

**S** T. LAWRENCE-LEWIS  
COUNTIES BOCES

---

*FINANCIAL STATEMENTS*

June 30, 2019



# Table of Contents

## ST. LAWRENCE-LEWIS COUNTIES BOCES

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT	1
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS	4
AUDITED BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS	21
STATEMENT OF NET POSITION - GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES	21
STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES AND CHANGES IN NET POSITION - GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES	22
BALANCE SHEET – GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS	23
RECONCILIATION OF GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS BALANCE SHEET TO STATEMENT OF NET POSITION	24
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES – GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS	26
RECONCILIATION OF GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES TO STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES	27
STATEMENT OF FIDUCIARY NET POSITION	28
NOTES TO AUDITED BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS	29
REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION	74
SCHEDULE OF CHANGES IN THE BOCES' TOTAL OPEB LIABILITY AND RELATED RATIOS	74
SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE – BUDGET (NON-GAAP) BASIS AND ACTUAL – GENERAL FUND	75
SCHEDULE OF THE BOCES' PROPORTIONATE SHARE OF THE NET PENSION ASSET (LIABILITY) – NYSLRS PENSION PLAN	77
SCHEDULE OF THE BOCES' CONTRIBUTIONS – NYSLRS PENSION PLAN	78
SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION	79
SCHEDULE OF CHANGE FROM ADOPTED BUDGET TO FINAL BUDGET – GENERAL FUND	79
ANALYSIS OF ACCOUNT A431 SCHOOL DISTRICTS	80
SCHEDULE OF CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND – PROJECT EXPENDITURES AND FINANCING RESOURCES	81
NET INVESTMENT IN CAPITAL ASSETS	82
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 <i>GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS</i>	83



**BOWERS & COMPANY  
CPAs PLLC**

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS • BUSINESS CONSULTANTS

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT**

---

**BOARD OF EDUCATION  
ST LAWRENCE-LEWIS COUNTIES BOCES**

**Report on the Financial Statements**

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities and each major fund of St. Lawrence-Lewis Counties BOCES as of and for the year ended June 30, 2019, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the BOCES' 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 are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

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

## **Opinions**

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities and each major fund of the St. Lawrence-Lewis Counties BOCES, as of June 30, 2019, and the respective changes in financial position for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

## **Other Matters**

### *Required Supplementary Information*

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the Management's Discussion and Analysis (pages 4-20), Schedule of Changes in the BOCES' Total OPEB Liability and Related Ratios (page 74), Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance – Budget (Non-GAAP) Basis and Actual – General Fund (page 75-76), Schedule of the BOCES' Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Asset (Liability) – NYSLRS Pension Plan (page 77), and Schedule of the BOCES' Contributions – NYSLRS Pension Plan (page 78) be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board, who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

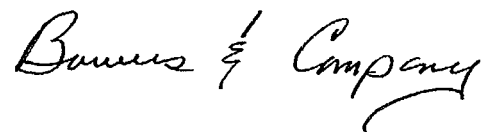
### *Other Information*

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise St. Lawrence-Lewis Counties BOCES' basic financial statements. The Schedule of Change from Adopted Budget to Final Budget – General Fund, Analysis of Account A431 School Districts, Schedule of Capital Projects Fund – Project Expenditures and Financing Resources, and Net Investment in Capital Assets (pages 79-82) are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the basic financial statements.

The Schedule of Change from Adopted Budget to Final Budget – General Fund, Analysis of Account A431 School Districts, Schedule of Capital Projects Fund – Project Expenditures and Financing Resources, and Net Investment in Capital Assets (pages 79-82) are the responsibility of management and were derived from and relate 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 Schedule of Change from Adopted Budget to Final Budget – General Fund, Analysis of Account A431 School Districts, Schedule of Capital Projects Fund – Project Expenditures and Financing Resources, and Net Investment in Capital Assets (pages 79-82) are 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 October 10, 2019 on our consideration of the St. Lawrence-Lewis Counties BOCES' internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the St. Lawrence-Lewis Counties BOCES' 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 St. Lawrence-Lewis Counties BOCES' internal control over financial reporting and compliance.



Watertown, New York  
October 10, 2019

**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS**

June 30, 2019

**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS**

---

The following is a discussion and analysis of the St. Lawrence-Lewis Board of Cooperative Educational Services (BOCES) financial performance for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2019. This section is a summary of the BOCES' financial activities based on currently known facts, decisions, or conditions. It is also based on both the government-wide and fund-based financial statements. The results of the current year are discussed in comparison with the prior year, with an emphasis placed on the current year. This section is only an introduction and should be read in conjunction with the BOCES' financial statements, which immediately follow this section.

**ORGANIZATIONAL PURPOSE AND DETAILED MISSION**

---

The BOCES is formed, pursuant to New York State Education Law, by two or more school districts and a supervisory district for the purpose of providing various educational services on a cooperative or shared basis which services would either be economically unfeasible or duplicative for each school district to provide for itself. The State Legislature created Boards of Cooperative Educational Services in 1948 to operate as an extension of the public-school system.

This BOCES is a cooperative association of eighteen school districts, encompassing a land area of over 2,500 square miles in Upstate New York with administration offices located in the Village of Canton.

Member school districts participate in specific programs and services on a cost-sharing basis. In addition, they are eligible for state aid for all services they contract. The services that BOCES offers cover a wide spectrum of public education:

- Consolidated educational services and shared personnel, such as occupational and physical therapists;
- Specialized curriculum, including career and technical education courses, and curriculum development;
- Administrative support personnel;
- Technological support, such as the distance learning network, which uses fiber-optic cables to electronically connect school districts for audiovisual communication;
- Regional planning and coordination, which includes services such as the School Library System (an automated, computerized interlibrary loan system), and other programs and events, including Odyssey of the Mind and grant writing coordination;
- Community resource services, such as programs for mentally and physically handicapped students, career education, and adult GED and job skill courses.

**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS**

June 30, 2019

**ORGANIZATIONAL PURPOSE AND DETAILED MISSION -**

Continued

---

One of the unique aspects of the BOCES operation is the high degree of client representation in planning and decision-making. This involvement assures that new services are developed to meet the specific needs of the component schools while maintaining efficiency and allow school districts to utilize state BOCES aid.

The component school districts that comprise the BOCES are as follows:

Brasher Falls	Hammond	Massena
Canton	Harrisville	Morristown
Clifton-Fine	Hermon-DeKalb	Norwood-Norfolk
Colton-Pierrepoint	Heuvelton	Ogdensburg
Edwards-Knox	Lisbon	Parishville-Hopkinton
Gouverneur	Madrid-Waddington	Potsdam

**FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS**

---

The BOCES' total net position of governmental activities decreased \$3,536,591 during the fiscal year ended June 30, 2019, which represents a 1.94% decrease in net position from fiscal year ended June 30, 2018. The majority of this decrease can be attributed to the net expense of \$4,196,136 related to the BOCES' postemployment benefit obligation and related deferred outflows/inflows of resources.

Overall revenues of \$74,773,890 exceeded expenditures of \$70,810,636 by \$3,963,254 in the governmental fund financial statements.

On October 9, 2018, voters approved a \$43,500,000 capital project for additions and reconstruction of the BOCES career and technical education centers. Preliminary work has begun on the project in the 2019 fiscal year. A total of \$1,003,381 was expended in the Capital Projects Fund in 2018-2019 for work on the preliminary phases.

The fund balance of the BOCES has decreased slightly to \$2,797,577 in 2019 from \$3,285,308 in 2018.

Among major funds, the General Fund had \$66,324,652 in revenues compared to \$64,408,162 in expenditures in fiscal year 2019. The General Fund also reported a net transfer out to the Capital Projects Fund of \$505,000. The General Fund does not retain operating surplus and any excess monies are refunded in the subsequent fiscal year to the component school districts. The amount to be refunded for fiscal year 2019 is \$4,411,490, which is an increase of \$1,234,695 from fiscal year 2018.



**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS**

June 30, 2019

**FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS - Continued**

---

In 2018-19, the BOCES partnered with Cornell Cooperative Extension to deliver locally grown foods to 21 school districts as part of the Farm-to-School Project through NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets.

**OVERVIEW OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

---

This annual report consists of three parts: MD&A (this section), the audited basic financial statements, and required supplementary information. The basic financial statements include two kinds of statements that present different views of the BOCES.

The first two statements are *BOCES-wide* financial statements that provide both short-term and long-term information about the BOCES' overall financial status.

The remaining statements are *fund financial statements* that focus on *individual parts* of the BOCES, reporting the BOCES' operations in *more detail* than the BOCES-wide statements. The fund financial statements concentrate on the BOCES' most significant funds with all other non-major funds listed in total in one column. The BOCES did not have any non-major funds in the current fiscal year.

The *governmental funds statements* tell how basic services such as regular and special education were financed in the *short term* as well as what remains for future spending.

*Fiduciary funds* statements provide information about the financial relationships in which the BOCES acts solely as a *trustee* or *agent* for the benefit of others.

The financial statements also include notes that explain some of the information in the statements and provide more detailed data. The statements are followed by a section of required supplementary information that further explains and supports the financial statements with comparison of the BOCES' budget for the year.


Figure A-1 summarizes the major features of the BOCES' financial statements, including the portion of the BOCES activities they cover and the types of information they contain. The remainder of this overview section of MD&A highlights the structure and contents of each of the statements.

**ST. LAWRENCE-LEWIS COUNTIES BOCES**

**MANAGEMENT’S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS**

June 30, 2019

**OVERVIEW OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - Continued**

<b>Table A-1</b>	<b>Major Features of the BOCES-Wide and Fund Financial Statement</b>		
		<b>Fund Financial Statements</b>	
	<b>BOCES-Wide</b>	<b>Governmental Funds</b>	<b>Fiduciary Funds</b>
<b>Scope</b>	Entire BOCES (except fiduciary funds)	The activities of the BOCES that are not fiduciary, such as instruction, special education and building maintenance	Instances in which the BOCES administers resources on behalf of someone else, such as scholarship programs and student activities' monies
<b>Required Financial Statements</b>	1. Statement of Net Position 2. Statement of Activities	3. Balance Sheet 4. Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance	5. Statement of Fiduciary Net Position 6. Statement of Changes in Fiduciary Net Position
<b>Accounting Basis and Measurement Focus</b>	Accrual accounting and economic resources focus	Modified accrual accounting and current financial focus	Accrual accounting and economic focus
<b>Type of Asset / Liability Information</b>	All assets and liabilities, both financial and capital, short term and long-term	Generally, assets expected to be used up and liabilities that come due during the year or soon thereafter; no capital assets or long-term liabilities included	All assets and liabilities both short-term and long-term; funds do not currently contain capital assets, although they can
<b>Type of Inflow / Outflow Information</b>	All revenues and expenses during the year, regardless of when cash is received or paid	Revenues for which cash is received during or soon after the end of the year; expenditures when goods or services have been received and the related liability is due and payable	Additions and deductions during the year, regardless of when cash is received or paid

**BOCES-Wide Statements**

The BOCES-wide statements report information about the BOCES as a whole using accounting methods similar to those used by private-sector companies. The statement of net position includes all of the BOCES’ assets, deferred outflows of resources, liabilities and deferred inflows of resources. All of the current year’s revenues and expenses are accounted for in the statement of activities regardless of when cash is received or paid.

