

ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT • FISCAL YEAR 2025

Early County Board of Education

Blakely, Georgia

Including Independent Auditor's Report

Greg S. Griffin | State Auditor

DOAA
Georgia Department
of Audits & Accounts

Early County Board of Education

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Section I

Financial

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DOAA
Georgia Department
of Audits & Accounts

Greg S. Griffin
State Auditor

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

The Honorable Brian P. Kemp, Governor of Georgia
Members of the General Assembly of the State of Georgia
Members of the State Board of Education
and
Dr. Jennifer Brown, Superintendent and Members of the
Early County Board of Education

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Opinions

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

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

Basis for Opinions

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS) and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report.

We are required to be independent of the School District and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

Emphasis of Matter

As described in Note 2 to the financial statements, in 2025, the School District adopted new accounting guidance, Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 101, *Compensated Absences*. The School District restated beginning balances for the effect of GASB Statement No. 101. Our opinions are not modified with respect to this matter.

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Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

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

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

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 and *Government Auditing Standards* will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS and *Government Auditing Standards*, we:

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

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

Required Supplementary Information

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the Management's Discussion and Analysis and required supplementary information listed in the table of contents be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board, who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with GAAS, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

Supplementary Information

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the School District's basic financial statements. The accompanying supplementary information, as listed in the table of contents, is presented for the purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the basic financial statements. The *Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards* is presented for purposes of additional analysis as required by Title 2 U.S. *Code of Federal Regulations* (CFR) Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards*, and is also not a required part of the basic financial statements.

The supplementary information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements or to the basic financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with GAAS. In our opinion, the information is fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the basic financial statements as a whole.

Other Reporting Required by *Government Auditing Standards*

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated March 19, 2026 on our consideration of the School District's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the School District's internal control over financial reporting

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or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the School District's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

A copy of this report has been filed as a permanent record and made available to the press of the State, as provided for by Official Code of Georgia Annotated section 50-6-24.

Respectfully submitted,



Greg S. Griffin
State Auditor

March 19, 2026

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The discussion and analysis of the Early County Board of Education's (School District) financial performance provides an overall review of the School District's financial activities for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2025. The intent of this discussion and analysis is to look at the School District's financial performance as a whole; readers should also review the notes to the basic financial statements to enhance their understanding of the School District's financial performance.

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

Key financial highlights for 2025 are as follows:

- GASB Statement No. 101, *Compensated Absences*, was implemented in fiscal year 2025 and replaced GASB Statement No. 16. This is considered a change in accounting principle that affects the School District's reporting of its compensated absences liability. This change in accounting policy required a beginning balance restatement for the fiscal year 2025. Ending balances for fiscal year 2024 presented inside the Management's Discussion and Analysis section do not show the accounting impact of these restated balances. Additional information may be found in Note 2, Summary of Significant Accounting Policies and Note 13, Restatement of Prior Year Net Position.

- General revenues accounted for $11.6 million in revenue of 40.2 percent of all revenues. Program specific revenues in the form of charges for services and sales, grants and contributions accounted for $17.2 million or 59.8 percent of total revenues of $28.8 million.

- The School District had $28.0 million in expenses related to governmental activities; however, $17.2 million of these expenses were offset by program specific charges for services, grants or contributions. General revenues (primarily taxes) of $11.6 million were adequate to provide for these programs.

- Among major funds, the general fund had $27.2 million in revenues and $26.4 million in expenditures.

USING THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

This annual report consists of a series of financial statements and notes to those statements. These statements are organized so the reader can understand the Early County Board of Education as a financial whole, or as an entire operating entity.

The Statement of Net Position and Statement of Activities provide information about the activities of the whole School District, presenting both an aggregate view of the School District's finances and a longer-term view of those finances. Fund financial statements provide the next level of detail. For governmental funds, these statements tell how services were financed in the short-term as well as what remains for future spending. The fund financial statements also look at the School District's most significant funds. The general fund and capital projects are by far the most significant funds in the case of the Early County Board of Education.

REPORTING THE SCHOOL DISTRICT AS A WHOLE

Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities

While these documents contain the large number of funds used by the School District to provide programs and activities, the view of the School District as a whole looks at all financial transactions and asks the question, "How did we do financially during fiscal year 2025?". The Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities answer this question. These statements include all assets, deferred outflows of resources, all liabilities and deferred inflows of resources using the accrual basis of accounting similar to the accounting used by most private-sector companies. This basis of accounting takes into account all of the current year's revenues and expenses regardless of when cash is received or paid.

These two statements report the School District's net position and changes in those net positions. This change in net position is important because it tells the reader whether, for the School District as a whole, the financial position of the School District has improved or diminished. The causes of this change may be the result of many factors, some financial, some not. Nonfinancial factors include the School District's property tax base, facility conditions, required educational programs and other factors.

In the Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities, the School District has one distinct type of activity:

- Governmental Activities - All of the School District's programs and services are reported here including instruction, support services, operation and maintenance of plant, pupil transportation, food service, after school program, school activity accounts and various others.

REPORTING THE SCHOOL DISTRICTS MOST SIGNIFICANT FUNDS

Fund Financial Statements

Although the School District uses many funds to account for a multitude of transactions, the fund financial statements focus on the School District's most significant funds. The School District's major governmental funds are the general fund and the capital projects fund.

Governmental Funds - All of the School District's activities are reported in governmental funds, which focus on how money flows into and out of those funds and the balances left at year-end available for spending in future periods. These funds are reported using an accounting method called modified accrual accounting, which measures cash and all other financial assets that can readily be converted to cash. The governmental fund statements provide a detailed short-term view of the School District's general government operations and the basic services it provides. Governmental fund information helps you determine whether there are more or fewer financial resources that can be spent in the near future to finance educational programs. The relationship (or differences) between governmental activities (reported in the Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities) and governmental funds is reconciled in the financial statements.

THE SCHOOL DISTRICT AS A WHOLE

The perspective of the Statement of Net Position is of the School District as a whole. Table 1 provides a summary of the School District's net position for fiscal year 2025.

Table 1
Net Position
(In Thousands)

	Governmental Activities	
	Fiscal Year 2025	Fiscal Year 2024 (1)
Assets		
Current and Other Assets	$ 14,219	$ 12,059
Capital Assets, Net	28,131	29,832
Total Assets	42,350	41,891
Deferred Outflows of Resources		
Related to Defined Benefit Pension Plan	6,340	8,549
Related to OPEB Plan	3,266	4,228
Total Deferred Outflows of Resources	9,606	12,777
Liabilities		
Current and Other Liabilities	2,840	2,513
Net Penion Liability	20,687	26,733
Net OPEB Liability	13,401	14,159
Long Term Liabilities		
Due Within Year	594	-
Due in More Than One Year	1,387	-
Total Liabilities	38,909	43,405
Deferred Inflows of Resources		
Related to Defined Benefit Pension Plan	4,918	1,017
Related to OPEB Plan	5,580	6,559
Total Deferred Inflows of Resources	10,498	7,576
Net Position		
Investment in Capital Assets	28,131	29,787
Restricted	3,540	2,702
Unrestricted (Deficit)	(29,122)	(28,803)
Total Net Position	$ 2,549	$ 3,686

(1) Fiscal Year 2024 balances do not reflect the effect of the restatement of balances. See Note 13 in the Notes to the Basic Financial Statements for additional information.

Table 2 shows the changes in net position for fiscal year 2024 and 2025.

Table 2
Change in Net Assets
(In Thousands)

	Governmental Activities	
	Fiscal Year 2025	Fiscal Year 2024 (1)
Revenues		
Program Revenues:		
Charges for Services	$ 280	$ 253
Operating Grants and Contributions	16,894	20,787
Capital Grants and Contributions	-	441
Total Program Revenues	17,174	21,481
General Revenues:		
Taxes		
Property Taxes		
For Maintenance and Operations	8,698	8,837
Other Taxes	78	71
Sales Taxes		
Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax		
For Capital Projects	1,747	1,741
Other taxes	58	76
Grants and Contributions not		
Restricted to Specific Programs	117	-
Investment Earnings	66	35
Miscellaneous	799	987
Total General Revenues	11,563	11,747
Special Item - Sale of Building	-	6,900
Total Revenues and Special Items	28,737	40,128
Program Expenses:		
Instruction	16,733	19,273
Support Services		
Pupil Services	1,468	1,848
Improvement of Instructional Services	738	918
Educational Media Services	427	463
General Administration	1,215	1,703
School Administration	1,759	2,010
Business Administration	220	236
Maintenance and Operation of Plant	2,826	2,999
Student Transportation Services	1,217	1,531
Other Support Services	15	29
Operations of Non-Instructional Services		
Food Services	1,401	1,765
Total Expenses	28,019	32,775
Increase in Net Position	$ 718	$ 7,353

(1) Fiscal Year 2024 balances do not reflect the effect of the restatement of balances. See Note 13 in the Notes to the Basic Financial Statements for additional information.

Governmental Activities

The Statement of Activities shows the cost of program services and the charges for services and grants offsetting those services. Table 3 shows, for governmental activities, the total cost of services and the net cost of services. That is, it identifies the cost of these services supported by tax revenue and unrestricted state entitlements.

Table 3
Governmental Activities
(In Thousands)

	Total Cost of Services		Net Cost of Services	
	Fiscal Year 2025	Fiscal Year 2024 (1)	Fiscal Year 2025	Fiscal Year 2024 (1)
Instruction	$ 16,733	$ 19,273	$ 4,806	$ 4,906
Support Services:				
Pupil Services	1,468	1,848	986	1,209
Improvement of Instructional Services	738	918	264	148
Educational Media Services	427	463	150	170
General Administration	1,215	1,703	345	556
School Administration	1,759	2,010	1,051	1,268
Business Administration	220	236	183	17
Maintenance of Operation of Plant	2,826	2,999	2,198	2,189
Student Transportation Services	1,217	1,531	688	608
Other Support Services	15	29	-	10
Operations of Non-Instructional Services:				
Food Services	1,401	1,765	174	214
Total Expenses	$ 28,019	$ 32,775	$ 10,845	$ 11,295

(1) Fiscal Year 2024 balances do not reflect the effect of the restatement of balances.
See Note 13 in the Notes to the Basic Financial Statements for additional information.

Although program revenues make up a majority of the revenues, the School District is still dependent upon tax revenues for governmental activities. 28.7 percent of instruction activities are supported through taxes and other general revenues. For all governmental activities, general revenue support is 38.7 percent.

The School District's Funds

The School District's governmental funds are accounted for using the modified accrual basis of accounting. Total governmental funds had revenues of $29.0 million and expenditures of $27.2 million.

General Fund Budgeting Highlights

The School District's budget is prepared according to Georgia law. The most significant budgeted fund is the general fund.

During the course of fiscal year 2025, the School District amended its general fund budget as needed. The School District uses site-based budgeting. The budgeting systems are designed to tightly control total site budgets but provide flexibility for site management.

For the general fund, the final budgeted revenues of $26.2 million exceeded the original budgeted amount of $25.9 million by $0.3 million. The actual revenues of $27.2 million were above the final budgeted amount by $1.0 million.

The final budgeted expenditures of $26.5 million exceeded the original budgeted amount of $26.1 million by $0.4 million. The actual expenditures of $26.4 million were less than the final budgeted by $0.1 million.

General fund revenues were greater than the expenditures. The School District has made a concerted effort to raise fund balance in anticipation of future needs, and this result is evidence of their work.

Capital Assets

At the end of fiscal year 2025, the School District had $28.1 million invested in capital assets, net of depreciation, all in governmental activities. Table 4 indicates balances at June 30, 2025.

Table 4
Capital Assets
(Net of Depreciation, in Thousands)

	Governmental Activities	
	Fiscal Year 2025	Fiscal Year 2024
Land	$ 403	$ 403
Construction In Progress	455	-
Building and Improvements	22,810	24,338
Land Improvements	366	386
Equipment	4,097	4,705
Total	$ 28,131	$ 29,832

Long-Term Liabilities

At June 30, 2025, the Board had $2.0 million in long-term liabilities with $0.6 million due within one year.

