

ECHOLS COUNTY
BOARD OF EDUCATION
STATENVILLE, GEORGIA

ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED
JUNE 30, 2015
(Including Independent Auditor's Reports)

ECHOLS COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

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SECTION I

FINANCIAL

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DEPARTMENT OF AUDITS AND ACCOUNTS

270 Washington Street, S.W., Suite 1-156
Atlanta, Georgia 30334-8400

Greg S. Griffin
STATE AUDITOR
(404) 656-2174

September 29, 2016

Honorable Nathan Deal, Governor
Members of the General Assembly
Members of the State Board of Education
and
Superintendent and Members of the
Echols County Board of Education

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Echols County Board of Education, as of and for the year ended June 30, 2015, and the related notes to the financial statements (Exhibits A through H) which collectively comprise the Board's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

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

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express opinions on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that

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are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

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

Opinions

In our opinion, the basic financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Echols County Board of Education, as of June 30, 2015, and the respective changes in financial position thereof for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Emphasis of Matter

As described in Note 2 to the financial statements, in 2015, the Echols County Board of Education adopted new accounting guidance, Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 68, *Accounting and Financial Reporting for Pensions – an amendment of GASB Statement No. 27*, and GASB Statement No. 71, *Pension Transition for Contributions Made Subsequent to the Measurement Date – an amendment of GASB Statement No. 68*. The School District restated beginning Net Position for the cumulative effect of these accounting changes. Our opinion is not modified with respect to this matter.

Other Matters

Required Supplementary Information

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the Management's Discussion and Analysis, Schedule of Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability, Schedule of Contributions to Retirement Systems, Notes to the Required Supplementary Information and the Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances - Budget and Actual as presented on pages i through viii and pages 29 through 33 respectively, be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board, who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consisted of inquiries of management regarding 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.

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Other Information

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the Echols County Board of Education's basic financial statements. The accompanying supplementary information, consisting of Schedules 5 through 8, 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 U. S. Office of Management and Budget Circular A-133, *Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations,* and is not a required part of the basic financial statements.

The accompanying 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 auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the information is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the 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 September 29, 2016, on our consideration of the Echols County Board of Education'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 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 internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering Echols County Board of Education's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

A copy of this report has been filed as a permanent record in the office of the State Auditor 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

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2015ARL-11

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ECHOLS COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2015

The discussion and analysis of the Echols County Board of Education's financial performance provides an overall review of the School District's financial activities for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2015. 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 financial statements and the notes to the basic financial statements to enhance their understanding of the School District's financial performance.

In fiscal year 2015, the School District adopted the Governmental Accounting Standards School District (GASB) Statement No. 68, *Accounting and Financial Reporting for Pensions* and GASB Statement No. 71, *Pension Transition for Contribution Made Subsequent to the Measurement Date – An Amendment of GASB Statement No. 68.* The adoption of these statements had a significant impact on the School District's District-wide financial statements, rendering comparability of fiscal year 2015 financial statements with those of the prior year difficult. The School District's Governmental Financial Statements were not affected by implementation of GASB 68 or GASB 71.

Financial Highlights

Key financial highlights for fiscal year 2015 are as follows:

- In total, net position decreased by $6.1 million, of which $6.0 was attributable to the implementation of GASB 68 and GASB 71. The remaining decrease was due to governmental activities since the School District has no business-type activities.

- General revenues accounted for $3.2 million in revenue or 35.4 percent of all revenues. Program specific revenues in the form of charges for services, and operating grants and contributions accounted for $5.8 million or 64.6 percent of total revenues. Total revenues were $9.0 million.

- The School District had $8.9 million in expenses related to governmental activities; only $5.8 million of these expenses were offset by program specific charges for services, grants or contributions. General revenues were adequate to provide for these programs.

- Among major funds, the general fund had $8.3 million in revenues and $8.5 million in expenditures. The general fund's balance decreased from $1.9 million to $1.8 million.

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 Echols County Board of Education as a financial whole, or as an entire operating entity. The basic financial statements include two levels of statements that present different views of the School District. These include the District-wide and fund financial statements.

The District-wide financial statements include the *Statement of Net Position* and *Statement of Activities*. These statements provide information about the activities of the whole School District, presenting both short-term and long-term information about the School District's overall financial status.

The fund financial statements focus on individual parts of the School District, reporting the School District's operation in more detail. The *Governmental Funds* statements disclose how basic services are financed in the short-term as well as what remains for future spending. The fund financial statements reflect the School District's most significant funds. In the case of the Echols County Board of Education, the General Fund is by far the most significant fund.

Reporting the School District as a Whole

Statement of Net Position and *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 2015?" The *Statement of Net Position* and the *Statement of Activities* answer this question. These statements include *all assets and all liabilities* 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 net position. The 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, including those not under the School District's control, such as the property tax base, facility conditions, required educational programs and other factors.

The Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities reflects the School District's governmental activities.

Reporting the School District's Most Significant Funds

Fund Financial Statements

Fund financial statements provide detailed information about the School District's major funds. The School District uses many funds to account for a multitude of financial transactions. However, these fund financial statements focus on the School District's most significant funds. The School District's major governmental funds are the general fund, the District-wide capital projects fund, and the debt service fund.

Governmental Funds

Most of the School District's activities are reported in governmental funds, which focus on how money flows in and out of those funds and the balances left at year-end available for spending in future periods. These funds are reported using the *modified accrual method of 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 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.

Fiduciary Funds

The School District is the trustee, or *fiduciary*, for assets that belong to others, such as school clubs and organizations within the school activity accounts. The School District is responsible for ensuring that the assets reported in these funds are used only for their intended purposes and by those to whom the assets belong. The School District excludes these activities from the district-wide financial statements because it cannot use these assets to finance its operations.

Financial Analysis of 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 2015 as compared to net position for fiscal year 2014.

Table 1
Net Position

	Governmental Activities	
	Fiscal Year 2015	Fiscal Year 2014(1)
Assets		
Current and Other Assets	$ 3,852,055	$ 3,959,465
Capital Assets, Net	15,563,070	15,957,754
Total Assets	19,415,125	19,917,219
Deferred Outflows of Resources	682,273	0
Liabilities		
Current and Other Liabilities	971,294	953,864
Long-Term Liabilities	11,240,736	6,716,587
Total Liabilities	12,212,030	7,670,451
Deferred Inflows of Resources	1,719,510	0
Net Position		
Net Investment in Capital Assets	9,413,451	9,472,024
Restricted	1,092,688	1,048,168
Unrestricted	-4,340,281	1,726,576
Total Net Position	$ 6,165,858	$ 12,246,768

(1) Fiscal year 2014 balances do not reflect the effects of the restatement of July 1, 2014 Net Position. See Note 2 in the Notes to the Financial Statements for more information.

Total net position decreased $6.4 million, primarily due to the implementation of GASB 68 and GASB 71.

Table 2 shows the changes in net position for fiscal year 2015 as compared to fiscal year 2014.

Table 2
Change in Net Position

	Governmental Activities	
	Fiscal Year 2015	Fiscal Year 2014 (1)
Revenues		
Program Revenues:		
Charges for Services and Sales	$ 31,723	$ 26,493
Operating Grants and Contributions	5,775,378	5,331,932
Total Program Revenues	5,807,101	5,358,425
General Revenues:		
Taxes		
Property Taxes		
For Maintenance and Operations	1,817,180	1,794,645
For Debt Services	466,119	433,452
Railroad Cars	15,545	14,337
Sales Taxes		
Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax		
For Capital Projects	106,757	106,441
Other Sales Tax	8,268	6,281
Grants and Contributions not		
Restricted to Specific Programs	549,843	502,571
Investment Earnings	29,445	2,963
Miscellaneous	185,545	175,489
Special Item		
Impairment of Building		-85,001
Total General Revenues and Special item	3,178,702	2,951,177
Total Revenues	8,985,803	8,309,602
Program Expenses:		
Instruction	5,411,821	5,264,764
Support Services		
Pupil Services	271,007	300,168
Improvement of Instructional Services	364,578	328,281
Educational Media Services	108,928	111,481
General Administration	299,507	303,333
School Administration	479,457	373,182
Business Administration	10,807	10,036
Maintenance and Operation of Plant	709,865	653,835
Student Transportation Services	466,980	455,608
Central Support Services	15,764	7,057
Other Support Services	15,379	20,375
Operations of Non-Instructional Services		
Food Services	520,872	503,163
Interest on Short-Term and Long-Term Debt	240,579	255,864
Total Expenses	8,915,543	8,587,145
Decrease in Net Position	$ 70,259	$ -277,543

(1) Fiscal year 2014 balances do not reflect the effects of the restatement of Net Position. See Note 2 in the Notes to the Financial Statements for more information.

Governmental Activities

Instruction comprises 60.7 percent of governmental program expenses.

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 by unrestricted State entitlements.

Table 3
Governmental Activities

	Total Cost of Services		Net Cost of Services	
	Fiscal Year 2015	Fiscal Year 2014 (1)	Fiscal Year 2015	Fiscal Year 2014 (1)
Instruction	$ 5,411,821	$ 5,264,764	$ 1,487,967	$ 1,623,965
Support Services:				
Pupil Services	271,007	300,168	153,724	188,853
Improvement of Instructional Services	364,578	328,281	244,537	225,626
Educational Media Services	108,928	111,481	9,499	15,401
General Administration	299,507	303,333	-41,118	-27,093
School Administration	479,457	373,182	208,020	112,287
Business Administration	10,807	10,036	10,807	10,036
Maintenance and Operation of Plant	709,865	653,835	328,714	347,019
Student Transportation Services	466,980	455,608	448,567	438,831
Central Support Services	15,764	7,057	8,764	7,057
Other Support Services	15,379	20,375	3,292	2,826
Operations of Non-Instructional Services:				
Food Services	520,872	503,163	5,090	28,049
Interest on Short-Term and Long-Term Debt	240,579	255,864	240,579	255,864
Total Expenses	$ 8,915,544	$ 8,587,147	$ 3,108,442	$ 3,228,721

(1) Fiscal year 2014 balances do not reflect the effects of the restatement of July 1, 2014 Net Position. See Note 2 in the Notes to the Financial Statements for more information.