**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS**

June 30, 2019

**OVERVIEW OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - Continued**

---

**BOCES-Wide Statements - Continued**

The two BOCES-wide statements report the BOCES' net position and how they have changed. Net position – the difference between the BOCES' assets and deferred outflows of resources and the BOCES' liabilities and deferred inflows of resources – is one way to measure the BOCES' financial health or position.

Over time, increases or decreases in the BOCES' net position is an indicator of whether its financial position is improving or deteriorating, respectively.

To assess the BOCES' overall health, additional non-financial factors such as changes in the BOCES component districts' finances and the condition of school buildings and other facilities, need to be considered.

In the BOCES-wide financial statements, the BOCES' activities are shown as *Governmental Activities*. Most of the BOCES' basic services are included here, such as occupational and special education, instructional support and administration. Billings to component districts and state formula aid finance most of these activities.

**Fund Financial Statements**

The fund financial statements provide more detailed information about the BOCES' funds, focusing on its most significant "major" funds – not the BOCES' as a whole. Funds are accounting devices the BOCES' uses to keep track of specific sources of funding and spending on particular programs:

Some funds are required by State law and by bond covenants.

The BOCES establishes other funds to control and to manage money for particular purposes (such as repaying its long-term debts) or to show that it is properly using certain revenues (such as Federal grants).

**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS**

June 30, 2019

**OVERVIEW OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - Continued**

---

**Fund Financial Statements**

The BOCES has two kinds of funds:

**Governmental Funds:** Most of the BOCES' basic services are included in governmental funds, which generally focus on (1) how cash and other financial assets can readily be converted to cash flow in and out and (2) the balances left at year end that are available for spending. Consequently, the governmental funds statements provide a detailed short-term view that helps you determine whether there are more or fewer financial resources that can be spent in the near future to finance the BOCES' programs. Because this information does not encompass the additional long-term focus of the BOCES-wide statements, additional information at the bottom of the governmental funds statements explains the relationship (or differences) between them.

**Fiduciary Funds:** The BOCES is the trustee, or fiduciary, for assets that belong to others, such as the St. Lawrence-Lewis Counties School District Employees Medical and Workers' Compensation Plan assets. The BOCES 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 BOCES excludes these activities from the BOCES-wide financial statements because it cannot use these assets to finance its operations.

**FINANCIAL ANALYSIS OF THE BOCES FUNDS AS A WHOLE**

---

Net position may serve over time as a useful indicator of a government's financial condition. In the case of the BOCES, liabilities and deferred inflows exceeded assets and deferred outflows by \$187,687,096 at the close of the most recent fiscal year. This represents a \$3,536,591 decrease in the Statement of Net Position. The overall deficit is largely due to the BOCES other postemployment benefit ("OPEB") liability. As of June 30, 2019, the OPEB liability was \$201,795,170 compared to \$187,953,018 reported at the close of the prior fiscal year. The overall decrease in net position in the current fiscal year is largely due to the net OPEB expense reported in the current year of \$4,196,136.

**ST. LAWRENCE-LEWIS COUNTIES BOCES**

**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS**

June 30, 2019

**FINANCIAL ANALYSIS OF THE BOCES FUNDS AS A WHOLE -**

Continued

The following table presents a condensed statement of net position for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2019 and June 30, 2018, respectively:

**Condensed Statement of Net Position**

	<b>June 30, 2019</b>	<b>June 30, 2018</b>	<b>% Change</b>
<b>ASSETS</b>			
Current Assets	\$ 28,849,446	\$ 27,325,320	5.58%
Net Pension Asset - Proportionate Share	2,153,611	911,303	100.00%
Capital Assets, Net	27,299,630	27,462,826	-0.59%
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$ 58,302,687</b>	<b>\$ 55,699,449</b>	<b>4.67%</b>
<b>DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES</b>			
Other Postemployment Benefits	\$ 9,162,351	\$ 3,912,746	134.17%
Pensions	12,893,900	14,773,278	-12.72%
<b>TOTAL DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES</b>	<b>\$ 22,056,251</b>	<b>\$ 18,686,024</b>	<b>18.04%</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>			
Current Liabilities	\$ 27,446,853	\$ 25,540,677	7.46%
Long-Term Debt Outstanding	213,129,438	200,386,120	6.36%
Net Pension Liability - Proportionate Share	2,283,625	958,646	138.21%
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>\$ 242,859,916</b>	<b>\$ 226,885,443</b>	<b>7.04%</b>
<b>DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES</b>			
Other Postemployment Benefits	\$ 19,607,994	\$ 24,004,405	100.00%
Pensions	3,578,124	5,646,130	-36.63%
<b>TOTAL DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES</b>	<b>\$ 23,186,118</b>	<b>\$ 29,650,535</b>	<b>-21.80%</b>
<b>NET POSITION</b>			
Net Investment in Capital Assets	16,131,045	15,148,275	6.49%
Restricted	2,997,950	3,036,256	-1.26%
Unrestricted (Deficit)	(204,816,091)	(200,335,036)	2.24%
<b>TOTAL NET POSITION</b>	<b>\$ (185,687,096)</b>	<b>\$ (182,150,505)</b>	<b>1.94%</b>

**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS**

June 30, 2019

**FINANCIAL ANALYSIS OF THE BOCES FUNDS AS A WHOLE -**

Continued

---

By far, the largest portion of the BOCES' net position reflects its investment in capital assets (e.g., land and site improvements, buildings and fixtures, vehicles, furniture and equipment and construction in progress); less any related debt used to acquire those assets that are still outstanding. The BOCES uses these capital assets to provide services to its students; consequently, these assets are not available for future spending. Although the BOCES' investment in its capital assets is reported net of related debt, it should be noted that the resources needed to repay this debt must be provided from other sources, since the capital assets themselves cannot be used to liquidate these liabilities.

In addition to assets, the *Statement of Net Position* reports a separate section for deferred outflows of resources. This separate financial statement element, *deferred outflows of resources*, represents a consumption of net position that applies to a future period and so will not be recognized as an outflow of resources (expense/expenditure) until then. Included in deferred outflows of resources in the current year is \$12,893,900 related to the BOCES' participation in the NYS TRS and ERS pension systems and \$9,162,351 related to the BOCES' OPEB Plan.

In addition to liabilities, the *Statement of Net Position* or Balance Sheet will sometimes report a separate section for deferred inflows of resources. This separate financial statement element, *deferred inflows of resources*, represents an acquisition of net position or fund balance that applies to a future period(s) and so will not be recognized as an inflow of resources (revenue) until that time. Included in deferred inflows of resources in the current year is \$3,578,124 related to the BOCES' participation in the NYS TRS and ERS pension systems, and \$19,607,994 related to the BOCES' OPEB Plan.

The BOCES' financial position is the product of several financial transactions including the net results of activities, the acquisition and payment of debt, the acquisition and disposal of capital assets, actuary post-retirement health insurance valuation, and the depreciation of capital assets.

**Changes in Net Position from Operating Results**

The BOCES' total revenues for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2019 and June 30, 2018, were \$74,757,092 and \$71,253,474, respectively. The total cost of all programs and services was \$73,842,698 for the year ended June 30, 2019 and \$74,517,694 for the year ended June 30, 2018. The following table presents a summary of the changes in net position from operating results for the fiscal years ended June 30, 2019 and June 30, 2018, respectively:

ST. LAWRENCE-LEWIS COUNTIES BOCES

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

June 30, 2019

FINANCIAL ANALYSIS OF THE BOCES FUNDS AS A WHOLE -

Continued

Changes in Net Position from Operating Results - Continued

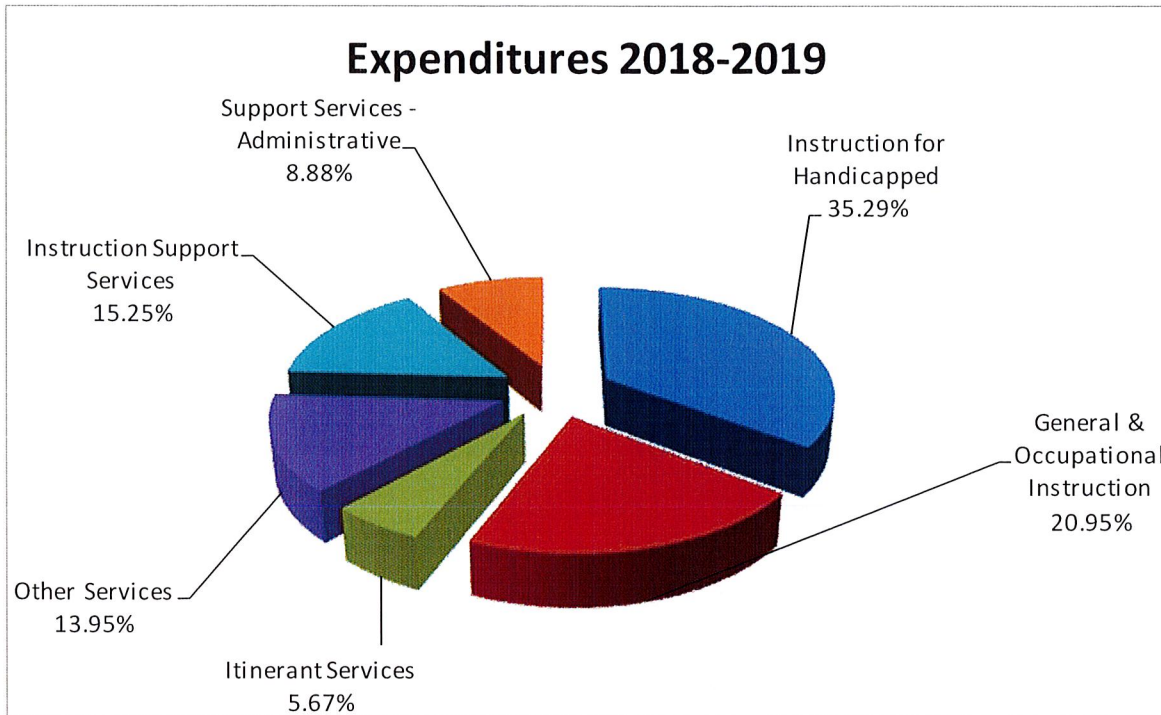
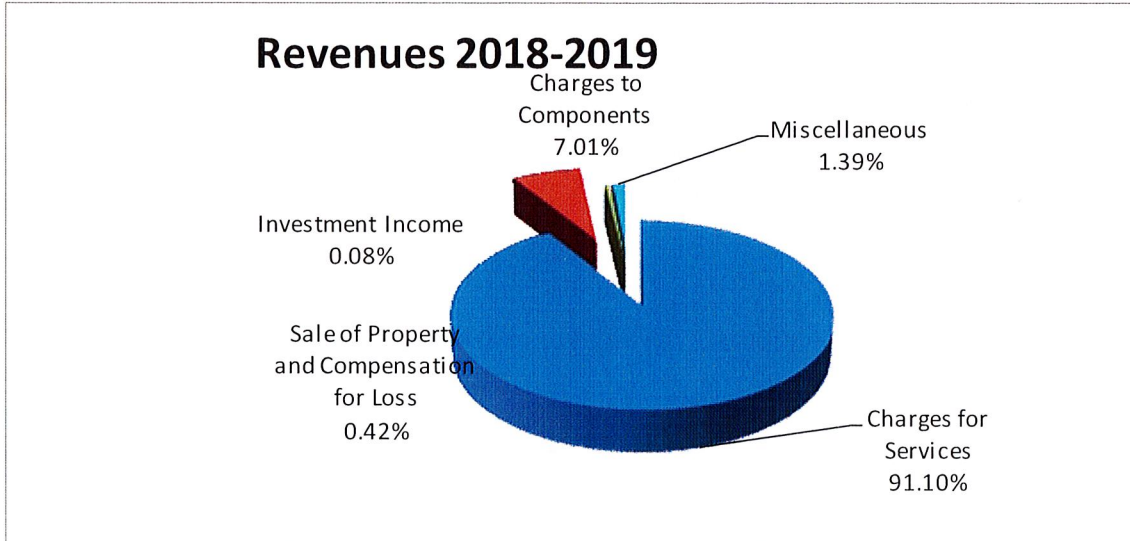
	June 30, 2019	June 30, 2018	% Change
<b>Revenues:</b>			
Program Revenues:			
Charges for Services	\$ 68,104,747	64,555,619	5.50%
Operating Grants	5,232,680	4,970,133	5.28%
General Revenues			
Sale of Property & Compensation for Loss	316,278	274,879	15.06%
Investment Income	63,012	25,131	150.73%
Miscellaneous	1,040,375	1,427,712	-27.13%
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>\$ 74,757,092</b>	<b>\$ 71,253,474</b>	<b>4.92%</b>
<b>Expenses:</b>			
Instruction for Handicapped	\$ 26,056,919	\$ 26,039,651	0.07%
General & Occupational Instruction	15,473,595	16,094,408	-3.86%
Itinerant Services	4,186,976	4,204,912	-0.43%
Other Services	10,303,802	10,297,378	0.06%
Instruction Support Services	11,263,737	10,578,468	6.48%
Support Services - Administrative	6,557,669	7,302,877	-10.20%
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 73,842,698</b>	<b>\$ 74,517,694</b>	<b>-0.91%</b>
<b>Change in Net Position</b>	<b>\$ 914,394</b>	<b>\$ (3,264,220)</b>	<b>-128.01%</b>