Table 5
Debt at June 30
(In Thousands)

	Governmental Activities	
	Fiscal Year 2025	Fiscal Year 2024 (1)
Compensated Absences	$ 1,981	$ -

(1) Fiscal Year 2024 balances do not reflect the effect of the restatement of balances. See Note 13 in the Notes to the Basic Financial Statements for additional information.

Current Issues

The Early County School District has faced severe financial challenges in recent years but has remained relatively stable and financially sound. The financial challenges have included rising costs in employee labor/benefits, the continued state formula allotment reductions, a steady decline in student enrollment (FTE), the "ESSER Cliff" and a declining local tax digest.

The School District's fiscal year 2025 (tax year 2024) millage rate is 15.945 mills. The amount of taxes collected per mill is $496,985.

Student enrollment is a factor in the State's education funding formula. According to the State's funding formula, student enrollment is converted to a "Full Time Equivalent (FTE)" count. As student enrollment and FTE decrease so does state funding. The student enrollment for fiscal year 2025 and the three years prior is as follows:

FY 2022	1,637
FY 2023	1,668
FY 2024	1,542
FY 2025	1,482

The School District has reduced the number of faculty and staff through normal attrition and tenured positions to help with the budget shortfall. The School District recognizes its responsibility to the taxpayers in overseeing the spending of state and local funds. The School District is striving to maintain sound fiscal management while emphasizing student achievement.

Contacting the Board's Financial Management

This financial report is designed to provide our citizens, taxpayers, investors, and creditors with a general overview of the Early County School Board's finances and to show the Board's accountability for the money it receives. If you have questions about this report or need additional information, contact Seth Taylor - Chief Financial Officer at the Early County Board of Education, 40 Harold Ragan Drive, Blakely, Georgia 39823.

Early County Board of Education

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EARLY COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
STATEMENT OF NET POSITION
JUNE 30, 2025

EXHIBIT "A"

		GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES
ASSETS		
Cash and Cash Equivalents	$	11,103,569.17
Accounts Receivable, Net		
Taxes		514,577.67
State Government		1,737,818.00
Federal Government		791,978.68
Other		50,149.90
Inventories		20,330.17
Capital Assets, Non-Depreciable		857,713.12
Capital Assets, Depreciable (Net of Accumulated Depreciation)		27,273,602.67
Total Assets		42,349,739.38
DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES		
Related to Defined Benefit Pension Plan		6,339,955.00
Related to OPEB Plan		3,266,039.09
Total Deferred Outflows of Resources		9,605,994.09
LIABILITIES		
Accounts Payable		545,058.50
Salaries and Benefits Payable		2,295,204.65
Net Pension Liability		20,686,789.00
Net OPEB Liability		13,400,840.00
Long-Term Liabilities		
Due Within One Year		594,533.92
Due in More Than One Year		1,386,672.38
Total Liabilities		38,909,098.45
DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES		
Related to Defined Benefit Pension Plan		4,917,809.00
Related to OPEB Plan		5,580,096.00
Total Deferred Inflows of Resources		10,497,905.00
NET POSITION		
Investment in Capital Assets		28,131,315.79
Restricted for		
Continuation of Federal Programs		495,616.36
Capital Projects		3,043,822.35
Unrestricted (Deficit)		(29,122,024.48)
Total Net Position	$	2,548,730.02

The notes to the basic financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

EARLY COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025

EXHIBIT "B"

	EXPENSES	PROGRAM REVENUES: CHARGES FOR SERVICES	PROGRAM REVENUES: OPERATING GRANTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS	NET (EXPENSES) REVENUES AND CHANGES IN NET POSITION
GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES				
Instruction	$ 16,732,797.58	$ 268,893.52	$ 11,656,995.92	$ (4,806,908.14)
Support Services				
Pupil Services	1,467,773.68	-	482,079.89	(985,693.79)
Improvement of Instructional Services	738,208.30	-	474,454.11	(263,754.19)
Educational Media Services	426,606.11	-	276,904.00	(149,702.11)
General Administration	1,214,822.76	-	869,676.05	(345,146.71)
School Administration	1,758,855.73	-	707,879.66	(1,050,976.07)
Business Administration	220,277.25	-	37,002.94	(183,274.31)
Maintenance and Operation of Plant	2,826,270.98	-	628,051.70	(2,198,219.28)
Student Transportation Services	1,217,162.79	-	529,173.13	(687,989.66)
Central Support Services	633.95	-	633.95	-
Other Support Services	14,745.29	-	14,745.29	-
Operations of Non-Instructional Services				
Food Services	1,400,614.10	10,720.21	1,216,125.21	(173,768.68)
Total Governmental Activities	$ 28,018,768.52	$ 279,613.73	$ 16,893,721.85	(10,845,432.94)
General Revenues				
Taxes				
Property Taxes				
For Maintenance and Operations				8,697,852.68
Railroad Cars				78,237.64
Sales Taxes				
Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax				
For Capital Projects				1,747,420.54
Other Sales Tax				57,581.83
Grants and Contributions not Restricted to Specific Programs				117,128.00
Investment Earnings				66,215.96
Miscellaneous				799,042.58
Total General Revenues				11,563,479.23
Change in Net Position				718,046.29
Net Position - Beginning of Year, as Previously Presented				3,686,409.72
Change in Accounting Principle - GASB Statement No. 101				(1,855,725.99)
Net Position - Beginning of Year, as Restated				1,830,683.73
Net Position - End of Year				$ 2,548,730.02

The notes to the basic financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

EARLY COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
BALANCE SHEET
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
JUNE 30, 2025

EXHIBIT "C"

	GENERAL FUND	CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND	TOTAL
ASSETS			
Cash and Cash Equivalents	$ 8,122,911.17	$ 2,980,658.00	$ 11,103,569.17
Accounts Receivable, Net			
Taxes	392,131.83	122,445.84	514,577.67
State Government	1,737,818.00	-	1,737,818.00
Federal Government	791,978.68	-	791,978.68
Other	50,149.90	-	50,149.90
Inventories	20,330.17	-	20,330.17
Total Assets	$ 11,115,319.75	$ 3,103,103.84	$ 14,218,423.59
LIABILITIES			
Accounts Payable	$ 485,777.01	$ 59,281.49	$ 545,058.50
Salaries and Benefits Payable	2,295,204.65	-	2,295,204.65
Total Liabilities	2,780,981.66	59,281.49	2,840,263.15
DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES			
Unavailable Revenue - Property Taxes	264,998.87	-	264,998.87
FUND BALANCES			
Nonspendable	20,330.17	-	20,330.17
Restricted	475,286.19	3,043,822.35	3,519,108.54
Committed	275,596.52	-	275,596.52
Unassigned	7,298,126.34	-	7,298,126.34
Total Fund Balances	8,069,339.22	3,043,822.35	11,113,161.57
Total Liabilities, Deferred Inflows of Resources, and Fund Balances	$ 11,115,319.75	$ 3,103,103.84	$ 14,218,423.59

The notes to the basic financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

EARLY COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
RECONCILIATION OF THE GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS BALANCE SHEET
TO THE STATEMENT OF NET POSITION
JUNE 30, 2025

EXHIBIT "D"

Total fund balances - governmental funds (Exhibit "C")			$ 11,113,161.57
Amounts reported for governmental activities in the Statement of Net Position are different because:			
Capital assets used in governmental activities are not financial resources and therefore are not reported in the funds.			
Land	$	403,213.12	
Construction in progress		454,500.00	
Buildings and improvements		46,733,995.03	
Equipment		13,204,297.76	
Land improvements		2,742,584.94	
Accumulated depreciation		(35,407,275.06)	28,131,315.79
Some liabilities are not due and payable in the current period and, therefore, are not reported in the funds.			
Net pension liability	$	(20,686,789.00)	
Net OPEB liability		(13,400,840.00)	(34,087,629.00)
Deferred outflows and inflows of resources related to pensions/OPEB are applicable to future periods and, therefore, are not reported in the funds.			
Related to pensions	$	1,422,146.00	
Related to OPEB		(2,314,056.91)	(891,910.91)
Taxes that are not available to pay for current period expenditures are deferred in the funds.			264,998.87
Long-term liabilities are not due and payable in the current period and therefore are not reported in the funds.			
Compensated absences payable			(1,981,206.30)
Net position of governmental activities (Exhibit "A")			$ 2,548,730.02

The notes to the basic financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

EARLY COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025

EXHIBIT "E"

	GENERAL FUND	CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND	TOTAL
REVENUES			
Property Taxes	$ 8,774,780.95	$ -	$ 8,774,780.95
Sales Taxes	57,581.83	1,747,420.54	1,805,002.37
State Funds	13,606,670.07	-	13,606,670.07
Federal Funds	3,660,220.89	-	3,660,220.89
Charges for Services	279,613.73	-	279,613.73
Investment Earnings	63,705.79	2,510.17	66,215.96
Miscellaneous	770,292.58	28,750.00	799,042.58
Total Revenues	27,212,865.84	1,778,680.71	28,991,546.55
EXPENDITURES			
Current			
Instruction	16,261,797.68	72,986.07	16,334,783.75
Support Services			
Pupil Services	1,497,484.73	25,404.99	1,522,889.72
Improvement of Instructional Services	759,503.27	-	759,503.27
Educational Media Services	447,889.88	-	447,889.88
General Administration	840,177.20	-	840,177.20
School Administration	1,638,116.73	-	1,638,116.73
Business Administration	227,198.05	-	227,198.05
Maintenance and Operation of Plant	2,318,489.18	74,581.03	2,393,070.21
Student Transportation Services	1,020,934.11	-	1,020,934.11
Central Support Services	633.95	-	633.95
Other Support Services	14,745.29	-	14,745.29
Food Services Operation	1,368,743.10	-	1,368,743.10
Capital Outlay	-	591,355.28	591,355.28
Total Expenditures	26,395,713.17	764,327.37	27,160,040.54
Net Change in Fund Balances	817,152.67	1,014,353.34	1,831,506.01
Fund Balances - Beginning	7,252,186.55	2,029,469.01	9,281,655.56
Fund Balances - Ending	$ 8,069,339.22	$ 3,043,822.35	$ 11,113,161.57

The notes to the basic financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

EARLY COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
RECONCILIATION OF THE GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS STATEMENT OF
REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES
TO THE STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES
JUNE 30, 2025

EXHIBIT "F"

Net change in fund balances total governmental funds (Exhibit "E")		$ 1,831,506.01
Amounts reported for governmental activities in the Statement of Activities are different because:		
Governmental funds report capital outlays as expenditures. However, in the Statement of Activities, the cost of capital assets is allocated over their estimated useful lives as depreciation expense.		
Capital outlay	$ 672,253.27	
Depreciation expense	(2,351,357.76)	(1,679,104.49)
The net effect of various miscellaneous transactions involving capital assets (i.e., sales, trade-ins, donations, and disposals) is to decrease net position.		(21,876.38)
Taxes reported in the Statement of Activities that do not provide current financial resources are not reported as revenues in the funds.		1,309.37
District pension/OPEB contributions are reported as expenditures in the governmental funds when made. However, they are reported as deferred outflows of resources in the Statement of Net Position because the reported net pension/OPEB liability is measured a year before the District's report date. Pension/OPEB expense, which is the change in the net pension/OPEB liability adjusted for changes in deferred outflows and inflows of resources related to pensions/OPEB, is reported in the Statement of Activities.		
Pension expense	$ (63,247.00)	
OPEB expense	774,939.09	711,692.09
Some items 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.		
Compensated absences		(125,480.31)
Change in net position of governmental activities (Exhibit "B")		$ 718,046.29

The notes to the basic financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

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NOTE 1: DESCRIPTION OF SCHOOL DISTRICT AND REPORTING ENTITY

Reporting Entity

The Early County Board of Education (School District) was established under the laws of the State of Georgia and operates under the guidance of a board elected by the voters and a Superintendent appointed by the Board. The School District is organized as a separate legal entity and has the power to levy taxes and issue bonds. Its budget is not subject to approval by any other entity. Accordingly, the School District is a primary government and consists of all the organizations that compose its legal entity.