Although program revenues make up 64.6 percent of the revenues, the School District is still dependent upon tax revenues for governmental activities. 27.5 percent of instruction activities are supported through taxes and other general revenues; for all governmental activities, general revenue support is 34.9 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 $8.6 million and expenditures of $9.1 million. Total governmental funds had a decrease in fund balance of $0.5 million, primarily due to the declining value of the Qualified Zone Academy Bonds (QZAB) investment.

General Fund Budgeting Highlights

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

The School District budget is adopted at the aggregate level but prepared and presented by fund, function, and object for management control.

For the General Fund, the School District budgeted $800,000 of expenditures in excess of revenues with the intent to use the beginning fund reserve to balance the budget. Actual revenues and other sources of $8.3 million were less than the final budget by $25,415. Unbudgeted school activity revenues accounted for $150,724.

Actual expenditures and other financing uses of $8.5 million were less than the final budget of $9.2 million. The School District used $158,357 of the beginning reserve to offset the difference between revenues and expenditures, but this difference was much less than the $800,000 budgeted for this purpose.

Capital Assets and Debt Administration

Capital Assets

At the end of fiscal year 2015, the School District had $15.6 million invested in capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation, all in governmental activities. Table 4 shows balances for fiscal year 2015 as compared to balances for fiscal year 2014.

Table 4
Capital Assets
(Net of Depreciation)

	Governmental Activities	
	Fiscal Year 2015	Fiscal Year 2014
Land	$ 561,834	$ 561,834
Building and Improvements	14,199,573	14,513,591
Equipment	545,539	623,611
Land Improvements	256,124	258,718
Total	$ 15,563,070	$ 15,957,764

Debt

At June 30, 2015, the School District had $6.3 million in total debt outstanding that consisted of $5.9 million in bond debt and $368,000 of capital lease debt. Table 5 shows balances for fiscal year 2015 as compared to balances for fiscal year 2014.

Table 5
Debt at June 30

	Governmental Activities	
	Fiscal Year 2015	Fiscal Year 2014
General Obligation Bonds	$ 5,940,000	$ 6,270,000
Capital Leases	368,421	446,587
Total	$ 6,308,421	$ 6,716,587

Current Issues

The following issues are expected to have a significant effect on the financial positions or results of operations:

- State and Local Economy – The State of Georgia economic conditions are improving but state funding for education continues to reflect austerity reductions which began in Fiscal Year 2003. The School District has used about 1% of the General Fund Reserve to balance the budget for the past two years. Although property tax revenues showed a modest decrease from the prior year, the tax base remains stable. The School District anticipates financial challenges in the next few years due to anticipated increases for retirement and health insurance costs for employees, but is optimistic about the ability of the School District to maximize all of the financial resources to provide a quality education for the students in Echols County.

Contacting the School District's Financial Management

This financial report is designed to provide our citizens, taxpayers, investors and creditors with a general overview of the School District's finances and to show the School District's accountability for the money it receives. If you have questions about this report or need additional information, contact Mrs. Rebecca Corbett at the Echols County Board of Education, 216 U.S. Highway 129 North, Statenville, Georgia 31648. You may also email any questions to rebecca.corbett@echols.k12.ga.us or visit our website at www.echols.k12.ga.us.

ECHOLS COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

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ECHOLS COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
STATEMENT OF NET POSITION
JUNE 30, 2015

EXHIBIT "A"

	GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES
ASSETS	
Cash and Cash Equivalents	$ 1,595,106.07
Investments	1,548,491.07
Accounts Receivable, Net	
Taxes	120,371.99
State Government	509,401.00
Federal Government	60,948.96
Inventories	17,735.88
Capital Assets, Non-Depreciable	561,834.57
Capital Assets, Depreciable (Net of Accumulated Depreciation)	15,001,235.43
Total Assets	19,415,124.97
DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES	
Related to Defined Benefit Pension Plan	682,272.87
LIABILITIES	
Salaries and Benefits Payable	914,330.48
Interest Payable	56,963.27
Long-Term Liabilities	
Due Within One Year	713,421.00
Due in More Than One Year	5,595,000.00
Net Pension Liability	4,932,315.00
Total Liabilities	12,212,029.75
DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES	
Related to Defined Benefit Pension Plan	1,719,510.00
NET POSITION	
Net Investment in Capital Assets	9,413,450.72
Restricted for	
Continuation of Federal Programs	51,442.52
Debt Service	67,581.37
Capital Projects	595,343.60
Qualified Zone Academy Bond Escrow	378,320.43
Unrestricted (Deficit)	-4,340,280.55
Total Net Position	$ 6,165,858.09

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

ECHOLS COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2015

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	$ 5,411,820.76	$ 11,951.56	$ 3,911,901.94	$ -1,487,967.26
Support Services				
Pupil Services	271,006.75		117,282.37	-153,724.38
Improvement of Instructional Services	364,577.67		120,040.33	-244,537.34
Educational Media Services	108,927.60		99,429.00	-9,498.60
General Administration	299,507.37		340,625.84	41,118.47
School Administration	479,457.13		271,437.35	-208,019.78
Business Administration	10,806.67			-10,806.67
Maintenance and Operation of Plant	709,865.30		381,151.22	-328,714.08
Student Transportation Services	466,980.54		18,413.21	-448,567.33
Central Support Services	15,764.25		6,999.88	-8,764.37
Other Support Services	15,378.71		12,086.37	-3,292.34
Operations of Non-Instructional Services				
Food Services	520,872.57	19,771.35	496,010.86	-5,090.36
Interest on Short-Term and Long-Term Debt	240,578.93			-240,578.93
Total Governmental Activities	$ 8,915,544.25	$ 31,722.91	$ 5,775,378.37	-3,108,442.97
General Revenues				
Taxes				
Property Taxes				
For Maintenance and Operations				1,817,180.00
For Debt Services				466,118.83
Railroad Cars				15,545.30
Sales Taxes				
Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax				
For Capital Projects				106,756.56
Other Sales Tax				8,268.31
Grants and Contributions not Restricted to Specific Programs				549,843.00
Investment Earnings				29,445.41
Miscellaneous				185,544.96
Total General Revenues				3,178,702.37
Change in Net Position				70,259.40
Net Position - Beginning of Year, Restated				6,095,598.69
Net Position - End of Year				$ 6,165,858.09

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

ECHOLS COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
BALANCE SHEET
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
JUNE 30, 2015

EXHIBIT "C"

	GENERAL FUND	DISTRICT-WIDE CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND	DEBT SERVICE FUND	TOTAL
ASSETS				
Cash and Cash Equivalents	$ 977,352.38	$ 579,414.47	$ 38,339.22	$ 1,595,106.07
Investments	1,097,406.36	451,084.71		1,548,491.07
Accounts Receivable, Net				
Taxes	91,001.72	9,519.34	19,850.93	120,371.99
State Government	509,401.00			509,401.00
Federal Government	60,948.96			60,948.96
Inventories	17,735.88			17,735.88
Total Assets	$ 2,753,846.30	$ 1,040,018.52	$ 58,190.15	$ 3,852,054.97
LIABILITIES				
Salaries and Benefits Payable	$ 914,330.48			$ 914,330.48
DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES				
Unavailable Revenue - Property Taxes	37,018.01		$ 9,991.74	47,009.75
FUND BALANCES				
Nonspendable	17,735.88			17,735.88
Restricted	33,706.64	$ 1,040,018.52	48,198.41	1,121,923.57
Committed	309,100.00			309,100.00
Assigned	34,459.92			34,459.92
Unassigned	1,407,495.37			1,407,495.37
Total Fund Balances	1,802,497.81	1,040,018.52	48,198.41	2,890,714.74
Total Liabilities, Deferred Inflows of Resources and Fund Balances	$ 2,753,846.30	$ 1,040,018.52	$ 58,190.15	$ 3,852,054.97

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

ECHOLS COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
RECONCILIATION OF THE GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS BALANCE SHEET
TO THE STATEMENT OF NET POSITION
JUNE 30, 2015

EXHIBIT "D"

Total Fund Balances - Governmental Funds (Exhibit "C")		$ 2,890,714.74
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 as assets in governmental funds. These assets consist of:		
Land	$ 561,834.57	
Land Improvements	320,689.00	
Buildings and Improvements	17,484,927.14	
Equipment	1,293,470.82	
Accumulated Depreciation	-4,097,851.53	
Total Capital Assets		15,563,070.00
Some liabilities, including net pension obligations, are not due and payable in the current period and, therefore, are not reported in the funds.		
Net Pension Liability		-4,932,315.00
Deferred Outflows and Inflows of Resources related to pensions are applicable to future periods and, therefore, are not reported in the governmental funds.		-1,037,237.13
Taxes that are not available to pay for current period expenditures are deferred in the funds.		
Property Taxes		47,009.75
Long-Term Liabilities, including Bonds Payable, are not due and payable in the current period and therefore are not reported as liabilities in the funds. These consist of:		
Bonds Payable	$ -5,940,000.00	
Accrued Interest Payable	-56,963.27	
Capital Leases Payable	-368,421.00	
Total Long-Term Liabilities		-6,365,384.27
Net Position of Governmental Activities (Exhibit "A")		$ 6,165,858.09

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

EXHIBIT "E"