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

June 30, 2019

FINANCIAL ANALYSIS OF THE BOCES FUNDS AS A WHOLE -

Continued



\*\* Percentage may not add up to 100% due to rounding\*\*



**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS**

June 30, 2019

**BUDGETARY HIGHLIGHTS**

Over the course of the year, the BOCES revised the annual revenue budget for student and program growth. In order to revise budgets, School Districts request the change in writing to the BOCES. The difference between the original budget and the final amended budget was 4.6%. The \$3,036,057 increase can be briefly summarized as follows:

	<b>Original Budget</b>	<b>Final Budget</b>	<b>Increase (Decrease)</b>
Administration	\$ 9,104,132	\$ 9,084,057	\$ (20,075)
Occupational Instruction	9,913,921	10,139,779	225,858
Instruction for Special Education	23,915,353	23,881,880	(33,473)
Itinerant Services	3,969,785	4,106,002	136,217
General Instruction	2,356,809	1,911,174	(445,635)
Instructional Support	7,457,815	9,858,225	2,400,410
Other Services	9,570,780	10,343,535	772,755
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 66,288,595</b>	<b>\$ 69,324,652</b>	<b>\$ 3,036,057</b>

Instructional Support saw the largest budget increase. This can be attributed to increased requests for professional development and technology relating to the Next Generation Learning Standards and Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) initiatives. Other Services increased due to district requests for more technology to implement many of the new instructional standards.

The table below shows how the actual expenditures compare to budget amounts:

	<b>Final Budget</b>	<b>Actual Expenditures &amp; Transfers</b>	<b>Variance</b>
Administration	\$ 8,074,058	\$ 7,588,938	\$ 485,120
Occupational Instruction	10,139,779	9,914,622	225,157
Instruction for Special Education	23,881,880	21,491,268	2,390,612
Itinerant Services	4,106,003	3,841,389	264,614
General Instruction	1,911,171	1,842,565	68,606
Instructional Support	9,858,226	9,599,324	258,902
Other Services	10,343,535	9,625,056	718,479
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 68,314,652</b>	<b>\$ 63,903,162</b>	<b>\$ 4,411,490</b>

**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS**

June 30, 2019

**BUDGETARY HIGHLIGHTS - Continued**

---

There were budget variances in several categories in 2018-2019. Special Education saw the largest variance with a positive amount of \$2,390,612 under budget. It should be noted that there is typically a variance in this category. Districts are able to modify their service requests for special education throughout the year. Budgets are set higher in order to provide stable tuition rates given the fluctuating enrollments.

**ANALYSIS OF THE BOCES' FUNDS**

---

**General Fund**

The General Fund had total expenditures (including net interfund transfers) of \$64,913,162 and total revenues of \$69,324,652. The General Fund does not retain surplus and any excess monies are refunded in the subsequent fiscal year to the component school districts. The amount to be refunded from the 2018-2019 budgets is \$4,411,490, which is an increase of \$1,234,695 from the previous fiscal year refund of \$3,176,795. A majority of this increase is attributable to the increased enrollments in special education.

The major portion of the General Fund expenditures goes directly to the Instruction for Special Education programs- \$21,491,268 (33.37%). Other major categories in the General Fund are General and Occupational Instruction - \$11,757,187 (18.25%), Other Services - \$9,625,056 (14.94%) and Instructional Support - \$9,599,324 (14.90%).

Charges to component districts comprise the largest portion of revenues in the General Fund. From 2018 to 2019, there was an increase of \$3,395,925, or 5.34%. in this category. This increase can be attributed to increased requests for special education services, technology and professional development. The General Fund also saw an increase in charges to other BOCES from 2018 to 2019 of \$153,869 or 15.92\$. A majority of this increase is due to the addition of districts from the Jefferson-Lewis-Hamilton BOCES into our Central School Food Management service.

The overall fund balance of the BOCES decreased in 2019 by \$487,731. The majority of this decrease can be attributed to the Capital Fund where the BOCES has begun preliminary work on the voter approved \$43,500,000 capital project. Expenditures in the current year of \$1,003,381 exceeded net interfund transfers of \$505,000 for a net decrease in Capital Projects fund balance of \$477,192.

**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS**

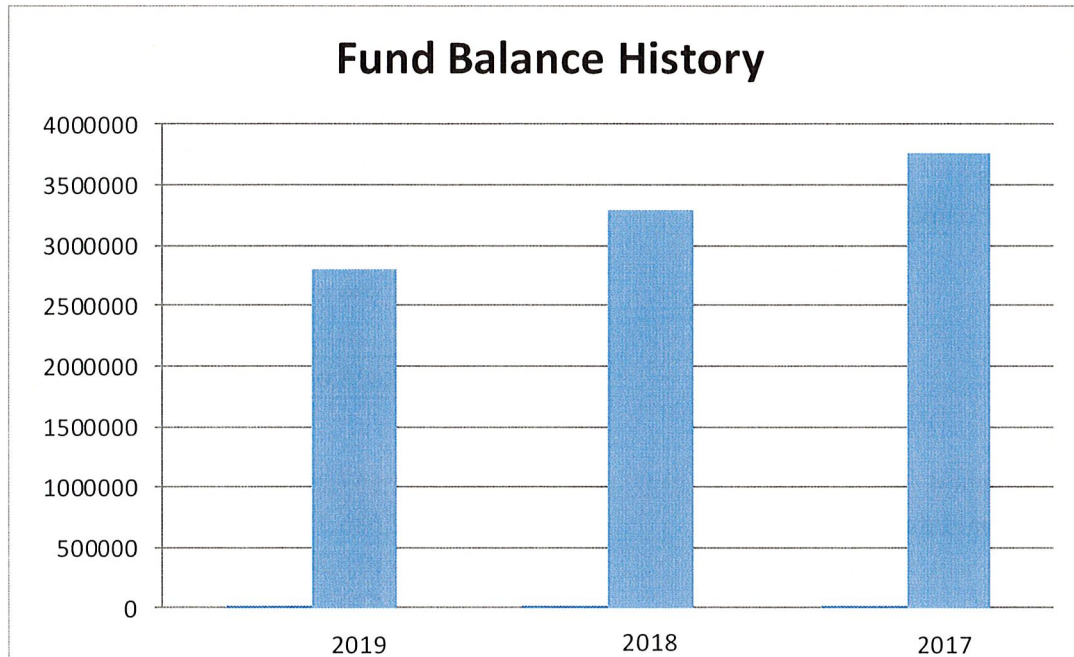
June 30, 2019

**ANALYSIS OF THE BOCES' FUNDS - Continued**

---

**General Fund - Continued**

Following is a chart showing the fund balance at year-end for the last three years:



**Special Aid Fund**

There was an increase in revenues from both state and federal sources from fiscal year 2018 to fiscal year 2019. This can be attributed to increased allocations in the WIOA Title 2 grants as well as new grant funding for a Learning Technology grant and Basic Literacy grant.

**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS**

June 30, 2019

**ANALYSIS OF THE BOCES' FUNDS - Continued**

**Special Aid Fund - Continued**

The table below shows the revenues and expenditures recorded in the Special Aid Fund for the fiscal years ended June 30, 2019 and 2018.

	2019	2018
<b>Revenues:</b>		
Charges for Services	\$ 467,524	423,714
Sale of Property & Compensation for Loss	10,335	9,263
Miscellaneous	2,629,577	2,678,009
State Sources	1,579,877	1,482,429
Federal Sources	740,736	622,696
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>\$ 5,428,049</b>	<b>\$ 5,216,111</b>
<b>Expenses:</b>		
Occupational Instruction	\$ 1,167,256	\$ 1,087,193
Instruction for Special Education	2,686,276	2,746,703
General Instruction	616,206	469,470
Instructional Support	780,568	733,261
Other Services	148,787	142,617
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 5,399,093</b>	<b>\$ 5,179,244</b>

**CAPITAL ASSETS AND DEBT ADMINISTRATION**

**Capital Assets**

As of June 30, 2019, the BOCES had invested \$27,299,630 in capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation, including school buildings, site improvements, fixtures, vehicles, and office, computer and shop equipment.

**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS**

June 30, 2019

**CAPITAL ASSETS AND DEBT ADMINISTRATION****Capital Assets - Continued**

The following schedule presents changes in capital asset balances, net of depreciation, for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2019.

