Other			500	(500)
Total instructional staff	205,234	199,540	114,507	85,033
General administration				
Salaries	123,700	123,802	123,802	-
Employee benefits	40,045	40,046	40,587	(541)
Purchased services	11,000	13,500	17,241	(3,741)
Other	1,700	1,700	965	735
Total general administration	176,445	179,048	182,595	(3,547)

	Budgeted Amounts			Variance with Final Budget Favorable (Unfavorable)
	Original	Final	Actual	
School administration				
Salaries	242,922	239,013	234,207	4,806
Employee benefits	72,537	76,847	79,743	(2,896)
Purchased services	7,000	16,000	14,245	1,755
Supplies and materials	450	450		450
Other	2,000	2,000	1,200	800
Total school administration	324,909	334,310	329,395	4,915
Business services				
Salaries	70,979	71,304	71,304	-
Employee benefits	24,186	22,336	22,606	(270)
Purchased services	2,200	2,200	4,849	(2,649)
Supplies and materials	250	250		250
Other	306,845	355,452	40,567	314,885
Total business services	404,460	451,542	139,326	312,216
Operations and maintenance				
Salaries	131,492	131,492	127,646	3,846
Employee benefits	54,853	51,342	48,258	3,084
Purchased services	170,000	170,000	199,157	(29,157)
Supplies and materials	196,628	265,058	332,876	(67,818)
Property	5,000	5,000	2,149,750	(2,144,750)
Other	2,500	12,911	15,486	(2,575)
Total operations and maintenance	560,473	635,803	2,873,173	(2,237,370)
Student transportation services				
Salaries	62,048	67,048	79,227	(12,179)
Employee benefits	14,302	15,031	21,292	(6,261)
Purchased services	75,000	76,753	57,025	19,728
Supplies and materials	102,000	92,000	71,023	20,977
Property	50,000	64,900	74,900	(10,000)
Total student transportation services	303,350	315,732	303,467	12,265

(Continued)

BUFFALO SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-4J
General Fund
Budgetary Comparison Schedule - Expenditures
For the Year Ended June 30, 2024

(Continued)	Budgeted Amounts		Actual	Variance with Final Budget Favorable (Unfavorable)
	Original	Final		
Central supporting services				
Purchased services	189,316	190,173	190,957	(784)
Total central supporting services	189,316	190,173	190,957	(784)
Total supporting services	2,325,463	2,469,922	4,296,188	(1,826,266)
Debt service				
Principal	87,352	87,352	87,352	-
Interest and fiscal charges	138,870	138,870	138,870	-
Total debt service	226,222	226,222	226,222	-
Appropriated reserves	1,758,134	4,463,572		4,463,572
Total expenditures	<u>\$ 7,043,276</u>	<u>\$ 9,938,269</u>	<u>\$ 7,222,876</u>	<u>\$ 2,715,393</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.
- Pupil Activity Fund – This fund is a special revenue fund used to record transactions related to school-sponsored pupil organizations and activities.

BUFFALO SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-4J
Nonmajor Governmental Funds
Combining Balance Sheet
June 30, 2024

	Food Service Fund	Pupil Activity Fund	Total
Assets			
Cash	\$ 147,358	\$ 178,626	\$ 325,984
Inventory	5,987		5,987
Total assets	<u>\$ 153,345</u>	<u>\$ 178,626</u>	<u>\$ 331,971</u>
Liabilities			
Accounts payable	\$ 2,519	\$ 978	\$ 3,497
Unearned revenues	520		520
Total liabilities	3,039	978	4,017
Fund balance			
Nonspendable for inventory	5,987		5,987
Restricted for food service	144,319		144,319
Committed to pupil activities		177,648	177,648
Total fund balance	<u>150,306</u>	<u>177,648</u>	<u>327,954</u>
Total liabilities and fund balance	<u>\$ 153,345</u>	<u>\$ 178,626</u>	<u>\$ 331,971</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, 2024**

	Food Service Fund	Pupil Activity Fund	Total
Revenues			
Local sources	\$ 32,869	\$ 242,093	\$ 274,962
State sources	134,944		134,944
Federal sources	121,957		121,957
Total revenues	289,770	242,093	531,863
Expenditures			
Instructional		231,101	231,101
Supporting services	248,003		248,003
Total expenditures	248,003	231,101	479,104
Excess of revenues over (under) expenditures	41,767	10,992	52,759
Other financing sources			
Transfers in		20,000	20,000
Net change in fund balances	41,767	30,992	72,759
Fund balance at beginning of year	108,539	146,656	255,195
Fund balance at end of year	\$ 150,306	\$ 177,648	\$ 327,954