ECHOLS COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2015

	GENERAL FUND	DISTRICT-WIDE CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND	DEBT SERVICE FUND	TOTAL
REVENUES				
Property Taxes	$ 1,805,501.82		$ 456,127.09	$ 2,261,628.91
Sales Taxes	8,268.31	$ 106,756.56		115,024.87
State Funds	5,176,209.04			5,176,209.04
Federal Funds	1,134,927.33			1,134,927.33
Charges for Services	31,722.91			31,722.91
Investment Earnings	6,141.60	23,303.81		29,445.41
Miscellaneous	185,544.96			185,544.96
Total Revenues	8,348,315.97	130,060.37	456,127.09	8,934,503.43
EXPENDITURES				
Current				
Instruction	5,222,258.46			5,222,258.46
Support Services				
Pupil Services	277,296.04			277,296.04
Improvement of Instructional Services	367,611.71			367,611.71
Educational Media Services	111,852.33			111,852.33
General Administration	305,997.78			305,997.78
School Administration	484,279.30			484,279.30
Business Administration	7,635.00			7,635.00
Maintenance and Operation of Plant	707,267.29			707,267.29
Student Transportation Services	409,804.99			409,804.99
Central Support Services	15,764.25			15,764.25
Other Support Services	15,605.62			15,605.62
Food Services Operation	500,893.49			500,893.49
Capital Outlay		21,547.00		21,547.00
Debt Services				
Principal	78,166.46		330,000.00	408,166.46
Interest	2,240.24		241,833.90	244,074.14
Total Expenditures	8,506,672.96	21,547.00	571,833.90	9,100,053.86
Excess of Revenues over (under) Expenditures	-158,356.99	108,513.37	-115,706.81	-165,550.43
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)				
Transfers In			114,279.76	114,279.76
Transfers Out		-114,279.76		-114,279.76
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)		-114,279.76	114,279.76	0.00
Net Change in Fund Balances	-158,356.99	-5,766.39	-1,427.05	-165,550.43
Fund Balances - Beginning	1,960,854.80	1,045,784.91	49,625.46	3,056,265.17
Fund Balances - Ending	$ 1,802,497.81	$ 1,040,018.52	$ 48,198.41	$ 2,890,714.74

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

ECHOLS 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, 2015

EXHIBIT "F"

Total Net Change in Fund Balances - Governmental Funds (Exhibit "E")		$ -165,550.43
Amounts reported for Governmental Activities in the Statement of Activities are different because:		
Capital Outlays are reported as expenditures in Governmental Funds. However, in the Statement of Activities, the cost of Capital Assets is allocated over their estimated useful lives as depreciation expense. In the current period, these amounts are:		
Capital Outlay	$ 13,555.00	
Depreciation Expense	-408,238.93	
Excess of Capital Outlay over Depreciation Expense		-394,683.93
Taxes reported in the Statement of Activities that do not provide current financial resources are not reported as revenues in the funds.		37,215.22
Repayment of Long-Term Debt is reported as an expenditure in Governmental Funds, but the repayment reduces Long-Term Liabilities in the Statement of Net Position. In the current year, these amounts consist of:		
Bond Principal Retirements	$ 330,000.00	
Capital Lease Payments	78,166.46	
Total Long-Term Debt Repayments		408,166.46
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. The net effect of these adjustments are:		
Accrued Interest	$ 3,495.21	
Pension Expense	181,616.87	
Total Additional Expenditures		185,112.08
Change in Net Position of Governmental Activities (Exhibit "B")		$ 70,259.40

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

ECHOLS COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
STATEMENT OF FIDUCIARY NET POSITION
FIDUCIARY FUNDS
JUNE 30, 2015

EXHIBIT "G"

	AGENCY FUNDS
ASSETS	
Cash and Cash Equivalents	$ 21,529.55
LIABILITIES	
Funds Held for Others	$ 21,529.55

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 Echols County Board of Education (School District) was established under the laws of the State of Georgia and operates under the guidance of a school board elected by the voters and a Superintendent appointed by the Board. The Board 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

BASIS OF PRESENTATION

The School District's basic financial statements are collectively comprised of the District-wide financial statements, fund financial statements and notes to the basic financial statements of the Echols County Board of Education.

District-wide Statements:
The Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities display information about the financial activities of the overall School District, except for fiduciary activities. 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 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, including fiduciary funds. Eliminations have been made to minimize the double counting of internal activities. Separate statements for each category (governmental and fiduciary) are presented. 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:

- 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.
- District-wide Capital Projects Fund accounts for and reports financial resources including Education Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (ESPLOST) that are restricted, committed or assigned to the expenditure for capital outlays, including the acquisition or construction of capital facilities and other capital assets.
- Debt Service Fund accounts for and reports financial resources that are restricted, committed, or assigned including taxes (property and sales) legally restricted for the payment of general long-term principal and interest.

The School District reports the following fiduciary fund type:

- Agency funds account for assets held by the School District as an agent for various funds, governments, or individuals.

BASIS OF ACCOUNTING

The basis of accounting determines when transactions are reported on the financial statements. The District-wide governmental and fiduciary 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, and grants. 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 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 all revenues reported in the governmental funds to be available if they are collected within sixty 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, except for principal and interest on general long-term debt, which are recognized as expenditures to the extent they have matured. Capital asset acquisitions are reported as expenditures in governmental funds. Proceeds of general long-term liabilities and acquisitions under capital leases are reported as other financing sources.

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, both restricted and unrestricted resources are 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.

RESTATEMENT OF PRIOR YEAR NET POSITION

For fiscal year 2015, the School District made several prior period adjustments due to the adoption of GASB Statement No. 68 and GASB Statement No. 71, as described in "New Accounting Pronouncements" below, which require the restatement of the June 30, 2014, Net Position in Governmental Activities. The result is a decrease in Net Position at July 1, 2014 of $6,151,169.00. This change is in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.

Net Position, July 1, 2014, as previously reported	$	12,246,767.69
Prior Period adjustment - Implementation of GASB 68:		
Net Pension Liability (measurement date)		
TRS		-6,640,273.00
Deferred Outlflows - School District's contribution made during fiscal year 2014		
TRS		489,104.00
Net Position, July 1, 2014, as restated	$	6,095,598.69

NEW ACCOUNTING PRONOUNCEMENTS

In fiscal year 2015, the School District adopted Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 68, *Accounting and Financial Reporting for Pensions.* The provisions of this statement establish accounting and financial reporting standards for pensions that are provided to the employees of state and local governmental employers through pension plans that are administered through trusts. The adoption of this statement has a significant impact on the School District's financial statements. As noted above, the School District restated beginning Net Position for the cumulative effect of this accounting change.

In fiscal year 2015, the School District adopted Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 69, *Government Combinations and Disposals of Government Operations.* This statement provides specific accounting and financial reporting guidance for combinations in the governmental environment. This statement also requires that disclosures be made by governments about combination arrangements in which they engage and for disposals of government operations. The School District did not have any activities of this type during the fiscal year and the adoption of this statement does not have a significant impact on the School District's financial statements.

In fiscal year 2015, the School District adopted Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement 71, *Pension Transition for Contributions Made Subsequent to the Measurement Date - an amendment of GASB No. 68*. The objective of this statement is to improve accounting and financial reporting by addressing an issue in Statement No. 68, *Accounting and Financial Reporting for Pensions*, concerning transition provisions related to certain pension contributions made to defined benefit pension plans prior to implementation of statement. This statement amends paragraph 137 of Statement No. 68 which limited recognition of pension-related deferred inflows of resources at the transition to circumstances in which it is practical to determine the amounts of all deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions. The adoption of this statement has a significant impact on the School District's financial statements. As noted above, the School District restated beginning Net Position for the cumulative effect of this accounting change.

CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

Composition of Deposits

Cash and cash equivalents consist of cash on hand, demand deposits 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 Section 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.

INVESTMENTS

Composition of Investments

Investments made by the School District in nonparticipating interest-earning contracts (such as certificates of deposit) and repurchase agreements are reported at cost. Participating interest-earning

contracts and money market investments with a maturity at purchase of one year or less are reported at amortized cost. Both participating interest-earning contracts and money market investments with a maturity at purchase greater than one year and equity investments are reported at fair value. The Official Code of Georgia Annotated Section 36-83-4 authorizes the School District to invest its funds. In selecting among options for investment or among institutional bids for deposits, the highest rate of return shall be the objective, given equivalent conditions of safety and liquidity. Funds may be invested in the following:

1. Obligations issued by the State of Georgia or by other states,
2. Obligations issued by the United States government,
3. Obligations fully insured or guaranteed by the United States government or a United States government agency,
4. Obligations of any corporation of the United States government,
5. Prime banker's acceptances,
6. The local government investment pool (Georgia Fund 1) administered by the State of Georgia, Office of the State Treasurer,
7. Repurchase agreements, and
8. Obligations of other political subdivisions of the State of Georgia.

The School District does not have a formal policy regarding investment policies that address credit risk, custodial credit risk, concentration of credit risk, interest rate risk or foreign currency risk.

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.

PROPERTY TAXES

The Echols County Board of Commissioners adopted the property tax levy for the 2014 tax digest year (calendar year) on August 15, 2014 (levy date) based on property values as of January 1, 2014. Taxes were due on December 20, 2014 (lien date). Taxes collected within the current fiscal year or within 60 days after year-end on the 2014 tax digest are reported as revenue in the governmental funds for fiscal year 2015. The Echols County Tax Commissioner bills and collects the property taxes for the School District and remits the taxes collected to the School District. Property tax revenues, at the fund reporting level, during the fiscal year ended June 30, 2015, for maintenance and operations amounted to $1,693,481.63 and for school bonds amounted to $439,937.01.

Tax millage rates levied for the 2014 tax year (calendar year) for the Echols County Board of Education were as follows (a mill equals $1 per thousand dollars of assessed value):

School Operations	15.500 mills
School Bonds	4.135 mills
	19.635 mills

Additionally, Title Ad Valorem Tax revenues, at the fund reporting level, amounted to $112,664.97 during fiscal year ended June 30, 2015.

SALES TAXES

Education Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax, at the fund reporting level, during the year amounted to $106,756.56 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.

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 (first-in, first-out). 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

Capital assets purchased, including capital outlay costs, are recorded as expenditures in the fund financial statements at the time of purchase (including ancillary charges). On the District-wide financial statements, all purchased capital assets are valued 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 estimated fair market value on the date donated. Disposals are deleted at depreciated recorded cost. 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. Depreciation is computed using the straight-line method. The School District does not capitalize book collections or works of art. During the fiscal year under review, no events or changes in circumstances affecting a capital asset that may indicate impairment were known to the School District.