	Balance 6/30/2018	Additions	Retirements/ Reclassifications	Balance 6/30/2019
Land	\$ 576,295	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 576,295
Construction-in-Progress	-	1,003,381	-	1,003,381
Site Improvements	2,382,952	-	-	2,382,952
Buildings	30,836,815	-	-	30,836,815
Furniture and Equipment	7,711,156	875,208	(66,167)	8,520,197
Capital Leases	3,553,440	416,523	(876,871)	3,093,092
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	(17,597,832)	(2,413,536)	898,266	(19,113,102)
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 27,462,826</b>	<b>\$ (118,424)</b>	<b>\$ (44,772)</b>	<b>\$ 27,299,630</b>

**Long-Term Debt**

At year-end, the BOCES had \$216,854,287 in NYS Dormitory Authority Bonds, Installment Purchase Debt, and other long-term debt outstanding, of which \$1,441,224 is due within one year.

The following table presents a summary of changes in the BOCES' outstanding long-term debt for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2019:

	Balance 6/30/2018	Issues/ Increases	Reductions	Balance 6/30/2019
NYS Dormitory Authority	\$ 10,805,000	\$ -	\$ (995,000)	\$ 9,810,000
Municipal Lease	143,575	-	(143,575)	-
Installment Purchases	1,123,807	409,572	(393,167)	1,140,212
Compensated Absences	1,643,550	-	(36,643)	1,606,907
Premium on Bonds	242,169	-	(23,796)	218,373
Other Postemployment Benefits Liability	187,953,018	13,842,152	-	201,795,170
Net Pension Liability - Proportionate Share	958,646	1,324,979	-	2,283,625
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 202,869,765</b>	<b>\$ 15,576,703</b>	<b>\$ (1,592,181)</b>	<b>\$ 216,854,287</b>

**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS**

June 30, 2019

**CAPITAL ASSETS AND DEBT ADMINISTRATION - Continued**

---

**Long-Term Debt - Continued**

The BOCES carries a Moody's rating of "Aa3" currently, as a new general obligation debt exists.

State statutes currently limit the amount of general obligation debt a BOCES may issue to a maximum of the unencumbered constitutional debt limits remaining among the component districts. The current debt limitation for the BOCES is substantially more than the BOCES outstanding general obligation debt.

**ECONOMIC FACTORS AND NEXT YEAR'S BUDGET**

---

Student enrollment in the component districts has been decreasing at a rate of 1 % to 1½ % per year. This continuous decline in enrollment could negatively impact the enrollment in the BOCES programs over time.

The voters approved a \$43.5 million capital project on October 9, 2018. This project includes renovations and additions at the three technical centers. Plans have been submitted to SED for approval and construction is expected to begin in the spring of 2020. Financing will be through the Dormitory Authority of the State of New York.

Increases in health insurance premiums for the BOCES will continue to rise. The BOCES is a member of a health care consortium with the component school districts. It is anticipated that annual increases of 6-8% will continue.

Labor contracts with the Teachers' Association and Federation of Instructional Support Personnel have been settled. A major provision in both contracts was a change in health insurance coverage to rider 10, as well as increased employee contributions towards premiums.

The labor contract with the Non-Instructional Support Staff Association expired June 30, 2018. Both parties have participated in mediation sessions with no agreement reached. Future wage and benefit agreements are unknown at this time.

The uncertainty of federal and state funding can have a profound impact on the financial health of the component districts. There is the possibility that component districts will need to cut BOCES services in the future in order to balance their budgets.

**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS**

June 30, 2019

**CONTACTING THE BOCES' FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT**

This financial report is designed to provide our citizens, taxpayers, investors and creditors with a general overview of the BOCES' finances and to demonstrate the BOCES' accountability for the resources it receives. If you have questions about this report or need additional information, contact:

Director of Financial Affairs  
St. Lawrence-Lewis Board of Cooperative Educational Services  
PO Box 231  
40 West Main Street  
Canton, New York 13617

## AUDITED BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**STATEMENT OF NET POSITION - GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES**

June 30, 2019

<b>ASSETS</b>		
Cash and Cash Equivalents		
Unrestricted	\$	10,182,812
Restricted		2,696,806
Investments		
Restricted		1,493,697
Receivables		
State and Federal Aid		11,219,072
E-rate Receivable		190,874
Due from Other Governments		279,241
Due from Fiduciary Funds		185
Other Receivables		2,772,488
Prepaid Expenditures		14,271
Net Pension Asset - Proportionate Share		2,153,611
Capital Assets, Net		27,299,630
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b><u>58,302,687</u></b>
<b>DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES</b>		
Other Postemployment Benefits	\$	9,162,351
Pensions		12,893,900
<b>TOTAL DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b><u>22,056,251</u></b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
Payables		
Accounts Payable	\$	1,454,066
Accrued Liabilities		347,431
Due to Other Governments		50,720
Due to Teachers' Retirement System		2,307,734
Due to Employees' Retirement System		420,412
Due to School Districts		14,778,953
Bond Interest and Principal Payable, Net of Prepaid Interest		1,146,313
Notes Payable		
Revenue Anticipation		5,500,000
Long-Term Liabilities		
Due and Payable Within One Year		
Bonds Payable, Net of Unamortized Premiums		1,058,796
Installment Purchase Debt Payable		382,428
Due and Payable After One Year		
Bonds Payable, Net of Unamortized Premiums		8,969,577
Installment Purchase Debt Payable		757,784
Compensated Absences Payable		1,606,907
Other Postemployment Benefits Payable		201,795,170
Net Pension Liability - Proportionate Share		2,283,625
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b><u>242,859,916</u></b>
<b>DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES</b>		
Other Postemployment Benefits	\$	19,607,994
Pensions		3,578,124
<b>TOTAL DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b><u>23,186,118</u></b>
<b>NET POSITION</b>		
Net Investment in Capital Assets	\$	16,131,045
Restricted for		
Debt Service		301,144
Other Legal Restrictions		2,696,806
Unrestricted (Deficit)		(204,816,091)
<b>TOTAL NET POSITION</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b><u>(185,687,096)</u></b>

See notes to audited basic financial statements.



**ST. LAWRENCE-LEWIS COUNTIES BOCES**

**STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES AND CHANGES IN NET POSITION - GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES**

Year Ended June 30, 2019

	<u>Expenses</u>	<u>Program Revenues</u>		<u>Net (Expenses) Revenues and Changes in Net Position</u>
		<u>Charges for Services</u>	<u>Operating Grants</u>	
<b>FUNCTIONS/PROGRAMS</b>				
Administration	\$ 6,557,669	\$ 8,883,132	\$ -	\$ 2,325,463
Occupational Instruction	12,603,894	9,787,533	1,115,198	(1,701,163)
Instruction for Special Education	26,056,919	23,795,694	2,519,985	258,760
Itinerant Services	4,186,976	4,083,499	-	(103,477)
General Instruction	2,869,701	1,660,104	894,316	(315,281)
Instructional Support	11,263,737	9,710,126	554,394	(999,217)
Other Services	10,303,802	10,184,659	148,787	29,644
	<u>\$ 73,842,698</u>	<u>\$ 68,104,747</u>	<u>\$ 5,232,680</u>	<u>(505,271)</u>
<b>GENERAL REVENUES</b>				
Use of Money and Property				63,012
Gain on Disposition of Property				316,278
Miscellaneous				1,040,375
				<u>1,419,665</u>
Total General Revenues				1,419,665
Other Changes in Net Position				<u>(4,450,985)</u>
Change in Net Position				(3,536,591)
Net Position - Beginning of Year				<u>(182,150,505)</u>
Net Position - End of Year				<u>\$ (185,687,096)</u>

See notes to audited basic financial statements.

**ST. LAWRENCE-LEWIS COUNTIES BOCES**

**BALANCE SHEET – GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS**

June 30, 2019

	<u>General</u>	<u>Special Aid</u>	<u>Capital Projects</u>	<u>Total Governmental Funds</u>
<b>ASSETS</b>				
Cash and Cash Equivalents				
Unrestricted	\$ 9,978,103	\$ 119,939	\$ 84,770	\$ 10,182,812
Restricted	2,386,182	-	310,624	2,696,806
Investments				
Restricted	1,192,553	-	301,144	1,493,697
Receivables				
State and Federal Aid	10,367,463	851,609	-	11,219,072
E-Rate	190,874	-	-	190,874
Due from Other Governments	46	279,195	-	279,241
Due from Other Funds	1,140,571	-	43,211	1,183,782
Due from Fiduciary Funds	185	-	-	185
Other	2,756,226	16,262	-	2,772,488
Prepaid Expenditures	14,271	-	-	14,271
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$ 28,026,474</b>	<b>\$ 1,267,005</b>	<b>\$ 739,749</b>	<b>\$ 30,033,228</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>				
Payables				
Accounts Payable	\$ 1,084,003	\$ 57,151	\$ 312,912	\$ 1,454,066
Accrued Liabilities	293,881	53,550	-	347,431
Due to Other Governments	5,274	45,446	-	50,720
Due to Other Funds	43,211	1,140,571	-	1,183,782
Due to Teachers' Retirement System	2,307,734	-	-	2,307,734
Due to Employees' Retirement System	420,412	-	-	420,412
Due to School Districts	14,778,953	-	-	14,778,953
Bond Interest and Principal Payable	1,192,553	-	-	1,192,553
Note Payable				
Revenue Anticipation	5,500,000	-	-	5,500,000
Total Liabilities	25,626,021	1,296,718	312,912	27,235,651
<b>FUND BALANCES (DEFICIT)</b>				
Nonspendable	14,271	-	-	14,271
Restricted	2,386,182	-	611,768	2,997,950
Unassigned (Deficit)	-	(29,713)	(184,931)	(214,644)
Total Fund Balances (Deficit)	2,400,453	(29,713)	426,837	2,797,577
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES</b>	<b>\$ 28,026,474</b>	<b>\$ 1,267,005</b>	<b>\$ 739,749</b>	<b>\$ 30,033,228</b>

See notes to audited basic financial statements.

**RECONCILIATION OF GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS BALANCE SHEET TO STATEMENT OF NET POSITION**

June 30, 2019

**Total Fund Balance - Governmental Funds** \$ 2,797,577

Amounts reported for governmental activities in the Statement of Net Position are different because:

Proportionate share of long-term asset and liability associated with participation in state retirement systems are not current financial resources or obligations and are not reported in the fund statements.

