

**Challenge to Excellence Charter School**  
*(A Component Unit of Douglas County School District RE.1)*

**Financial Statements**  
with Independent Auditor's Report

**June 30, 2025**

**Challenge to Excellence Charter School**  
 (A Component Unit of Douglas County School District RE.1)  
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 June 30, 2025

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## Independent Auditor's Report

Governing Council  
Challenge to Excellence Charter School  
Parker, Colorado

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

#### ***Opinions***

We have audited the financial statements of the governmental activities and each major fund of Challenge to Excellence Charter School (the School), as of and for the year ended June 30, 2025, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the School's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

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

#### ***Basis for Opinions***

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of the School 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***

The School's 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 maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the School's ability to continue as a going concern for one year after the date that the financial statements are issued.

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

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

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the School's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- Conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the School'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 required supplementary information listed in the table of contents, such as management's discussion and analysis and budgetary comparison information as noted 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 context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

*Hick & Company, PC*

Englewood, Colorado  
October 30, 2025



**Challenge to Excellence Charter School**  
Management's Discussion and Analysis  
Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2025

As management of Challenge to Excellence Charter School (C2E or the School), we offer readers of Challenge to Excellence Charter School's basic financial statements this narrative overview and analysis of the financial activities of the School for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2025. We encourage readers to consider the information presented here in conjunction with additional information provided in the accompanying financial statements.

## **Financial Highlights**

The year ended June 30, 2025 is the twenty-third year of operations for C2E. As of June 30, 2025, net position increased by \$645,751 to \$(987,770). Challenge to Excellence Charter School's governmental funds reported an ending fund balance of \$3,618,571, a decrease of \$1,494,494 from the prior year.

The operations of the School are funded primarily by tax revenue received under the Colorado School Finance Act in Per Pupil Revenue (PPR). Tax revenue for the year from PPR was \$5,971,868.

## **Overview of Financial Statements**

This discussion and analysis is intended to serve as an introduction to the School's basic financial statements. The School's basic financial statements are comprised of three components: 1) government-wide financial statements, 2) fund financial statements, and 3) notes to the financial statements.

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

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

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

The statement of activities presents information showing how net position changed during the year. All changes in net position are reported as soon as the underlying event giving rise to the change occurs, regardless of the timing of the related cash flows. Thus, revenues and expenses are reported in the statement for some items that will only result in cash flows in future periods (for example, salaries and benefits earned but unpaid as of year-end).

The government-wide statement of activities distinguishes functions/programs of the School supported primarily by Per Pupil Revenue or other revenues passed through from the School's

authorizer (Douglas County School District). The governmental activities of C2E include instruction and supporting services.

### ***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 School keeps track of these monies to ensure and demonstrate compliance with finance-related legal requirements.

### **Governmental Funds**

Governmental funds are used to account for essentially the same functions reported as governmental activities in the government-wide financial statements. However, unlike the government-wide financial statements, governmental fund financial statements focus on near-term inflows and outflows of spendable resources, as well as on balances of spendable resources available at the end of the fiscal year.

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

The School maintains two governmental funds and adopts annually appropriated budgets for the funds. Budgetary comparison schedules are included to demonstrate that spending did not exceed the budgets.

### ***Notes to the Financial Statements***

The notes provide additional information that is essential to a full understanding of the data provided in the financial statements.

## **Government-Wide Financial Analysis**

As noted previously, net position may serve over time as a useful indicator of the School's financial position. For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2025, C2E's net position was \$(987,770). This position includes a net pension liability in the amount of \$7,530,654, representing the School's proportionate share of the School Division Trust Fund pension liability, administered by the Public Employees' Retirement Association of Colorado (PERA). The School reports this net pension liability, and associated deferred inflows and outflows of resources, as required by GASB (Governmental Accounting Standards Board) 68. The School's net position also includes a net OPEB (Other Post-Employment Benefits) liability in the amount of \$118,533, representing the School's proportionate share of the defined benefit Health Care Trust Fund, administered by PERA. The School reports this net OPEB liability, and associated deferred inflows and outflows of resources, as requirement by GASB 75. More information regarding the net pension and OPEB liabilities may be found in the notes to the financial statements.

Of the School's total net position, \$1,539,991 is invested in capital assets, \$245,000 is restricted to comply with Article X, Section 20 of the Colorado Constitution, known as the TABOR Amendment, and \$205,573 is restricted for debt service.

## Challenge to Excellence Charter School's Net Position

|   | 2024-2025           | 2023-2024             |
|---|---------------------|-----------------------|
| <b>ASSETS</b>   |                     |                       |
| Cash and Investments                                    | \$ 4,035,908        | \$ 5,165,451          |
| Restricted Cash and Investments                         | 223,549             | 238,960               |
| Accounts Receivable                                     | 35,608              | 26,897                |
| Prepaid Expenses  | 74,282              | 60,205                |
| Capital Assets, Not Being Depreciated                   | 7,743,204           | 2,371,299             |
| Capital Assets, Net of Accumulated Dep/Amort            | <u>2,465,164</u>    | <u>2,729,988</u>      |
| <b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>                                     | <u>14,577,715</u>   | <u>10,592,800</u>     |
| <b>DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES</b>                   |                     |                       |
| Pensions, Net of Accumulated Amortization               | 1,620,191           | 2,541,451             |
| OPEB, Net of Accumulated Amortization                   | 19,548              | 24,162                |
| Loss on Debt Refunding, Net of Accumulated Amortization | <u>51,594</u>       | <u>51,594</u>         |
| <b>TOTAL DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES</b>             | <u>1,691,333</u>    | <u>2,617,207</u>      |
| <b>LIABILITIES</b>                                      |                     |                       |
| Accounts Payable  | 428,905             | 79,905                |
| Accrued Liabilities                                     | 10,609              | 17,510                |
| Accrued Salaries and Benefits                           | 292,794             | 281,032               |
| Unearned Revenue  | 18,468              | -                     |
| Accrued Interest Payable                                | 17,976              | 17,976                |
| Noncurrent Liabilities                                  |                     |                       |
| Due Within One Year                                     | 184,310             | 179,822               |
| Due in More Than One Year                               | 8,484,067           | 5,950,257             |
| Net Pension Liability                                   | 7,530,654           | 7,661,652             |
| Net OPEB Liability                                      | <u>118,533</u>      | <u>180,817</u>        |
| <b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>                                | <u>17,086,316</u>   | <u>14,368,971</u>     |
| <b>DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES</b>                    |                     |                       |
| Pensions, Net of Accumulated Amortization               | 91,435              | 405,904               |
| OPEB, Net of Accumulated Amortization                   | <u>79,067</u>       | <u>68,652</u>         |
| <b>TOTAL DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES</b>              | <u>170,502</u>      | <u>474,556</u>        |
| <b>NET POSITION</b>                                     |                     |                       |
| Net Investment in Capital Assets                        | 1,539,991           | (1,028,792)           |
| Restricted for Debt Service                             | 205,573             | 220,984               |
| Restricted for Emergencies                              | 245,000             | 246,100               |
| Unrestricted  | <u>(2,978,334)</u>  | <u>(1,071,812)</u>    |
| <b>TOTAL NET POSITION</b>                               | <u>\$ (987,770)</u> | <u>\$ (1,633,520)</u> |

## Challenge to Excellence Charter School's Change in Net Position

|                                    | 2024-2025        | 2023-2024          |
|------------------------------------|------------------|--------------------|
| REVENUES                           |                  |                    |
| Per Pupil Revenue                  | \$ 5,971,868     | \$ 5,556,600       |
| District Mill Levy                 | 1,291,631        | 1,263,834          |
| Capital Construction               | 212,892          | 225,441            |
| Charges for Services               | 327,485          | 344,807            |
| Operating Grants and Contributions | 279,459          | 230,113            |
| Investment Income                  | 202,378          | 221,082            |
| Other                              | 75,510           | 29,258             |
| <br>TOTAL REVENUE                  | <br>8,361,223    | <br>7,871,135      |
| <br>EXPENSES                       |                  |                    |
| Instruction                        | 4,519,839        | 3,317,304          |
| Supporting Services                | 2,920,738        | 2,846,236          |
| Interest on Long-Term Debt         | 274,895          | 241,063            |
| <br>TOTAL EXPENSES                 | <br>7,715,472    | <br>6,404,603      |
| <br>CHANGE IN NET POSITION         | <br>645,751      | <br>1,466,532      |
| <br>NET POSITION, Beginning        | <br>(1,633,521)  | <br>(3,100,052)    |
| <br>NET POSITION, Ending           | <br>\$ (987,770) | <br>\$ (1,633,521) |

### Financial Analysis of the Government's Funds

As noted earlier, the School uses fund accounting to ensure and demonstrate compliance with finance related legal requirements.

The focus of the School'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's financing requirements. In particular, unassigned fund balance may serve as a useful measure of the School's net resources available for spending at the end of the fiscal year.

As of the end of the current fiscal year, the School's General Fund reported an ending fund balance of \$3,395,022, a decrease of \$1,479,083 from the prior year.

The School also maintains a governmental fund to record the activity of the C2E Building Corporation (the Corporation). The Corporation was organized exclusively for the purpose of holding title to real estate and personal property for the School, and to provide facilities, equipment and other physical plant and related support to the School. As of the end of the current fiscal year, the Corporation reported an ending fund balance of \$223,549, a decrease of \$15,411 from the prior year.

## **General Fund Budgetary Highlights**

C2E recognized \$45,330 less revenue than expected and spent \$1,036,288 less than planned, when compared to the final budget. There were budget amendments during the year, which reflected changes in revenues and expenditures. Overall, revenue and expenses were fine-tuned to account for changes to student enrollment and available resources.

## **Capital Assets & Long-Term Debt**

The School has invested in capital assets for the School's educational facility, facility improvements, land, land improvements, construction in process, and both purchased and leased equipment. Depreciation and amortization expenses for capital assets are booked under the supporting services program of the School's operations. More information regarding capital assets may be found in Note 3 to the financial statements.

The School has long-term debt in the form of Revenue Refunding Series 2022 bonds, acquired at the close of 2021-2022, the proceeds of which were used to refund 2017 Series Bonds in 2022-2023. During 2023-2024 the School acquired a construction line of credit, which will convert into regular principal and interest payments when construction in progress is complete. The School also has a lease agreement for a copier machine that qualifies as long-term debt. More information regarding long-term debt may be found in Note 4 to the financial statements.

## **Economic Factors and Next Year's Budget**

The primary factor driving the budget for Challenge to Excellence Charter School is student enrollment. Enrollment for the 2024-2025 school year was 551.00 funded students. Enrollment projected for 2025-2026 is 665.00 funded students. This factor was considered when preparing C2E's budget for 2025-2026.

## **Requests for Information**

This financial report is designed to provide a general overview of Challenge to Excellence Charter School's finances for all those with an interest in the School's finances. Questions concerning any of the information provided in this report or requests for additional financial information should be addressed to the School:

Challenge to Excellence Charter School  
16995 E. Carlson Drive  
Parker, CO 80134

## **Basic Financial Statements**

**Challenge to Excellence Charter School**  
(A Component Unit of Douglas County School District RE.1)  
Statement of Net Position  
June 30, 2025

|  | Governmental<br>Activities |
|--|----------------------------|
| <b>Assets</b>  |                            |
| Cash and Investments   | \$ 4,035,908               |
| Restricted Cash and Investments                                | 223,549                    |
| Accounts Receivable  | 35,608                     |
| Prepaid Expenses   | 74,282                     |
| Capital Assets, <i>Not Being Depreciated</i>                   | 7,743,204                  |
| Capital Assets, <i>Net of Accumulated Depreciation</i>         | 2,465,164                  |
| Total Assets   | 14,577,715                 |
| <b>Deferred Outflows of Resources</b>                          |                            |
| Pensions, <i>Net of Accumulated Amortization</i>               | 1,620,191                  |
| OPEB, <i>Net of Accumulated Amortization</i>                   | 19,548                     |
| Loss on Debt Refunding, <i>Net of Accumulated Amortization</i> | 51,594                     |
| Total Deferred Outflows of Resources                           | 1,691,333                  |
| <b>Liabilities</b>   |                            |
| Accounts Payable   | 428,905                    |
| Accrued Liabilities  | 10,609                     |
| Accrued Salaries and Benefits                                  | 292,794                    |
| Accrued Interest Payable                                       | 17,976                     |
| Deferred Revenue   | 18,468                     |
| Noncurrent Liabilities   |                            |
| Due Within One Year  | 184,310                    |
| Due in More Than One Year                                      | 8,484,067                  |
| Net Pension Liability  | 7,530,654                  |
| Net OPEB Liability   | 118,533                    |
| Total Liabilities  | 17,086,316                 |
| <b>Deferred Inflows of Resources</b>                           |                            |
| Pensions, <i>Net of Accumulated Amortization</i>               | 91,435                     |
| OPEB, <i>Net of Accumulated Amortization</i>                   | 79,067                     |
| Total Deferred Inflows of Resources                            | 170,502                    |
| <b>Net Position</b>  |                            |
| Net Investment in Capital Assets                               | 1,539,991                  |
| Restricted for:  |                            |
| Debt Service   | 205,573                    |
| Emergencies  | 245,000                    |
| Unrestricted   | (2,978,334)                |
| Total Net Position   | \$ (987,770)               |

See Notes to the Financial Statements.