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

		Capitalization Policy	Estimated Useful Life
Land		Any amount	N/A
Land Improvements	$	10,000.00	15 to 60 years
Buildings and Improvements	$	10,000.00	up to 100 years
Equipment	$	10,000.00	5 to 30 years
Intangible Assets	$	10,000.00	15 years

Depreciation is used to allocate the actual or estimated historical cost of all capital assets over estimated useful lives, with the exception of intangible assets which are amortized.

Amortization of intangible assets such as water, timber, and mineral rights, easements, patents, trademarks, copyrights and internally generated software is computed using the straight-line method over the estimated useful lives of the assets.

DEFERRED OUTFLOWS/INFLOWS OF RESOURCES

In addition to assets, the statement of net position and/or the balance sheet 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. Under the full accrual method of accounting, the School District has reported deferred outflows of resources related to a defined benefit pension plan, as discussed in Note 13 – Retirement Plans.

In addition to liabilities, the statement of net position and/or the balance sheet 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. Under the full accrual method of accounting, the School District deferred inflows of resources related to a defined benefit pension plan, as discussed in Note 13 – Retirement Plans. This item is reported only in the District-wide Statement of Net Position. Additionally, the School District has one type of item, which arises only under a modified accrual basis of accounting that qualifies for reporting in this category. Accordingly, the item, unavailable revenue, is reported only in the governmental funds balance sheet. The governmental funds report unavailable revenues from property taxes, and this amount is deferred and will be recognized as an inflow of resources in the period in which the amount becomes available.

GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS

The School District issues general obligation bonds to provide funds for the acquisition and construction of major capital facilities. In the District-wide financial statements, bond premiums and discounts are deferred and amortized over the life of the bonds using the straight-line method. Bond issuance costs are recognized as an outflow of resources in the fiscal year in which the bonds are issued.

In the fund financial statements, the School District recognizes bond premiums and discounts, as well as bond issuance costs during the fiscal year bonds are issued. Premiums received on debt issuances are reported as other financing sources while discounts on debt issuances are reported as other financing uses. Issuance costs, whether or not withheld from the actual debt proceeds received, are reported as debt service expenditures. In addition, general obligation bonds have been issued to refund existing general obligation bonds. General obligation bonds are direct obligations and pledge the full faith and credit of the government. The outstanding amount of these bonds is recorded in the Statement of Net Position.

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 fiduciary net position of the Teachers' Retirement System of Georgia (TRS) and the Public School Employees Retirement System (PSERS) and additions to/deductions from TRS/PSERS's fiduciary net position have been determined on the same basis as they are reported by TRS/PSERS. 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. See Note 13 - Retirement Plans.

NET POSITION

The School District's Net Position in the District-wide Statements is classified as follows:

Net Investment in Capital Assets - This represents the School District's total investment in capital assets, net of outstanding debt obligations related to those capital assets. To the extent debt has been incurred but not yet expended for capital assets, such amounts are not included as a component of Net Investment in Capital Assets.

Restricted Net Position - This represents resources for which the School District is legally or contractually obligated to spend resources for continuation of Federal programs, debt service and capital projects in accordance with restrictions imposed by external third parties.

Unrestricted Net Position - Unrestricted Net Position is the net amount of the assets, deferred outflows of resources, liabilities and deferred inflows of resources that are not included in the determination of Net Investment of Capital Assets and Restricted Net Position. Included in the net deficit reported is the School District's Net Pension Liability of $4,932,315.00, which is required for financial reporting.

FUND BALANCES

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

Nonspendable – Amounts 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 – Constraints are placed on the use of resources are either (1) externally imposed conditions by creditors, grantors, contributors, or laws and regulations of other governments or (2) imposed by law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation.

Committed – Amounts that can be used only for specific purposes pursuant to constraints imposed by formal action of the Board of Education. The Board of Education 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 – Amounts that are 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 of Education or (2) the budget or finance committee, or the Superintendent, or designee, to assign amounts to be used for specific purposes.

Unassigned – The residual classification for the General Fund. This classification represents fund balances that have not been assigned to other funds and that have not been restricted, committed, or assigned to specific purposes within the General Fund.

Fund Balances of the Governmental Funds at June 30, 2015, are as follows:

Nonspendable		
Inventories		$ 17,735.88
Restricted		
Continuation of Federal Programs	$ 33,706.64	
Capital Projects	595,343.60	
Debt Service	114,552.90	
Qualified Zone Academy Bond	378,320.43	1.121,923.57
Committed		
Bus Replacement	$ 300,000.00	
Auditorium Renovation Design	9,100.00	309,100.00
Assigned		
School Activity Accounts		34,459.92
Unassigned		1,407,495.37
Fund Balance, June 30, 2015		$ 2,890,714.74

It is the goal of the School District to achieve and maintain a committed, assigned, and unassigned fund balance in the general fund at fiscal year end of not less than 5% of expenditures, not to exceed 15% of the total budget of the subsequent fiscal year, net of any committed reserve balance for capital expenditures and assigned fund balances "to cover unanticipated deficiencies in revenue or unanticipated expenditures", in compliance with Official Code of Georgia Annotated

Section 20- 2 - 167(a)5 . If the total unassigned, assigned, and committed fund balance (net of the previous allowances) at fiscal year end falls below the goal, the School District shall develop a restoration plan to achieve and maintain the minimum fund balance.

When multiple categories of fund balance are available for 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.

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.

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, debt service, and capital projects funds. There is no statutory prohibition regarding over expenditure of the budget at any level. The budget for all governmental funds is prepared and adopted by fund, function and object. The legal level of budgetary control was established by the Board at the aggregate 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. 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 Official Code of Georgia Annotated section 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 Schedule 4 – General Fund Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances – Budget to Actual for a detail of any over/under expenditures during the fiscal year under review.

NOTE 4: DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS

COLLATERALIZATION OF DEPOSITS

Official Code of Georgia Annotated (O.C.G.A.) Section 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 percent 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. Section 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 percent 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, 2015, the School District had deposits with a carrying amount of $1,615,635.62 and a bank balance of $1,925,812.35. The bank balances insured by Federal depository insurance were $288,339.22.

The amounts exposed to custodial credit risk are classified into three categories as follows:

Category 1 - Uncollateralized,
Category 2 - Cash collateralized with securities held by the pledging financial institution, or
Category 3 - Cash collateralized with securities held by the pledging financial institution's trust department or agent but not in the School District's name.

The School District's deposits by custodial risk category at June 30, 2015, are as follows:

Custodial Credit Risk Category		Bank Balance
1	$	0.00
2		0.00
3		1,637,473.13
Total	$	1,637,473.13

CATEGORIZATION OF INVESTMENTS

At June 30, 2015, the carrying value of the School District's total investment was $1,548,491.07. The School District's investments as of June 30, 2015, are presented below. All investments are presented by investment type and debt securities are presented by maturity.

Investment Type	Fair Value	Investment Maturity More than 10 Years
Debt Securities		
U. S. Agencies		
Explicitly Guaranteed Obligations of the U. S. Government		
Government National Mortgage Association (GNMA)	$ 9,892.06	$ 9,892.06
Investment Pools		
Office of the State Treasurer		
Georgia Fund 1	1,538,599.01	
Total Investments	$ 1,538,599.01	

The Georgia Fund 1 (local government investment pool) administered by the State of Georgia, Office of the State Treasurer is not required to be categorized since the School District did not own any specific identifiable securities in the pool. The investment policy of the State of Georgia, Office of the State Treasurer for the Georgia Fund 1 (Primary Liquidity Portfolio) does not provide for investment in derivatives or similar investments. Additional information on the Georgia Fund 1 is disclosed in the *State of Georgia* Comprehensive Annual Financial Report. This audit can be obtained from the Georgia Department of Audits and Accounts at http://www.audits.ga.gov/SGD/cafr.html.

The Primary Liquidity Portfolio consists of Georgia Fund 1 which is not registered with the SEC as an investment company and does not operate in a manner consistent with the SEC's Rule 2a-7 of the Investment Company Act of 1940. The investment is valued at the pool's share price, $1.00 per share. The pool is an AAAf rated investment pool by Standard and Poor's. The weighted average maturity of Georgia Fund 1 may not exceed 60 days. The weighted average maturity for Georgia Fund 1 on June 30, 2015, was 56 days.

Interest Rate Risk
Interest rate risk is the risk that changes in interest rates of debt investment will adversely affect the fair value of an investment. The School District does not have a formal policy for managing interest rate risk.

Custodial Credit Risk
Custodial credit risk for investments is the risk that, in the event of the failure of the counterparty to a transaction, the School District will not be able to recover the value of the investment or collateral securities that are in the possession of an outside party. The School District does not have a formal policy for managing custodial credit risk for investments.

At June 30, 2015, $9,892.06 of the School District's applicable investments were uninsured and unregistered, with securities held by the counterparty's trust department or agent in the name of the School District.

Credit Quality Risk
Credit quality risk is the risk that an issuer or other counterparty to an investment will not fulfill its obligations. The School District does not have a formal policy for managing credit quality risk.

The investments subject to credit quality risk are reflected below:

Rated Debt Investments	Fair Value	Quality Rating AAA
Debt Securities		
U. S. Agencies		
Explicitly Guaranteed	$ 9,892.06	$ 9,892.06

Concentration of Credit Risk
Concentration of credit risk is the risk of loss attributed to the magnitude of a government's investment in a single issuer. The School District does not have a formal policy for managing concentration of credit risk.

NOTE 5: NON-MONETARY TRANSACTIONS

The School District receives food commodities from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) for school breakfast and lunch programs. These commodities are recorded at their Federally assigned value**.** See Note 2 – Inventories.