Net Pension Asset - Proportionate Share - TRS	2,153,611
Net Pension Liability - Proportionate Share - ERS	(2,283,625)

Deferred inflows of resources are not available to pay for current-period expenditures and, therefore, are not reported in the fund statements consist of:

Other Postemployment Benefits	\$ 19,607,994	
Pensions	<u>3,578,124</u>	(23,186,118)

Deferred outflows of resources are not available to pay for current-period expenditures and, therefore, are not reported in the fund statements consist of:

Other Postemployment Benefits	\$ 9,162,351	
Pensions	<u>12,893,900</u>	22,056,251

Capital assets used in governmental activities are not financial resources and, therefore, are not reported as assets in governmental funds:

The Cost of Capital Assets is	\$ 46,412,732	
Accumulated Depreciation is	<u>(19,113,102)</u>	27,299,630

Unamortized premiums on bond issuances are not recognized in the governmental funds. (218,373)

---

**RECONCILIATION OF GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS BALANCE SHEET TO STATEMENT OF  
NET POSITION - CONTINUED**

June 30, 2019

Long-term liabilities, including bonds payable and compensated absences, are not due in the current period and, therefore, are not reported as liabilities in the fund statements. Long-term liabilities, at year end, consist of:

Bonds Payable	\$ 9,810,000	
(Prepaid) Interest on Bonds Payable	(46,240)	
Installment Purchase Debt Payable	1,140,212	
Compensated Absences Payable	1,606,907	
Other Postemployment Benefits Payable	201,795,170	<u>(214,306,049)</u>
<b>Total Net Position - Governmental Activities</b>		<u><u>\$ (185,687,096)</u></u>

**ST. LAWRENCE-LEWIS COUNTIES BOCES**

**STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES –  
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS**

Year Ended June 30, 2019

	<u>General</u>	<u>Special Aid</u>	<u>Capital Projects</u>	<u>Total Governmental Funds</u>
<b>REVENUES</b>				
Charges for Services	\$ 10,901	\$ 467,524	\$ -	\$ 478,425
Charges to Components	66,973,358	-	-	66,973,358
Charges to Other BOCES	1,120,488	-	-	1,120,488
Use of Money and Property	41,823	-	21,189	63,012
Sale of Property and Compensation for Loss	305,943	10,335	-	316,278
Miscellaneous	872,139	2,629,577	-	3,501,716
State Sources	-	1,579,877	-	1,579,877
Federal Sources	-	740,736	-	740,736
Total Revenues	<u>69,324,652</u>	<u>5,428,049</u>	<u>21,189</u>	<u>74,773,890</u>
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>				
Administration	8,093,938	-	-	8,093,938
Occupational Instruction	9,914,622	1,167,256	-	11,081,878
Instruction for Special Education	21,491,268	2,686,276	-	24,177,544
Itinerant Services	3,841,389	-	-	3,841,389
General Instruction	1,842,565	616,206	-	2,458,771
Instructional Support	9,599,324	780,568	-	10,379,892
Other Services	9,625,056	148,787	-	9,773,843
Capital Outlay	-	-	1,003,381	1,003,381
Total Expenditures	<u>64,408,162</u>	<u>5,399,093</u>	<u>1,003,381</u>	<u>70,810,636</u>
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over Expenditures	<u>4,916,490</u>	<u>28,956</u>	<u>(982,192)</u>	<u>3,963,254</u>
<b>OTHER FINANCING SOURCES AND (USES)</b>				
Operating Transfers In	20,000	-	525,000	545,000
Operating Transfers (Out)	<u>(525,000)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(20,000)</u>	<u>(545,000)</u>
Total Other Financing Sources and (Uses)	<u>(505,000)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>505,000</u>	<u>-</u>
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues and Other Financing Sources Over Expenditures and Other (Uses)	<u>4,411,490</u>	<u>28,956</u>	<u>(477,192)</u>	<u>3,963,254</u>
<b>OTHER CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES</b>				
Refund of Surplus Unpaid	(4,411,490)	-	-	(4,411,490)
Employee Benefit Accrued Liability	(12,709)	-	-	(12,709)
Reserve for Unemployment Insurance	(26,786)	-	-	(26,786)
Plus - Encumbrance, Ending	-	-	-	-
Less - Encumbrances, Beginning	-	-	-	-
Total Other Changes in Fund Balances	<u>(4,450,985)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(4,450,985)</u>
Net Change in Fund Balances	(39,495)	28,956	(477,192)	(487,731)
Fund Balances (Deficit) - Beginning of Year	<u>2,439,948</u>	<u>(58,669)</u>	<u>904,029</u>	<u>3,285,308</u>
Fund Balances (Deficit) - End of Year	<u>\$ 2,400,453</u>	<u>\$ (29,713)</u>	<u>\$ 426,837</u>	<u>\$ 2,797,577</u>

See notes to audited basic financial statements.

**ST. LAWRENCE-LEWIS COUNTIES BOCES**

**RECONCILIATION OF GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS STATEMENT OF REVENUES,  
EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES TO STATEMENT OF  
ACTIVITIES**

Year Ended June 30, 2019

**Net Change in Fund Balances - Total Governmental Funds** \$ (487,731)

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

Governmental funds report capital outlays as expenditures. However, in the Statement of Net Position, assets with an initial, individual cost of more than \$5,000 are capitalized and in the Statement of Activities, the cost of those assets is allocated over their estimated useful lives as depreciation expense. This is the amount by which depreciation and loss on disposals exceeded capital outlays in the current period.

Capital Outlays	\$	2,295,112	
Loss on Disposals		(44,772)	
Depreciation Expense		<u>(2,413,536)</u>	(163,196)

Repayment of bond principal and incurrence of new debt is recorded as an expenditure/receipt in the governmental funds, but not in the Statement of Activities. 1,122,170

Interest on long-term debt in the Statement of Activities differs from the amount reported in the governmental funds because interest is recorded as an expenditure in the funds when it is paid, and thus requires the use of current financial resources. In the Statement of Activities, however, interest expense is recognized as the interest accrues, regardless of when it is paid. The following items resulted in decreased interest expense being reported on the Statement of Activities:

Increase in Prepaid Interest	\$	21,906	
Amortization of Bond Premium		<u>23,796</u>	45,702

On the Statement of Activities, certain operating expenses--compensated absences (vacations and certain sick pay), special termination benefits (early retirement) -- are measured by the amount earned during the year. In the governmental funds, however, expenditures for these items are measured by the amount of financial resources used (essentially, the amounts actually paid). 36,643

On the Statement of Activities, the actual and projected long-term expenditures for postemployment benefits and related deferred outflows/inflows are reported, whereas, on the governmental funds only the actual expenditures are recorded for postemployment benefits. (4,196,136)

(Increases) decreases in proportionate share of net pension asset (liability) and related deferred outflows/inflows reported in the Statement of Activities do not provide for or require the use of current financial resources and therefore are not reported as revenues or expenditures in the governmental funds.

Teachers' Retirement System	\$	373,295	
Employees' Retirement System		<u>(267,338)</u>	<u>105,957</u>

**Change in Net Position of Governmental Activities** \$ (3,536,591)

**STATEMENT OF FIDUCIARY NET POSITION**

June 30, 2019

Agency

**ASSETS**

Cash and Cash Equivalents

Unrestricted

\$ 185

Restricted

24,593,339

Total Assets

\$ 24,593,524

**LIABILITIES**

Due to Governmental Funds

\$ 185

Due to Others -Workers Comp/Medical Plans

24,593,339

Total Liabilities

\$ 24,593,524

**NOTES TO AUDITED BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

June 30, 2019

**NOTE 1 – SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

---

The financial statements of St. Lawrence-Lewis Counties BOCES (the BOCES) have been prepared in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) as applied to government units. Those principles are prescribed by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB), which is the accepted standard-setting body for establishing governmental accounting and financial reporting principles. Significant accounting principles and policies used by the BOCES are described below:

**Reporting Entity**

Boards of Cooperative Educational Services (BOCES) were established by New York State legislation in 1948 to enable smaller school districts to offer more breadth in their educational programs by sharing teachers. In 1955, Legislation was passed allowing BOCES to provide vocational and special education. A BOCES is a voluntary, cooperative association of school districts in a geographic area that share planning, services, and programs that provide educational and support activities more economically, efficiently and equitably than could be provided locally. BOCES provides instructional and support programs and services to the following 18 school districts in New York’s St. Lawrence and Lewis Counties:

Brasher Falls CSD	Canton CSD
Clifton-Fine CSD	Colton-Pierrepont CSD
Edwards-Knox CSD	Gouverneur CSD
Hammond CSD	Harrisville CSD
Hermon-DeKalb CSD	Heuvelton CSD
Lisbon CSD	Madrid-Waddington CSD
Massena CSD	Morristown CSD
Norwood-Norfolk CSD	Ogdensburg City SD
Parishville-Hopkinton CSD	Potsdam CSD

BOCES programs and services include special education, vocational education, academic and alternative programs, summer schools, staff development, computer services (management and instructional), educational communication, cooperative purchasing and cooperative business office.

The reporting entity of the BOCES is based upon criteria set forth by GASB Statement 14, *The Financial Reporting Entity*, as amended by GASB Statement 39, *Component Units*. The financial reporting entity consists of the primary government, organizations for which the primary government is financially accountable and other organizations for which the nature and significance of their relationship with the primary government are such that exclusion would cause the reporting entity’s financial statements to be misleading or incomplete.



**NOTES TO AUDITED BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

June 30, 2019

**NOTE 1 – SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES - Continued**

---

The accompanying financial statements present the activities of the BOCES. The BOCES is not a component unit of another reporting entity. The decision to include a potential component unit in the BOCES' reporting entity is based on several criteria, including legal standing, fiscal dependency, and financial accountability. Based on the application of these criteria, no component units are included in the BOCES' reporting entity.

**Basis of Presentation**

BOCES-Wide Statements

The *Statement of Net Position* and the *Statement of Activities* present financial information about the BOCES' governmental activities. These statements include the financial activities of the overall government in its entirety, except those that are fiduciary.

Eliminations have been made to minimize the double counting of internal transactions. Governmental activities generally are financed through State and Federal aid, intergovernmental revenues, and other exchange and non-exchange transactions. Operating grants include operating-specific and discretionary (either operating or capital) grants, while the capital grants column reflects capital-specific grants.

The *Statement of Net Position* presents the financial position of the BOCES at fiscal year-end. The *Statement of Activities* presents a comparison between direct expenses and revenues for each function of the BOCES' governmental activities. Direct expenses are those that are specifically associated with and are clearly identifiable to a particular function. Indirect expenses, principally employee benefits, are allocated to functional areas in proportion to the payroll expended for those areas. Program revenues include charges paid by the recipients of goods or services offered by the programs, and 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 are presented as general revenues.

Fund Statements

The fund statements provide information about the BOCES' funds, including fiduciary funds. Separate statements for each fund category (governmental and fiduciary) are presented. The emphasis of fund financial statements is on major governmental funds, each displayed in a separate column.

The BOCES reports the following major governmental funds:

General Fund: This is the BOCES' primary operating fund. It accounts for all financial transactions that are not required to be accounted for in another fund.

---

**NOTES TO AUDITED BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

June 30, 2019

**NOTE 1 – SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES - Continued**

---

**Basis of Presentation - Continued**

Special Revenue Funds: These funds account for the proceeds of specific revenue sources, such as Federal and State grants, that are legally restricted to expenditures for specified purposes or other activities whose funds are restricted as to use. These legal restrictions may be imposed either by governments that provide the funds, or by outside parties.

Special Aid Fund: Used to account for proceeds received from Federal and State grants that are restricted for specific educational programs.