NOTE 2: SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The accompanying financial statements of the School District have been prepared in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) as prescribed by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB). GASB is the accepted standard-setting body for governmental accounting and financial reporting principles. The most significant of the School District's accounting policies are described below.

Basis of Presentation

The School District's basic financial statements are collectively comprised of the government-wide financial statements, fund financial statements and notes to the basic financial statements. The government-wide statements focus on the School District as a whole, while the fund financial statements focus on major funds. Each presentation provides valuable information that can be analyzed and compared between years and between governments to enhance the information's usefulness.

Government-Wide Statements:

The Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities display information about the financial activities of the overall School District. Eliminations have been made to minimize the double counting of internal activities. Governmental activities generally are financed through taxes, intergovernmental revenues, and other nonexchange transactions.

The Statement of Net Position presents the School District's assets, deferred outflows of resources, deferred inflows of resources and liabilities, with the difference reported as net position. Net position is reported in three categories as follows:

1. **Investment in capital assets** consists of the School District's total investment in capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation.
2. **Restricted net position** consists of resources for which the School District is legally or contractually obligated to spend in accordance with restrictions imposed by external third parties or imposed by law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation.
3. **Unrestricted net position** consists of resources not meeting the definition of the two preceding categories. Unrestricted net position often has constraints on resources imposed by management which can be removed or modified.

The Statement of Activities presents a comparison between direct expenses and program revenues for each function of the School District's governmental activities.

Direct expenses are those that are specifically associated with a program or function and, therefore, are clearly identifiable to a particular function. Indirect expenses (expenses of the School District related to the administration and support of the School District's programs, such as office and maintenance personnel and accounting) are not allocated to programs.

Program revenues include (a) charges paid by the recipients of goods or services offered by the programs and (b) grants and contributions that are restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular program. Revenues that are not classified as program revenues, including all taxes, are presented as general revenues.

Fund Financial Statements

The fund financial statements provide information about the School District's funds. Eliminations have been made to minimize the double counting of internal activities. The emphasis of fund financial statements is on major governmental funds, each displayed in a separate column.

The School District reports the following major governmental funds:

- The general fund is the School District's primary operating fund. It accounts for and reports all financial resources not accounted for and reported in another fund.
- The capital projects fund accounts for and reports financial resources including Education Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (ESPLOST) that are restricted, committed or assigned for capital outlay expenditures, including the acquisition or construction of capital facilities and other capital assets.

Basis of Accounting

The basis of accounting determines when transactions are reported on the financial statements. The government-wide financial statements are reported using the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recorded when earned and expenses are recorded at the time liabilities are incurred, regardless of when the related cash flows take place. Nonexchange transactions, in which the School District gives (or receives) value without directly receiving (or giving) equal value in exchange, include property taxes, sales taxes, grants and donations. On an accrual basis, revenue from property taxes is recognized in the fiscal year for which the taxes are levied. Revenue from sales taxes is recognized in the fiscal year in which the underlying transaction (sale) takes place. Revenue from grants and donations is recognized in the fiscal year in which all eligibility requirements have been satisfied.

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

Governmental funds are reported using the current financial resources measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting. Under this method, revenues are recognized when measurable and available. The School District considers certain revenues reported in the governmental funds to be available if they are collected within 60 days after year-end. The School District considers all intergovernmental revenues to be available if they are collected within 120 days after year-end. Property taxes, sales taxes and interest are considered to be susceptible to accrual. Expenditures are recorded when the related fund liability is incurred. Capital asset acquisitions are reported as expenditures in governmental funds.

The School District funds certain programs by a combination of specific cost-reimbursement grants, categorical grants, and general revenues. Thus, when program costs are incurred, there are both restricted and unrestricted resources available to finance the program. It is the School District's policy to first apply grant resources to such programs, followed by cost-reimbursement grants, then general revenues.

New Accounting Pronouncements

In fiscal year 2025, the School District adopted Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 101, *Compensated Absences*, which supersedes prior requirements under GASB Statement No. 16. The objective of this statement is to better meet the information needs of financial statement users by updating the recognition and measurement guidance for compensated absences. This is achieved by aligning the recognition and measurement guidance under a unified model and by amending certain previously required disclosures. Under the new standard, a liability is recognized when an employee earns leave that carries forward to a future reporting period and is more likely than not to be used, paid out or otherwise settled. The implementation required the School District to reevaluate and revise its recognition and measurement of compensated absences, including applying the “more likely than not” threshold to determine expected usage and payout. This approach is expected to provide a more accurate and complete estimate of the School District’s compensated absences liability. The adoption of this statement had a material impact and has been reported as a restatement of beginning net position. This statement will be applied retrospectively.

In fiscal year 2025, the School District adopted Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 102, *Certain Risk Disclosures*. The objective of this statement is to provide financial statement users with essential information about risks related to a government’s vulnerabilities due to certain concentrations or constraints. The adoption of this statement did not have a material impact on the School District’s financial statements. This statement will be applied prospectively.

Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents consist of cash on hand, demand deposits, investments in the State of Georgia local government investment pool (Georgia Fund 1) and short-term investments with original maturities of three months or less from the date of acquisition in authorized financial institutions. Official Code of Georgia Annotated (O.C.G.A.) §45-8-14 authorizes the School District to deposit its funds in one or more solvent banks, insured Federal savings and loan associations or insured chartered building and loan associations.

Receivables

Receivables consist of amounts due from property and sales taxes, grant reimbursements due on Federal, State or other grants for expenditures made but not reimbursed and other receivables disclosed from information available. Receivables are recorded when either the asset or revenue recognition criteria has been met. Receivables recorded on the basic financial statements do not include any amounts which would necessitate the need for an allowance for uncollectible receivables.

Inventories

Food Inventories

On the basic financial statements, inventories of donated food commodities used in the preparation of meals are reported at their Federally assigned value and purchased foods inventories are reported at cost (calculated on the first-in, first-out basis). The School District uses the consumption method to account for inventories whereby donated food commodities are recorded as an asset and as revenue when received, and expenses/expenditures are recorded as the inventory items are used. Purchased foods are recorded as an asset when purchased and expenses/expenditures are recorded as the inventory items are used.

Capital Assets

On the government-wide financial statements, capital assets are recorded at cost where historical records are available and at estimated historical cost based on appraisals or deflated current replacement cost where no historical records exist. Donated capital assets are recorded at the acquisition value on the date donated. The cost of normal maintenance and repairs that do not add to the value of assets or materially extend the useful lives of the assets is not capitalized. The School District does not capitalize book collections or works of art.

Capital acquisition and construction are recorded as expenditures in the governmental fund financial statements at the time of purchase (including ancillary charges), and the related assets are reported as capital assets in the governmental activities column in the government-wide financial statements.

Depreciation is computed using the straight-line for all assets, except land, and is used to allocate the actual or estimated historical cost of capital assets over estimated useful lives.

Capitalization thresholds and estimated useful lives of capital assets reported in the government-wide statements are as follows:

	Capitalization Policy	Estimated Useful Life
Land	All	N/A
Land Improvements	$ 10,000.00	15 to 30 years
Buildings and Improvements	$ 10,000.00	15 to 40 years
Equipment	$ 10,000.00	10 to 25 years
Intangible Assets	$ 100,000.00	10 to 20 years

Deferred Outflows/Inflows of Resources

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

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

Compensated Absences

Compensated absences payable consists of leave benefits, such as vacation and other forms of paid leave, that employees earned based on services already rendered. Compensated absences are recognized as a liability when the leave accumulates, is attributable to past service, and it is more likely than not that the leave will be used or paid.

The majority of the School District's compensated absences liability is comprised of sick leave.

Sick leave is earned at a rate of 1.25 days per month for eligible employees. Unused sick leave may be accumulated up to a maximum of 75 days. The School District does not provide for payout of unused sick leave upon resignation or retirement; accordingly, the liability represents the portion of accumulated sick leave that is more likely than not to be used by employees during active employment. Members of the Teachers Retirement System of Georgia (TRS) may apply unused sick leave toward retirement service credit. This benefit is administered and funded by TRS; therefore, the related liability is not reported by the School District.

Pensions

For purposes of measuring the net pension liability, deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions, and pension expense, information about the pension plan's fiduciary net position and additions to/deductions from the plan's fiduciary net position have been determined on the same basis as they are reported by the plan. 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.

Post-Employment Benefits Other than Pensions (OPEB)

For purposes of measuring the net OPEB liability, deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB, and OPEB expense, information about the fiduciary net position of the Georgia School Employees Post-Employment Benefit Fund (School OPEB Fund) and additions to/deductions from School OPEB Fund fiduciary net position have been determined on the same basis as they are reported by School OPEB Fund. For this purpose, benefit payments are recognized when due and payable in accordance with the benefit terms. Investments are reported at fair value.

Fund Balances

Fund balance for governmental funds is reported in classifications that comprise a hierarchy based primarily on the extent to which the government is bound to honor constraints on the specific purposes for which amounts in those funds can be spent.

The School District's fund balances are classified as follows:

Nonspendable consists of resources that cannot be spent either because they are in a nonspendable form or because they are legally or contractually required to be maintained intact.

Restricted consists of resources that can be used only for specific purposes pursuant constraints either (1) externally imposed by creditors, grantors, contributors, or laws and regulations of other governments or (2) imposed by law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation.

Committed consists of resources that can be used only for specific purposes pursuant to constraints imposed by formal action of the Board. The Board is the School District's highest level of decision-making authority, and the formal action that is required to be taken to establish, modify, or rescind a

fund balance commitment is a resolution approved by the Board. Committed fund balance also should incorporate contractual obligations to the extent that existing resources in the fund have been specifically committed for use in satisfying those contractual requirements.

Assigned consists of resources constrained by the School District's intent to be used for specific purposes but are neither restricted nor committed. The intent should be expressed by (1) the Board or (2) the budget or finance committee, or the Superintendent, or designee, to assign amounts to be used for specific purposes.

Unassigned consists of resources within the general fund not meeting the definition of any aforementioned category. The general fund should be the only fund that reports a positive unassigned fund balance amount. In other governmental funds, it may be necessary to report a negative unassigned fund balance.

Use of Estimates

The preparation of the financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported in the financial statements and accompanying notes. Actual results may differ from those estimates.

Property Taxes

The Early County Board of Commissioners adopted the property tax levy for the 2024 tax digest year (calendar year) on October 1, 2024 (levy date) based on property values as of January 1, 2024. Taxes were due on December 20, 2024 (lien date). Taxes collected within the current fiscal year or within 60 days after year-end on the 2024 tax digest are reported as revenue in the governmental funds for fiscal year 2025. The Early County Tax Commissioner bills and collects the property taxes for the School District, withholds 2.5% of taxes collected as a fee for tax collection and remits the balance of taxes collected to the School District. Property tax revenues, at the fund reporting level, during the fiscal year ended June 30, 2025, for maintenance and operations amounted to $8,088,534.61.

The tax millage rate levied for the 2024 tax digest year (calendar year) for the School District was as follows (a mill equals $1 per thousand dollars of assessed value):

School Operations	15.945 mills

Additionally, Title Ad Valorem Tax revenues, at the fund reporting level, amounted to $608,008.70 during fiscal year ended June 30, 2025.

Sales Taxes

Education Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (ESPLOST), at the fund reporting level, during the year amounted to $1,747,420.54 and is to be used for capital outlay for educational purposes or debt service. This sales tax was authorized by local referendum and the sales tax must be re-authorized at least every five years.

NOTE 3: BUDGETARY DATA

The budget is a complete financial plan for the School District's fiscal year and is based upon careful estimates of expenditures together with probable funding sources. The budget is legally adopted each year for the general and capital projects funds. There is no statutory prohibition regarding over expenditure of the budget at any level. The budget for all governmental funds, except the various school

activity (principal) accounts, is prepared and adopted by fund, function and object. The legal level of budgetary control was established by the Board at the aggregate function level. The budget for the general fund was prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

The budgetary process begins with the School District's administration presenting an initial budget for the Board's review. The administration makes revisions as necessary based on the Board's guidelines, and a tentative budget is approved. After approval of this tentative budget by the Board, such budget is advertised at least once in a newspaper of general circulation in the locality, as well as the School District's website. At the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board after advertisement, the Board receives comments on the tentative budget, makes revisions as necessary and adopts a final budget. The approved budget is then submitted, in accordance with provisions of O.C.G.A. §20-2-167(c), to the Georgia Department of Education. The Board may increase or decrease the budget at any time during the year. All unexpended budget authority lapses at fiscal year-end.