NOTE 6: CAPITAL ASSETS

The following is a summary of changes in the Capital Assets during the fiscal year:

	Balances July 1, 2014	Increases	Decreases	Balances June 30, 2015
Governmental Activities				
Capital Assets, Not Being Depreciated:				
Land	$ 561,834.57	$ 0.00	$ 0.00	$ 561,834.57
Capital Assets Being Depreciated:				
Buildings and Improvements	17,484,927.14			17,484,927.14
Equipment	1,293,470.82			1,293,470.82
Land Improvements	307,134.00	13,555.00	0.00	320,689.00
Less Accumulated Depreciation for:				
Buildings and Improvements	2,971,336.63	314,017.62		3,285,354.25
Equipment	669,859.56	78,072.27		747,931.83
Land Improvements	48,416.41	16,149.04		64,565.45
Total Capital Assets, Being Depreciated, Net	15,395,919.36	-394,683.93	0.00	15,001,235.43
Governmental Activity Capital Assets - Net	$ 15,957,753.93	$ -394,683.93	$ 0.00	$ 15,563,070.00

Capital assets acquired under capital leases as of June 30, 2015, are as follows:

	Governmental Activities
Buildings and Improvements	$ 368,421.00
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	-153,508.75
	$ 214,912.25

Current year depreciation expense by function is as follows:

Instruction		$ 329,842.74
Support Services		
Business Administration	$ 3,110.77	
Maintenance and Operation of Plant	1,856.66	
Student Transportation Services	54,221.08	59,188.51
Food Services		19,207.68
		$ 408,238.93

NOTE 7: INTERFUND TRANSFERS

Interfund transfers for the year ended June 30, 2015, consisted of the following:

Transfers to	Transfers From District-wide Capital Projects
Debt Service Fund	$ 114,279.76

Transfers are used to move sales tax revenues collected by the District-wide Capital Projects Fund to the Debt Service Fund for debt repayments.

NOTE 8: RISK MANAGEMENT

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; acts of God and unemployment compensation.

The School District participates in the Georgia School Boards Association Risk and Insurance Management System, a public entity risk pool organized on July 1, 1994, to develop and administer a plan to reduce risk of loss on account of general liability, motor vehicle liability, or property damage, including safety engineering and other loss prevention and control techniques, and to administer one or more groups of self-insurance funds, including the processing and defense of claims brought against members of the system. The School District pays an annual premium to the system for its general insurance coverage. Additional coverage is provided through agreements by the system with other companies according to their specialty for property, boiler and machinery (including coverage for flood and earthquake), general liability (including coverage for sexual harassment, molestation and abuse), errors and omissions, crime and automobile risks. Payment of excess insurance for the system varies by line of coverage.

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.

Changes in the unemployment compensation claims liability during the last two fiscal years are as follows:

	Beginning of Year Liability	Claims and Changes in Estimates	Claims Paid	End of Year Liability
2014	$ 0.00	$ 0.00	$ 0.00	$ 0.00
2015	$ 0.00	$ 1,283.38	$ 1,283.38	$ 0.00

The School District participates in the Georgia School Boards Association Workers' Compensation Fund, a public entity risk pool organized on July 1, 1992, 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 Fund for its Workers' Compensation insurance coverage. Excess insurance coverage is provided through an agreement by the Fund with the Safety National Casualty Corporation to provide coverage for potential losses sustained by the Fund in excess of $550 thousand loss per occurrence, up to the statutory limit. Employers' Liability insurance coverage is also provided by Safety National Casualty Corporation to provide coverage for potential losses sustained by the Fund in excess of $550 thousand loss per occurrence, up to $2 million. In addition to the $550,000 per occurrence retention, the Fund also retains an additional $200,000 per year corridor retention.

The School District has purchased a surety bond to provide additional insurance coverage as follows:

Position Covered	Amount
Superintendent	$ 50,000.00

NOTE 9: LONG-TERM LIABILITIES

CAPITAL LEASES

The Echols County Board of Education entered into various lease agreements for renovations and technology equipment. These lease agreements qualify as capital leases for accounting purposes, and therefore, have been recorded at the present value of the future minimum lease payments as of the date of their inception.

GENERAL OBLIGATION DEBT OUTSTANDING

General Obligation Bonds currently outstanding are as follows:

Purpose	Interest Rate	Amount
General Government - Series 2008	3.857%	$ 5,940,000.00

The changes in Long-Term Liabilities during the fiscal year ended June 30, 2015, were as follows:

	Governmental Activities				
	Balance July 1, 2014	Additions	Deductions	Balance June 30, 2015	Due Within One Year
G.O. Bonds	$ 6,270,000.00	$ 0.00	$ 330,000.00	$ 5,940,000.00	$ 345,000.00
Capital Leases	446,587.46		78,166.46	368,421.00	368,421.00
	$ 6,716,587.46	$ 0.00	$ 408,166.46	$ 6,308,421.00	$ 713,421.00

At June 30, 2015, payments due by fiscal year which includes principal and interest for these items are as follows:

	Capital Leases	
Fiscal Year Ended June 30:	Principal	Interest
2016	$ 368,421.00	$ 0.00

	General Obligation Debt	
Fiscal Year Ended June 30:	Principal	Interest
2016	$ 345,000.00	$ 229,105.80
2017	360,000.00	215,799.16
2018	375,000.00	201,913.96
2019	395,000.00	187,450.20
2020	410,000.00	172,215.06
2021 - 2025	2,360,000.00	608,248.94
2026 - 2028	1,695,000.00	132,680.82
Total Principal and Interest	$ 5,940,000.00	$ 1,747,413.94

NOTE 10: ON-BEHALF PAYMENTS

The School District has recognized revenues and costs in the amount of $31,408.58 for retirement contributions paid on the School District's behalf by the following State Agencies.

Georgia Department of Education
Paid to the Teachers' Retirement System of Georgia
For Teachers' Retirement System (TRS) Employer's Cost
In the amount of $15,946.58

Office of the State Treasurer
Paid to the Public School Employees Retirement System
For Public School Employees Retirement (PSERS) Employer's Cost
In the amount of $15,462.00

Funds paid on behalf of the School District are reported in governmental funds. See Note 13 - Retirement Plans for the State support related to the Net Pension Liability.

NOTE 11: SIGNIFICANT CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

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. The School District believes that such disallowances, if any, will be immaterial to its overall financial position.

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 be material to the basic financial statements.

NOTE 12: POST-EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS

GEORGIA SCHOOL PERSONNEL POST-EMPLOYMENT HEALTH BENEFIT FUND

Plan Description. The Georgia School Personnel Post-employment Health Benefit Fund (School OPEB Fund) is a cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit post-employment healthcare plan that covers eligible former employees of public school systems, libraries and regional educational service agencies. The School OPEB Fund provides health insurance benefits to eligible former employees and their qualified beneficiaries through the State Employees Health Benefit Plan administered by the Department of Community Health. The Official Code of Georgia Annotated (O.C.G.A.) assigns the authority to establish and amend the benefit provisions of the group health plans, including benefits for retirees, to the Board of Community Health (Board). The Department of Community Health, which includes the School OPEB Fund, issues a separate stand-alone financial audit report and a copy can be obtained from the Georgia Department of Audits and Accounts.

Funding Policy. The contribution requirements of plan members and participating employers are established by the Board in accordance with the current Appropriations Act and may be amended by the Board. Contributions of plan members or beneficiaries receiving benefits vary based on plan election, dependent coverage, and Medicare eligibility and election. For members with fewer than five years of service as of January 1, 2012, contributions also vary based on years of service. On average, members with five years or more of service as of January 1, 2012, pay approximately 25 percent of the cost of the health insurance coverage. In accordance with the Board resolution dated December 8 , 2011 , for members with fewer than five years of service as of January 1, 2012, the State provides a premium subsidy in retirement that ranges from 0% for fewer than 10 years of service to 75% (but no greater than the subsidy percentage offered to active employees) for 30 or more years of service. The subsidy for eligible dependents ranges from 0% to 55% (but no greater than the subsidy percentage offered to dependents of active employees minus 20%). No subsidy is available to Medicare eligible members not enrolled in a Medicare Advantage Option. The Board of Community Health sets all member premiums by resolution and in accordance with the law and applicable revenue and expense projections. Any subsidy policy adopted by the Board may be changed at any time by Board resolution and does not constitute a contract or promise of any amount of subsidy.

Participating employers are statutorily required to contribute in accordance with the employer contribution rates established by the Board. The contribution rates are established to fund all benefits due under the health insurance plans for both active and retired employees based on projected "pay-as-you-go" financing requirements. Contributions are not based on the actuarially calculated annual required contribution (ARC) which represents a level of funding that, if paid on an ongoing basis, is projected to cover normal cost each year and amortize any unfunded actuarial liabilities (or funding excess) over a period not to exceed thirty years.

The combined active and retiree contribution rates established by the Board for employers participating in the School OPEB Fund were as follows for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2015:

For certificated teachers, librarians and regional educational service agencies and certain other eligible participants:

July 1, 2014 – June 30, 2015	$945.00 per member per month

For non-certificated school personnel:

July 1, 2014 – June 30, 2015	$596.20 per member per month

No additional contribution was required by the Board for fiscal year 2015 nor contributed to the School OPEB Fund to prefund retiree benefits. Such additional contribution amounts are determined annually by the Board in accordance with the School plan for other post-employment benefits and are subject to appropriation.

The School District's combined active and retiree contributions to the health insurance plans, which equaled the required contribution, for the current fiscal year and the preceding two fiscal years were as follows:

Fiscal Year	Percentage Contributed		Required Contribution
2015	100%	$	881,733.00
2014	100%	$	794,995.80
2013	100%	$	724,481.46

NOTE 13: RETIREMENT PLANS

Echols County Board of Education 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 §47-3-60 of the *Official Code of Georgia Annotated* (O.C.G.A.) and certain other support personnel as defined by §47-3-63 are provided 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 audit 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% of their annual pay during fiscal year 2015. The school district's contractually required contribution rate for the year ended June 30, 2015 was 13.15% of annual school district payroll. Employer contributions for the current fiscal year and the preceding two fiscal years are as follows:

Fiscal Year	Percentage Contributed	Required Contribution
2015	100%	$ 565,929.27
2014	100%	$ 504,161.55
2013	100%	$ 451,187.19

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/formspubs/formspubs.

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 $14.75, 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.

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

At June 30, 2015, the School District reported a liability of $4,932,315.00 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	$	4,932,315.00
State of Georgia's proportionate share of the Net Pension Liability associated with the School District		151,857.00
Total	$	5,084,172.00

The Net Pension Liability was measured as of June 30, 2014. The total pension liability used to calculate the Net Pension Liability was based on an actuarial valuation as of June 30, 2013. An expected total pension liability as of June 30, 2014 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, 2014.