Capital Projects Fund: These funds are used to account for the financial resources used for acquisition, construction, or major repair of capital facilities. For these funds, each capital project is assessed to determine whether it is a major or non-major fund. Those capital projects that are determined to be major are reported in separate columns in the financial statements. Those that are determined to be non-major are reported in the supplemental schedules either separately or in the aggregate.

The BOCES reports the following fiduciary funds:

Fiduciary Funds: Fiduciary activities are those in which the BOCES acts as trustee or agent for resources that belong to others. These activities are not included in the BOCES-wide financial statements because their resources do not belong to the BOCES and are not available to be used.

The BOCES only uses one class of fiduciary funds:

Agency Funds: These funds are strictly custodial in nature and do not involve the measurement of results of operations. Assets are held by the BOCES as agent for the St. Lawrence-Lewis Counties School District Employees Workers' Compensation Plan and Medical Plan and for payroll or employee withholding.

**Measurement Focus and Basis of Accounting**

Accounting and financial reporting treatment is determined by the applicable measurement focus and basis of accounting. Measurement focus indicates the type of resources being measured such as current financial resources or economic resources. The basis of accounting indicates the timing of transactions or events for recognition in the financial statements.

**NOTES TO AUDITED BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

June 30, 2019

**NOTE 1 – SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES - Continued**

---

**Measurement Focus and Basis of Accounting - Continued**

The BOCES-wide and fiduciary fund 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 transaction takes place. Non-exchange transactions, in which the BOCES gives or receives value without directly receiving or giving equal value in exchange, include grants and donations. Revenue from grants and donations is recognized in the fiscal year in which all eligibility requirements have been satisfied.

The fund statements 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 BOCES considers all revenues reported in the governmental funds to be available if the revenues are collectible within sixty days after the end of the fiscal year.

Expenditures are recorded when the related fund liability is incurred, except for principal and interest on general long-term debt, claims and judgments and compensated absences, which are recognized as expenditures to the extent they have matured. General capital asset acquisitions are reported as expenditures in governmental funds. Proceeds of general long-term debt and acquisitions under capital leases are reported as other financing sources.

**Restricted Resources**

When an expense is incurred for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted net position are available, the BOCES' policy concerning which to apply first varies with the intended use, and with associated legal requirements, many of which are described elsewhere in these Notes.

**Interfund Transactions**

The operations of the BOCES include transactions between funds. These transactions may be temporary in nature, such as with interfund borrowings. The BOCES typically loans resources between funds for the purpose of providing cash flow. These interfund receivables and payables are expected to be repaid within one year. Permanent transfers of funds include the transfer of expenditures and revenues to provide financing or other services.

**NOTES TO AUDITED BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

June 30, 2019

**NOTE 1 – SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES - Continued**

---

**Interfund Transactions - Continued**

In the BOCES-wide statements, the amounts reported on the *Statement of Net Position* for interfund receivables and payables represent amounts due between different fund types (governmental activities and fiduciary funds). Eliminations have been made for all interfund receivables and payables between the funds, with the exception of those due from or to the fiduciary funds.

The governmental funds report all interfund transactions as originally recorded. Interfund receivables and payables may be netted on the accompanying governmental funds balance sheet when it is the BOCES' practice to settle these amounts at a net balance based upon the right of legal offset.

Refer to Note 10 for a detailed disclosure by individual fund for interfund receivables, payables, expenditures and revenues activity.

**Estimates**

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amount of assets, deferred outflows of resources, liabilities, and deferred inflows of resources, and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates. Estimates and assumptions are made in a variety of areas, including computation of encumbrances, compensated absences, potential contingent liabilities and useful lives of long-lived assets.

**Cash and Cash Equivalents**

The BOCES' cash and cash equivalents consist of cash on hand, demand deposits, and short-term investments with original maturities of three months or less from date of acquisition.

New York State law governs the BOCES' investment policies. Resources must be deposited in FDIC-insured commercial banks or trust companies located within the State. Permissible investments include obligations of the United States Treasury, United States Agencies, repurchase agreements and obligations of New York State or its localities.

Collateral is required for demand and time deposits and certificates of deposit not covered by FDIC insurance. Obligations that may be pledged as collateral are obligations of the United States and its agencies and obligations of the State and its municipalities and Districts.

**NOTES TO AUDITED BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

June 30, 2019

**NOTE 1 – SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES - Continued**

---

**Investments**

Investments are stated at amortized cost.

**Accounts Receivable**

Accounts receivables are shown gross, with uncollectible amounts recognized under the direct write-off method. No allowance for uncollectible accounts has been provided since it is believed that such allowance would not be material.

**Prepaid Items**

Prepaid items represent payments made by the BOCES for which benefits extend beyond year-end. These payments to vendors reflect costs applicable to future accounting periods and are recorded as prepaid items in both the BOCES-wide and fund financial statements. These items are reported as assets on the Statement of Net Position or Balance Sheet using the consumption method. A current asset for the prepaid amounts is recorded at the time of purchase and an expense/expenditure is reported in the year the goods or services are consumed.

The BOCES' reported prepaid items totaling \$14,271 in the General Fund which represents the BOCES contribution to the School and Municipal Energy Cooperative of WNY ("SMEC"). Contributions made by member districts are recorded by SMEC as a current liability, and members are allocated a share of the organization's net assets based on each participant's share of premiums paid for that year.

**Other Assets/Restricted Assets**

In the BOCES-wide financial statements, bond discounts and premiums, and any prepaid bond insurance costs are deferred and amortized over the life of the debt issue. Bond issuance costs are recognized as an expense in the period incurred.

**Capital Assets**

Capital assets are reported at actual cost or estimated historical costs based on an average of tax assessed value and insurance appraised values were used. Donated assets are reported at estimated fair market value at the time received.

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

**NOTES TO AUDITED BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

June 30, 2019

**NOTE 1 – SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES - Continued**

**Capital Assets - Continued**

Capitalization thresholds (the dollar value above which asset acquisitions are added to the capital asset accounts), depreciation methods and estimated useful lives of capital assets reported in the BOCES-wide statements are as follows:

	<b>Capitalization Threshold</b>	<b>Depreciation Model</b>	<b>Estimated Useful Life</b>
Site Improvements	\$5,000	Straight-line	10-20
Buildings	5,000	Straight-line	15-50
Furniture & Equipment	5,000	Straight-line	3-15
Capital Leases	5,000	Straight-line	2-5

The BOCES does not possess any infrastructure.

**Deferred Outflows and Inflows of Resources**

In addition to assets, the *Statement of Net Position* will sometimes report a separate section for deferred outflows of resources. This separate financial statement element, *deferred outflows of resources*, represents a consumption of net position that applies to a future period and so will not be recognized as an outflow of resources (expense/expenditure) until then. The BOCES has two items that qualify for reporting in this category. The first item is related to pensions and Other Postemployment Benefit (OPEB) reported in the BOCES-wide Statement of Net Position. The deferred outflows of resources related to pensions represents the effect of the net change in the BOCES' proportion of the collective net pension asset or liability and difference during the measurement period between the BOCES' contributions and its proportion share of total contributions to the pension systems not included in pension expense. The deferred outflows of resources related to OPEB represents the effect of the differences between expected and actual experience, and changes of assumptions or other inputs. The second item is the BOCES' contributions to the New York State Teachers' and Employees' pension systems and to OPEB plan subsequent to the measurement date.

**NOTES TO AUDITED BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

June 30, 2019

**NOTE 1 – SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES - Continued**

---

**Deferred Outflows and Inflows of Resources - Continued**

In addition to liabilities, the *Statement of Net Position* or Balance Sheet will sometimes report a separate section for deferred inflows of resources. This separate financial statement element, *deferred inflows of resources*, represents an acquisition of net position or fund balance that applies to a future period(s) and so will not be recognized as an inflow of resources (revenue) until that time. The BOCES has two items that qualify for reporting in this category. The first item is related to pensions reported in the BOCES-wide Statement of Net Position. This represents the effect of the net change in the BOCES' proportion of the collective net pension asset or liability and difference during the measurement periods between the BOCES' contributions and its proportion share of total contributions to the pension systems not included in pension expense. The second item is related to OPEB reported in the BOCES-wide Statement of Net Position. This represents the effect of the net changes of assumptions or other inputs.

**Unearned Revenue**

The BOCES reports unearned revenue on its Statement of Net Position and its Balance Sheet. On the Statement of Net Position, unearned revenue arises when resources are received by the BOCES before it has legal claim to them, as when grant monies are received prior to incurrence of qualifying expenditures. In subsequent periods, when the BOCES has legal claim to resources, the liability for unearned revenue is removed and the revenue is recognized.

**Vested Employee Benefits**

Compensated Absences

Compensated absences consist of unpaid accumulated annual sick leave and vacation time.

Sick leave eligibility and accumulation is specified in negotiated labor contracts and in individual employment contracts. Upon retirement, resignation or death, employees may contractually receive a payment based on unused accumulated sick leave.

BOCES employees are granted vacation in varying amounts, based primarily on length of service and service position. Some earned benefits may be forfeited if not taken within varying time periods.

**NOTES TO AUDITED BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

June 30, 2019

**NOTE 1 – SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES - Continued**

---

**Vested Employee Benefits - Continued**

Consistent with GASB Statement 16, *Accounting for Compensated Absences*, the liability has been calculated using the vesting/termination method and an accrual for that liability is included in the BOCES-wide financial statements. The compensated absences liability is calculated based on the pay rates in effect at year-end.

In the fund statements only the amount of matured liabilities is accrued within the General Fund based upon expendable and available financial resources. These amounts are expensed on a pay-as-you-go basis.

**Other Benefits**

BOCES employees participate in the New York State Employees' Retirement System and the New York State Teachers' Retirement System.

BOCES employees may choose to participate in the BOCES' elective deferred compensation plans established under Internal Revenue Code Sections 403(b) and 457.

In addition to providing pension benefits, the BOCES provides postemployment health insurance coverage and survivor benefits to retired employees and their survivors in accordance with the provision of various employment contracts in effect at the time of retirement. Substantially all of the BOCES' employees may become eligible for these benefits if they reach normal retirement age while working for the BOCES. Health care benefits are provided through plans whose premiums are based on the benefits paid during the year. The cost of providing post-retirement benefits is shared between the BOCES and the retired employee. The BOCES recognizes the cost of providing health insurance by recording its share of insurance premiums as an expenditure.

**Short-Term Debt**

The BOCES may issue Revenue Anticipation Notes (RAN) in anticipation of the receipt of revenues. These notes are recorded as a liability of the fund that will actually receive the proceeds from the issuance of the notes. The RAN's represent a liability that will be extinguished by the use of expendable, available resources of the fund.

The BOCES may issue budget notes up to an amount not to exceed 5% of the amount of the annual budget during any fiscal year for expenditures for which there is an insufficient or no provision made in the annual budget. The budget note must be repaid no later than the close of the second fiscal year succeeding the year in which the note was issued.