**Challenge to Excellence Charter School**  
(A Component Unit of Douglas County School District RE.1)  
Statement of Activities  
For the Year Ended June 30, 2025

| Functions/Programs                     | Expenses            | Program Revenues        |  | Net (Expense)<br>Revenue and<br>Change in<br>Net Position |
|--|---------------------|-------------------------|--|---|
|  |                     | Charges for<br>Services | Operating<br>Grants and<br>Contributions |   |
| <b>Primary Government</b>              |                     |                         |  |   |
| <i>Governmental Activities</i>         |                     |                         |  |   |
| Instruction                            | \$ 4,519,839        | \$ 322,810              | \$ 260,913                               | \$ (3,936,116)  |
| Supporting Services                    | 2,920,738           | 4,675                   | 18,546                                   | (2,897,517)   |
| Interest on Long-Term Debt             | <u>274,895</u>      | <u>-</u>                | <u>-</u>                                 | <u>(274,895)</u>  |
| Total Governmental Activities          | <u>\$ 7,715,472</u> | <u>\$ 327,485</u>       | <u>\$ 279,459</u>                        | <u>(7,108,528)</u>  |
| <b>General Revenues</b>                |                     |                         |  |   |
| Per Pupil Revenue                      |                     |                         |  | 5,971,868   |
| District Mill Levy                     |                     |                         |  | 1,291,631   |
| Capital Construction                   |                     |                         |  | 212,892   |
| Investment Income                      |                     |                         |  | 202,378   |
| Other                                  |                     |                         |  | <u>75,510</u>   |
| Total General Revenues and Transfers   |                     |                         |  | <u>7,754,279</u>  |
| Change in Net Position                 |                     |                         |  | 645,751   |
| <b>Net Position, Beginning of Year</b> |                     |                         |  | <u>(1,633,521)</u>  |
| <b>Net Position, End of Year</b>       |                     |                         |  | <u>\$ (987,770)</u>                                       |

**Challenge to Excellence Charter School**  
*(A Component Unit of Douglas County School District RE.1)*  
 Balance Sheet  
 Governmental Fund  
 June 30, 2025

|  | General          | Building       | Total            |
|--|------------------|----------------|------------------|
| <b>Assets</b>                          |                  |                |                  |
| Cash and Investments                   | \$ 4,035,908     | \$ -           | \$ 4,035,908     |
| Restricted Cash and Investments        | -                | 223,549        | 223,549          |
| Accounts Receivable                    | 35,608           | -              | 35,608           |
| Prepaid Expenses                       | 74,282           | -              | 74,282           |
| <br>Total Assets                       | <br>\$ 4,145,798 | <br>\$ 223,549 | <br>\$ 4,369,347 |
| <b>Liabilities and Fund Balance</b>    |                  |                |                  |
| <i>Liabilities</i>                     |                  |                |                  |
| Accounts Payable                       | \$ 428,905       | \$ -           | \$ 428,905       |
| Accrued Liabilities                    | 10,609           | -              | 10,609           |
| Accrued Salaries and Benefits          | 292,794          | -              | 292,794          |
| Deferred Revenue                       | 18,468           | -              | 18,468           |
| Total Liabilities                      | 750,776          | -              | 750,776          |
| <br><i>Fund Balance</i>                |                  |                |                  |
| Nonspendable                           | 74,282           | -              | 74,282           |
| Restricted for:                        |                  |                |                  |
| Emergencies                            | 245,000          | -              | 245,000          |
| Debt Service                           | -                | 223,549        | 223,549          |
| Assigned                               | 1,620,807        | -              | 1,620,807        |
| Unrestricted, Unassigned               | 1,454,933        | -              | 1,454,933        |
| Total Fund Balance                     | 3,395,022        | 223,549        | 3,618,571        |
| <br>Total Liabilities and Fund Balance | <br>\$ 4,145,798 | <br>\$ 223,549 | <br>\$ 4,369,347 |

**Amounts Reported for Governmental Activities in the Statement of Net Position are Different Because:**

|   |              |
|---|--------------|
| Total Fund Balance of the Governmental Fund   | \$ 3,618,571 |
| Capital assets used in governmental activities are not financial resources and, therefore, are not reported in governmental funds.          | 10,208,368   |
| Long-term liabilities and related items are not due and payable in the current year and, therefore, are not reported in governmental funds. |              |
| Accrued Interest Payable  | (17,976)     |
| Long-Term Debt  | (8,616,783)  |
| Net Pension Liability   | (7,530,654)  |
| Pension-Related Deferred Outflows of Resources  | 1,620,191    |
| Pension-Related Deferred Inflows of Resources   | (91,435)     |
| Net OPEB Liability  | (118,533)    |
| OPEB-Related Deferred Outflows of Resources   | 19,548       |
| OPEB-Related Deferred Inflows of Resources  | (79,067)     |
| Total Net Position of Governmental Activities   | \$ (987,770) |

**Challenge to Excellence Charter School**  
(A Component Unit of Douglas County School District RE.1)  
Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance  
Governmental Fund  
For the Year Ended June 30, 2025

|   | General          | Building        | Total            |
|---|------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| <b>Revenues</b>   |                  |                 |                  |
| <i>Local Sources</i>                                    |                  |                 |                  |
| Per Pupil Revenue                                       | \$ 5,971,868     | \$ -            | \$ 5,971,868     |
| District Mill Levy                                      | 1,291,631        | -               | 1,291,631        |
| Tuition   | 4,675            | -               | 4,675            |
| Student Fees and Activities                             | 322,810          | -               | 322,810          |
| Investment Income                                       | 196,413          | 5,965           | 202,378          |
| Other   | 21,711           | 419,268         | 440,979          |
| <i>State Sources</i>                                    |                  |                 |                  |
| Capital Construction                                    | 212,892          | -               | 212,892          |
| Grants  | 114,968          | -               | 114,968          |
| <i>Federal Sources</i>                                  |                  |                 |                  |
| Grants  | 154,893          | -               | 154,893          |
| <br>Total Revenues                                      | <br>8,291,861    | <br>425,233     | <br>8,717,094    |
| <b>Expenditures</b>                                     |                  |                 |                  |
| Instruction   | 4,195,619        | -               | 4,195,619        |
| Supporting Services                                     | 2,735,323        | 5,580,903       | 8,316,226        |
| Debt Service  |                  |                 |                  |
| Principal   | 8,402            | 177,944         | 186,346          |
| Interest  | 1,369            | 255,734         | 257,103          |
| <br>Total Expenditures                                  | <br>6,940,713    | <br>6,014,581   | <br>12,955,294   |
| <br><b>Excess of Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures</b> | <br>1,351,148    | <br>(5,589,348) | <br>(4,238,200)  |
| <b>Other Financing Sources (Uses)</b>                   |                  |                 |                  |
| Proceeds from Issuance of Debt                          | 25,586           | 2,718,120       | 2,743,706        |
| Transfers In  | (2,855,817)      | -               | (2,855,817)      |
| Transfers Out   | -                | 2,855,817       | 2,855,817        |
| <br><b>Net Change in Fund Balance</b>                   | <br>(1,479,083)  | <br>(15,411)    | <br>(1,494,494)  |
| <br><b>Fund Balance, Beginning of Year</b>              | <br>4,874,105    | <br>238,960     | <br>5,113,065    |
| <br><b>Fund Balance, End of Year</b>                    | <br>\$ 3,395,022 | <br>\$ 223,549  | <br>\$ 3,618,571 |

# Challenge to Excellence Charter School

(A Component Unit of Douglas County School District RE.1)

## Reconciliation of the Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance of the Governmental Fund to the Statement of Activities For the Year Ended June 30, 2025

### Amounts Reported for Governmental Activities in the Statement of Activities are Different Because:

|   |                   |
|---|-------------------|
| Net Change in Fund Balance of the Governmental Fund   | \$ (1,494,494)    |
| <p>Governmental funds report capital outlays as expenditures. However, in the statement of activities the cost of those assets is allocated over their estimated useful lives and reported as depreciation expense.</p>   |                   |
| Depreciation expense  | (253,556)         |
| Amortization Expense  | (11,268)          |
| Capital outlays   | 5,371,905         |
| <p>Debt proceeds provide current financial resources to governmental funds, but issuing debt increases long-term liabilities in the statement of net position and does not affect the statement of activities. Repayments of debt principal are expenditures in governmental funds, but they reduce long-term liabilities in the statement of net position and do not affect the statement of activities.</p> |                   |
| Lease Payments  | 1,878             |
| Bond Principal Payments   | 177,944           |
| Proceeds from lease liabilities   | (25,586)          |
| Proceeds from Construction Line of Credit   | (2,718,120)       |
| <p>Some expenses reported in the statement of activities do not require the use of current financial resources and, therefore, are not reported as expenditures in governmental funds. This includes changes in the following.</p>  |                   |
| Net Pension Liability   | 130,998           |
| Pension-Related Deferred Outflows of Resources  | (921,260)         |
| Pension-Related Deferred Inflows of Resources   | 314,469           |
| Net OPEB Liability  | 62,284            |
| OPEB-Related Deferred Outflows of Resources   | (4,614)           |
| OPEB-Related Deferred Inflows of Resources  | <u>(10,415)</u>   |
| Change in Net Position of Governmental Activities   | <u>\$ 620,165</u> |

**Challenge to Excellence Charter School**  
*(A Component Unit of Douglas County School District RE.1)*  
Notes to Financial Statements  
June 30, 2025

**Note 1: Summary of Significant Accounting Policies**

The Challenge to Excellence Charter School (the School) was organized in 2002 pursuant to the Colorado Charter Schools Act to form and operate a charter school within Douglas County School District (the District). The School is a non-profit organization as defined by Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

The accounting policies of the School conform to generally accepted accounting principles as applicable to governmental entities. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) is the accepted standard-setting body for establishing governmental accounting and financial reporting principles. Following is a summary of the School's more significant policies.

**Reporting Entity**

The financial reporting entity consists of the School, organizations for which the School is financially accountable, and organizations that raise and hold economic resources for the direct benefit of the School. All funds, organizations, institutions, agencies, departments, and offices that are not legally separate are part of the School. Legally separate organizations for which the School is financially accountable are considered part of the reporting entity. Financial accountability exists if the School appoints a voting majority of the organization's governing board and is able to impose its will on the organization, or if there is a potential for the organization to provide benefits to, or impose financial burdens on, the School.

The School includes the C2E Building Corporation (the Corporation) within its reporting entity. The Corporation was organized exclusively for the purpose of holding title to real estate and personal property for, and to make same available for use by, the School and to otherwise provide facilities, equipment and other physical plant and related support to the School. The Corporation is blended into the School's financial statements as a Special Revenue Fund. Separate audited financial statements are not available for the Corporation.

The School is a component unit of the District. The School's charter was authorized by the District and the majority of the School's funding is provided by the District.