BUFFALO SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-4J
Food Service Fund
Budgetary Comparison Schedule
For the Year Ended June 30, 2024

	Budgeted Amounts			Variance with Final Budget Favorable (Unfavorable)
	Original	Final	Actual	
Revenues				
Local sources	\$ 18,215	\$ 32,289	\$ 32,869	\$ 580
State sources	3,000	114,933	134,944	20,011
Federal sources	192,800	113,475	121,957	8,482
Total revenues	214,015	260,697	289,770	29,073
Expenditures				
Food service operations				
Purchased services	150,000	190,676	112,955	77,721
Supplies and materials	64,000	73,000	135,048	(62,048)
Appropriated reserves	75,319	95,085		95,085
Total expenditures	289,319	358,761	248,003	110,758
Excess of revenues over (under) expenditures	(75,304)	(98,064)	41,767	(81,685)
Other financing sources				
Transfers in		3,000		(3,000)
Net change in fund balance	<u>\$ (75,304)</u>	<u>\$ (95,064)</u>	41,767	<u>\$ (84,685)</u>
Fund balance at beginning of year			108,539	
Fund balance at end of year			<u>\$ 150,306</u>	

BUFFALO SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-4J
Pupil Activity Fund
Budgetary Comparison Schedule
For the Year Ended June 30, 2024

	Budgeted Amounts			Variance with Final Budget Favorable (Unfavorable)
	Original	Final	Actual	
Revenues				
Local sources	\$ 75,000	\$ 75,000	\$ 242,093	\$ 167,093
Expenditures				
Pupil activity expenditures				
Purchased services	35,000	35,000	85,955	(50,955)
Supplies and materials	40,000	40,000	133,034	(93,034)
Property			12,112	(12,112)
Appropriated reserves	145,533	147,816		147,816
Total expenditures	220,533	222,816	231,101	(8,285)
Excess of revenues over (under) expenditures	(145,533)	(147,816)	10,992	158,808
Other financing sources				
Transfers in			20,000	20,000
Net change in fund balance	<u>\$ (145,533)</u>	<u>\$ (147,816)</u>	30,992	<u>\$ 178,808</u>
Fund balance at beginning of year			146,656	
Fund balance at end of year			<u>\$ 177,648</u>	

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Budgetary Comparison Schedule – Debt Service Fund

The District reports the following major debt service fund:

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
Bond Redemption Fund
Budgetary Comparison Schedule
For the Year Ended June 30, 2024

	Budgeted Amounts			Variance with Final Budget Favorable (Unfavorable)
	Original	Final	Actual	
Revenues				
Local sources				
Property taxes	\$ 160,000	\$ 160,000	\$ 165,276	\$ 5,276
Delinquent taxes and interest	500	500	261	(239)
Earnings on investments	5,000	7,500	11,036	3,536
Total revenues	165,500	168,000	176,573	8,573
Expenditures				
Debt service				
Principal	130,000	130,000	130,000	-
Interest and fiscal charges	22,850	22,850	22,700	150
Appropriated reserves	192,659	286,456		286,456
Total expenditures	345,509	439,306	152,700	286,606
Net change in fund balance	\$ (180,009)	\$ (271,306)	23,873	\$ 295,179
Fund balance at beginning of year			274,706	
Fund balance at end of year			\$ 298,579	

**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.



Colorado Department of Education
Auditors Integrity Report
District: 1860 - Buffalo RE-4J
Fiscal Year 2023-24
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	4,372,230	5,185,307	7,185,976	2,371,561
18 Risk Mgmt Sub-Fund of General Fund	0	0	0	0
19 Colorado Preschool Program Fund	0	36,901	36,901	0
Sub-Total	4,372,230	5,222,208	7,222,877	2,371,561
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
07 Total Program Reserve Fund	0	0	0	0
21 Food Service Spec Revenue Fund	108,539	289,770	248,003	150,306
22 Govt Designated-Purpose Grants Fund	0	0	0	0
23 Pupil Activity Special Revenue Fund	146,656	262,093	231,101	177,648
25 Transportation Fund	0	0	0	0
31 Bond Redemption Fund	274,706	176,573	152,700	298,579
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
Totals	4,902,131	5,950,645	7,854,681	2,998,095
Proprietary				
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
Totals	0	0	0	0
Fiduciary				
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	0	0	0	0
79 GASB 34-Permanent Fund	0	0	0	0
85 Foundations	0	0	0	0
Totals	0	0	0	0
FINAL				0