**NOTES TO AUDITED BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

June 30, 2019

**NOTE 1 – SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES - Continued**

---

**Short-Term Debt - Continued**

The BOCES may issue Bond Anticipation Notes (BAN) in anticipation of proceeds from the subsequent sale of bonds. These notes are recorded as current liabilities of the funds that will actually receive the proceeds from the issuance of bonds. State law requires that BANs issued for capital purposes be converted to long-term financing within five years after the original issue date.

The BOCES may issue deficiency notes up to an amount not to exceed 5% of the amount of that same year's annual budget in any fund or funds arising from revenues being less than the amount estimated in the budget for that fiscal year. The deficiency notes may mature no later than the close of the fiscal year following the fiscal year in which they were issued. However, they may mature no later than the close of the second fiscal year after the fiscal year in which they were issued, if the notes were authorized and issued after the adoption of the budget for the fiscal year in which they were issued.

**Accrued Liabilities and Long-Term Obligations**

Payables, accrued liabilities, and long-term obligations are reported in the BOCES-wide financial statements. In the governmental funds, payables and accrued liabilities are paid in full, in a timely manner, from current financial resources. Claims and judgments, other postemployment benefits payable, and compensated absences that will be paid from governmental funds are reported as a liability in the fund financial statements only to the extent that they are due for payment in the current year. Bonds and other long-term obligations that will be paid from governmental funds are recognized as a liability in the fund financial statements when due.

Long-term obligations represent the BOCES' future obligations or future economic outflows. The liabilities are reported as due in one year or due within more than one year in the Statement of Net Position.

**Equity Classifications**

BOCES-Wide Statements

In the BOCES-wide statements there are three classes of net position:

**Net Investment in Capital Assets** – consists of net capital assets (cost less accumulated depreciation) reduced by outstanding balances of related debt obligations from the acquisition, constructions or improvements of those assets.

**NOTES TO AUDITED BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

June 30, 2019

**NOTE 1 – SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES - Continued**

---

**Equity Classifications - Continued**

**Restricted Net Position** – reports net position when constraints placed on the assets or deferred outflows of resources are either externally imposed by creditors (such as through debt covenants), grantors, contributors, laws or regulations of other governments, or imposed by law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation.

**Unrestricted Net Position** – reports the balance of net position that does not meet the definition of the above two classifications and is deemed to be available for general use by the BOCES.

Fund Statements

In the fund basis statements, there are five classifications of fund balance:

**Nonspendable** – Includes amounts that cannot be spent because they are either not in spendable form or legally or contractually required to be maintained intact. Nonspendable fund balance includes SMEC contributions of \$14,271 recorded in the General Fund.

**Restricted** – Includes amounts with constraints placed on the use of resources either externally imposed by creditors, grantors, contributors, or laws or regulations of other governments; or imposed by law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation. All encumbrances of funds other than the General Fund are classified as restricted fund balance. The BOCES has established the following restricted fund balances:

**Employee Benefit Accrued Liability**

According to General Municipal Law §6-p, must be used for the payment of accrued employee benefit due an employee upon termination of the employee's service. This reserve may be established by a majority vote of the Board and is funded by budgetary appropriations and such other reserves and funds that may be legally appropriated. This reserve is accounted for in the General Fund.

**Retirement Contributions**

According to General Municipal Law §6-r, must be used for financing retirement contributions. The reserve must be accounted for separate and apart from all other funds and a detailed report of the operation and condition of the fund must be provided to the Board. This reserve is accounted for in the General Fund.

---

**NOTES TO AUDITED BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

June 30, 2019

**NOTE 1 – SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES - Continued**

**Equity Classifications - Continued**

**Unemployment Insurance**

According to General Municipal Law §6-m, must be used to pay the cost of reimbursement to the State Unemployment Insurance Fund for payments made to claimants where the employer has elected to use the benefit reimbursement method. The reserve may be established by Board action and is funded by budgetary appropriations and such other funds as may be legally appropriated. Within sixty days after the end of any fiscal year, excess amounts may either be transferred to another reserve or the excess applied to the appropriations of the next succeeding fiscal year's budget. If the BOCES elects to convert to tax (contribution) basis, excess resources in the fund over the sum sufficient to pay pending claims may be transferred to any other reserve fund. This reserve is accounted for in the General Fund.

**Advanced Technical Equipment**

The reserve is authorized by §1950(4)(ee) of the Education Law. The reserve is established by the Board and a vote of a majority of the Boards of the participating districts. The purpose of the reserve is to purchase advanced technology equipment to be used for instruction in state approved careers and technical education. All purchases are subject to approval by the Commission of Education. The maximum amount that may be retained in the reserve is equal to the greatest of 20% of the current career education services budget or \$500,000, provided the total amount shall not exceed \$2,000,000. Any amounts remaining in the reserve at time of liquidation shall be distributed to the participating districts within 90 days. This reserve is accounted for in the Capital Projects Fund.

Restricted Fund Balance includes the following:

General Fund	
Employee Benefit Accrued Liability	\$ 857,516
Retirement Contributions	682,317
Unemployment Insurance	846,349
Capital Projects Fund	
Advanced Technical Equipment	310,624
Debt Reserve - DASNY	301,144
Total Restricted Funds	<u>\$ 2,997,950</u>

NOTES TO AUDITED BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

June 30, 2019

NOTE 1 – SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES - Continued

**Equity Classifications – Continued**

**Committed** – Includes amounts that can only be used for the specific purposes pursuant to constraints imposed by formal action of the BOCES’ highest level of decision-making authority, i.e., the Board of Education. The BOCES has no committed fund balances as of June 30, 2019.

**Assigned** - Includes amounts that are constrained by the BOCES’ intent to be used for specific purposes but are neither restricted nor committed. The purpose of the constraint must be narrower than the purpose of the General Fund, and in funds other than the General Fund, assigned fund balance represents the residual amount of fund balance. Assigned fund balance also includes an amount appropriated to partially fund the subsequent year’s budget, as well as encumbrances not classified as restricted at the end of the fiscal year.

**Unassigned** - Includes all other General Fund amounts that do not meet the definition of the above four classifications and are deemed to be available for general use by the BOCES and could report a surplus or deficit. In funds other than the General Fund, the unassigned classification is used to report a deficit fund balance resulting from overspending for specific purposes for which amounts had been restricted or assigned.

Order of Use of Fund Balance

The BOCES’ policy is to apply expenditures against nonspendable fund balance, restricted fund balance, committed fund balance, assigned fund balance and unassigned fund balance at the end of the fiscal year. For all funds, nonspendable fund balances are determined first and then restricted fund balances for specific purposes are determined. Any remaining fund balance amounts for funds other than the General Fund are classified as restricted fund balance. In the General Fund, committed fund balance is determined next and then assigned. The remaining amounts are reported as unassigned. Assignments of fund balance cannot cause a negative unassigned fund balance.

**New Accounting Standards**

The BOCES has adopted all current Statements of the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) that are applicable. At June 30, 2019, the BOCES implemented the following new statements issued by GASB:

GASB has issued Statement No. 83, *Certain Asset Retirement Obligations*, effective for the year ending June 30, 2019.

GASB has issued Statement No. 88, *Certain Disclosures Related to Debt, including Direct Borrowings and Direct Placements*, effective for the year ending June 30, 2019.

**NOTES TO AUDITED BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

June 30, 2019

**NOTE 1 – SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES - Continued**

---

**Future Changes in Accounting Standards**

GASB has issued Statement No. 84, *Fiduciary Activities*, effective for the year ending June 30, 2020.

GASB has issued Statement No. 87, *Leases*, effective for the year ending June 30, 2021.

GASB has issued Statement No. 89, *Accounting for Interest Cost Incurred before the End of a Construction Period*, effective for the year ending June 30, 2021.

GASB has issued Statement No. 90, *Majority Equity Interests- an amendment of GASB Statements No. 14 and No. 61*, effective for the year ending June 30, 2020.

GASB has issued Statement No. 91, *Conduit Debt Obligations*, effective for the year ending June 30, 2022.

The BOCES will evaluate the impact each of these pronouncements may have on its financial statements and will implement them as applicable and when material.

**NOTE 2 – EXPLANATION OF CERTAIN DIFFERENCES  
BETWEEN FUND STATEMENTS AND BOCES-WIDE  
STATEMENTS**

---

Due to the differences in the measurement focus and basis of accounting used in the fund statements and the BOCES-wide statements, certain financial transactions are treated differently. The basic financial statements contain a full reconciliation of these items. The differences result primarily from the economic focus of the BOCES-wide statements, compared with the current financial resources focus of the governmental funds.

**Total Fund Balances of Governmental Funds vs. Net Position of Governmental Activities**

Total fund balances of the BOCES' governmental funds differ from "net position" of governmental activities reported in the Statement of Net Position. This difference primarily results from the long-term economic focus of the Statement of Net Position versus the solely current financial resources focus of the governmental fund Balance Sheets, as applied to the reporting of capital assets and long-term liabilities, including pensions and other postemployment benefits payable.

**NOTES TO AUDITED BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

June 30, 2019

**NOTE 2 – EXPLANATION OF CERTAIN DIFFERENCES  
BETWEEN FUND STATEMENTS AND BOCES-WIDE  
STATEMENTS - Continued**

---

**Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances vs. Statement of Activities**

Differences between the funds Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances and the Statement of Activities fall into one of five broad categories. The amounts shown below represent:

1. Long-Term Revenue Differences:

Long-term revenue differences arise because governmental funds report revenues only when they are considered “available,” whereas the Statement of Activities reports revenues when earned. Differences in long-term expenses arise because governmental funds report on a modified accrual basis, whereas the accrual basis of accounting is used on the Statement of Activities.

2. Capital Related Differences:

Capital related differences include the difference between proceeds for the sale of capital assets reported on fund statements and the gain or loss on the sale of assets as reported on the Statement of Activities, and the difference between recording an expenditure for the purchase of capital items in the fund statements and depreciation expense on those items as recorded in the Statement of Activities.

3. Long-Term Debt Transactions Differences:

Long-term debt transaction differences occur because both interest and principal payments are recorded as expenditures in the fund statements, whereas interest payments are recorded in the Statement of Activities as incurred and principal payments are recorded as a reduction of liabilities in the Statement of Net Position.

4. Pension Differences:

Pension differences occur as a result of changes in the BOCES’ proportion of the collective net pension asset (liability) and differences between the BOCES’ contributions and its proportionate share of the total contributions to the pension systems.

5. OPEB Differences:

OPEB differences occur as a result of changes in the BOCES’ total OPEB liability and differences between the BOCES’ contribution and OPEB expense

**NOTES TO AUDITED BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

June 30, 2019

**NOTE 3 – STEWARDSHIP, COMPLIANCE AND  
ACCOUNTABILITY**

---

**Budgets**

Section 1950 of the Education Law requires adoption of final budget by no later than May 15<sup>th</sup> of the ensuing year.

BOCES administration prepares a proposed administrative, capital and program budget, as applicable, for approval by members of the BOCES board for the General Fund.

Appropriations for educational services are adopted at the program level.