**Government-wide and Fund Financial Statements**

The government-wide financial statements (i.e., the statement of net position and the statement of activities) report information on all activities of the School. For the most part, the effect of interfund activity has been removed from these statements. Exceptions to this general rule are charges for interfund services that are reasonably equivalent to the services provided. *Governmental activities*, which normally are supported by taxes and intergovernmental revenues, are reported separately from *business-type activities*, which rely to a significant extent on fees and charges for support.

**Challenge to Excellence Charter School**  
(A Component Unit of Douglas County School District RE.1)  
Notes to Financial Statements  
June 30, 2025

**Note 1: Summary of Significant Accounting Policies** (Continued)

**Government-wide and Fund Financial Statements** (Continued)

The statement of activities demonstrates the degree to which the direct expenses of the given function or segment are offset by program revenues. *Direct expenses* are those that are clearly identifiable with a specific function or segment. *Program revenues* include 1) charges to students or others who purchase, use, or directly benefit from goods, services, or privileges provided by a given function or segment and 2) grants and contributions that are restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular function or segment. Unrestricted revenues not properly included among program revenues are reported instead as *general revenues*.

**Measurement Focus, Basis of Accounting, and Financial Statement Presentation**

The government-wide financial statements are reported using the *economic resources measurement focus* and the *accrual basis of accounting* as is the proprietary fund in the fund financial statements. Revenues are recorded when earned and expenses are recorded when a liability is incurred, regardless of the timing of related cash flows. Grants and similar items are recognized as revenue as soon as all eligibility requirements imposed by the provider have been met.

Governmental fund financial statements are reported using the *current financial resources measurement focus* and the *modified accrual basis of accounting*. Revenues are recognized as soon as they are both measurable and available. Revenues are considered to be *available* when they are collected within the current year or soon enough thereafter to pay liabilities of the current year. For this purpose, the School considers revenues to be available if they are collected within 60 days of the end of the current year. Intergovernmental revenues, grants, and interest associated with the current year are considered to be susceptible to accrual and so have been recognized as revenues of the current year. All other revenues are considered to be measurable and available only when cash is received by the School. Expenditures generally are recorded when a liability is incurred, as under accrual accounting. However, debt service expenditures are recorded only when payment is due.

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

The School reports the following major funds:

*General Fund* - This fund is the general operating fund of the School. It is currently used to account for all financial activities of the School.

*Building Fund* - This fund is used to account for the financial activities of the Corporation, primarily related to capital assets and the related debt service.

**Challenge to Excellence Charter School**  
*(A Component Unit of Douglas County School District RE.1)*  
Notes to Financial Statements  
June 30, 2025

**Note 1: Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)**

**Assets, Liabilities and Net Position/Fund Balance**

*Cash Equivalents* - For purposes of the statement of cash flows, cash equivalents include investments with original maturities of three months or less.

*Capital Assets* - Capital assets, which include land, buildings, and equipment, are reported in the government-wide financial statements and the proprietary fund in the fund financial statements. Capital assets are defined as assets with an initial, individual cost of \$5,000 or more and an estimated useful life in excess of one year. Such assets are recorded at historical cost or estimated historical cost if purchased or constructed. Donated capital assets are recorded at the acquisition value on the date of donation.

The costs of normal maintenance and repairs that do not add to the value of the assets or materially extend the useful lives are not capitalized.

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

|                            |               |
|----------------------------|---------------|
| Buildings and Improvements | 20 - 30 years |
| Equipment                  | 5 - 15 years  |

*Accrued Salaries and Benefits* - Salaries and retirement benefits of certain contractually employed personnel are paid over a twelve-month period from August to July but are earned during a school year of approximately nine to ten months. The salaries and benefits earned, but unpaid, are reported as a liability of the General Fund.

*Compensated Absences* - Employees are allowed to use sick and personal leave, which is not available to carry over from year to year. Certified and classified staff are reimbursed \$100 and \$50 per day, respectively, for unused sick and personal leave at the end of each fiscal year. Therefore, no liability is reported in the financial statements for these compensated absences.

*Long-Term Debt* - In the government-wide financial statements and the proprietary fund in the fund financial statements, long-term debt and other long-term obligations are reported as liabilities. Debt premiums, discounts, and accounting losses resulting from debt refunding's are deferred and amortized over the life of the debt using the straight-line method. In the governmental fund financial statements, the face amount of debt issued is reported as other financing sources. Premiums received on debt issuances are reported as other financing sources while discounts are reported as other financing uses.

Issuance costs, whether or not withheld from the debt proceeds, are reported as current expenses or expenditures.

**Challenge to Excellence Charter School**  
(A Component Unit of Douglas County School District RE.1)  
Notes to Financial Statements  
June 30, 2025

**Note 1: Summary of Significant Accounting Policies** (Continued)

**Assets, Liabilities and Net Position/Fund Balance** (Continued)

*Pensions* - The School 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.

*Postemployment Benefits Other Than Pensions (OPEB)* - The School 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.

*Net Position/Fund Balance* - In the government-wide and fund financial statements, net position and fund balance are restricted when constraints placed on the use of resources are externally imposed. The Governing Council is authorized to establish a fund balance commitment through passage of a resolution and may assign fund balances to a specific purpose through an informal action.

The School has not established a formal policy for its use of restricted and unrestricted fund balances. However, if both restricted and unrestricted fund balances are available for a specific purpose, the School uses restricted fund balance first, followed by committed, assigned and unassigned balances.

**Risk Management**

The School is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; injuries to employees; and natural disasters. The School carries commercial insurance for these risks of loss.

**Subsequent Events**

The School has evaluated subsequent events through October 30, 2025, the date the financial statements were available to be issued.

**Challenge to Excellence Charter School**  
 (A Component Unit of Douglas County School District RE.1)  
 Notes to Financial Statements  
 June 30, 2025

**Note 2: Deposits and Investments**

A summary of cash and investments at June 30, 2025, follows:

|             |        |                      |
|-------------|--------|----------------------|
| Deposits    | \$     | 1,278,167            |
| Investments |        | 2,981,090            |
| Petty Cash  |        | 200                  |
| <br>Total   | <br>\$ | <br><u>4,259,457</u> |

Cash and investments are reported in the financial statements as follows:

|                                 |        |                      |
|---------------------------------|--------|----------------------|
| Cash and Investments            | \$     | 4,035,908            |
| Restricted Cash and Investments |        | 223,549              |
| <br>Total                       | <br>\$ | <br><u>4,259,457</u> |

**Deposits**

The Colorado Public Deposit Protection Act (PDPA) requires all local government entities to deposit cash in eligible public depositories. Eligibility is determined by State regulations. Amounts on deposit in excess of federal insurance levels must be collateralized by eligible collateral as determined by the PDPA. The PDPA allows the financial institution to create a single collateral pool for all public funds held. The pool is to be maintained by another institution or held in trust for all uninsured public deposits as a group. The market value of the collateral must be at least equal to 102% of the uninsured deposits. At June 30, 2025, the School had \$1,042,071 bank deposits in excess of federal insurance levels.

**Investments**

The School is required to comply with State statutes which specify investment instruments meeting defined rating, maturity, and concentration risk criteria in which local governments may invest, which include the following. State statutes do not address custodial risk. The School's investment policy follows state statutes.

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

**Challenge to Excellence Charter School**  
*(A Component Unit of Douglas County School District RE.1)*  
Notes to Financial Statements  
June 30, 2025

**Note 2: Deposits and Investments (Continued)**

**Investments** *(Continued)*

*Interest Rate Risk* - State statutes generally limit the maturity of investment securities to five years from the date of purchase unless the governing board authorizes the investment for a period in excess of five years.

*Credit Risk* - State statutes limit investments in money market funds to those that maintain a constant share price, with a maximum remaining maturity in accordance with the Securities and Exchange Commission's Rule 2a-7, and either have assets of one billion dollars or the highest rating issued by one or more nationally recognized statistical rating organizations.

*Concentration of Credit Risk* - State statutes do not limit the amount the School may invest in a single issuer, except for corporate securities.

*Local Government Investment Pool* - At June 30, 2025, the School had \$2,981,090 invested in the Colorado Local Government Liquid Asset Trust (COLOTRUST), an investment vehicle established for local government entities in Colorado to pool surplus funds for investment purposes. The Colorado Division of Securities administers and enforces the requirements of creating and operating COLOTRUST. COLOTRUST operates in conformity with the Securities and Exchange Commission's Rule 2a-7. COLOTRUST is reported at the net asset value per share, with each share valued at \$1. COLOTRUST is rated AAAM by Standard and Poor's. Investments of COLOTRUST are limited to those allowed by state statutes. A designated custodial bank provides safekeeping and depository services in connection with the direct investment and withdrawal functions. The custodian's internal records identify the investments owned by the participating governments.

**Restricted Cash and Investments**

At June 30, 2025, investments of \$223,549 have been restricted by the School's loan agreement for debt service.

**Challenge to Excellence Charter School**  
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Notes to Financial Statements  
June 30, 2025

**Note 3: Capital Assets**

Capital asset activity for the year ended June 30, 2025, is summarized below.

|   | Balance<br>06/30/24 | Additions           | Deletions   | Balance<br>06/30/25  |
|---|---------------------|---------------------|-------------|----------------------|
| <b>Governmental Activities</b>                            |                     |                     |             |                      |
| <i>Capital Assets, Not Being Depreciated</i>              |                     |                     |             |                      |
| Land  | \$ 2,179,401        | \$ -                | \$ -        | \$ 2,179,401         |
| Construction in Process                                   | 191,898             | 5,371,905           | -           | 5,563,803            |
| <b>Total Capital Assets, Not Being Depreciated</b>        | <b>2,371,299</b>    | <b>5,371,905</b>    | <b>-</b>    | <b>7,743,204</b>     |
| <i>Capital Assets, Being Depreciated</i>                  |                     |                     |             |                      |
| Buildings   | 4,754,070           | -                   | -           | 4,754,070            |
| Building Improvements                                     | 1,579,603           | -                   | -           | 1,579,603            |
| Land Improvements   | 91,964              | -                   | -           | 91,964               |
| Equipment   | 325,542             | -                   | -           | 325,542              |
| Leased Equipment  | 56,342              | -                   | -           | 56,342               |
| <b>Total Capital Assets, Being Depreciated</b>            | <b>6,807,521</b>    | <b>-</b>            | <b>-</b>    | <b>6,807,521</b>     |
| <i>Less Accumulated Depreciation</i>                      |                     |                     |             |                      |
| Buildings   | (3,110,425)         | (158,469)           | -           | (3,268,894)          |
| Building Improvements                                     | (581,322)           | (67,884)            | -           | (649,206)            |
| Land Improvements   | (82,762)            | (9,199)             | -           | (91,961)             |
| Equipment   | (248,562)           | (18,004)            | -           | (266,566)            |
| <i>Less Accumulated Amortization for Leased Equipment</i> |                     |                     |             |                      |
|   | (54,462)            | (11,268)            | -           | (65,730)             |
| <b>Total Accumulated Depreciation and Amortization</b>    | <b>(4,077,533)</b>  | <b>(264,824)</b>    | <b>-</b>    | <b>(4,342,357)</b>   |
| <b>Total Capital Assets, Being Depreciated, Net</b>       | <b>2,729,988</b>    | <b>(264,824)</b>    | <b>-</b>    | <b>2,465,164</b>     |
| <b>Governmental Activities Capital Assets, Net</b>        | <b>\$ 5,101,287</b> | <b>\$ 5,107,081</b> | <b>\$ -</b> | <b>\$ 10,208,368</b> |

Depreciation and amortization expense of the governmental activities was charged to the supporting services program of the School.