See the General Fund Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances – Budget to Actual in the Supplementary Information Section for a detail of any over/under expenditures during the fiscal year under review.

NOTE 4: DEPOSITS

Collateralization of Deposits

O.C.G.A. §45-8-12 provides that there shall not be on deposit at any time in any depository for a time longer than ten days a sum of money which has not been secured by surety bond, by guarantee of insurance, or by collateral. The aggregate of the face value of such surety bond and the market value of securities pledged shall be equal to not less than 110% of the public funds being secured after the deduction of the amount of deposit insurance. If a depository elects the pooled method (O.C.G.A. §45-8-13.1) the aggregate of the market value of the securities pledged to secure a pool of public funds shall be not less than 110% of the daily pool balance.

Acceptable security for deposits consists of any one of or any combination of the following:

(1) Surety bond signed by a surety company duly qualified and authorized to transact business within the State of Georgia,

(2) Insurance on accounts provided by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation,

(3) Bonds, bills, notes, certificates of indebtedness or other direct obligations of the United States or of the State of Georgia,

(4) Bonds, bills, notes, certificates of indebtedness or other obligations of the counties or municipalities of the State of Georgia,

(5) Bonds of any public authority created by the laws of the State of Georgia, providing that the statute that created the authority authorized the use of the bonds for this purpose,

(6) Industrial revenue bonds and bonds of development authorities created by the laws of the State of Georgia, and

(7) Bonds, bills, notes, certificates of indebtedness, or other obligations of a subsidiary corporation of the United States government, which are fully guaranteed by the United States government both as to principal and interest or debt obligations issued by or securities guaranteed by the

Federal Land Bank, the Federal Home Loan Bank, the Federal Intermediate Credit Bank, the Central Bank for Cooperatives, the Farm Credit Banks, the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Association, and the Federal National Mortgage Association.

Categorization of Deposits

Custodial credit risk is the risk that in the event of a bank failure, the School District's deposits may not be returned to it. The School District does not have a deposit policy for custodial credit risk. At June 30, 2025, the School District had deposits with a carrying amount of $11,103,449.17, and a bank balance of $11,263,541.79. The bank balances insured by Federal depository insurance were $250,000.00 and the bank balances collateralized with securities held by the pledging financial institution or by the pledging financial institution's trust department or agent in the School District's name were $11,013,541.79.

Reconciliation of cash and cash equivalents balances to carrying value of deposits:

Cash and cash equivalents		
Statement of Net Position	$	11,103,569.17
Less:		
Cash on hand		120.00
Total carrying value of deposits - June 30, 2025	$	11,103,449.17

NOTE 5: CAPITAL ASSETS

The following is a summary of changes in the capital assets for governmental activities during the fiscal year:

	Balances July 1, 2024	Increases	Decreases	Balances June 30, 2025
Governmental Activities				
Capital Assets,				
Not Being Depreciated:				
Land	$ 403,213.12	$ -	$ -	$ 403,213.12
Construction in Progress	-	454,500.00	-	454,500.00
Total Capital Assets				
Not Being Depreciated	403,213.12	454,500.00	-	857,713.12
Capital Assets,				
Being Depreciated:				
Buildings and Improvements	46,721,963.75	12,031.28	-	46,733,995.03
Equipment	13,337,696.77	131,422.99	264,822.00	13,204,297.76
Land Improvements	2,704,455.94	74,299.00	36,170.00	2,742,584.94
Less Accumulated				
Depreciation:				
Buildings and Improvements	22,383,164.60	1,540,314.68	-	23,923,479.28
Equipment	8,633,067.33	739,095.49	264,647.64	9,107,515.18
Land Improvements	2,318,800.99	71,947.59	14,467.98	2,376,280.60
Total Capital Assets,				
Being Depreciated, Net	29,429,083.54	(2,133,604.49)	21,876.38	27,273,602.67
Governmental Activities				
Capital Assets - Net	$ 29,832,296.66	$ (1,679,104.49)	$ 21,876.38	$ 28,131,315.79

Current year depreciation expense by function is as follows:

Instruction		$ 962,656.47
Support Services		
Pupil Services	$ 1,421.00	
General Administration	403,387.41	
School Administration	172,198.42	
Maintenance and Operation of Plant	503,690.64	
Student Transportation Services	225,393.07	1,306,090.54
Food Services		82,610.75
		$ 2,351,357.76

NOTE 6: LONG-TERM LIABILITIES

The changes in long-term liabilities during the fiscal year for governmental activities were as follows:

	Governmental Activities				
	Balance July 1, 2024 (Restated)	Additions	Deductions	Balance June 30, 2025	Due Within One Year
Compensated Absences(1)	$ 1,855,725.99	$ 125,480.31	$ -	$ 1,981,206.30	$ 594,533.92

(1) Net changes in the compensated absences liability are reported as increases or decreases accordingly.

General Obligation Bonds

Of the total amount of bond authorized by the SPLOST resolution, $23,300,000.00 remains unissued at June 30, 2025.

Compensated Absences

Compensated absences represent obligations of the School District relating to employees' rights to receive compensation for future absences based upon service already rendered. This obligation relates only to vested and accumulated leave in which it is more likely than not that payment will be made or the leave will be used, and the amount can be reasonably estimated as of the measurement date. The School District uses the vesting method to compute compensated absences.

For fiscal year 2025, the School District began recording the accumulated compensated absences liability at June 30 in the government-wide financial statements due to the implementation of a new accounting standard. This is a change in accounting principle.

NOTE 7: RISK MANAGEMENT

Insurance

Commercial Insurance

The School District is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to and destruction of assets; errors or omissions; job related illness or injuries to employees; and natural disasters.

Georgia School Boards Association Risk Management Fund

The School District participates in the Georgia School Boards Association Risk Management Fund (the Fund), a public entity risk pool organized on August 1, 1994, to develop and administer a plan to reduce risk of loss on account of general liability, motor vehicle liability, errors and omissions liability, cyber risk and property damage, including safety engineering and other loss prevention and control techniques, and to administer the Fund including the processing and defense of claims brought against members of the Fund. The School District pays an annual contribution to the Fund for coverage. Reinsurance is provided to the Fund through agreements by the Fund with insurance companies according to their specialty for property (including coverage for flood and earthquake), machinery breakdown, general liability, errors and omissions, crime, cyber risk and automobile risks. Reinsurance limits and retentions vary by line of coverage.

Workers' Compensation

Georgia Education Workers' Compensation Trust

The School District participates in the Georgia Education Workers' Compensation Trust (the Trust), a public entity risk pool organized on December 1, 1991, to develop, implement and administer a program of workers' compensation self-insurance for its member organizations. The School District pays an annual premium to the Trust for its workers' compensation insurance coverage. Specific excess of loss insurance coverage is provided through an agreement by the Trust with the Safety National Casualty Company to provide coverage for potential losses sustained by the Trust in excess of $1.0 million loss per occurrence, up to the statutory limit. Employers' Liability insurance coverage is also provided with limits of $2.0 million. The Trust covers the first $1.0 million of each Employers Liability claim with Safety National providing additional Employers Liability limits up to a $2.0 million per occurrence maximum. The Trust currently self-funds aggregate excess insurance as approved by the Department of Insurance annually.

Unemployment Compensation

The School District is self-insured with regard to unemployment compensation claims. The School District accounts for claims within the general fund with expenses/expenditures and liability being reported when it is probable that a loss has occurred, and the amount of that loss can be reasonably estimated.

The School District has not incurred or paid unemployment compensation claims during the past two fiscal years.

Surety Bond

The School District purchased surety bonds to provide additional insurance coverage as follows:

Position Covered	Amount
Superintendent	$ 50,000.00
Each Principal	$ 1,000.00
Bookkeeper	$ 14,000.00

NOTE 8: FUND BALANCE CLASSIFICATION DETAILS

The School District's financial statements include the following amounts presented in the aggregate at June 30, 2025:

Nonspendable		
Inventories		$ 20,330.17
Restricted		
Continuation of Federal Programs	$ 475,286.19	
Capital Projects	3,043,822.35	3,519,108.54
Committed		
School Activity Accounts		275,596.52
Unassigned		7,298,126.34
Fund Balance, June 30, 2025		$ 11,113,161.57

When multiple categories of fund balance are available for an expenditure, the School District will start with the most restricted category and spend those funds first before moving down to the next category with available funds.

NOTE 9: SIGNIFICANT COMMITMENTS

Commitments under Construction Contracts

The following is an analysis of significant outstanding construction or renovation contracts executed by the School District as of June 30, 2025:

Project	Unearned Executed Contracts (1)	Payments through June 30, 2025 (2)
Additions, Renovations and Modifications to Facilities	$ 18,570,000.00	$ 420,000.00

(1) The amounts described are not reflected in the basic financial statements.
(2) Payments include contracts and retainages payable at year-end.

NOTE 10: SIGNIFICANT CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

Federal Grants

Amounts received or receivable principally from the Federal government are subject to audit and review by grantor agencies. This could result in requests for reimbursement to the grantor agency for any costs which are disallowed under grant terms. Any disallowances resulting from the grantor audit may become a liability of the School District. However, the School District believes that such disallowances, if any, will be immaterial to its overall financial position.

Litigation

The School District is a defendant in various legal proceedings pertaining to matters incidental to the performance of routine School District operations. The ultimate disposition of these proceedings is not presently determinable but is not believed to have a material adverse effect on the financial condition of the School District.

NOTE 11: OTHER POST-EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS (OPEB)

Georgia School Personnel Post-Employment Health Benefit Fund

Plan Description: Certified teachers and non-certified public school employees of the School District as defined in §20-2-875 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated (O.C.G.A.) are provided OPEB through the School OPEB Fund - a cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit post-employment healthcare plan, reported as an employee trust fund and administered by a Board of Community Health (Board). Title 20 of the O.C.G.A. assigns the authority to establish and amend the benefit terms of the group health plan to the Board.

Benefits Provided: The School OPEB Fund provides healthcare benefits for retirees and their dependents due under the group health plan for public school teachers, including librarians, other certified employees of public schools, regional educational service agencies and non-certified public school employees. Retiree medical eligibility is attained when an employee retires and is immediately

eligible to draw a retirement annuity from Employees' Retirement System (ERS), Georgia Judicial Retirement System (JRS), Legislative Retirement System (LRS), Teachers Retirement System (TRS) or Public School Employees Retirement System (PSERS). If elected, dependent coverage starts on the same day as retiree coverage. Medicare-eligible retirees are offered Standard and Premium Medicare Advantage plan options. Non-Medicare eligible retiree plan options include Health Reimbursement Arrangement (HRA), Health Maintenance Organization (HMO) and a High Deductible Health Plan (HDHP). The School OPEB Fund also pays for administrative expenses of the fund. By law, no other use of the assets of the School OPEB Fund is permitted.

Contributions: As established by the Board, the School OPEB Fund is substantially funded on a pay-as-you-go basis; that is, annual cost of providing benefits will be financed in the same year as claims occur. Contributions to the School OPEB Fund from the School District were $462,356.09 for the year ended June 30, 2025. Active employees are not required to contribute to the School OPEB Fund.

During fiscal year 2025, the State of Georgia, through the State Health Benefit Plan (SHBP) administered by the Department of Community Health, made an on-behalf contribution in the amount of $270,167.91 for the School District's employees.

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

At June 30, 2025, the School District reported a liability of $13,400,840.00 for its proportionate share of the net OPEB liability. The net OPEB liability was measured as of June 30, 2024. The total OPEB liability used to calculate the net OPEB liability was based on an actuarial valuation as of June 30, 2023. An expected total OPEB liability as of June 30, 2024 was determined using standard roll-forward techniques. The School District's proportion of the net OPEB liability was actuarially determined based on employer contributions during the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024. At June 30, 2024, the School District's proportion was 0.117589%, which was a decrease of 0.011679% from its proportion measured as of June 30, 2023.