At June 30, 2014, the School District's TRS proportion was 0.039041%, which was an increase of 0.000933% from its proportion measured as of June 30, 2013.

At June 30, 2015, 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 $44,930.00.

The PSERS Net Pension Liability was measured as of June 30, 2014. The total pension liability used to calculate the Net Pension Liability was based on an actuarial valuation as of June 30, 2013. An expected total pension liability as of June 30, 2014 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, 2014.

For the year ended June 30, 2015, the School District recognized pension expense of $378,371.00 for TRS and $3,902.00 for PSERS and revenue of $10,183.00 for TRS and $3,902.00 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, 2015, the School District reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pension from the following sources:

	TRS	
	Deferred Outflows of Resources	Deferred Inflows of Resources
Net difference between projected and actual earnings on pension plan investments		$ 1,719,510.00
Changes in proportion and differences between School District contributions and proportionate share of contributions	$ 132,468.00	
School District contributions subsequent to the measurement date	549,804.87	
Total	$ 682,272.87	$ 1,719,510.00

The Echols County Board of Education contributions subsequent to the measurement date of June 30, 2014 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, 2016. 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
2016	$ -399,771.00
2017	$ -399,771.00
2018	$ -399,771.00
2019	$ -399,771.00
2020	$ 12,042.00

***Actuarial assumptions*:** The total pension liability as of June 30, 2014 was determined by an actuarial valuation as of June 30, 2013, using the following actuarial assumptions, applied to all periods included in the measurement:

Teachers' Retirement System:

Inflation	3.00%
Salary increases	3.75 – 7.00%, average, including inflation
Investment rate of return	7.50%, net of pension plan investment expense, including inflation

Mortality rates were based on the RP-2000 Combined Mortality Table for Males or Females set back two years for males and set back three years for females.

The actuarial assumptions used in the June 30, 2013 valuation were based on the results of an actuarial experience study for the period July 1, 2004 – June 30, 2009.

Public School Employees Retirement System:

Inflation	3.00%
Salary increases	N/A
Investment rate of return	7.50%, net of pension plan investment expense, including inflation

Mortality rates were based on the RP-2000 Combined Mortality Table set forward one year for males for the period after service retirement, for dependent beneficiaries, and for deaths in active service, and the RP-2000 Disabled Mortality Table set back two years for males and set forward one year for females for the period after disability retirement.

The actuarial assumptions used in the June 30, 2013 valuation were based on the results of an actuarial experience study for the period July 1, 2004 – June 30, 2009.

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 asset 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%	3.00%
Domestic large stocks	39.70%	6.50%
Domestic mid stocks	3.70%	10.00%
Domestic small stocks	1.60%	13.00%
International developed market stocks	18.90%	6.50%
International emerging market stocks	6.10%	11.00%
Total	100.00%	

* Rates shown are net of the 3.00% assumed rate of inflation

Discount rate: The discount rate used to measure the total TRS and PSERS pension liability was 7.50%. 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 plan's fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments of current plan members. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments was applied to all periods of projected benefit payments to determine the total pension liability.

Sensitivity of the Echols County Board of Education'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 7.50 %, 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 (6.50%) or 1-percentage-point higher (8.50%) than the current rate:

Teachers' Retirement System:

	1% Decrease (6.50%)	Current discount rate (7.50%)	1% Increase (8.50%)
School District's proportionate share of the Net Pension Liability	$ 9,089,596.00	$ 4,932,315.00	$ 1,508,882.00

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 publically available at www.trsga.com/publications and www.ers.ga.gov/formspubs/formspubs.

DEFINED CONTRIBUTION PLAN

In January 1982, Echols County Board of Education began an employer paid 403(b) annuity plan for the group of employees covered under the Public School Employees Retirement System (PSERS). Recognizing that PSERS was a limited defined contribution and defined benefit plan which did not provide for an adequate retirement for this group of employees, it was the Board's desire to supplement the retirement of this group beginning in January 2005.

The Board selected VALIC as the provider of this plan. For each employee covered under PSERS, the Board began contributing to the plan an amount equal to 7.5 percent of the employee's base pay.

The employee becomes vested in the plan with the beginning of employment and individuals who were employed at the time the plan was implemented were vested upon enrollment.

Funds accumulated in the employer paid accounts are only available to the employee upon termination of employment.

Employer contributions for the current fiscal year and the preceding two fiscal years are as follows:

Fiscal Year	Percentage Contributed	Required Contribution
2015	100%	$ 10,799.96
2014	100%	$ 10,683.02
2013	100%	$ 18,216.80

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ECHOLS 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, 2015

SCHEDULE "1"

	2015
School District's proportion of the net pension liability	0.039041%
School District's proportionate share of the net pension liability	$ 4,932,315.00
State of Georgia's proprotionate share of the net pension liability associated with the School District	151,857.00
Total	$ 5,084,172.00
School District's covered-employee payroll	$ 4,105,550.03
School District's proportionate share of the net pension liability as a percentage of its covered employee payroll	120.14%
Plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of the total pension liability	84.03%

This schedule is intended to show information for 10 years. Additional years will be displayed as they become available.
Schedule includes all significant plans and funds administered by Echols County Board of Education.

ECHOLS COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION
SCHEDULE OF CONTRIBUTIONS
TEACHERS' RETIREMENT SYSTEM OF GEORGIA
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30

	2015	2014	2013
Contractually required contribution	$ 565,929.27	$ 504,161.55	$ 451,187.19
Contributions in relation to the contractually required contribution	565,929.27	504,161.55	451,187.19
Contribution deficiency (excess)	$ 0.00	$ 0.00	$ 0.00
School District's covered-employee payroll	$ 4,303,644.64	$ 4,105,550.03	$ 3,954,313.67
Contributions as a percentage of covered-employee payroll	13.15%	12.28%	11.41%

This schedule is intended to show information for 10 years. Due to the retention policy of the Echols County Board of Education, the School District is only able to display 6 years of information. Additional years will be displayed as they become available.

SCHEDULE "2"

2012	2011	2010
$ 412,513.55	$ 397,394.03	$ 370,049.61
412,513.55	397,394.03	370,049.61
$ 0.00	$ 0.00	$ 0.00
$ 4,012,777.72	$ 3,865,700.68	$ 3,799,277.31
10.28%	10.28%	9.74%

Teachers' Retirement System

***Changes of assumptions*:** In 2010 and later, the expectation of retired life mortality was changed to the RP-2000 Mortality Tables rather than the 1994 Group Annuity Mortality Table, which was used prior to 2010. In 2010, rates of withdrawal, retirement, disability and mortality were adjusted to more closely reflect actual experience. In 2010, assumed rates of salary increase were adjusted to more closely reflect actual and anticipated experience.

***Method and assumptions used in calculations of actuarially determined contributions*:** The actuarially determined contribution rates in the schedule of contributions are calculated as of June 30, three years prior to the end of the fiscal year in which contributions are reported. The following actuarial methods and assumptions were used to determine the contractually required contributions for year ended June 30, 2015 reported in that schedule:

Valuation date	June 30, 2012
Actuarial cost method	Entry age
Amortization method	Level percentage of payroll, open
Remaining amortization period	30 years
Asset valuation method	Seven-year smoothed market
Inflation rate	3.00%
Salary increases	3.75 – 7.00%, including inflation
Investment rate of return	7.50%, net of pension plan investment expense, including inflation

ECHOLS COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
GENERAL FUND
SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES
BUDGET AND ACTUAL
YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2015

SCHEDULE "4"

	NONAPPROPRIATED BUDGETS		ACTUAL	VARIANCE
	ORIGINAL (1)	FINAL (1)	AMOUNTS	OVER/UNDER
REVENUES				
Property Taxes	$ 1,810,501.00	$ 1,810,501.00	$ 1,805,501.82	$ -4,999.18
Sales Taxes	12,000.00	12,000.00	8,268.31	-3,731.69
State Funds	5,033,695.08	5,101,931.46	5,176,209.04	74,277.58
Federal Funds	451,000.00	1,297,983.40	1,134,927.33	-163,056.07
Charges for Services	26,715.00	26,715.00	31,722.91	5,007.91
Investment Earnings	2,000.00	2,000.00	6,141.60	4,141.60
Miscellaneous	122,600.00	122,600.00	185,544.96	62,944.96
Total Revenues	7,458,511.08	8,373,730.86	8,348,315.97	-25,414.89
EXPENDITURES				
Current				
Instruction	4,812,888.12	5,525,873.50	5,222,258.46	303,615.04
Support Services				
Pupil Services	423,691.00	363,594.00	277,296.04	86,297.96
Improvement of Instructional Services	237,651.00	467,691.40	367,611.71	100,079.69
Educational Media Services	124,870.00	124,870.00	111,852.33	13,017.67
General Administration	336,781.00	338,056.00	305,997.78	32,058.22
School Administration	405,098.00	405,098.00	484,279.30	-79,181.30
Business Administration	13,000.00	13,000.00	7,635.00	5,365.00
Maintenance and Operation of Plant	815,281.00	815,281.00	707,267.29	108,013.71
Student Transportation Services	546,058.00	551,023.00	409,804.99	141,218.01
Central Support Services	8,100.00	8,100.00	15,764.25	-7,664.25
Other Support Services	2,896.00	24,269.00	15,605.62	8,663.38
Food Services Operation	536,841.00	536,841.00	500,893.49	35,947.51
Debt Service			80,406.70	-80,406.70
Total Expenditures	8,263,155.12	9,173,696.90	8,506,672.96	667,023.94
Excess of Revenues over (under) Expenditures	-804,644.04	-799,966.04	-158,356.99	641,609.05
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)				
Sale or Compensation For Loss of Fixed Assets	2,000.00	2,000.00		-2,000.00
Other Sources	75.00	75.00		-75.00
Operating Transfers to Other Funds	-15,500.00	-15,500.00		15,500.00
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	-13,425.00	-13,425.00		13,425.00
Net Change in Fund Balances	-818,069.04	-813,391.04	-158,356.99	655,034.05
Fund Balances - Beginning	1,946,517.26	1,946,517.26	1,960,854.80	14,337.54
Adjustments		8,927.66		-8,927.66
Fund Balances - Ending	$ 1,128,448.22	$ 1,142,053.88	$ 1,802,497.81	$ 660,443.93

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

(1) Original and Final Budget amounts do not include budgeted revenues or expenditures of the various principal accounts. The principal accounts had actual revenues of $150,723.86 and actual expenditures of $146,832.27.