**Note 4: Long-Term Debt**

Following is a summary of long-term debt transactions for the year ended June 30, 2025:

|                             | Balance<br>06/30/24 | Additions           | Payments            | Balance<br>06/30/25 | Due Within<br>One Year |
|-----------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|------------------------|
| 2019 Copier Lease           | \$ 1,878            | \$ -                | \$ (1,878)          | \$ -                | \$ -                   |
| 2022 Series Revenue Bond    | 6,128,201           | -                   | (177,944)           | 5,950,257           | 184,310                |
| Construction Line of Credit | -                   | 2,718,120           | -                   | 2,718,120           | -                      |
| <b>Total</b>                | <b>\$ 6,130,079</b> | <b>\$ 2,718,120</b> | <b>\$ (179,822)</b> | <b>\$ 8,668,377</b> | <b>\$ 184,310</b>      |

**Challenge to Excellence Charter School**  
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 Notes to Financial Statements  
 June 30, 2025

**Note 4: Long-Term Debt** (Continued)

*2022 Series Revenue Bonds*

On June 17, 2022, the Colorado Educational and Cultural Facilities Authority (CECFA) issued \$6,300,000 Charter School Refunding Revenue Bonds, Series 2022. Proceeds of the refunded bonds were used to advance refund CECFA's outstanding Series 2017 Bonds. The School is obligated under a lease agreement to make monthly lease payments to the Corporation for using the facilities. The Corporation is required to make monthly loan payments to the trustee, for payment of the bonds. Interest accrues on the outstanding balance of the bonds at 3.52% per annum. Principal and interest payments are due monthly beginning July 1, 2022, with a balloon payment of \$3,970,706 due at maturity on June 1, 2029.

Future debt service requirements are as follows:

| Year Ended June 30, | Principal           | Interest          | Total               |
|---------------------|---------------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| 2026                | \$ 184,310          | \$ 206,494        | \$ 390,804          |
| 2027                | 190,903             | 199,901           | 390,804             |
| 2028                | 197,734             | 193,072           | 390,806             |
| 2029                | <u>5,377,310</u>    | <u>185,998</u>    | <u>5,563,308</u>    |
| Total               | <u>\$ 5,950,257</u> | <u>\$ 785,465</u> | <u>\$ 6,735,722</u> |

*Lease Agreements*

The School has entered into lease agreements directly with the vendor to copier machine. Monthly payments are required by the lease agreement, with terms of five years. Future minimum leases payments to maturity are as follows:

|                              |                 |
|------------------------------|-----------------|
| Year Ended June 30,          |                 |
| 2025                         | \$ <u>1,880</u> |
| Total Minimum Lease Payments | 1,880           |
| Less: Interest Portion       | <u>(1,880)</u>  |
| Total                        | <u>\$ -</u>     |

*Construction Line of Credit*

During the year ended June 30, 2024, the School entered into a construction line of credit in the amount of \$4,000,000 with the Colorado Educational and Cultural Facilities Authority. The loan agreement carries interest at 4.34% and requires monthly interest only payments. The agreement matures on November 1, 2029. Once the construction in progress is complete, which management believes will be at the end of October 2025, the loan will convert into regular principal and interest payments. The School has \$2,718,120 outstanding as of June 30, 2024.

**Challenge to Excellence Charter School**  
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Notes to Financial Statements  
June 30, 2025

**Note 5: Defined Benefit Pension Plan**

**General Information about the Pension Plan**

*Plan Description* - Eligible employees of the School 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/forms-resources/financial-reports-and-studies](http://www.copera.org/forms-resources/financial-reports-and-studies).

*Benefits provided as of December 31, 2024* - 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. § 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 percent match on eligible amounts as of the retirement date. This amount is then annualized into a monthly benefit based on life expectancy and other actuarial factors.

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

- Highest average salary multiplied by 2.5% and then multiplied by years of service credit.
- \$15 times the first 10 years of service credit plus \$20 times the 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 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.

**Challenge to Excellence Charter School**  
*(A Component Unit of Douglas County School District RE.1)*  
Notes to Financial Statements  
June 30, 2025

**Note 5: Defined Benefit Pension Plan (Continued)**

**General Information about the Pension Plan** (Continued)

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 of 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) in place under which service credit was obtained, and the qualified survivor(s) who will receive the benefits.

*Contributions provisions as of June 30, 2025* - Eligible employees of the School 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 seq.* and § 24-51-413. Eligible employees are required to contribute 11.00% of their PERA-includable salary during the period of July 01, 2024 through June 30, 2025. The School's contribution rate was 21.40% of covered salaries for July 01, 2024 through June 30, 2025. However, a portion of the School's contribution (1.02% of covered salaries) is allocated to the Health Care Trust Fund (See Note 6). Contribution rates for the SCHDTF are expressed as a percentage of salary as defined in C.R.S. § 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 School is statutorily committed to pay the contributions to the SCHDTF. Employer contributions recognized by the SCHDTF from the School were \$698,092 for the year ended June 30, 2025.

**Challenge to Excellence Charter School**  
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 Notes to Financial Statements  
 June 30, 2025

**Note 5: Defined Benefit Pension Plan** (Continued)

**General Information about the Pension Plan** (Continued)

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 \$225 million direct distribution each year to PERA starting on July 1, 2018. For 2024, 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.

**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 at December 31, 2024, and the total pension liability (TPL) used to calculate the net pension liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of December 31, 2023. Standard update procedures were used to roll forward the TPL to December 31, 2024. The School proportion of the net pension liability was based on the School contributions to the SCHDTF for the calendar year, 2024 relative to the total contributions of participating employers and State as a nonemployer contributing entity.

At June 30, 2025, the School reported a liability of \$7,530,654, for its proportionate share of the net pension liability that reflected an increase for support from the State as a nonemployer contributing entity. The amount recognized by the School 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 School were as follows:

|  |              |
|--|--------------|
| School's Proportionate share of the net pension liability  | \$ 7,530,654 |
| The State's proportionate share of net pension liability as a nonemployer contributing entity associated with the School | 676,389      |
| Proportionate share of the net pension liability   | \$ 8,207,043 |

At December 31, 2024, the School's proportion was 0.0436435682%, which was an increase of 0.0003168199% from its proportion measured at December 31, 2023.

**Challenge to Excellence Charter School**  
 (A Component Unit of Douglas County School District RE.1)  
 Notes to Financial Statements  
 June 30, 2025

**Note 5: Defined Benefit Pension Plan (Continued)**

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

For the year ended June 30, 2025, the School recognized pension expense of \$952,012 and benefit of \$71,331 for support from the State as a nonemployer contributing entity. At June 30, 2025, the School reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions from the following sources:

|  | Deferred<br>Outflows of<br>Resources | Deferred<br>Inflows of<br>Resources |
|--|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Differences between expected and actual experience                       | \$ 426,451                           | \$ -                                |
| Changes of assumptions and other inputs                                  | 56,458                               | -                                   |
| Net difference between projected and actual earnings on plan investments | 142,083                              | -                                   |
| Changes in proportion  | 644,197                              | 91,435                              |
| Contributions subsequent to the measurement date                         | 351,002                              | -                                   |
| Total  | \$ 1,620,191                         | \$ 91,435                           |

\$351,002 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 fiscal year. Other amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions will be recognized as pension expense as follows:

| Year Ended June 30, |  |              |
|---------------------|--|--------------|
| 2026                |  | \$ 782,132   |
| 2027                |  | 694,813      |
| 2028                |  | (197,858)    |
| 2029                |  | (101,332)    |
| 2030                |  | (1)          |
| Total               |  | \$ 1,177,754 |

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**Note 5: Defined Benefit Pension Plan (Continued)**

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

*Actuarial Assumptions* - The December 31, 2023, actuarial valuation used the following actuarial cost method and key actuarial assumptions and other inputs.

|   |                 |
|---|-----------------|
| Actuarial cost method   | Entry Age       |
| Price inflation   | 2.3%            |
| Real wage growth  | 0.7%            |
| Wage inflation  | 3.0%            |
| Salary increases, including wage inflation  | 3.4% - 11.0%    |
| Long-term investment rate of return, net of plan investment expenses, including price inflation | 7.25%           |
| Discount rate   | 7.25%           |
| Future post-employment benefit increases:   |                 |
| Hired prior to 1/1/2007   | 1.00%           |
| Hired after 12/31/2006  | Financed by AIR |

All mortality assumptions are developed on a benefit-weighted basis and apply generational mortality. Note that in all categories, displayed as follows, the mortality tables are generationally projected using scale MP-2019.

|   | Mortality Table              | Adjustments,<br>as Applicable  |
|---|------------------------------|--|
| Pre-Retirement                              | PubT-2010 Employee           | N/A  |
| Post-Retirement (Retiree), Non-Disabled     | PubT-2010 Healthy Retiree    | <b>Males:</b> 112% of the rates prior to age 80/94% of the rates age 80 and older<br><b>Females:</b> 83% of the rates prior to age 80/106% of the rates age 80 and older |
| Post-Retirement (Beneficiary), Non-Disabled | Pub-2010 Contingent Survivor | <b>Males:</b> 97% of the rates for all ages<br><b>Females:</b> 105% of the rates for all ages  |
| Disabled                                    | PubNS-2010 Disabled Retiree  | 99% of the rates for all ages  |

The actuarial assumptions used in the December 31, 2023, 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.

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**Note 5: Defined Benefit Pension Plan (Continued)**

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

Based on the 2024 experience analysis, dated January 3, 2025, for the period January 1, 2020, to December 31, 2023, revised actuarial assumptions were adopted by PERA's Board on January 17, 2025, and were effective as of December 31, 2024. The following assumptions were reflected in the roll forward calculation of the total pension liability from December 31, 2023, to December 31, 2024.

Salary increases, including wage inflation 4.0% - 13.4%

Salary scale assumptions were altered to better reflect actual experience.

Rates of termination/withdrawal, retirement, and disability were revised to more closely reflect actual experience.

The estimated administrative expense as a percentage of covered payroll was increased from 0.40% to 0.45%.

The adjustments for credibility applied to the Pub-2010 mortality tables for active and retired lives, including beneficiaries, were updated based on the experience. All mortality assumptions are developed on a benefit-weighted basis. Note that in all categories, displayed as follows, the mortality tables are generationally projected using the 2024 adjusted MP-2021 projection scale.

|   | Mortality Table              | Adjustments,<br>as Applicable   |
|---|------------------------------|---|
| Pre-Retirement                              | PubT-2010 Employee           | N/A   |
| Post-Retirement (Retiree), Non-Disabled     | PubT-2010 Healthy Retiree    | <b>Males:</b> 106% of the rates for all ages<br><b>Females:</b> 86% of the rates prior to age 80/115% of the rates age 85 and older |
| Post-Retirement (Beneficiary), Non-Disabled | Pub-2010 Contingent Survivor | <b>Males:</b> 92% of the rates for all ages<br><b>Females:</b> 100% of the rates for all ages                                       |
| Disabled                                    | PubNS-2010 Disabled Retiree  | 95% of the rates for all ages   |

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**Note 5: Defined Benefit Pension Plan (Continued)**

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

The long-term expected return on plan assets monitored on an ongoing basis and is reviewed as part of periodic experience studies prepared every four years and asset/liability studies performed every three to five years for PERA. The most recent analyses were outlined in the 2024 Experience Study report dated January 3, 2025.

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 percentage 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 November 15, 2019, meeting, and again at the Board's September 20, 2024, meeting. 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:

| Asset Class    | Target Allocation | 30 Year Expected Geometric Real Rate of Return |
|----------------|-------------------|--|
| Global Equity  | 51.00%            | 5.00%  |
| Fixed Income   | 23.00%            | 2.60%  |
| Private Equity | 10.00%            | 7.60%  |
| Real Estate    | 10.00%            | 4.10%  |
| Alternatives   | 6.00%             | 5.20%  |
|                | <u>100.00%</u>    |  |

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

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**Note 5: Defined Benefit Pension Plan** (Continued)

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

*Discount Rate* - The discount rate used to measure the TPL 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, required adjustments resulting from the 2018 and 2020 AAP assessments. Employer contributions also include the current and estimated future AED and SAED, until the actuarial value funding ratio reaches 103%, at which point, the AED and SAED will each drop 0.50% every year until they are zero. Additionally, estimated employer contributions 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.
- Benefit payments and contributions were assumed to be made at the middle of the year.

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**Note 5: Defined Benefit Pension Plan (Continued)**

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

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 TPL. 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 School'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 1-percentage point lower (6.25%) or 1-percentage point higher (8.25%) than the current rate:

|   | 1% Decrease<br>(6.25%) | Current<br>Discount Rate<br>(7.25%) | 1% Increase<br>(8.25%) |
|---|------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------|
| Proportionate share<br>of the net pension liability | \$ 10,209,821          | \$ 7,530,654                        | \$ 5,286,476           |

*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/forms-resources/financial-reports-and-studies](http://www.copera.org/forms-resources/financial-reports-and-studies).