For the year ended June 30, 2025, the School District recognized OPEB expense of ($312,583.00). At June 30, 2025, the School District reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB from the following sources:

	OPEB	
	Deferred Outflows of Resources	Deferred Inflows of Resources
Differences between expected and actual experience	$ 657,154.00	$ 2,419,706.00
Changes of assumptions	1,562,596.00	1,326,516.00
Net difference between projected and actual earnings on OPEB plan investments	-	87,236.00
Changes in proportion and differences between School District contributions and proportionate share of contributions	583,933.00	1,746,638.00
School District contributions subsequent to the measurement date	462,356.09	-
Total	$ 3,266,039.09	$ 5,580,096.00

School District contributions subsequent to the measurement date are reported as deferred outflows of resources and will be recognized as a reduction of the net OPEB liability in the year ended June 30, 2026. Other amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB will be recognized in OPEB expense as follows:

Year Ended June 30:	OPEB
2026	$ (960,475.00)
2027	$ (1,090,068.00)
2028	$ (509,086.00)
2029	$ (16,138.00)
2030	$ (180,787.00)
Thereafter	$ (19,859.00)

Actuarial Assumptions: The total OPEB liability as of June 30, 2024 was determined by an actuarial valuation as of June 30, 2023 using the following actuarial assumptions and other inputs, applied to all periods included in the measurement and rolled forward to the measurement date of June 30, 2024:

OPEB:

Inflation	2.50%
Salary increases	3.00% – 8.75%, including inflation
Long-term expected rate of return	7.00%, compounded annually, net of investment expense, and including inflation
Healthcare cost trend rate	6.75%
Ultimate trend rate	4.50%
Year of Ultimate trend rate	2032

The Plan currently uses mortality tables that vary by age, gender, and health status (i.e. disabled or not disabled) as follows:

- For TRS members: Post-retirement mortality rates for service retirements and beneficiaries were based on the Pub-2010 Teachers Headcount Weighted Below Median Healthy Retiree mortality table (ages set forward one year and adjusted 106%) with the MP-2019 Projection scale applied generationally. The rates of improvement were reduced by 20% for all years prior to the ultimate rate. Post-retirement mortality rates for disability retirements were based on the Pub-2010 Teachers Mortality Table for Disabled Retirees (ages set forward one year and adjusted 106%) with the MP-2019 Projection scale applied generationally. The rates of improvement were reduced by 20% for all years prior to the ultimate rate. The Pub-2010 Teachers Headcount Weighted Below Median Employee mortality table with ages set forward one year and adjusted 106% was used for death prior to retirement. Future improvement in mortality rates was assumed using the MP-2019 Projection scale generationally. These rates of improvement were reduced by 20% for all years prior to the ultimate rate.
- For PSERS members: Pre-retirement mortality rates were based on the Pub-2010 General Employee Mortality Table, with no adjustment, with the MP-2019 Projection scale applied generationally. Post-retirement mortality rates for service retirements were based on the Pub-2010 General Healthy Annuitant Mortality Table (ages set forward one year and adjusted 101% for males and 103% for females) with the MP-2019 Projection scale applied generationally. Post-retirement mortality rates for disability retirements were based on the Pub-2010 General Disabled Mortality Table (ages set back three years for males and adjusted 103% for males and 106% for females) with the MP-2019 Projection scaled applied generationally. Post-retirement mortality rates for beneficiaries were based on the Pub-2010 General Contingent Survivor Mortality Table (ages set forward two years and adjusted 104% for males and 99% for females) with the MP-2019 Projection scale applied generationally.

The actuarial assumptions used in the June 30, 2023 valuation were based on the results of an actuarial experience study for the pension systems, which covered the five-year period ending June 30, 2018, with the exception of the assumed annual rate of inflation which was changed from 2.75% to 2.50%, effective with the June 30, 2018 valuation.

The remaining actuarial assumptions (e.g., initial per capita costs, health care cost trends, rate of plan participation, rates of plan election, etc.) used in the June 30, 2023 valuation were based on a review of recent plan experience done concurrently with the June 30, 2023 valuation.

Projection of benefits for financial reporting purposes are based on the substantive plan (the plan as understood by the employer and plan members) and include the types of benefits provided at the time of each valuation and the historical pattern of sharing of benefit costs between the employer and plan members to that point. The actuarial methods and assumptions used include techniques that are designed to reduce the effects of short-term volatility in actuarial accrued liabilities and the actuarial value of assets, consistent with the long-term perspective of the calculation.

The long-term expected rate of return on OPEB plan investments was determined using a log-normal distribution analysis in which best-estimate ranges of expected future real rates of return (expected nominal returns, net of investment expense and the assumed rate of inflation) are developed for each major asset class. These ranges are combined to produce the long-term expected rate of return by weighting the expected future real rates of return by the target asset allocation percentage and by adding expected inflation. The target allocation and best estimates of arithmetic real rates of return for each major asset class are summarized in the following table:

Asset Class	Target Allocation	Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return*
Fixed income	30.00%	2.60%
Equities	70.00%	9.10%
Total	100.00%	

* Net of inflation

Discount Rate: In order to measure the total OPEB liability for the School OPEB Fund, a single equivalent interest rate of 3.98% was used as the discount rate, as compared with last year's rate of 3.68%. The plan's fiduciary net position was projected to not be able to make all future benefit payments of current plan members. Therefore, the municipal bond rate as used for the long-term rate of return was applied to all periods of projected benefit payments to determine total OPEB liability. This is comprised mainly of the yield or index rate for 20-year tax-exempt general obligation bonds with an average rating of AA or higher (3.93% per the Municipal Bond Index Rate). The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed that contributions from members and from the employers will be made at the current level as averaged over the last five years, adjusted for annual projected changes in headcount. Projected future benefit payments for all current plan members were projected through 2123.

Sensitivity of the School District's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate: The following presents the School District's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability calculated using the discount rate of 3.98%, as well as what the School District's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1-percentage-point lower (2.98%) or 1-percentage-point higher (4.98%) than the current discount rate:

	1% Decrease (2.98%)	Current Discount Rate (3.98%)	1% Increase (4.98%)
School District's proportionate share of the Net OPEB liability	$ 15,161,307.00	$ 13,400,840.00	$ 11,916,212.00

Sensitivity of the School District's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability to Changes in the Healthcare Cost Trend Rates: The following presents the School District's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability, as well as what the School District's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability would be if it were calculated using healthcare cost trend rates that are 1-percentage-point lower or 1-percentage-point higher than the current healthcare cost trend rates:

	1% Decrease	Current Healthcare Cost Trend Rate	1% Increase
School District's proportionate share of the Net OPEB liability	$ 11,579,091.00	$ 13,400,840.00	$ 15,639,560.00

OPEB Plan Fiduciary Net Position: Detailed information about the OPEB plan's fiduciary net position is available in the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report, which is publicly available at https://sao.georgia.gov/statewide-reporting/acfr.

NOTE 12: RETIREMENT PLANS

The School District participates in various retirement plans administered by the State of Georgia, as further explained below.

Teachers Retirement System of Georgia (TRS)

Plan Description: All teachers of the School District as defined in O.C.G.A. §47-3-60 and certain other support personnel as defined by O.C.G.A. §47-3-63 are provided a pension through the Teachers Retirement System of Georgia (TRS). TRS, a cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan, is administered by the TRS Board of Trustees (TRS Board). Title 47 of the O.C.G.A. assigns the authority to establish and amend the benefit provisions to the State Legislature. The Teachers Retirement System of Georgia issues a publicly available separate financial report that can be obtained at www.trsga.com/publications.

Benefits Provided: TRS provides service retirement, disability retirement, and death benefits. Normal retirement benefits are determined as 2% of the average of the employee's two highest paid consecutive years of service, multiplied by the number of years of creditable service up to 40 years. An employee is eligible for normal service retirement after 30 years of creditable service, regardless of age, or after 10 years of service and attainment of age 60. Ten years of service is required for disability and death benefits eligibility. Disability benefits are based on the employee's creditable service and

compensation up to the time of disability. Death benefits equal the amount that would be payable to the employee's beneficiary had the employee retired on the date of death. Death benefits are based on the employee's creditable service and compensation up to the date of death.

Contributions: Per Title 47 of the O.C.G.A., contribution requirements of active employees and participating employers, as actuarially determined, are established and may be amended by the TRS Board. Pursuant to O.C.G.A. §47-3-63, the employer contributions for certain full-time public school support personnel are funded on behalf of the employer by the State of Georgia. Contributions are expected to finance the costs of benefits earned by employees during the year, with an additional amount to finance any unfunded accrued liability. Employees were required to contribute 6.00% of their annual pay during fiscal year 2025. The School District's contractually required contribution rate for the year ended June 30, 2025 was 20.78% of annual School District payroll, of which 20.51% of payroll was required from the School District and 0.27% of payroll was required from the State. For the current fiscal year, employer contributions to the pension plan were $2,560,021.00 and $34,562.20 from the School District and the State, respectively.

Public School Employees Retirement System (PSERS)

Plan Description: PSERS is a cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan established by the Georgia General Assembly in 1969 for the purpose of providing retirement allowances for public school employees who are not eligible for membership in the Teachers Retirement System of Georgia. The ERS Board of Trustees, plus two additional trustees, administers PSERS. Title 47 of the O.C.G.A. assigns the authority to establish and amend the benefit provisions to the State Legislature. PSERS issues a publicly available financial report that can be obtained at www.ers.ga.gov/financials.

Benefits Provided: A member may retire and elect to receive normal monthly retirement benefits after completion of ten years of creditable service and attainment of age 65. A member may choose to receive reduced benefits after age 60 and upon completion of ten years of service.

Upon retirement, the member will receive a monthly benefit of $16.50, multiplied by the number of years of creditable service. Death and disability benefits are also available through PSERS. Additionally, PSERS may make periodic cost-of-living adjustments to the monthly benefits. Upon termination of employment, member contributions with accumulated interest are refundable upon request by the member. However, if an otherwise vested member terminates and withdraws his/her member contribution, the member forfeits all rights to retirement benefits.

Contributions: The general assembly makes an annual appropriation to cover the employer contribution to PSERS on behalf of local school employees (bus drivers, cafeteria workers, and maintenance staff). The annual employer contribution required by statute is actuarially determined and paid directly to PSERS by the State Treasurer in accordance with O.C.G.A. §47-4-29(a) and 60(b). Contributions are expected to finance the costs of benefits earned by employees during the year, with an additional amount to finance any unfunded accrued liability.

Individuals who became members prior to July 1, 2012 contribute $4 per month for nine months each fiscal year. Individuals who became members on or after July 1, 2012 contribute $10 per month for nine months each fiscal year. The State of Georgia, although not the employer of PSERS members, is required by statute to make employer contributions actuarially determined and approved and certified by the PSERS Board of Trustees. The current fiscal year contribution was $41,819.00.

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

At June 30, 2025, the School District reported a liability of $20,686,789.00 for its proportionate share of the net pension liability for TRS.

The TRS net pension liability reflected a reduction for support provided to the School District by the State of Georgia for certain public school support personnel. The amount recognized by the School District as its proportionate share of the net pension liability, the related State of Georgia support, and the total portion of the net pension liability that was associated with the School District were as follows:

School District's proportionate share of the net pension liability	$	20,686,789.00
State of Georgia's proportionate share of the net pension liability associated with the School District		276,229.00
Total	$	20,963,018.00

The net pension liability for TRS was measured as of June 30, 2024. The total pension liability used to calculate the net pension liability was based on an actuarial valuation as of June 30, 2023. An expected total pension liability as of June 30, 2024 was determined using standard roll-forward techniques. The School District's proportion of the net pension liability was based on contributions to TRS during the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024.

At June 30, 2024, the School District's TRS proportion was 0.082304%, which was a decrease of 0.008241% from its proportion measured as of June 30, 2023.