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.

See notes to the basic financial statements.

ECHOLS COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS
YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2015

SCHEDULE "5"

FUNDING AGENCY PROGRAM/GRANT		CFDA 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	N/A	(2)	
National School Lunch Program	*	10.555	N/A	$ 456,725.19	(1)
Total U.S. Department of Agriculture				456,725.19	
Education, U. S. Department of					
Special Education Cluster					
Pass-Through From Georgia Department of Education					
Special Education					
Grants to States		84.027	N/A	116,139.70	
Preschool Grants		84.173	N/A	5,077.50	
Total Special Education Cluster				121,217.20	
Other Programs					
Pass-Through From Georgia Department of Education					
ARRA - Race-to-the-Top Incentive Grant		84.395	N/A	960.25	
Career and Technical Education - Basic Grants to States		84.048	N/A	11,627.00	
English Language Acquisition Grants		84.365	N/A	18,727.67	
Improving Teacher Quality State Grants		84.367	N/A	4,082.28	
Migrant Education - State Grant Program		84.011	N/A	138,290.91	
Rural Education		84.358	N/A	15,805.00	
Title I Grants to Local Educational Agencies	*	84.010	N/A	346,617.72	
Total Other Programs				536,110.83	
Total U. S. Department of Education				657,328.03	
Total Expenditures of Federal Awards				$ 1,114,053.22	

N/A = Not Available

Notes to the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards

(1) Includes the Federally assigned value of donated commodities for the Food Donation Program in the amount of $27,559.46.

(2) Expenditures for the funds earned on the School Breakfast Program ($101,939.27) were not maintained separately and are included in the 2015 National School Lunch Program.

Major Programs are identified by an asterisk (*) in front of the CFDA number.

The School District did not provide Federal Assistance to any Subrecipient.

The accompanying schedule of expenditures of Federal awards includes the Federal grant activity of the Echols County Board of Education and is presented on the modified accrual basis of accounting which is the basis of accounting used in the presentation of the fund financial statements.

See notes to the basic financial statements.

ECHOLS COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
SCHEDULE OF STATE REVENUE
YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2015

SCHEDULE "6"

AGENCY/FUNDING	GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPE GENERAL FUND
GRANTS	
Bright From the Start:	
Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning	
Pre-Kindergarten Program	$ 170,293.50
Education, Georgia Department of	
Quality Basic Education	
Direct Instructional Cost	
Kindergarten Program	161,529.00
Kindergarten Program - Early Intervention Program	213,404.00
Primary Grades (1-3) Program	462,419.00
Primary Grades - Early Intervention (1-3) Program	375,997.00
Upper Elementary Grades (4-5) Program	217,777.00
Upper Elementary Grades - Early Intervention (4-5) Program	147,868.00
Middle School (6-8) Program	449,723.00
High School General Education (9-12) Program	342,045.00
Vocational Laboratory (9-12) Program	200,906.00
Students with Disabilities	337,556.00
Gifted Student - Category VI	141,402.00
Remedial Education Program	39,295.00
Alternative Education Program	36,675.00
English Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL)	194,399.00
Media Center Program	88,228.00
20 Days Additional Instruction	26,525.00
Staff and Professional Development	16,082.00
Principal Staff and Professional Development	594.00
Indirect Cost	
Central Administration	300,887.00
School Administration	231,902.00
Facility Maintenance and Operations	210,245.00
Amended Formula Adjustment	-385,378.00
Categorical Grants	
Pupil Transportation	
Regular	135,622.00
Sparsity	367,899.00
Mid-term Adjustment Hold Harmless	2,778.00
Nursing Services	45,000.00
Education Equalization Funding Grant	549,843.00
Other State Programs	
Food Services	11,845.00
Math and Science Supplements	4,567.96
Preschool Handicapped Program	7,079.00
Teachers' Retirement	15,946.58
Vocational Education	33,259.00
Vocational Supervisors	6,534.00
Office of the State Treasurer	
Public School Employees Retirement	15,462.00
	$ 5,176,209.04

See notes to the basic financial statements.

ECHOLS COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
SCHEDULE OF APPROVED LOCAL OPTION SALES TAX PROJECTS
YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2015

SCHEDULE "7"

PROJECT	ORIGINAL ESTIMATED COST (1)	CURRENT ESTIMATED COSTS (2)	AMOUNT EXPENDED IN CURRENT YEAR (3)	AMOUNT EXPENDED IN PRIOR YEARS (3)	TOTAL COMPLETION COST	EXCESS PROCEEDS NOT EXPENDED	ESTIMATED COMPLETION DATE
Acquiring, constructing and equipping a new school; adding to, renovating, repairing, improving, demolishing, furnishing and equipping existing school buildings and other buildings and facilities useful and desirable therein; system-wide technology improvements; architect fees; acquiring new school equipment; acquiring new school buses and vehicles; purchasing land for new school facilities.	$ 1,200,000.00	$ 15,616,232.08	$ 263,380.90	$ 15,352,851.18	$ 15,616,232.08	$ 0.00	Completed
Adding to, renovating, repairing, improving, furnishing and equipping existing school buildings and other buildings and facilities useful and desirable therewith; making system-wide technology improvements; acquiring new school equipment; acquiring new school buses and vehicles; and acquiring any necessary or desirable property, both real and personal, which has an extended useful life or repaying principal and interest on Echols County School District outstanding General Obligation Bonds for the new K-8 school.	1,500,000.00	1,500,000.00					12/31/2017
	$ 2,700,000.00	$ 17,116,232.08	$ 263,380.90	$ 15,352,851.18	$ 15,616,232.08	$ 0.00	

(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 Echols 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.

See notes to the basic financial statements.

ECHOLS COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
GENERAL FUND - QUALITY BASIC EDUCATION PROGRAMS (QBE)
ALLOTMENTS AND EXPENDITURES BY PROGRAM
YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2015

SCHEDULE "8"

DESCRIPTION	ALLOTMENTS FROM GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION (1) (2)	ELIGIBLE QBE PROGRAM COSTS SALARIES	OPERATIONS	TOTAL
Direct Instructional Programs				
Kindergarten Program	$ 187,157.00	$ 249,874.59	$ 17,245.87	$ 267,120.46
Kindergarten Program-Early Intervention Program	235,560.00	69,123.27	4,310.15	73,433.42
Primary Grades (1-3) Program	522,763.00	691,309.63	36,496.77	727,806.40
Primary Grades-Early Intervention (1-3) Program	409,797.00	205,701.84	10,816.50	216,518.34
Upper Elementary Grades (4-5) Program	242,989.00	386,129.63	16,495.02	402,624.65
Upper Elementary Grades-Early Intervention (4-5) Program	167,226.00	149,208.63	4,436.35	153,644.98
Middle Grades (6-8) Program			787.50	787.50
Middle School (6-8) Program	501,683.00	561,319.26	26,000.88	587,320.14
High School General Education (9-12) Program	385,218.00	645,703.80	48,707.20	694,411.00
Vocational Laboratory (9-12) Program	224,718.00	258,773.98	46,064.63	304,838.61
Students with Disabilities	384,616.00			
Category I			1,000.00	1,000.00
Category II		130,608.22	47.41	130,655.63
Category III		313,031.37	4,277.57	317,308.94
Category IV		129,867.54	2,046.14	131,913.68
Gifted Student - Category VI	157,253.00	41,191.46	2,105.46	43,296.92
Remedial Education Program	43,261.00		1,000.00	1,000.00
Alternative Education Program	40,311.00	49,009.27	1,187.63	50,196.90
English Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL)	210,205.00	157,857.78	2,608.50	160,466.28
TOTAL DIRECT INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAMS	3,712,757.00	4,038,710.27	225,633.58	4,264,343.85
Media Center Program	98,753.00	103,018.69	8,833.64	111,852.33
Staff and Professional Development	18,099.00	6,399.50	11,674.50	18,074.00
TOTAL QBE FORMULA FUNDS	$ 3,829,609.00	$ 4,148,128.46	$ 246,141.72	$ 4,394,270.18

(1) Comprised of State Funds plus Local Five Mill Share.

(2) Allotments do not include the impact of the State amended formula adjustment.

See notes to the basic financial statements.

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SECTION II

COMPLIANCE AND INTERNAL CONTROL REPORTS

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DEPARTMENT OF AUDITS AND ACCOUNTS

270 Washington Street, S.W., Suite 1-156
Atlanta, Georgia 30334-8400

Greg S. Griffin
STATE AUDITOR
(404) 656-2174

September 29, 2016

Honorable Nathan Deal, Governor
Members of the General Assembly
Members of the State Board of Education
and
Superintendent and Members of the
Echols County Board of Education

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*

Ladies and Gentlemen:

We have audited, in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Echols County Board of Education as of and for the year ended June 30, 2015, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise Echols County Board of Education's basic financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated September 29, 2016.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered Echols County Board of Education's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) to determine the audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Echols County Board of Education's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Echols County Board of Education's internal control.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the preceding paragraph and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies and therefore, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified. However, as described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs, we identified a certain deficiency in internal control over financial reporting that we consider to be a material weakness.

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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 combination of deficiencies, in internal control such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the entity's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected on a timely basis. A *significant deficiency* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance. We consider the deficiency described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs as item FS 2015-001, to be a material weakness.

Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether Echols County Board of Education'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 determination of financial statement amounts. 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.*

We noted certain matters that we have reported to management of Echols County Board of Education in a separate letter dated September 29, 2016.

Echols County Board of Education's Response to Findings

Echols County Board of Education's response to the findings identified in our audit is described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs. Echols County Board of Education's response was not subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and, accordingly, we express no opinion on it.