**Note 6: Postemployment Healthcare Benefits (OPEB)**

**General Information about the OPEB Plan**

*Plan description* - Eligible employees of the School 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/forms-resources/financial-reports-and-studies](http://www.copera.org/forms-resources/financial-reports-and-studies).

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**Note 6: Postemployment Healthcare Benefits (OPEB)** (Continued)

**General Information about the 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 over 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.

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**Note 6: Postemployment Healthcare Benefits (OPEB)** (Continued)

**General Information about the 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 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 School is statutorily committed to pay the contributions. Employer contributions recognized by the HCTF from the School were \$34,939 for the year ended June 30, 2025.

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**Note 6: Postemployment Healthcare Benefits (OPEB)** (Continued)

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

At June 30, 2025, the School reported a liability of \$118,533 for its proportionate share of the net OPEB liability. The net OPEB liability for the HCTF was measured as of December 31, 2024, and the total OPEB liability (TOL) used to calculate the net OPEB liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of December 31, 2023. Standard update procedures were used to roll forward the TOL to December 31, 2024. The School's proportion of the net OPEB liability was based on the School's contributions to the HCTF for the calendar year 2024 relative to the total contributions of participating employers to the HCTF.

At December 31, 2024, the School's proportion was 0.0279432566%, which was an increase of 0.0031541447% from its proportion measured at December 31, 2023.

For the year ended June 30, 2025, the School recognized OPEB benefit of \$14,740. At June 30, 2025, the School reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB from the following sources:

|  | Deferred<br>Outflows of<br>Resources | Deferred<br>Inflows of<br>Resources |
|--|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Differences between expected and actual experience                       | \$ -                                 | \$ 26,141                           |
| Changes of assumptions and other inputs                                  | 1,359                                | 37,889                              |
| Net difference between projected and actual earnings on plan investments | 399                                  | -                                   |
| Changes in proportion  | 223                                  | 15,037                              |
| Contributions subsequent to the measurement date                         | 17,567                               | -                                   |
| Total  | \$ 19,548                            | \$ 79,067                           |

\$17,567 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 fiscal year. Other amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB will be recognized as OPEB expense as follows:

| Year Ended June 30, |  |    |          |
|---------------------|--|----|----------|
| 2026                |  | \$ | (23,455) |
| 2027                |  |    | (14,117) |
| 2028                |  |    | (16,949) |
| 2029                |  |    | (10,793) |
| 2030                |  |    | (11,772) |
| Total               |  | \$ | (77,086) |

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**Note 6: Postemployment Healthcare Benefits (OPEB) (Continued)**

**OPEB Liabilities, OPEB Expense, and Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to OPEB (Continued)**

*Actuarial Assumptions* - The December 31, 2023 actuarial valuation used the following actuarial cost method and key actuarial assumptions and other inputs:

|   |             |
|---|-------------|
| Actuarial cost method   | Entry age   |
| Price inflation   | 2.3%        |
| Real wage growth  | 7.0%        |
| Wage inflation  | 3.0%        |
| Salary increases, including wage inflation  | 3.4% - 11.0 |
| Long-term investment rate of return, net of plan investment expenses, including price inflation | 7.25%       |
| Discount rate   | 7.25%       |
| Health care cost trend rates:   |             |
| <i>PERA Benefit Structure</i>   |             |
| Service-based premium subsidy   | 0.00%       |
| PERACare Medicare plans   |             |
| 16.00% in 2024, then 6.75% in 2025, gradually decreasing to 4.50% in 2034                       |             |
| MAPD PPO#2  |             |
| 105.00% in 2024, then 8.55% in 2025, gradually decreasing to 4.50% in 2034                      |             |
| Medicare Part A premiums:   |             |
| 3.50% for 2024, gradually increasing to 4.50% in 2033   |             |
| <i>DPS Benefit Structure</i>  |             |
| Service-based premium subsidy   | 0.00%       |
| PERACare Medicare plans   | N/A         |
| Medicare Part A premiums:   | N/A         |

As of the December 31, 2024, measurement date, the FNP and related disclosure components for the HCTF reflect additional payments related to the disaffiliation of Tri-County Health Department (Tri-County Health) as a PERA-affiliated employer, effective December 31, 2022. The additional employer disaffiliation payment allocations to the HCTF and Local Government Division Trust Fund were \$0.020 million and \$0.486 million, respectively.

Each year the per capita health care costs are developed by plan option. As of the December 31, 2023, actuarial valuation, costs are based on 2024 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 were 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.

The 2024 Medicare Part A premium is \$505 per month.

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

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**Note 6: Postemployment Healthcare Benefits (OPEB)** (Continued)

**OPEB Liabilities, OPEB Expense, and Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to OPEB** (Continued)

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

Health care cost trend rates for the PERA benefit structure are based on published annual health care inflation surveys in conjunction with actual plan experience (if credible), building block models, and 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. PERACare Medicare plan rates are applied where members have no premium-free Part A and where those premiums are already exceeding the maximum subsidy. MAPD PPO #2 has a separate trend because the first year rates are still below the maximum subsidy and to reflect the estimated impact of the Inflation Reduction Act for that plan option.

The PERA benefit structure health care cost trend rates used to measure the TOL are summarized in the table below:

| Year  | PERACare<br>Medicare Plans | MAPD PPO #2 | Medicare Part A<br>Premiums |
|-------|----------------------------|-------------|-----------------------------|
| 2024  | 16.00%                     | 105.00%     | 3.50%                       |
| 2025  | 6.75%                      | 8.55%       | 3.75%                       |
| 2026  | 6.50%                      | 8.10%       | 3.75%                       |
| 2027  | 6.25%                      | 7.65%       | 4.00%                       |
| 2028  | 6.00%                      | 7.20%       | 4.00%                       |
| 2029  | 5.75%                      | 6.75%       | 4.25%                       |
| 2030  | 5.50%                      | 6.30%       | 4.25%                       |
| 2031  | 5.25%                      | 5.85%       | 4.25%                       |
| 2032  | 5.00%                      | 5.40%       | 4.25%                       |
| 2033  | 4.75%                      | 4.95%       | 4.50%                       |
| 2034+ | 4.50%                      | 4.50%       | 4.50%                       |

Mortality assumptions used in the December 31, 2023, valuation for the Division Trust Funds as shown in the following table, reflect generational mortality and were applied, as applicable, in the December 31, 2023, valuation for the HCTF, but developed using a headcount-weighted basis. Note that in all categories, displayed as follows, the mortality tables are generationally projected using scale MP-2019.

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**Note 6: Postemployment Healthcare Benefits (OPEB)** (Continued)

**OPEB Liabilities, OPEB Expense, and Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to OPEB** (Continued)

Affiliated employers of the State, School, Local Government, and Judicial Divisions participate in the HCTF.

|   | Mortality Table              | Adjustments,<br>as Applicable   |
|---|------------------------------|---|
| Pre-Retirement                              | PubT-2010 Employee           | N/A   |
| Post-Retirement (Retiree), Non-Disabled     | PubT-2010 Healthy Retiree    | <p><b>Males:</b> 112% of the rates prior to age 80/94% of the rates age 80 and older</p> <p><b>Females:</b> 83% of the rates prior to age 80/106% of the rates age 80 and older</p> |
| Post-Retirement (Beneficiary), Non-Disabled | Pub-2010 Contingent Survivor | <p><b>Males:</b> 97% of the rates for all ages</p> <p><b>Females:</b> 105% of the rates for all ages</p>  |
| Disabled                                    | PubNS-2010 Disabled Retiree  | 99% of the rates for all ages   |

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, 2023, 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 2024 plan year.
- The health care cost trend rates applicable to health care premiums were revised to reflect the current expectation of future increases in those premiums. A separate trend rate assumption set was added for MAPD PPO #2 as the first-year rate is still below the maximum subsidy and also the assumption set reflects the estimated impact of the Inflation Reduction Act for that plan option.
- The Medicare health care plan election rate assumptions were updated effective as of the December 31, 2023, valuation date based on an experience analysis of recent data.

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**Note 6: Postemployment Healthcare Benefits (OPEB)** (Continued)

**OPEB Liabilities, OPEB Expense, and Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to OPEB** (Continued)

The actuarial assumptions used in the December 31, 2023, valuation 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.

Based on the 2024 experience analysis, dated January 3, 2025, for the period January 1, 2020, to December 31, 2023, revised actuarial assumptions were adopted by PERA's Board on January 17, 2025, and were effective as of December 31, 2024. The following assumptions were reflected in the roll forward calculation of the total OPEB liability from December 31, 2023, to December 31, 2024.

Salary increases, including wage inflation 4.0% - 13.4%

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

- Salary scale assumptions were altered to better reflect actual experience.
- Rates of termination/withdrawal, retirement, and disability were revised to more closely reflect actual experience.
- Participation rates were reduced.
- MAPD premium costs are no longer age graded.

| Plan              | With<br>Medicare Part A | Without<br>Medicare Part A |
|-------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------|
| MAPD PPO #1       | \$ 1,824                | \$ 6,972                   |
| MAPD PPO #2       | \$ 624                  | \$ 4,524                   |
| MAPD HMO (Kaiser) | \$ 2,040                | \$ 7,596                   |

The adjustments for credibility applied to the Pub-2010 mortality tables for active and retired lives, including beneficiaries, were updated based on the experience. Note that in all categories, the mortality tables are generationally projected using the 2024 adjusted MP-2021 project scale. These assumptions updated for the Division Trust Funds, were also applied in the roll forward calculations for the HCTF using a headcount-weighted basis.

**Challenge to Excellence Charter School**  
 (A Component Unit of Douglas County School District RE.1)  
 Notes to Financial Statements  
 June 30, 2025

**Note 6: Postemployment Healthcare Benefits (OPEB) (Continued)**

**OPEB Liabilities, OPEB Expense, and Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to OPEB (Continued)**

Affiliated employers of the State, School, Local Government, and Judicial Divisions participate in the HCTF.

|   | Mortality Table              | Adjustments,<br>as Applicable   |
|---|------------------------------|---|
| Pre-Retirement                              | PubT-2010 Employee           | N/A   |
| Post-Retirement (Retiree), Non-Disabled     | PubT-2010 Healthy Retiree    | <b>Males:</b> 106% of the rates for all ages<br><b>Females:</b> 86% of the rates prior to age 80/115% of the rates age 85 and older |
| Post-Retirement (Beneficiary), Non-Disabled | Pub-2010 Contingent Survivor | <b>Males:</b> 92% of the rates for all ages<br><b>Females:</b> 100% of the rates for all ages                                       |
| Disabled                                    | PubNS-2010 Disabled Retiree  | 95% of the rates for all ages   |

The actuarial assumptions pertaining to per capita health care costs and their related trend rates are analyzed annually and updated, as appropriate, by the PERA Board’s actuary.

The long-term expected return on plan assets is monitored on an ongoing basis and reviewed as part of periodic experience studies prepared every four years, and asset/liability studies, performed every three to five years for PERA. The most recent analyses were outlined in the 2024 Experience Study report dated January 3, 2025.

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.

**Challenge to Excellence Charter School**  
*(A Component Unit of Douglas County School District RE.1)*  
Notes to Financial Statements  
June 30, 2025

**Note 6: Postemployment Healthcare Benefits (OPEB)** (Continued)

**OPEB Liabilities, OPEB Expense, and Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to OPEB** (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, and again at the Board's September 20, 2024, meeting. 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 as presented previously (See Note 5).

Note: 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%.

*Discount Rate* - The discount rate used to measure the TOL was 7.25%. The basis for the projection of liabilities and the FNP used to determine the discount rate was an actuarial valuation performed as of December 31, 2023, and the financial status of the HCTF as of the current measurement date December 31, 2024. In addition, the following methods and assumptions were used in the projection of cash flows:

- Updated health care cost trend rates for Medicare Part A premiums as of the December 31, 2024, 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.