At June 30, 2025, the School District did not have a PSERS liability for a proportionate share of the net pension liability because of a Special Funding Situation with the State of Georgia, which is responsible for the net pension liability of the plan. The amount of the State's proportionate share of the net pension liability associated with the School District is $154,627.00.

The PSERS net pension liability was measured as of June 30, 2024. The total pension liability used to calculate the net pension liability was based on an actuarial valuation as of June 30, 2023. An expected total pension liability as of June 30, 2024 was determined using standard roll-forward techniques. The State's proportion of the net pension liability associated with the School District was based on actuarially determined contributions paid by the State during the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024.

For the year ended June 30, 2025, the School District recognized pension expense of $2,678,012.00 for TRS and $35,764.00 for PSERS and revenue of $54,744.00 for TRS and $35,764.00 for PSERS. The revenue is support provided by the State of Georgia. For TRS the State of Georgia support is provided only for certain support personnel.

At June 30, 2025, the School District reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions from the following sources:

	TRS	
	Deferred Outflows of Resources	Deferred Inflows of Resources
Differences between expected and actual experience	$ 2,340,854.00	$ 61,828.00
Changes of assumptions	1,439,080.00	-
Net difference between projected and actual earnings on pension plan investments	-	2,884,185.00
Changes in proportion and differences between School District contributions and proportionate share of contributions	-	1,971,796.00
School District contributions subsequent to the measurement date	2,560,021.00	-
Total	$ 6,339,955.00	$ 4,917,809.00

The School District contributions subsequent to the measurement date for TRS are reported as deferred outflows of resources and will be recognized as a reduction of the net pension liability in the year ended June 30, 2026. Other amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions will be recognized in pension expense as follows:

Year Ended June 30:	TRS
2026	$ (372,518.00)
2027	$ 2,084,436.00
2028	$ (1,727,875.00)
2029	$ (1,121,918.00)

Actuarial Assumptions: The total pension liability as of June 30, 2024 was determined by an actuarial valuation as of June 30, 2023, using the following actuarial assumptions, applied to all periods included in the measurement:

Teachers Retirement System:

Inflation	2.50%
Salary increases	3.00% – 8.75%, average, including inflation
Investment rate of return	6.90%, net of pension plan investment expense, including inflation
Post-retirement benefit increases	1.50% semi-annually

Post-retirement mortality rates for service retirements and beneficiaries were based on the Pub-2010 Teachers Headcount Weighted Below Median Healthy Retiree mortality table (ages set forward one year and adjusted 106%) with the MP-2019 Projection scale applied generationally. The rates of improvement were reduced by 20% for all years prior to the ultimate rate. Post-retirement mortality rates for disability retirements were based on the Pub-2010 Teachers Mortality Table for Disabled Retirees (ages set forward one year and adjusted 106%) with the MP-2019 Projection scale applied generationally. The rates of improvement were reduced by 20% for all years prior to the ultimate rate. The Pub-2010 Teachers Headcount Weighted Below Median Employee mortality table with ages set forward one year and adjusted 106% as used for death prior to retirement. Future improvement in mortality rates was assumed using the MP-2019 Projection scale generationally. These rates of improvement were reduced by 20% for all years prior to the ultimate rate.

The actuarial assumptions used in the June 30, 2023 valuation were based on the results of an actuarial experience study for the period July 1, 2013 – June 30, 2018.

Public School Employees Retirement System:

Inflation	2.50%
Salary increases	N/A
Investment rate of return	7.00%, net of pension plan investment expense, including inflation
Post-retirement benefit increases	1.50% semi-annually

Mortality rates are as follows:

- The Pub-2010 General Employee Table, with no adjustments, projected generationally with the MP-2019 scale is used for both males and females while in active service.
- The Pub-2010 Family of Tables projected generationally with the MP-2019 Scale and with further adjustments are used for post-retirement mortality assumptions as follows:

Participant Type	Membership Table	Set Forward (+)/ Setback (-)	Adjustment to Rates
Service Retirees	General Healthy Below-Median Annuitant	Male: +2; Female: +2	Male: 101%; Female: 103%
Disability Retirees	General Disabled	Male: -3; Female: 0	Male: 103%; Female: 106%
Beneficiaries	General Below-Median Contingent Survivors	Male: +2; Female: +2	Male: 104%; Female: 99%

The actuarial assumptions used in the June 30, 2023 valuation were based on the results of an actuarial experience study for the period July 1, 2014 – June 30, 2019.

The long-term expected rate of return on TRS and PSERS pension plan investments was determined using a log-normal distribution analysis in which best-estimate ranges of expected future real rates of return (expected returns, net of pension plan investment expense and inflation) are developed for each major asset class. These ranges are combined to produce the long-term expected rate of return by weighting the expected future real rates of return by the target asset allocation percentage and by adding expected inflation. The target allocation and estimates of arithmetic real rates of return for each major asset class are summarized in the following table:

Asset Class	TRS/PSERS Target Allocation	Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return*
Fixed income	30.00%	1.50%
Domestic large stocks	46.40%	9.10%
Domestic small stocks	1.10%	13.00%
International developed market stocks	13.60%	9.10%
International emerging market stocks	3.90%	11.10%
Alternative	5.00%	10.60%
Total	100.00%	

* Rates shown are net of inflation

Discount Rate: The discount rate used to measure the total TRS pension liability was 6.90%. The discount rate used to measure the total PSERS pension liability was 7.00%. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed that plan member contributions will be made at the current contribution rate and that employer and nonemployer contributions will be made at rates equal to the difference between actuarially determined contribution rates and the member rate. Based on those assumptions, the TRS and PSERS pension plans' fiduciary net position were projected to be

available to make all projected future benefit payments of current plan members. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments was applied to all periods of projected benefit payments to determine the total pension liability.

Sensitivity of the School District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate: The following presents the School District's proportionate share of the net pension liability calculated using the discount rate of 6.90% as well as what the School District's proportionate share of the net pension liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1-percentage-point lower (5.90%) or 1-percentage-point higher (7.90%) than the current rate:

Teachers Retirement System:	1% Decrease (5.90%)	Current Discount Rate (6.90%)	1% Increase (7.90%)
School District's proportionate share of the net pension liability	$ 35,606,105.00	$ 20,686,789.00	$ 8,508,061.00

Pension Plan Fiduciary Net Position: Detailed information about the pension plan's fiduciary net position is available in the separately issued TRS and PSERS financial report which is publicly available at www.trsga.com/publications and www.ers.ga.gov/financials.

NOTE 13: RESTATEMENT OF PRIOR YEAR NET POSITION

During fiscal year 2025, the School District implemented the provisions of GASB Statement No. 101, *Compensated Absences*, which represent a change in accounting principle. As a result, the School District now recognizes a liability for certain types of accumulated leave that are more likely than not to be used for time off or otherwise paid or settled.

The change was applied retrospectively, resulting in a restatement of beginning net position for governmental activities as of July 1, 2024. The effect of this restatement was a decrease in beginning net position and an increase in the compensated absences liability of $1,855,725.99.

Net Position, July 1, 2024, as previously reported	$	3,686,409.72
Changed in Accounting Principle - GASB Statement No. 101		(1,855,725.99)
Net Position, July 1, 2024, as restated	$	1,830,683.73

NOTE 14: RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

During the year under review, the School District conducted business with a related party: Brown Custom Install Security, which is owned by the School District's Superintendent's husband Harris Brown. Current year expenditures for Brown Custom Install Security totaled $14,353.70.

NOTE 15: SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

In the subsequent fiscal year, the School District issued $10,950,000.00 of general obligation bonds that were authorized in prior years. $12,350,000.00 of general obligation bonds remains unissued.

NOTE 16: CERTAIN RISK DISCLOSURES

In May 2025, the School District was notified that the local Georgia-Pacific paper mill plans to permanently cease operations by August 2025. As of June 30, 2025, the facility accounted for approximately 24% of the School District's total property tax revenue and represented the largest single taxpayer in the School District.

The School District is therefore vulnerable to a concentration of revenue risk related to this taxpayer. Although the facility remained operational as of year-end, the announced closure is expected to result in a substantial reduction in the School District's property tax base beginning in fiscal year 2027.

At this time, the School District is unable to estimate the precise financial impact of the closure. The taxable value of the property may change depending on the continued presence or removal of equipment and the reassessment of the land and improvements.

Management is currently evaluating the potential financial implications and exploring options to mitigate the anticipated reduction in property tax revenue.

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EARLY COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION
SCHEDULE OF PROPORTIONATE SHARE OF THE NET PENSION LIABILITY
TEACHERS RETIREMENT SYSTEM OF GEORGIA

For the Year Ended June 30	School District's proportion of the Net Pension Liability (NPL)	School District's proportionate share of the NPL	State of Georgia's proportionate share of the NPL associated with the School District	Total	School District's covered payroll	School District's proportionate share of the NPL as a percentage of its covered payroll	Plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of the total pension liability
2025	0.082304%	$ 20,686,789.00	$ 276,229.00	$ 20,963,018.00	$ 12,988,107.87	159.27%	80.86%
2024	0.090545%	$ 26,732,773.00	$ 304,100.00	$ 27,036,873.00	$ 13,338,476.72	200.42%	76.29%
2023	0.092494%	$ 30,034,590.00	$ 356,542.00	$ 30,391,132.00	$ 12,642,404.29	237.57%	72.85%
2022	0.094888%	$ 8,392,211.00	$ 71,374.00	$ 8,463,585.00	$ 12,450,761.13	67.40%	92.03%
2021	0.099522%	$ 24,108,124.00	$ 193,791.00	$ 24,301,915.00	$ 12,934,229.29	186.39%	77.01%
2020	0.100362%	$ 21,580,544.00	$ 200,405.00	$ 21,780,949.00	$ 12,362,100.70	174.57%	78.56%
2019	0.106528%	$ 19,773,879.00	$ 130,863.00	$ 19,904,742.00	$ 12,772,232.35	154.82%	80.27%
2018	0.106144%	$ 19,727,189.00	$ 179,720.00	$ 19,906,909.00	$ 12,298,918.04	160.40%	79.33%
2017	0.111765%	$ 23,058,366.00	$ 198,678.00	$ 23,257,044.00	$ 12,359,402.67	186.57%	76.09%
2016	0.115041%	$ 17,513,850.00	$ 121,335.00	$ 17,635,185.00	$ 12,227,403.68	143.23%	81.44%

EARLY COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION
SCHEDULE OF CONTRIBUTIONS
TEACHERS RETIREMENT SYSTEM OF GEORGIA

For the Year Ended June 30	Contractually required contribution	Contributions in relation to the contractually required contribution	Contribution deficiency (excess)	School District's covered payroll	Contribution as a percentage of covered payroll
2025	$ 2,560,021.00	$ 2,560,021.00	$ -	$ 12,484,443.62	20.51%
2024	$ 2,560,798.00	$ 2,560,798.00	$ -	$ 12,988,107.87	19.72%
2023	$ 2,635,683.00	$ 2,635,683.00	$ -	$ 13,338,476.72	19.76%
2022	$ 2,476,647.00	$ 2,476,647.00	$ -	$ 12,642,404.29	19.59%
2021	$ 2,353,112.05	$ 2,353,112.05	$ -	$ 12,450,761.13	18.90%
2020	$ 2,712,501.28	$ 2,712,501.28	$ -	$ 12,934,229.29	20.97%
2019	$ 2,559,896.78	$ 2,559,896.78	$ -	$ 12,362,100.70	20.71%
2018	$ 2,136,375.65	$ 2,136,375.65	$ -	$ 12,772,232.35	16.73%
2017	$ 1,738,287.61	$ 1,738,287.61	$ -	$ 12,298,918.04	14.13%
2016	$ 1,748,621.10	$ 1,748,621.10	$ -	$ 12,359,402.67	14.15%

EARLY COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION
SCHEDULE OF PROPORTIONATE SHARE OF THE NET PENSION LIABILITY
PUBLIC SCHOOL EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM OF GEORGIA