Purpose of this Report

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

Respectfully submitted,



Greg S. Griffin
State Auditor

GSG:sr
2015YB-41

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DEPARTMENT OF AUDITS AND ACCOUNTS

270 Washington Street, S.W., Suite 1-156
Atlanta, Georgia 30334-8400

Greg S. Griffin
STATE AUDITOR
(404) 656-2174

September 29, 2016

Honorable Nathan Deal, Governor
Members of the General Assembly
Members of the State Board of Education
and
Superintendent and Members of the
Echols County Board of Education

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON COMPLIANCE FOR EACH MAJOR PROGRAM AND ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER COMPLIANCE REQUIRED BY OMB CIRCULAR A-133

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Report on Compliance for Each Major Federal Program

We have audited Echols County Board of Education's compliance with the types of compliance requirements described in the *OMB Circular A-133 Compliance Supplement* that could have a direct and material effect on each of its major federal programs for the year ended June 30, 2015. Echols County Board of Education's major federal programs are identified in the Summary of Auditor's Results section of the accompanying Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs.

Management's Responsibility

Management is responsible for compliance with the requirements of laws, regulations, contracts, and grants applicable to its federal programs.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on compliance for each of Echols County Board of Education's major federal programs based on our audit of the types of compliance requirements referred to above. We conducted our audit of compliance in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America; the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States; and OMB Circular A-133, *Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations*. Those standards and OMB Circular A-133 require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether noncompliance with the types of compliance requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on a major federal program occurred. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence about the Echols County Board of Education's compliance with those requirements and performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances.

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We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion on compliance for each major federal program. However, our audit does not provide a legal determination of Echols County Board of Education's compliance.

Opinion on Each Major Federal Program

In our opinion, the Echols County Board of Education 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, 2015.

Other Matters

The results of our auditing procedures disclosed an instance of noncompliance, which is described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs as item FA 2015-001. Our opinion on each major federal program is not modified with respect to this matter.

Echols County Board of Education's response to the noncompliance finding identified in our audit is described in the accompanying schedule of findings and questioned costs. Echols County Board of Education's response was not subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of compliance and, accordingly, we express no opinion on the response.

Report on Internal Control over Compliance

Management of Echols County Board of Education is responsible for establishing and maintaining effective internal control over compliance with the types of compliance requirements referred to above. In planning and performing our audit of compliance, we considered Echols County Board of Education's internal control over compliance with the types of requirements that could have a direct and material effect on each major federal program to determine the auditing procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing an opinion on compliance for each major federal program and to test and report on internal control over compliance in accordance with OMB Circular A-133, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control over compliance. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Echols County Board of Education's internal control over compliance.

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

Our consideration of internal control over compliance was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control over compliance that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies and therefore, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified. We did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over compliance that we consider to be material weaknesses.

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However, we identified certain a deficiency in internal control over compliance, as described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs as item FA 2015-001 that we consider to be a significant deficiency.

Echols County Board of Education's response to the internal control over compliance finding identified in our audit is described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs. Echols County Board of Education's response was not subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of compliance and, accordingly, we express no opinion on the response.

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 OMB Circular A-133. Accordingly, this report is not suitable for any other purpose.

Respectfully submitted,



Greg S. Griffin
State Auditor

GSG:kt
2015SA-40

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SECTION III

AUDITEE'S RESPONSE TO PRIOR YEAR FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS

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ECHOLS COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
AUDITEE'S RESPONSE
SUMMARY SCHEDULE OF PRIOR YEAR FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS
YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2015

PRIOR YEAR FINANCIAL STATEMENT FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS

FINDING CONTROL NUMBER AND STATUS

FS 2014-001	Previously Reported Corrective Action Implemented

PRIOR YEAR FEDERAL AWARD FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS

FINDING CONTROL NUMBER	AUDITEE'S RESPONSE/STATUS	SEE AUDITOR'S COMMENTS
FA-6501-13-01	Further Action Not Warranted	
FA-6501-13-02	Previously Reported Corrective Action Implemented	
FA 2014-001	Partially Resolved - See Auditor's Comments	(1)
FA 2014-002	Partially Resolved - See Auditor's Comments	(1)

AUDITOR'S COMMENTS

(1) The finding is pending review by the Georgia Department of Education to determine if a refund is appropriate.

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SECTION IV

FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS

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ECHOLS COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS
YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2015

I SUMMARY OF AUDITOR'S RESULTS

Financial Statements

Type of auditor's report issue:
Governmental Activities; General Fund; Capital Projects Fund; Debt Service Fund; Aggregate Remaining Fund Information — Unmodified

Internal control over financial reporting:
- Material weakness identified? — Yes
- Significant deficiency identified? — None Reported

Noncompliance material to financial statements noted: — No

Federal Awards

Internal Control over major programs:
- Material weakness identified? — No
- Significant deficiency identified? — Yes

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 OMB Circular A-133, Section 510(a)? — No

Identification of major programs:

CFDA Numbers	Name of Federal Program or Cluster
10.553, 10.555	Child Nutrition Cluster
84.010	Title I Grants to Local Educational Agencies

Dollar threshold used to distinguish between Type A and Type B programs: $300,000.00

Auditee qualified as low-risk auditee? — No

II FINANCIAL STATEMENT FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS

FS 2015-001 Inadequate Controls over Financial Reporting Process
Control Category: Financial Reporting
Internal Control Impact: Material Weakness
Compliance Impact: None

Description:
The School District did not have adequate controls in place to ensure all required activity was included in the financial statement information presented for audit.

Criteria:
Management is responsible for having adequate controls over the preparation of financial statements in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP). The School District's internal controls over GAAP financial reporting should include adequately trained personnel with the knowledge, skills and experience to prepare GAAP based financial statements and include all disclosures as required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB).

GASB Statement No. 34, *Basic Financial Statement – Management's Discussion and Analysis – for State and Local Governments (*Statement), requires governments to present government-wide and fund financial statements as well as a summary reconciliation of the (a) total governmental funds balances to the net position of governmental activities in the Statement of Net Position, and (b) total change in governmental fund balances to the change in the net position of governmental activities in the Statement of Activities. In addition, the Statement requires information about the government's major and nonmajor funds in the aggregate, to be provided in the fund financial statements.

Chapter 22A *Annual Financial Reporting* of the Financial Management for Georgia Local Units of Administration provides that School Districts must prepare their financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.

Condition:
During the audit, the following corrections were proposed and accepted by the School District to properly present the entity's financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles:

- Cash and Cash Equivalents and Investment Earnings were understated for District Wide and Governmental Fund Statements by $368,428.37, due to QZAB cash not being recorded on the general ledger.
- There were other instances of material and immaterial reclassification entries proposed and accepted by the School District to properly present the School District's financial statements.
- Adjustments were made to properly present the Notes to the Financial Statements.

Cause:
In discussing these issues with management, they stated that a lack of proper procedures led to an oversight on the part of the finance personnel in charge of preparing and posting the appropriate journal entries to the general ledger.

Effect or Potential Effect:
Significant misstatements and misclassifications were included in the financial statements presented for audit. The lack of controls and monitoring could impact the reporting of the School District's financial position and results of operations.

II FINANCIAL STATEMENT FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS

Recommendation:

The School District should strengthen procedures over the financial statement reporting process to ensure that the financial statements presented for audit, including note disclosures are complete and accurate. These controls should include a monitoring process to evaluate the accuracy of the financial statements. These procedures should be performed by properly trained personnel possessing a thorough understanding of the applicable GAAP, GASB pronouncements and the School District's operations.

Views of Responsible Officials and Corrective Action Plans:

We concur with this finding. The QZAB bond was acquired in 2001 prior to the current administration and finance staff. We also hired someone to prepare our Financials in 2015. During our audit, the finance person was told that the QZAB had actually been changed (by the Bank) during fiscal year 2015 from an investment to cash. It was an oversite by the finance person to not inform the Financial Preparer of this change. QZAB closed out in fiscal year 2016, so we do not anticipate this occurring again.

Contact Person: Rebecca Corbett, Finance
Telephone: (229) 559-5734
Fax: (229) 559-0484
E-mail: Rebecca.corbett@echols.k12.ga.us

III FEDERAL AWARD FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS

FA 2015-001	Inadequate Controls Over the Cash Management Process
Compliance Requirement:	Cash Management
Internal Control Impact:	Significant Deficiency
Compliance Impact:	Nonmaterial Noncompliance
Federal Awarding Agency:	U.S. Department of Education
Pass-Through Entity:	Georgia Department of Education
CFDA Number and Title:	Title I Grants to Local Educational Agencies (CFDA 84.010)
Questioned Costs:	None Identified

Description:

The School District made cash drawdowns in excess of immediate cash needs for the Title I program and did not have controls in place to ensure that drawdowns were properly approved prior to the drawdowns being completed.

Criteria:

In accordance with 34 CFR 80.21, when School Districts are funded on a reimbursement basis, program costs must be paid for by School District funds before reimbursement is requested.

Condition:

The School District maintained excessive cash balances for seven months for the Title I program. The average monthly cash balance was in excess of 4% of the total Title I cash receipts for the 2015 fiscal year. In addition, drawdowns were completed by the Central Office Bookkeeper without evidence of prior approval of the Program Director or other management personnel.

III FEDERAL AWARD FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS

Cause:

In discussing this deficiency with management, they stated that the School District does monitor expenditures for the program to determine the amount of drawdown requests but did not monitor the cash balance for the program in the general ledger prior to requesting funds.

Effect or Potential Effect:

Failure to monitor the cash needs of the program resulted in noncompliance with requirements of the Federal grant.

Recommendation:

The School District should implement procedures to monitor the monthly cash balance for the program prior to requesting reimbursement from the Georgia Department of Education. In addition, procedures should be implemented to have the Program Director or other management approval of drawdown amounts prior to the drawdown being completed.

Views of Responsible Officials and Corrective Action Plans:

We concur with this finding. Going forward cash balances will be monitored and drawdowns will be reviewed by and signed by the Program Director. This procedure was implemented after our audit findings and will be effective with our draws beginning in July 2016.

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