**Challenge to Excellence Charter School**  
 (A Component Unit of Douglas County School District RE.1)  
 Notes to Financial Statements  
 June 30, 2025

**Note 6: Postemployment Healthcare Benefits (OPEB)** (Continued)

**OPEB Liabilities, OPEB Expense, and Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to OPEB** (Continued)

- As of the December 31, 2024, 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. The additional employer disaffiliation payment allocations to the HCTF and Local Government Division Trust Fund were \$0.020 million and \$0.486 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 TOL. 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 School's proportionate share of 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 1-percentage point lower (6.25%) or 1-percentage point higher (8.25%) than the current rate:

|  | 1% Decrease<br>(6.25%) | Current<br>Discount Rate<br>(7.25%) | 1% Increase<br>(8.25%) |
|--|------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------|
| Proportionate share<br>of the net OPEB liability | \$ 145,364             | \$ 118,533                          | \$ 95,488              |

*Sensitivity of the School's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability to changes in the Healthcare Cost Trend Rates* - The following table presents the net OPEB liability using the current healthcare cost trend rates applicable to the PERA benefit structure, ranging from 2.75% to 9.55%, as well as if it were calculated using healthcare cost trend rates that are 1-percentage point lower or 1-percentage point higher than the current rates, as follows:

|  | 1% Decrease | Current<br>Healthcare Cost<br>Trend Rates | 1% Increase |
|--|-------------|---|-------------|
| Proportionate share<br>of the net OPEB liability | \$ 115,340  | \$ 118,533                                | \$ 122,148  |

*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/forms-resources/financial-reports-and-studies](http://www.copera.org/forms-resources/financial-reports-and-studies).

**Challenge to Excellence Charter School**  
*(A Component Unit of Douglas County School District RE.1)*  
Notes to Financial Statements  
June 30, 2025

**Note 7: Commitments and Contingencies**

**Claims and Judgments**

The School participates in a number of federal and state programs that are fully or partially funded by revenues received from other governmental entities. Expenditures financed by these revenues are subject to audit by the appropriate government. If expenditures are disallowed due to noncompliance with program regulations, the School may be required to reimburse the other government. At June 30, 2025, significant amounts of related expenditures have not been audited but management believes that disallowed expenditures, if any, based on subsequent audits will not have a material effect on the overall financial position of the School.

**TABOR Amendment**

In November 1992, Colorado voters passed the TABOR Amendment to the State Constitution which limits state and local government taxing powers and imposes spending limitations. The Amendment is subject to interpretation, but the School believes it is in substantial compliance with the requirements of the Amendment. As required by the Amendment, the School has established a reserve for emergencies, representing 3% of qualifying expenditures. At June 30, 2025, the emergency reserve was reported as restricted fund balance in the General Fund, in the amount of \$245,000.

## **Required Supplementary Information**

**Challenge to Excellence Charter School**  
*(A Component Unit of Douglas County School District RE.1)*  
**Required Supplementary Information**  
**Schedule of Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability and Contributions**  
**Public Employees' Retirement Association of Colorado**  
**School Division Trust Fund**  
**June 30, 2025**

| Measurement Date  | <u>12/31/24</u>     | <u>12/31/23</u>     | <u>12/31/22</u>     | <u>12/31/21</u>     | <u>12/31/20</u>     |
|---|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| <b>Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability</b>   |                     |                     |                     |                     |                     |
| School's Proportion of the Net Pension Liability  | 0.0433267483%       | 0.0433267483%       | 0.0333377006%       | 0.0392998716%       | 0.0456533340%       |
| Net Pension Liability   |                     |                     |                     |                     |                     |
| School's Proportionate Share  | \$ 7,530,654        | \$ 7,661,652        | \$ 6,070,617        | \$ 4,573,470        | \$ 6,901,863        |
| State's Proportionate Share   | <u>676,389</u>      | <u>167,995</u>      | <u>1,769,039</u>    | <u>524,290</u>      | <u>-</u>            |
| Total Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability  | <u>\$ 8,207,043</u> | <u>\$ 7,829,647</u> | <u>\$ 7,839,656</u> | <u>\$ 5,097,760</u> | <u>\$ 6,901,863</u> |
| School's Covered-Employee Payroll   | \$ 3,372,548        | \$ 2,864,288        | \$ 2,570,835        | \$ 2,456,116        | \$ 2,441,813        |
| School's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability as a Percentage of Covered-Employee Payroll | 223%                | 267%                | 236%                | 186%                | 283%                |
| Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total Pension Liability                            | 67%                 | 65%                 | 62%                 | 75%                 | 67%                 |
| <br>  |                     |                     |                     |                     |                     |
| Reporting Date  | <u>6/30/25</u>      | <u>6/30/24</u>      | <u>6/30/23</u>      | <u>6/30/22</u>      | <u>6/30/21</u>      |
| <b>School Contributions</b>   |                     |                     |                     |                     |                     |
| Statutorily Required Contribution   | \$ 698,092          | \$ 640,510          | \$ 539,299          | \$ 497,461          | \$ 480,575          |
| Contributions in Relation to the Statutorily Required Contribution                                    | <u>(698,092)</u>    | <u>(640,510)</u>    | <u>(539,299)</u>    | <u>(497,461)</u>    | <u>(480,575)</u>    |
| Contribution Deficiency (Excess)  | <u>\$ -</u>         | <u>\$ -</u>         | <u>\$ -</u>         | <u>\$ -</u>         | <u>\$ -</u>         |
| School's Covered-Employee Payroll   | \$ 3,425,376        | \$ 3,142,473        | \$ 2,646,285        | \$ 2,502,316        | \$ 2,417,387        |
| Contributions as a Percentage of Covered-Employee Payroll   | 20.38%              | 20.38%              | 20.38%              | 19.88%              | 19.88%              |

This schedule is presented to show information for 10 years.

(Continued)

**Challenge to Excellence Charter School**  
(A Component Unit of Douglas County School District RE.1)  
Required Supplementary Information  
Schedule of Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability and Contributions  
Public Employees' Retirement Association of Colorado  
School Division Trust Fund  
June 30, 2025  
(Continued)

| Measurement Date  | 12/31/19            | 12/31/18            | 12/31/17             | 12/31/16             | 12/31/15            |
|---|---------------------|---------------------|----------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| <b>Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability</b>   |                     |                     |                      |                      |                     |
| School's Proportion of the Net Pension Liability  | 0.0422525671%       | 0.0399526875%       | 0.0456648566%        | 0.0443513783%        | 0.0435081376%       |
| Net Pension Liability   |                     |                     |                      |                      |                     |
| School's Proportionate Share  | \$ 6,312,442        | \$ 7,074,444        | \$ 14,766,391        | \$ 13,205,120        | \$ 6,654,262        |
| State's Proportionate Share   | 800,654             | 2,196,413           | -                    | -                    | -                   |
| Total Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability  | \$ <u>7,113,096</u> | \$ <u>9,270,857</u> | \$ <u>14,766,391</u> | \$ <u>13,205,120</u> | \$ <u>6,654,262</u> |
| School's Covered-Employee Payroll   | \$ 2,482,994        | \$ 2,196,413        | \$ 2,106,465         | \$ 1,990,568         | \$ 1,896,362        |
| School's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability as a Percentage of Covered-Employee Payroll | 254%                | 322%                | 701%                 | 663%                 | 351%                |
| Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total Pension Liability                            | 65%                 | 57%                 | 44%                  | 43%                  | 59%                 |
| Reporting Date  | 6/30/20             | 6/30/19             | 6/30/18              | 6/30/17              | 6/30/16             |
| <b>School Contributions</b>   |                     |                     |                      |                      |                     |
| Statutorily Required Contribution   | \$ 480,483          | \$ 452,043          | \$ 407,218           | \$ 375,265           | \$ 347,700          |
| Contributions in Relation to the Statutorily Required Contribution                                    | <u>(480,483)</u>    | <u>(452,043)</u>    | <u>(407,218)</u>     | <u>(375,265)</u>     | <u>(347,700)</u>    |
| Contribution Deficiency (Excess)  | \$ <u>-</u>         | \$ <u>-</u>         | \$ <u>-</u>          | \$ <u>-</u>          | \$ <u>-</u>         |
| School's Covered-Employee Payroll   | \$ 2,473,078        | \$ 2,362,912        | \$ 2,156,879         | \$ 2,041,567         | \$ 1,961,651        |
| Contributions as a Percentage of Covered-Employee Payroll   | 19.43%              | 19.13%              | 18.88%               | 18.38%               | 17.72%              |

This schedule is presented to show information for 10 years.

## **Challenge to Excellence Charter School**

*(A Component Unit of Douglas County School District RE.1)*

Notes to Schedule of Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability and Contributions  
June 30, 2025

### **Note 1: Significant Changes in Plan Provisions Affecting Trends in Actuarial Information**

#### **2024 Changes in Plan Provisions Since 2023**

- There were no changes made to the plan provisions.

#### **2023 Changes in Plan Provisions Since 2022**

- Senate Bill (SB) 23-056, enacted and effective June 2, 2023, intended to recompense PERA for the remaining portion of the \$225 million direct distribution originally scheduled for receipt July 1, 2020, suspended due to the enactment of House Bill (HB) 20-1379, but not fully repaid through the provisions within HB 22-1029. Pursuant to SB 23-056, the State Treasurer issued a warrant consisting of the balance of the PERA Payment Cash Fund, created in § 24-51-416, plus \$10 million from the General Fund, totaling \$14.561 million.
- As of the December 31, 2023, measurement date, the total pension liability (TPL) recognizes the change in the default method applied for granting service accruals for certain members, from a "12-pay" method to a "non-12-pay" method. The default service accrual method for positions with an employment pattern of at least eight months but fewer than 12 months (including, but not limited to positions in the School and DPS Divisions) receive a higher ratio of service credit for each month worked, up to a maximum of 12 months of service credit per year.

#### **2022 Changes in Plan Provisions Since 2021**

- HB 22-1029, effective upon enactment in 2022, required the State Treasurer to issue, in addition to the regularly scheduled \$225,000,000 direct distribution, a warrant to PERA in the amount of \$380,000,000 with reductions to future direct distributions. The July 1, 2023, direct distribution will be reduced by \$190,000 to \$35,000,000. The July 1, 2024, direct distribution will not be reduced from \$225,000 due to a negative investment return in 2022.

#### **2021 Changes in Plan Provisions Since 2020**

- The following changes reflect the anticipated adjustments resulting from the 2020 automatic adjustment provision (AAP) assessment, statutorily recognized July 1, 2021, and effective July 1, 2022:
  - Member contribution rates increase by 0.50%.
  - Employer contribution rates increase by 0.50%.
  - Annual increase (AI) cap is lowered from 1.25% per year to 1.00% per year.

## **Challenge to Excellence Charter School**

*(A Component Unit of Douglas County School District RE.1)*

Notes to Schedule of Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability and Contributions  
June 30, 2025

### **Note 1: Significant Changes in Plan Provisions Affecting Trends in Actuarial Information** (Continued)

#### **2020 Changes in Plan Provisions Since 2019**

- HB 20-1379, enacted on June 29, 2020, suspended the \$225,000,000 direct distribution payable on July 1, 2020 for the State's 2020-21 fiscal year.

#### **2019 Changes in Plan Provisions Since 2018**

- SB 18-200 was enacted on June 4, 2018, which included the adoption of the AAP. The following changes reflect the anticipated adjustments resulting from the 2018 AAP assessment, statutorily recognized July 1, 2019, and effective July 1, 2020:
  - Member contribution rates increase by 0.50%.
  - Employer contribution rates increase by 0.50%.
  - AI cap is lowered from 1.50% per year to 1.25%.

#### **2018 Changes in Plan Provisions Since 2017**

- The following changes were made to the plan provisions as part of SB 18-200:
  - Member contribution rates increase by 0.75% effective July 1, 2019, an additional 0.75% effective July 1, 2020, and an additional 0.50% effective July 1, 2021.
  - Employer contribution rates increase by 0.25% effective July 1, 2019 for State, School, Judicial, and DPS Divisions.
  - An annual direct distribution of \$225,000,000 from the State of Colorado, recognized as a nonemployer contributing entity, is distributed between the State, School, Judicial, and DPS Divisions proportionally based on payroll.
  - AI cap is lowered from 2.00% per year to 1.50% per year.
  - Initial AI waiting period is extended from one year after retirement to three years after retirement.
  - AI payments are suspended for 2018 and 2019.