For the Year Ended June 30	School District's proportion of the Net Pension Liability (NPL)	School District's proportionate share of the NPL	State of Georgia's proportionate share of the NPL associated with the School District	Total	School District's covered payroll	School District's proportionate share of the NPL as a percentage of its covered payroll	Plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of the total pension liability
2025	0.00%	$ -	$ 154,627.00	$ 154,627.00	$ 674,486.06	N/A	90.02%
2024	0.00%	$ -	$ 255,570.00	$ 255,570.00	$ 733,270.30	N/A	85.67%
2023	0.00%	$ -	$ 350,524.00	$ 350,524.00	$ 685,227.52	N/A	81.21%
2022	0.00%	$ -	$ 35,730.00	$ 35,730.00	$ 622,771.79	N/A	98.00%
2021	0.00%	$ -	$ 254,025.00	$ 254,025.00	$ 645,080.91	N/A	84.45%
2020	0.00%	$ -	$ 252,915.00	$ 252,915.00	$ 602,236.10	N/A	85.02%
2019	0.00%	$ -	$ 226,056.00	$ 226,056.00	$ 625,186.87	N/A	85.26%
2018	0.00%	$ -	$ 216,467.00	$ 216,467.00	$ 595,634.03	N/A	85.69%
2017	0.00%	$ -	$ 281,158.00	$ 281,158.00	$ 603,095.88	N/A	81.00%
2016	0.00%	$ -	$ 190,721.00	$ 190,721.00	$ 712,531.38	N/A	87.00%

EARLY COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION
SCHEDULE OF PROPORTIONATE SHARE OF THE NET OPEB LIABILITY
SCHOOL OPEB FUND

For the Year Ended June 30	School District's proportion of the Net OPEB Liability (NOL)	School District's proportionate share of the NOL	State of Georgia's proportionate share of the NOL associated with the School District	Total	School District's covered-employee payroll	School District's proportionate share of the NOL as a percentage of its covered-employee payroll	Plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of the total OPEB liability
2025	0.117589%	$ 13,400,840.00	$ -	$ 13,400,840.00	$ 12,089,925.47	110.84%	6.88%
2024	0.129268%	$ 14,159,257.00	$ -	$ 14,159,257.00	$ 12,967,607.93	109.19%	6.05%
2023	0.123229%	$ 12,203,592.00	$ -	$ 12,203,592.00	$ 12,322,828.66	99.03%	6.17%
2022	0.124514%	$ 13,485,896.00	$ -	$ 13,485,896.00	$ 11,342,819.04	118.89%	6.14%
2021	0.130435%	$ 19,157,864.00	$ -	$ 19,157,864.00	$ 11,468,788.79	167.04%	3.99%
2020	0.129764%	$ 15,924,827.00	$ -	$ 15,924,827.00	$ 10,546,356.98	151.00%	4.63%
2019	0.133510%	$ 16,968,711.00	$ -	$ 16,968,711.00	$ 10,659,615.40	159.19%	2.93%
2018	0.132052%	$ 18,553,253.00	$ -	$ 18,553,253.00	$ 10,033,305.23	184.92%	1.61%

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

EARLY COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION
SCHEDULE OF CONTRIBUTIONS
SCHOOL OPEB FUND

For the Year Ended June 30	Contractually required contribution	Contributions in relation to the contractually required contribution	Contribution deficiency (excess)	School District's covered-employee payroll	Contribution as a percentage of covered-employee payroll
2025	$ 462,356.09	$ 462,356.09	$ -	$ 11,092,760.67	4.17%
2024	$ 480,912.00	$ 480,912.00	$ -	$ 12,089,925.47	3.98%
2023	$ 496,961.00	$ 496,961.00	$ -	$ 12,967,607.93	3.83%
2022	$ 445,566.00	$ 445,566.00	$ -	$ 12,322,828.66	3.62%
2021	$ 463,171.00	$ 463,171.00	$ -	$ 11,342,819.04	4.08%
2020	$ 441,099.29	$ 441,099.29	$ -	$ 11,468,788.79	3.85%
2019	$ 698,870.00	$ 698,870.00	$ -	$ 10,546,356.98	6.63%
2018	$ 694,346.00	$ 694,346.00	$ -	$ 10,659,615.40	6.51%

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

Teachers Retirement System

Change of benefit terms: There have been no changes in benefit terms.

Changes of assumptions: On November 18, 2015, the Board adopted recommended changes to the economic and demographic assumptions utilized by the System. Primary among the changes were the updates to rates of mortality, retirement, disability, withdrawal and salary increases. The expectation of retired life mortality was changed to RP-2000 White Collar Mortality Table with future mortality improvement projected to 2025 with the Society of Actuaries' projection scale BB (set forward one year for males).

On May 15, 2019, the Board adopted recommended changes from the smoothed valuation interest rate methodology that has been in effect since June 30, 2009, to a constant interest rate method. In conjunction with the methodology, the long-term assumed rate of return in assets (discount rate) has been changed from 7.50% to 7.25%, and the assumed annual rate of inflation has been reduced from 2.75% to 2.50%.

In 2019 and later, the expectation of retired life mortality was changed to the Pub-2010 Teacher Headcount Weighted Below Median Healthy Retiree mortality table from the RP-2000 Mortality Tables. In 2019, rates of withdrawal, retirement, disability and mortality were adjusted to more closely reflect actual experience.

On May 11, 2022, the Board adopted recommended changes to the long-term assumed rate of return and payroll growth assumption utilized by the System. The long-term assumed rate of return was changed from 7.25% to 6.90%, and the payroll growth assumption was changed from 3.00% to 2.50%.

Public School Employees Retirement System

Changes of benefit terms: There have been no changes in benefit terms.

Changes of assumptions: On December 17, 2015, the Board adopted recommended changes to the economic and demographic assumptions utilized by the System. Primary among the changes were the updates to rates of mortality, retirement and withdrawal. The expectation of retired life mortality was changed to the RP-2000 Blue Collar Mortality Table projected to 2025 with projection scale BB (set forward 3 years for males and 2 years for females).

A new funding policy was initially adopted by the Board on March 15, 2018, and most recently amended on December 17, 2020. Because of this new funding policy, the assumed investment rate of return was reduced from 7.50% to 7.40% for the June 30, 2017 actuarial valuation and further reduced from 7.40% to 7.30% for the June 30, 2018 actuarial valuation.

On December 17, 2020, the Board adopted recommended changes to the economic and demographic assumptions utilized by the System based on the experience study prepared for the five-year period ending June 30, 2019. Primary among the changes were the updates to rates or mortality, retirement, disability, and withdrawal. This also included a change to the long-term assumed investment rate of return to 7.00%. These assumption changes are reflected in the calculation of the June 30, 2021 Total Pension Liability.

School OPEB Fund

Changes of benefit terms: There have been no changes in benefit terms.

Changes in assumptions: June 30, 2023 valuation: Medicare health care trend rates were updated.
June 30, 2022 valuation: The tobacco use assumption and aging factors were revised.

June 30, 2020 valuation: Decremental assumptions were changed to reflect the Employees' Retirement System's experience study. Approximately 0.10% of employees are members of the Employees' Retirement System.

June 30, 2019 valuation: Decremental assumptions were changed to reflect the Teachers Retirement System's experience study.

June 30, 2018 valuation: The inflation assumption was lowered from 2.75% to 2.50%.

June 30, 2017 valuation: The participation assumption, tobacco use assumption and morbidity factors were revised.

June 30, 2015 valuation: Decremental and underlying inflation assumptions were changed to reflect the Retirement Systems' experience studies.

June 30, 2012 valuation: A data audit was performed and data collection procedures and assumptions were changed.

The discount rate was updated from 3.07% as of June 30, 2016 to 3.58% as of June 30, 2017, to 3.87% as of June 30, 2018, back to 3.58% as of June 30, 2019, to 2.22% as of June 30, 2020, to 2.20% as of June 30, 2021, to 3.57% as of June 30, 2022, to 3.68% as of June 30, 2023, and to 3.98% as of June 30, 2024.

EARLY COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
GENERAL FUND
SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES
BUDGET AND ACTUAL
YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025

	NONAPPROPRIATED BUDGETS		ACTUAL	VARIANCE
	ORIGINAL (1)	FINAL (1)	AMOUNTS	OVER/UNDER
REVENUES				
Property Taxes	$ 8,870,524.00	$ 8,787,330.00	$ 8,774,780.95	$ (12,549.05)
Sales Taxes	64,000.00	64,000.00	57,581.83	(6,418.17)
State Funds	13,209,601.75	13,209,601.75	13,606,670.07	397,068.32
Federal Funds	3,628,962.00	4,032,933.00	3,660,220.89	(372,712.11)
Charges for Services	14,500.00	14,500.00	279,613.73	265,113.73
Investment Earnings	12,000.00	12,000.00	63,705.79	51,705.79
Miscellaneous	129,500.00	129,500.00	770,292.58	640,792.58
Total Revenues	25,929,087.75	26,249,864.75	27,212,865.84	963,001.09
EXPENDITURES				
Current				
Instruction	15,828,860.75	16,076,941.75	16,261,797.68	(184,855.93)
Support Services				
Pupil Services	1,411,609.00	1,468,325.00	1,497,484.73	(29,159.73)
Improvement of Instructional Services	825,147.00	907,868.00	759,503.27	148,364.73
Educational Media Services	490,000.00	490,000.00	447,889.88	42,110.12
General Administration	766,942.00	781,195.00	840,177.20	(58,982.20)
School Administration	1,716,000.00	1,716,000.00	1,638,116.73	77,883.27
Business Administration	227,777.00	227,777.00	227,198.05	578.95
Maintenance and Operation of Plant	2,141,372.00	2,141,372.00	2,318,489.18	(177,117.18)
Student Transportation Services	1,171,000.00	1,173,200.00	1,020,934.11	152,265.89
Central Support Services	1,000.00	1,000.00	633.95	366.05
Other Support Services	24,700.00	24,700.00	14,745.29	9,954.71
Food Services Operation	1,531,440.50	1,531,440.50	1,368,743.10	162,697.40
Total Expenditures	26,135,848.25	26,539,819.25	26,395,713.17	144,106.08
Net Change in Fund Balances	(206,760.50)	(289,954.50)	817,152.67	1,107,107.17
Fund Balances - Beginning	7,203,138.59	7,203,138.59	7,252,186.55	49,047.96
Adjustments	22,617.84	14,323.00	-	(14,323.00)
Fund Balances - Ending	$ 7,018,995.93	$ 6,927,507.09	$ 8,069,339.22	$ 1,141,832.13

Notes to the Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances Budget and Actual

(1) Original and Final Budget amounts do not include the budgeted revenues or expenditures of the various principal accounts. The actual revenues and expenditures of the various principal accounts are $640,277.25 and $623,631.33, respectively.

The accompanying schedule of revenues, expenditures and changes in fund balances budget and actual is presented on the modified accrual basis of accounting which is the basis of accounting used in the presentation of the fund financial statements.