#### **2017 Changes in Plan Provisions Since 2016**

- There were no changes made to the plan provisions applicable to the School Division Trust Fund.

## **Challenge to Excellence Charter School**

*(A Component Unit of Douglas County School District RE.1)*

Notes to Schedule of Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability and Contributions  
June 30, 2025

### **Note 1: Significant Changes in Plan Provisions Affecting Trends in Actuarial Information** (Continued)

#### **2016 Changes in Plan Provisions Since 2015**

- There were no changes made to the plan provisions applicable to the School Division Trust Fund.

#### **2015 Changes in Plan Provisions Since 2014**

- There were no changes made to the plan provisions applicable to the School Division Trust Fund.

### **Note 2: Significant Changes in Assumptions or Other Inputs Affecting Trends in Actuarial Information**

#### **2024 Changes in Assumptions or Other Inputs Since 2023**

- Salary scale assumptions were altered to better reflect actual experience.
- Rates of termination/withdrawal, retirement, and disability were revised to more closely reflect actual experience.
- The Pub-2010 Public Retirement Plans Mortality base tables were retained for purposes of active, retired, disabled, and beneficiary lives, with revised adjustments for credibility and gender, where applicable. In addition, the applied generational projection scale was updated to the 2024 adjusted scale MP-2021.
- The estimated administrative expense as a percentage of covered payroll was increased from 0.40% to 0.45%.

#### **2023 Changes in Assumptions or Other Inputs Since 2022**

- There were no changes made to the actuarial methods or assumptions.

#### **2022 Changes in Assumptions of Other Inputs Since 2021**

- There were no changes made to the actuarial methods or assumptions.

#### **2021 Changes in Assumptions of Other Inputs Since 2020**

- The assumption used to value the AI cap benefit provision was changed from 1.25% to 1.00%.

## **Challenge to Excellence Charter School**

*(A Component Unit of Douglas County School District RE.1)*

Notes to Schedule of Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability and Contributions  
June 30, 2025

### **Note 2: Significant Changes in Assumptions or Other Inputs Affecting Trends in Actuarial Information (Continued)**

#### **2020 Changes in Assumptions of Other Inputs Since 2019**

- The price inflation assumption was lowered from 2.40% to 2.30%.
- The wage inflation assumption was lowered from 3.50% to 3.00%.
- The real rate of investment return assumption was increased to 4.95% per year, net of investment expenses from 4.85% per year, net of investment expenses.
- Salary scale assumptions were revised to align with revised economic assumptions and to more closely reflect actual experience.
- Rates of termination/withdrawal, retirement, and disability were revised to more closely reflect actual experience.
- The pre-retirement mortality assumption for the School and DPS Divisions was changed to the PubT-2010 Employee Table with generational projection using scale MP-2019.
- The post-retirement non-disabled mortality assumption for the School and DPS Divisions was changed to 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.
- The disabled mortality assumption for the Division Trust Funds (members other than Safety Officers) was changed to the PubNS-2010 Disabled Retiree Table using 99% of the rates for all ages with generational projection using scale MP-2019.
- The mortality tables are generational mortality tables developed on a benefit-weighted basis.

#### **2019 Changes in Assumptions of Other Inputs Since 2018**

- The assumption used to value the AI cap benefit provision was changed from 1.50% to 1.25%.

## **Challenge to Excellence Charter School**

*(A Component Unit of Douglas County School District RE.1)*

Notes to Schedule of Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability and Contributions  
June 30, 2025

### **Note 2: Significant Changes in Assumptions or Other Inputs Affecting Trends in Actuarial Information (Continued)**

#### **2018 Changes in Assumptions of Other Inputs Since 2017**

- The single equivalent interest rate (SEIR) for the School Division was increased from 4.78% to 7.25% to reflect the changes to the projection's valuation basis which no longer resulted in a projected year of depletion of the FNP, thereby eliminating the need to apply the municipal bond index rate.

#### **2017 Changes in Assumptions of Other Inputs Since 2016**

- The SEIR for the School Division was lowered from 5.26% to 4.78% to reflect the changes to the projection's valuation basis, a projected year of depletion of the FNP, and the resulting application of the municipal bond index rate.

#### **2016 Changes in Assumptions of Other Inputs Since 2015**

- The investment return assumption was lowered from 7.50% to 7.25%.
- The price inflation assumption was lowered from 2.80% to 2.40%.
- The wage inflation assumption was lowered from 3.90% to 3.50%.
- The post-retirement mortality assumption for healthy lives for the School, Judicial, and DPS Divisions was changed to the RP-2014 White Collar Healthy Annuitant Mortality Table with adjustments for credibility and gender adjustments of a 93% factor applied to ages below 80 and a 113% factor applied to age 80 and above, projected to 2018, for males, and a 68% factor applied to ages below 80 and a 106% factor applied to age 80 and above, projected to 2020, for females.
- For disabled retirees, the mortality assumption was changed to reflect 90% of RP-2014 Disabled Retiree Mortality Table.
- The mortality assumption for active members was changed to RP-2014 White Collar Employee Mortality Table, a table specifically developed for actively working people. To allow for an appropriate margin of improved mortality prospectively, the mortality rates incorporate a 70% factor applied to male rates and a 55% factor applied to female rates.
- The rates of retirement, withdrawal, and disability were revised to reflect more closely actual experience.
- The estimated administrative expense as a percentage of covered payroll was increased from .35% to .40%.

## **Challenge to Excellence Charter School**

*(A Component Unit of Douglas County School District RE.1)*

Notes to Schedule of Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability and Contributions  
June 30, 2025

### **Note 2: Significant Changes in Assumptions or Other Inputs Affecting Trends in Actuarial Information (Continued)**

#### **2016 Changes in Assumptions of Other Inputs Since 2015** *(Continued)*

- The SEIR for the State and School Divisions was lowered from 7.50% to 5.26% to reflect the changes to the projection's valuation basis, a projected year of depletion of the FNP, and the resulting application of the municipal bond index rate of 3.86% on the measurement date.

#### **2015 Changes in Assumptions of Other Inputs Since 2014**

- The following programming changes were made:
  - Valuation of the full survivor benefit without any reduction for possible remarriage.
  - Reflection of the employer match on separation benefits for all eligible years.
  - Reflection of one year of service eligibility for survivor annuity benefit.
  - Refinement of the 18-month AI timing.
  - Refinements to directly value certain and life, modified cash refund and pop-up benefit forms.
- The following methodology changes were made:
  - Recognition of merit salary increases in the first projection year.
  - Elimination of the assumption that 35% of future disabled members elect to receive a refund.
  - Removal of the negative value adjustment for liabilities associated with refunds of future terminating members.
  - Adjustments to the timing of the normal cost and UAAL payment calculations to reflect contributions throughout the year.

#### **Subsequent Events**

SB 25-310, enacted June 2, 2025, and effective immediately, allows PERA to accept a series of warrants from the State Treasurer totaling \$500 million (actual dollars) on or after July 1, 2025, and before October 1, 2025. These dollars are to be proportioned over time to replace reductions to future direct distributions intended to fund the Peace Officer Training and Support Fund and, at that time, will be allocated to the appropriate Division Trust Fund(s) within PERA. SB 25-310 also allows for an alternative actuarial method to allocate the direct distribution if the allocation, based on the reported payroll of each participating division, results in an AAP assessment ratio below the 98% benchmark.

**Challenge to Excellence Charter School**  
*(A Component Unit of Douglas County School District RE.1)*  
 Required Supplementary Information  
 Schedule of Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability and Contributions  
 Public Employees' Retirement Association of Colorado  
 Health Care Trust Fund  
 June 30, 2025

| Measurement Date  | 12/31/2024    | 12/31/2023    | 12/31/2022    |
|---|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| <b>Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability</b>                                      |               |               |               |
| School's Proportion of the Net OPEB Liability   | 0.0259200436% | 0.0259200436% | 0.0253342811% |
| School's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability                                    | \$ 118,533    | \$ 118,533    | \$ 206,849    |
| School's Covered Payroll  | \$ 3,372,548  | \$ 2,864,288  | \$ 2,570,835  |
| School's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability as a Percentage of Covered Payroll | 4%            | 4%            | 8%            |
| Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total OPEB Liability                   | 46%           | 46%           | 39%           |
| <br>  |               |               |               |
| Reporting Date  | 6/30/2025     | 6/30/2024     | 6/30/2023     |
| <b>School Contributions</b>   |               |               |               |
| Statutorily Required Contribution   | \$ 34,939     | \$ 32,053     | \$ 26,992     |
| Contributions in Relation to the Statutorily Required Contribution                        | (34,939)      | (32,053)      | (26,992)      |
| Contribution Deficiency (Excess)  | \$ -          | \$ -          | \$ -          |
| School's Covered Payroll  | \$ 3,425,376  | \$ 3,142,473  | \$ 3,142,473  |
| Contributions as a Percentage of Covered Payroll  | 1.02%         | 1.02%         | 0.86%         |

This schedule is presented to show information for 10 years. Until information for the full 10-year period is available, information will be presented for the years it is available.

(Continued)

**Challenge to Excellence Charter School**  
*(A Component Unit of Douglas County School District RE.1)*  
 Required Supplementary Information  
 Schedule of Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability and Contributions  
 Public Employees' Retirement Association of Colorado  
 Health Care Trust Fund  
 June 30, 2025  
*(Continued)*

| Measurement Date  | 12/31/2021      | 12/31/2020      | 12/31/2019      | 12/31/18        | 12/31/17        |
|---|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| <b>Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability</b>                                      |                 |                 |                 |                 |                 |
| School's Proportion of the Net OPEB Liability   | 0.0256598253%   | 0.0264052035%   | 0.0276146182%   | 0.0259694641%   | 0.0259465832%   |
| School's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability                                    | \$ 221,266      | \$ 250,909      | \$ 310,388      | \$ 353,325      | \$ 337,202      |
| School's Covered Payroll  | \$ 2,456,116    | \$ 2,441,813    | \$ 524,290      | \$ 2,441,813    | \$ 2,198,431    |
| School's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability as a Percentage of Covered Payroll | 9%              | 10%             | 59%             | 14%             | 15%             |
| Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total OPEB Liability                   | 33%             | 33%             | 24%             | 17%             | 18%             |
| Reporting Date  | 6/30/2022       | 6/30/2021       | 6/30/2020       | 6/30/19         | 6/30/18         |
| <b>School Contributions</b>   |                 |                 |                 |                 |                 |
| Statutorily Required Contribution   | \$ 25,524       | \$ 24,657       | \$ 25,225       | \$ 24,102       | \$ 22,000       |
| Contributions in Relation to the Statutorily Required Contribution                        | <u>(25,524)</u> | <u>(24,657)</u> | <u>(25,225)</u> | <u>(24,102)</u> | <u>(22,000)</u> |
| Contribution Deficiency (Excess)  | \$ <u>-</u>     | \$ <u>-</u>     | \$ <u>-</u>     | \$ <u>-</u>     | \$ <u>-</u>     |
| School's Covered Payroll  | \$ 2,502,316    | \$ 2,417,387    | \$ 2,473,078    | \$ 2,362,912    | \$ 2,156,879    |
| Contributions as a Percentage of Covered Payroll  | 1.02%           | 1.02%           | 1.02%           | 1.02%           | 1.02%           |

This schedule is presented to show information for 10 years. Until information for the full 10-year period is available, information will be presented for the years it is available.

## **Challenge to Excellence Charter School**

*(A Component Unit of Douglas County School District RE.1)*

Notes to Schedule of Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability and Contributions  
June 30, 2025

### **Note 1: Significant Changes in Plan Provisions Affecting Trends in Actuarial Information**

#### **2024 Changes in Plan Provisions Since 2023**

- As of the December 31, 2024, measurement date, the FNP and related disclosure components for HCTF reflect additional payments related to the disaffiliation of Tri-County Health Department as a PERA-affiliated employer, effective December 31, 2022. The additional employer disaffiliation payment allocations to the HCTF and Local Government Division Trust Fund were \$0.020 million and \$0.486 million, respectively.

#### **2023 Changes in Plan Provisions Since 2022**

- As of the December 31, 2023, measurement date, the fiduciary net position (FNP) and related disclosure components for the Health Care Trust Fund (HCTF) reflect payments related to the disaffiliation of Tri-County Health Department (Tri-County Health) 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.

#### **2022 Changes in Plan Provisions Since 2021**

- The total OPEB liability for the HCTF, as of the December 31, 2022, measurement date, was adjusted to reflect the disaffiliation, allowable under C.R.S. § 24-51-313, of Tri-County Health, effective December 31, 2022. As of the close of the 2022 fiscal year, no disaffiliation payment associated with Tri-County Health was received, and therefore no disaffiliation dollars were reflected in the FNP as of the December 31, 2022, measurement date.

#### **2021 Changes in Plan Provisions Since 2020**

- There were no changes made to plan provisions.

#### **2020 Changes in Plan Provisions Since 2019**

- There were no changes made to plan provisions.

#### **2019 Changes in Plan Provisions Since 2018**

- There were no changes made to plan provisions.

## **Challenge to Excellence Charter School**

(A Component Unit of Douglas County School District RE.1)

Notes to Schedule of Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability and Contributions  
June 30, 2025

### **Note 1: Significant Changes in Plan Provisions Affecting Trends in Actuarial Information** (Continued)

#### **2018 Changes in Plan Provisions Since 2017**

- There were no changes made to plan provisions.

#### **2017 Changes in Plan Provisions Since 2016**

- There were no changes made to plan provisions.

### **Note 2: Significant Changes in Assumptions or Other Inputs Affecting Trends in Actuarial Information**

#### **2024 Changes in Assumptions or Other Inputs Since 2023**

- Salary scale assumptions were altered to better reflect actual experience.
- Rates of termination/withdrawal, retirement, and disability were revised to more closely reflect actual experience.
- The adjustments for credibility applied to the Pub-2010 mortality tables for active and retired lives, including beneficiaries, were updated based on experience. In addition, the mortality projection scale was updated to the 2024 adjusted scale MP-2021 to reflect future improvements in mortality for all groups.
- Participation rates were reduced.
- MAPD premium costs are no longer age graded.

#### **2023 Changes in Assumptions or Other Inputs Since 2022**

- There were no changes made to the actuarial methods or assumptions.

#### **2022 Changes in Assumptions or Other Inputs Since 2021**

- The timing of the retirement decrement was adjusted to middle-of-year.

#### **2021 Changes in Assumptions or Other Inputs Since 2020**

- There were no changes made to the actuarial methods or assumptions.

## **Challenge to Excellence Charter School**

*(A Component Unit of Douglas County School District RE.1)*

Notes to Schedule of Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability and Contributions  
June 30, 2025

### **Note 2: Significant Changes in Assumptions or Other Inputs Affecting Trends in Actuarial Information (Continued)**

#### **2020 Changes in Assumptions or Other Inputs Since 2019**

- The price inflation assumption was lowered from 2.40% to 2.30%.
- The wage inflation assumption was lowered from 3.50% to 3.00%.
- The real rate of investment return assumption was increased to 4.95% per year, net of investment expenses from 4.85% per year, net of investment expenses.
- Rates of termination/withdrawal, retirement, and disability were revised to more closely reflect actual experience.
- The pre-retirement mortality assumption for the School and DPS Divisions was changed to the PubT-2010 Employee Table with generational projection using scale MP-2019.
- The post-retirement non-disabled mortality assumption for the School and DPS Divisions was changed to 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.
- The post-retirement non-disabled beneficiary mortality assumption for the Division Trust Funds was changed to 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.
- The disabled mortality assumption for the Division Trust Funds (members other than Safety Officers) was changed to the PubNS-2010 Disabled Retiree Table using 99% of the rates for all ages with generational projection using scale MP-2019.
- The mortality tables are generational mortality tables developed on a head-count weighted basis.

#### **2019 Changes in Assumptions or Other Inputs Since 2018**

- There were no changes made to the actuarial methods or assumptions.

## **Challenge to Excellence Charter School**

*(A Component Unit of Douglas County School District RE.1)*

Notes to Schedule of Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability and Contributions  
June 30, 2025

### **Note 2: Significant Changes in Assumptions or Other Inputs Affecting Trends in Actuarial Information (Continued)**

#### **2018 Changes in Assumptions or Other Inputs Since 2017**

- There were no changes made to the actuarial methods or assumptions.

#### **2017 Changes in Assumptions or Other Inputs Since 2016**

- There were no changes made to the actuarial methods or assumptions.

#### **Subsequent Events**

Governmental accounting standards require the net OPEB liabilities for financial reporting purposes be measured using the plan provisions in effect as of the OPEB plan's year end. The passage of House Bill (HB) 25-1105 into law is considered a non-recognized subsequent event as these statutory changes to plan provisions did not exist as of the December 31, 2024, measurement date.

**Challenge to Excellence Charter School**  
(A Component Unit of Douglas County School District RE.1)  
Budgetary Comparison Schedule  
General Fund  
For the Year Ended June 30, 2025

|  | Original<br>Budget  | Final<br>Budget     | Actual              | Variance<br>Positive<br>(Negative) |
|--|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|------------------------------------|
| <b>Revenues</b>                        |                     |                     |                     |                                    |
| <i>Local Sources</i>                   |                     |                     |                     |                                    |
| Per Pupil Revenue                      | \$ 5,828,851        | \$ 5,888,934        | \$ 5,971,868        | \$ 82,934                          |
| District Mill Levy                     | 1,254,187           | 1,285,196           | 1,291,631           | 6,435                              |
| <b>Total PPR</b>                       | <u>7,083,038</u>    | <u>7,174,130</u>    | <u>7,263,499</u>    | <u>89,369</u>                      |
| Tuition                                | 8,185               | 8,185               | 4,675               | (3,510)                            |
| Student Fees and Activities            | 288,476             | 295,657             | 322,810             | 27,153                             |
| Investment Income                      | 37,500              | 100,000             | 196,413             | 96,413                             |
| Other                                  | 5,000               | -                   | 21,711              | 21,711                             |
| <b>Total Local Sources</b>             | <u>339,161</u>      | <u>403,842</u>      | <u>545,609</u>      | <u>141,767</u>                     |
| <i>State Sources</i>                   |                     |                     |                     |                                    |
| Capital Construction                   | 213,720             | 213,720             | 212,892             | (828)                              |
| Grants                                 | 324,362             | 332,999             | 114,968             | (218,031)                          |
| <b>Total State Sources</b>             | <u>538,082</u>      | <u>546,719</u>      | <u>327,860</u>      | <u>(218,859)</u>                   |
| <i>Federal Sources</i>                 |                     |                     |                     |                                    |
| Grants                                 | 212,500             | 212,500             | 154,893             | (57,607)                           |
| <b>Total Federal Sources</b>           | <u>212,500</u>      | <u>212,500</u>      | <u>154,893</u>      | <u>(57,607)</u>                    |
| <b>Total Revenues</b>                  | <u>8,172,781</u>    | <u>8,337,191</u>    | <u>8,291,861</u>    | <u>(45,330)</u>                    |
| <b>Expenditures</b>                    |                     |                     |                     |                                    |
| Salaries                               | 3,659,892           | 3,634,473           | 3,575,477           | 58,996                             |
| Employee Benefits                      | 1,389,669           | 1,388,126           | 1,215,264           | 172,862                            |
| Purchased Professional Services        | 262,838             | 292,737             | 325,253             | (32,516)                           |
| Purchased Property Services            | 612,170             | 781,048             | 683,802             | 97,246                             |
| Other Purchased Services               | 727,074             | 740,231             | 661,445             | 78,786                             |
| Supplies                               | 305,511             | 311,979             | 265,969             | 46,010                             |
| Property                               | 609,739             | 621,739             | 164,762             | 456,977                            |
| Other                                  | 186,729             | 206,668             | 48,741              | 157,927                            |
| <b>Total Expenditures</b>              | <u>7,753,622</u>    | <u>7,977,001</u>    | <u>6,940,713</u>    | <u>1,036,288</u>                   |
| <b>Other Sources (Expenditures)</b>    |                     |                     |                     |                                    |
| Proceeds from Issuance of Debt         | -                   | -                   | 25,586              | 25,586                             |
| Transfers                              | (3,000,000)         | (3,122,504)         | (2,855,817)         | 266,687                            |
| <b>Net Change in Fund Balance</b>      | (2,580,841)         | (2,762,314)         | (1,479,083)         | 1,283,231                          |
| <b>Fund Balance, Beginning of Year</b> | <u>4,831,904</u>    | <u>4,874,105</u>    | <u>4,874,105</u>    | <u>-</u>                           |
| <b>Fund Balance, End of Year</b>       | <u>\$ 2,251,063</u> | <u>\$ 2,111,791</u> | <u>\$ 3,395,022</u> | <u>\$ 1,283,231</u>                |

See Accompanying Independent Auditor's Report.

**Challenge to Excellence Charter School**  
(A Component Unit of Douglas County School District RE.1)  
Budgetary Comparison Schedule  
Building Fund  
For the Year Ended June 30, 2025

|   | Original<br>Budget | Final<br>Budget   | Actual            | Variance<br>Positive<br>(Negative) |
|---|--------------------|-------------------|-------------------|------------------------------------|
| <b>Revenues</b>                         |                    |                   |                   |                                    |
| <i>Local Sources</i>                    |                    |                   |                   |                                    |
| Investment Income                       | \$ -               | \$ -              | \$ 5,965          | \$ 5,965                           |
| Loan Proceeds                           | 3,000,000          | 4,000,000         | -                 | (4,000,000)                        |
| Other                                   | 391,054            | 492,071           | 419,268           | (72,803)                           |
| <b>Total Revenues</b>                   | <u>3,391,054</u>   | <u>4,492,071</u>  | <u>425,233</u>    | <u>(4,066,838)</u>                 |
| <b>Expenditures</b>                     |                    |                   |                   |                                    |
| Purchased Professional Services         | 391,054            | 224,205           | 203,871           | 20,334                             |
| Property                                | 6,000,000          | 6,759,799         | 5,371,014         | 1,388,785                          |
| Other                                   | -                  | 100,000           | 6,018             | 93,982                             |
| Debt Service                            |                    |                   |                   |                                    |
| Principal                               | -                  | 177,944           | 177,944           | -                                  |
| Interest and Fees                       | -                  | 314,127           | 255,734           | 58,393                             |
| <b>Total Expenditures</b>               | <u>6,391,054</u>   | <u>7,576,075</u>  | <u>6,014,581</u>  | <u>1,561,494</u>                   |
| <b>Excess of Revenues over Expenses</b> | (3,000,000)        | (3,084,004)       | (5,589,348)       | (2,505,344)                        |
| <b>Other Sources (Expenditures)</b>     |                    |                   |                   |                                    |
| Proceeds from Debt                      | -                  | -                 | 2,718,120         | 2,718,120                          |
| Transfers                               | 3,000,000          | 3,122,504         | 2,855,817         | (266,687)                          |
| <b>Net Change in Fund Balance</b>       | -                  | 38,500            | (15,411)          | (53,911)                           |
| <b>Fund Balance, Beginning of Year</b>  | <u>427,529</u>     | <u>427,529</u>    | <u>238,960</u>    | <u>(188,569)</u>                   |
| <b>Fund Balance, End of Year</b>        | <u>\$ 427,529</u>  | <u>\$ 466,029</u> | <u>\$ 223,549</u> | <u>\$ (242,480)</u>                |

**Challenge to Excellence Charter School**  
*(A Component Unit of Douglas County School District RE.1)*  
Notes to Budgetary Comparison Schedules  
June 30, 2025

**Note 1: Stewardship, Compliance and Accountability**

**Budgets and Budgetary Accounting**

A budget is adopted for the School on a basis consistent with generally accepted accounting principles.

Management submits to the Governing Board a proposed budget for the fiscal year commencing the following July 1, for their approval. The budget includes proposed expenditures and the means of financing them.

Expenditures may not legally exceed appropriations at the fund level. Revisions that alter the total expenditures of any fund must be approved by the Governing Board.

All appropriations lapse at fiscal year-end.