FUNDING AGENCY PROGRAM/GRANT	ASSISTANCE LISTING NUMBER	PASS-THROUGH ENTITY ID NUMBER	EXPENDITURES IN PERIOD
Agriculture, U.S. Department of			
Child Nutrition Cluster			
Pass-Through From Georgia Department of Education			
Food Services			
School Breakfast Program	10.553	255GA324N1199	$ 301,196.20
National School Lunch Program	10.555	255GA324N1199	1,000,283.26
Total Child Nutrition Cluster			1,301,479.46
Other Programs			
Pass-Through From Georgia Department of Education			
Food Services			
State Administrative Expenses for Child Nutrition	10.560	255GA904N2533	3,044.04
Total U.S. Department of Agriculture			1,304,523.50
Education, U.S. Department of			
Education Stabilization Fund			
Pass-Through From Georgia Department of Education			
COVID-19 - American Rescue Plan Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund	84.425U	S425U210012	369,426.59
COVID-19 - American Rescue Plan Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund - Homeless Children and Youth	84.425W	S425W210011	16,200.81
Total Education Stabilization Fund			385,627.40
Special Education Cluster			
Pass-Through From Georgia Department of Education			
Special Education			
Grants to States	84.027A	H027A230073	19,692.00
Grants to States	84.027A	H027A240073	390,600.38
COVID-19 - American Rescue Plan - Grants to States	84.027X	H027X220073	35,000.00
Preschool Grants	84.173A	H173A240081	27,378.25
Total Special Education Cluster			472,670.63
Other Programs			
Direct			
School Safety National Activities	84.184A		101,156.41
Pass-Through From Georgia Department of Education			
Career and Technical Education - Basic Grants to States	84.048A	V048A240010	42,346.90
Rural and Low-Income School Program	84.358B	S358B230010	8,641.00
Rural and Low-Income School Program	84.358B	S358B240010	53,796.81
Student Support and Academic Enrichment Program	84.424A	S424A230011	5,509.00
Student Support and Academic Enrichment Program	84.424A	S424A240011	77,684.68
Supporting Effective Instruction State Grants	84.367A	S367A230001	96,716.00
Supporting Effective Instruction State Grants	84.367A	S367A240001	35,763.84
Title I Grants to Local Educational Agencies	84.010A	S010A230010	236,785.00
Title I Grants to Local Educational Agencies	84.010A	S010A240010	995,814.20
Total Other Programs			1,654,213.84
Total U.S. Department of Education			2,512,511.87
Total Expenditures of Federal Awards			$ 3,817,035.37

Notes to the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards

Note 1. Basis of Presentation

The accompanying schedule of expenditures of federal awards (the "Schedule") includes the federal award activity of the Early County Board of Education (the "Board") under programs of the federal government for the year ended June 30, 2025. The information in this Schedule is presented in accordance with the requirements of Title 2 U.S. *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (Uniform Guidance). Because the Schedule presents only a selected portion of the operations of the Board, it is not intended to and does not present the financial position or changes in net position of the Board.

Note 2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Expenditures reported on the Schedule are reported on the modified accrual basis of accounting. Such expenditures are recognized following the cost principles contained in the Uniform Guidance, wherein certain types of expenditures are not allowable or are limited as to reimbursement.

Note 3. Indirect Cost Rate

The Board has elected not to use the 10-percent de minimis indirect cost rate as allowed under the Uniform Guidance.

Note 4. Schoolwide Consolidation of Funds

Federal, state, and local funds were consolidated into one fund to support Title I schools operating a schoolwide program. The following federal programs and amounts were included in this schoolwide consolidation of funds:

ALN	Program Name		Amount
84.010A	Title I Grants to Local Educational Agencies	$	130,892.99
84.358B	Rural Education - Rural and Low-Income School Program		489.45
84.367A	Supporting Effective Instruction State Grants (formerly Improving Teacher Quality State Grants)		7,957.06
84.424A	Student Support and Academic Enrichment Program		503.44
	Total Federal Funds in Schoolwide Consolidation of Funds	$	139,842.94

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AGENCY/FUNDING	GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPE GENERAL FUND
GRANTS	
Bright From the Start:	
Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning	
Pre-Kindergarten Program	$ 350,760.60
Education, Georgia Department of	
Quality Basic Education	
Direct Instructional Cost	
Kindergarten Program	310,651.00
Kindergarten Program - Early Intervention Program	452,837.00
Primary Grades (1-3) Program	877,072.00
Primary Grades - Early Intervention (1-3) Program	877,029.00
Upper Elementary Grades (4-5) Program	460,495.00
Upper Elementary Grades - Early Intervention (4-5) Program	409,829.00
Middle School (6-8) Program	1,399,592.00
High School General Education (9-12) Program	1,126,908.00
Vocational Laboratory (9-12) Program	653,960.00
Students with Disabilities	2,160,885.00
Gifted Student - Category VI	506,674.00
Remedial Education Program	529,245.00
Alternative Education Program	109,836.00
English Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL)	15,570.00
Media Center Program	231,202.00
20 Days Additional Instruction	74,784.00
Staff and Professional Development	36,517.00
Principal Staff and Professional Development	973.00
Indirect Cost	
Central Administration	552,120.00
School Administration	590,098.00
Facility Maintenance and Operations	354,469.00
Mid-Term Adjustment Hold-Harmless	140,048.00
Categorical Grants	
Pupil Transportation	
Regular	476,780.00
Nursing Services	45,000.00
Education Equalization Funding Grant	117,128.00
Other State Programs	
Custodian Supplement	14,000.00
Dyslexia Service Grant	3,939.00
Food Services	47,976.36
Hygiene Products	1,400.00
Math and Science Supplements	14,593.00
Preschool Disability Services	20,531.00
School Security Grant	141,372.00
Teachers Retirement	34,562.20
Vocational Education	155,847.00
Office of the State Treasurer	
Public School Employees Retirement	41,819.00
Community Health, Georgia Department of	
Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB)	270,167.91
	$ 13,606,670.07

See notes to the basic financial statements.

EARLY COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
SCHEDULE OF APPROVED LOCAL OPTION SALES TAX PROJECTS
YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025

SCHEDULE "10"

PROJECT	ORIGINAL ESTIMATED COST (1)	CURRENT ESTIMATED COSTS (2)	ESTIMATED COMPLETION DATE
Adding to, renovating, repairing, improving and equipping existing school buildings and other buildings/facilities; and planning for new school construction including design and engineering cost, and cost of acquiring necessary land;	$ 2,500,000.00	$ 2,500,000.00	12/1/2027
Acquiring instructional materials, books, and textbooks;	250,000.00	250,000.00	12/1/2027
Acquiring technology, safety, security, athletic and muscial equipment, including band uniforms;	750,000.00	750,000.00	12/1/2027
Acquiring, constructing, and equipping athletic facilities; and	250,000.00	250,000.00	12/1/2027
Acquiring maintenance vehicles/equipment and school buses.	250,000.00	250,000.00	12/1/2027
Total	$ 4,000,000.00	$ 4,000,000.00	

EARLY COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
SCHEDULE OF APPROVED LOCAL OPTION SALES TAX PROJECTS
YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025

PROJECT	AMOUNT EXPENDED IN CURRENT YEAR (3)	AMOUNT EXPENDED IN PRIOR YEARS (3)	TOTAL COMPLETION COST	EXCESS PROCEEDS NOT EXPENDED
Adding to, renovating, repairing, improving and equipping existing school buildings and other buildings/facilities; and planning for new school construction including design and engineering cost, and cost of acquiring necessary land;	$ 556,962.31	$ 1,091,833.82	$ -	$ -
Acquiring instructional materials, books, and textbooks;	58,681.49	116,366.91	-	-
Acquiring technology, safety, security, athletic and muscial equipment, including band uniforms;	74,384.57	189,127.60	-	-
Acquiring, constructing, and equipping athletic facilities; and	74,299.00	18,600.79	-	-
Acquiring maintenance vehicles/equipment and school buses.	-	207,891.05	-	-
Total	$ 764,327.37	$ 1,623,820.17	$ -	$ -

(1) The School District's original cost estimate as specified in the resolution calling for the imposition of the Local Option Sales Tax.
(2) The School District's current estimate of total cost for the projects. Includes all cost from project inception to completion.
(3) The voters of Early County approved the imposition of a 1% sales tax to fund the above projects and retire associated debt. Amounts expended for these projects may include sales tax proceeds, state, local property taxes and/or other funds over the life of the projects.

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Section II

Compliance and Internal Control Reports

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DOAA
Georgia Department
of Audits & Accounts

Greg S. Griffin
State Auditor

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

The Honorable Brian P. Kemp, Governor of Georgia
Members of the General Assembly of the State of Georgia
Members of the State Board of Education
and
Dr. Jennifer Brown, Superintendent and Members of the
Early County Board of Education

We have audited the financial statements of the governmental activities and each major fund of the Early County Board of Education (School District) as of and for the year ended June 30, 2025, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the School District's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated March 19, 2026. We conducted our audit in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS) and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States.

Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting

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

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

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

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Report on Compliance and Other Matters

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

Purpose of this Report

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

Respectfully submitted,



Greg S. Griffin
State Auditor

March 19, 2026

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DOAA
Georgia Department
of Audits & Accounts

Greg S. Griffin
State Auditor

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

The Honorable Brian P. Kemp, Governor of Georgia
Members of the General Assembly of the State of Georgia
Members of the State Board of Education
and
Dr. Jennifer Brown, Superintendent and Members of the
Early County Board of Education

Report on Compliance for Each Major Federal Program

Opinion on Each Major Federal Program

We have audited the Early County Board of Education's (School District) compliance with the types of compliance requirements identified as subject to audit in the *OMB Compliance Supplement* that could have a direct and material effect on each of the School District's major federal programs for the year ended June 30, 2025. The School District's major federal programs are identified in the *Summary of Auditor's Results* section of the accompanying *Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs*.

In our opinion, the School District complied, in all material respects, with the types of compliance requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on each of its major federal programs for the year ended June 30, 2025.

Basis for Opinion on Each Major Federal Program

We conducted our audit of compliance in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS); the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States; and the audit requirements of Title 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations Part 200, Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards (Uniform Guidance). Our responsibilities under those standards and the Uniform Guidance are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance section of our report.

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

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Responsibilities of Management for Compliance

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

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether material noncompliance with the compliance requirements referred to above occurred, whether due to fraud or error, and express an opinion on the School District's compliance based on our audit. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with GAAS, *Government Auditing Standards*, and the Uniform Guidance will always detect material noncompliance when it exists. The risk of not detecting material noncompliance resulting from fraud is higher than for that resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Noncompliance with the compliance requirements referred to above is considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, it would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user of the report on compliance about the School District's compliance with the requirements of each major federal program as a whole.

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS, *Government Auditing Standards*, and the Uniform Guidance, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material noncompliance, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the School District's compliance with the compliance requirements referred to above and performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances.
- Obtain an understanding of the School District's internal control over compliance relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances and to test and report on internal control over compliance in accordance with the Uniform Guidance, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the School District's internal control over compliance. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.

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

Report on Internal Control over Compliance

A *deficiency in internal control over compliance* exists when the design or operation of a control over compliance does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, noncompliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program on a timely basis. A *material weakness in internal control over compliance* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control over compliance, such that there is a reasonable possibility that material noncompliance with a type of compliance

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requirement of a federal program will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. A *significant deficiency in internal control over compliance* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control over compliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program that is less severe than a material weakness in internal control over compliance, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control over compliance was for the limited purpose described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance section above and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control over compliance that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies in internal control over compliance. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over compliance that we consider to be material weaknesses, as defined above. However, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies in internal control over compliance may exist that were not identified.

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

The purpose of this report on internal control over compliance is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over compliance and the results of that testing based on the requirements of the Uniform Guidance. Accordingly, this report is not suitable for any other purpose.

Respectfully submitted,



Greg S. Griffin
State Auditor

March 19, 2026

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Section III

Auditee's Response to Prior Year Findings and Questioned Costs

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EARLY COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
AUDITEE'S RESPONSE
SUMMARY SCHEDULE OF PRIOR AUDIT FINDINGS
YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025

PRIOR YEAR FINANCIAL STATEMENT FINDINGS

No matters were reported.

PRIOR YEAR FEDERAL AWARD FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS

No matters were reported.

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Section IV

Findings and Questioned Costs

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EARLY COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS
YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025

I SUMMARY OF AUDITOR'S RESULTS

Financial Statements

Type of auditor's report issued:
Governmental Activities and Each Major Fund — Unmodified

Internal control over financial reporting:
- Material weakness(es) identified? — No
- Significant deficiency(ies) identified? — None Reported

Noncompliance material to financial statements noted: — No

Federal Awards

Internal control over major programs:
- Material weakness(es) identified? — No
- Significant deficiency(ies) identified? — None Reported

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

All major programs — Unmodified

Any audit findings disclosed that are required to be reported in accordance with 2 CFR 200.516(a)? — No

Identification of major programs:

Assistance Listing Number	Assistance Listing Program or Cluster Title
84.010	Title I Grants to Local Educational Agencies
84.425	Education Stabilization Fund

Dollar threshold used to distinguish between Type A and Type B programs: $750,000.00

Auditee qualified as low-risk auditee? — No

II FINANCIAL STATEMENT FINDINGS

No matters were reported.

III FEDERAL AWARD FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS

No matters were reported.