A tentative administrative budget is provided to the component BOCES for adoption by resolution. Approval of the tentative administrative budget requires the approval of a majority of the component school boards actually voting. During the current year, the administrative budget was approved by a majority of its voting component school boards.

Appropriations lapse at the end of the fiscal year unless expended or encumbered. Encumbrances will lapse if not expended in the subsequent year. The BOCES Board can approve supplementary appropriations based upon requests for additional services and surplus revenues. See the supplemental information schedule “*Change from Adopted Budget to Final Budget*” for supplementary appropriations during the current year.

Budgets are adopted annually on a basis consistent with GAAP. Appropriations authorized for the year are increased by the amount of encumbrances carried forward from the prior year.

Budgets are established and used for individual capital projects funds expenditures as approved by the component districts. The maximum project amounts authorized is based primarily upon the cost of the project plus any requirements for external borrowings, not annual appropriations. These budgets do not lapse and are carried over to subsequent fiscal years until the completion of the projects.

**Encumbrances**

Encumbrance accounting is used for budget control and monitoring purposes and is reported as a part of the governmental funds. Under this method, purchase orders, contracts and other commitments for the expenditure of monies are recorded to reserve applicable appropriations. Outstanding encumbrances as of year-end are presented as restrictions or assignments of fund balance and do not represent expenditures or liabilities. These commitments will be honored in the subsequent period. Related expenditures are recognized at that time, as the liability is incurred, or the commitment is paid.

---

**NOTES TO AUDITED BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

June 30, 2019

**NOTE 3 – STEWARDSHIP, COMPLIANCE AND  
ACCOUNTABILITY - Continued**

---

**Other**

The Special Aid Fund shows an unassigned deficit fund balance of \$29,713. This deficit results mostly from accumulation of unfunded expenditures relating to the Beginning Years Programs.

The Capital Projects Fund shows an unassigned deficit fund balance of \$184,931. This deficit will be funded when the BOCES obtains permanent financing for its construction project.

**NOTE 4 – CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS – CUSTODIAL  
CREDIT, CONCENTRATION OF CREDIT, INTEREST RATE,  
AND FOREIGN CURRENCY RISKS**

---

**Cash**

Custodial credit risk is the risk that in the event of a bank failure, the BOCES' deposits may not be returned to it. While the BOCES does not have a specific policy for custodial credit risk, New York State statutes govern the BOCES' investment policies, as discussed previously in these Notes.

The BOCES' aggregate bank balances (disclosed in the financial statements) included balances not covered by depository insurance at year-end, collateralized as follows:

Uncollateralized	\$ -
Collateralized with securities held by the pledging financial institution, or its trust department or agent, but not in the BOCES' name.	\$ 38,861,610

Deposits at year-end were fully collateralized.

Restricted cash represents cash and cash equivalents where use is limited by legal requirements. These assets represent amounts required by statute to be reserved for various purposes. Restricted cash as of year-end includes \$2,696,806 within the governmental funds and \$24,593,339 in the fiduciary fund.

The BOCES does not typically purchase investments for long enough duration to cause it to believe that it is exposed to any material interest rate risk.

The BOCES does not typically purchase investments denominated in a foreign currency and is not exposed to foreign currency.



**NOTES TO AUDITED BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

June 30, 2019

**NOTE 5 – INVESTMENTS**

The BOCES considers all highly liquid investments (including restricted assets) with original maturities of one year or less when purchased to be cash equivalents. The BOCES' investment policy for these investments is also governed by New York State statutes.

Total investments as of year-end were valued at an amortized cost of \$1,192,553 in the General Fund and \$301,144 in the Capital Projects Fund. Investments consist of United States Treasury Strips and are carried at amortized costs due to remaining maturities at time of purchase of one year or less.

**NOTE 6 – CAPITAL ASSETS**

Capital asset balances and activity were as follows:

Governmental Activities	Beginning Balance	Additions	Retirements / Reclassifications	Ending Balance
Capital Assets That Are Not Depreciated:				
Land	\$ 576,295	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 576,295
Construction-in-Progress	-	1,003,381	-	1,003,381
Total Nondepreciable Assets	<u>576,295</u>	<u>1,003,381</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,579,676</u>
Capital Assets That Are Depreciated:				
Site Improvements	2,382,952	-	-	2,382,952
Buildings & Improvements	30,836,815	-	-	30,836,815
Furniture and Equipment	7,711,156	875,208	(66,167)	8,520,197
Capital Leases	3,553,440	416,523	(876,871)	3,093,092
Total Depreciable Assets	<u>44,484,363</u>	<u>1,291,731</u>	<u>(943,038)</u>	<u>44,833,056</u>
Less: Accumulated Depreciation				
Site Improvements	821,233	112,876	-	934,109
Buildings & Improvements	8,888,666	887,124	-	9,775,790
Furniture and Equipment	5,828,172	593,213	(61,686)	6,359,699
Capital Leases	2,059,761	820,323	(836,580)	2,043,504
Total Accumulated Depreciation	<u>17,597,832</u>	<u>2,413,536</u>	<u>(898,266)</u>	<u>19,113,102</u>
Total Depreciable Assets, Net	<u>26,886,531</u>	<u>(1,121,805)</u>	<u>(44,772)</u>	<u>25,719,954</u>
Capital Assets, Net	<u>\$ 27,462,826</u>	<u>\$ (118,424)</u>	<u>\$ (44,772)</u>	<u>\$ 27,299,630</u>

**ST. LAWRENCE-LEWIS COUNTIES BOCES**

**NOTES TO AUDITED BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

June 30, 2019

**NOTE 6 – CAPITAL ASSETS - Continued**

Depreciation expense was charged to governmental functions as follows:

Administrative	\$ 24,643
Occupational Instruction	804,092
Instruction for Special Education	63,147
Itinerant Services	2,755
General Instruction	231,896
Instructional Support	1,188,994
Other Services	<u>98,009</u>
Total Depreciation Expense	<u><u>\$ 2,413,536</u></u>

**NOTE 7 – SHORT-TERM DEBT**

Transactions in short-term debt for the year are summarized below:

	<b>Maturity</b>	<b>Stated Interest Rate</b>	<b>Beginning Balance</b>	<b>Issued</b>	<b>Redeemed</b>	<b>Ending Balance</b>
RAN	6/21/2019	2.75%	\$ 5,500,000	\$ -	\$ 5,500,000	\$ -
RAN	6/19/2020	2.25%	<u>-</u>	<u>5,500,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>5,500,000</u>
			<u><u>\$ 5,500,000</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 5,500,000</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 5,500,000</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 5,500,000</u></u>

Interest on short-term debt for the year was composed of:

Interest Paid	\$ 150,830
Less: Interest Accrued in the Prior Year	-
Plus: Interest Accrued in the Current Year	<u>-</u>
Total Interest on Short-Term Debt	<u><u>\$ 150,830</u></u>

The RAN was issued in anticipation of the collection of Federal and State aid receivables.

**NOTES TO AUDITED BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

June 30, 2019

**NOTE 8 – LONG-TERM DEBT OBLIGATIONS**

Long-term liability balances and activity for the year are summarized below:

Governmental Activities	Beginning Balances	Additions	Reductions	Ending Balances	Amount Due Within One Year
<b>Bonds and Notes Payable</b>					
General Obligation Debt					
Municipal Lease Obligation	\$ 143,575	\$ -	\$ 143,575	\$ -	\$ -
NYS Dormitory Authority					
Bonds	10,805,000	-	995,000	9,810,000	1,035,000
Premium on Bonds	242,169	-	23,796	218,373	23,796
Lease - Purchase Obligations	1,123,807	409,572	393,167	1,140,212	382,428
	<u>12,314,551</u>	<u>409,572</u>	<u>1,555,538</u>	<u>11,168,585</u>	<u>1,441,224</u>
<b>Total Bonds &amp; Notes Payable</b>					
<b>Other Liabilities</b>					
Compensated Absences Payable	1,643,550	-	36,643	1,606,907	-
Other Postemployment					
Benefits Liability	187,953,018	13,842,152	-	201,795,170	-
Net Pension Liability -					
Proportionate Share	958,646	1,324,979	-	2,283,625	-
	<u>190,555,214</u>	<u>15,167,131</u>	<u>36,643</u>	<u>205,685,702</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Total Other Liabilities</b>					
	<u>\$ 202,869,765</u>	<u>\$ 15,576,703</u>	<u>\$ 1,592,181</u>	<u>\$ 216,854,287</u>	<u>\$ 1,441,224</u>
<b>Total Governmental Activities</b>					

The General Fund has typically been used to liquidate long-term liabilities such as compensated absences and other postemployment benefits.

Existing serial and statutory bond obligations:

Description	Issue Date	Final Maturity	Stated Interest Rate (%)	Balance
NYS Dormitory Authority Bonds - 2011	07/22/11	08/15/30	2.5-5.625%	\$ 4,505,000
NYS Dormitory Authority Bonds - 2015	06/10/15	08/15/26	2-5%	<u>5,305,000</u>
				<u>\$ 9,810,000</u>

**ST. LAWRENCE-LEWIS COUNTIES BOCES**

**NOTES TO AUDITED BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

June 30, 2019

**NOTE 8 – LONG-TERM DEBT OBLIGATIONS - Continued**

The following is a summary of debt service requirements for the year-end June 30:

	<b>Principal</b>	<b>Interest</b>	<b>Total</b>
2020	\$ 1,035,000	\$ 358,456	\$ 1,393,456
2021	1,060,000	333,694	1,393,694
2022	1,085,000	307,888	1,392,888
2023	1,115,000	279,100	1,394,100
2024	1,150,000	241,369	1,391,369
2025-2029	3,840,000	606,681	4,446,681
Thereafter	525,000	29,531	554,531
 Total	<b>\$ 9,810,000</b>	<b>\$ 2,156,719</b>	<b>\$ 11,966,719</b>

Interest on long-term debt for the year was composed of:

Interest Paid	\$ 399,843
Plus: Interest Prepaid in the Prior Year	24,334
Less: Interest Prepaid in the Current Year	(46,240)
 Total Interest on Long-Term Debt	 <b>\$ 377,937</b>

The following is a summary of capital lease obligations for the year ended June 30, 2019:

2020	\$ 382,428
2021	329,798
2022	263,426
2023	205,756
2024	69,968
Total Minimum Lease Payments	1,251,376
Less Amount Representing Interest	(111,164)
Total	<b>\$ 1,140,212</b>

**NOTES TO AUDITED BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

June 30, 2019

**NOTE 9 – PENSION PLANS**

---

**General Information**

The BOCES participates in the New York State Teachers' Retirement System (NYSTRS) and the New York State Employees' Retirement System (NYSERS). These are cost-sharing multiple employer public employee defined benefit retirement systems. The Systems offer a wide range of plans and benefits, which are related to years of service and final average salary, vesting of retirement benefits, death, and disability.

**Teachers' Retirement System (TRS) Plan Description**

The BOCES participates in the New York State Teachers' Retirement System (TRS). This is a cost-sharing multiple-employer retirement system. The System provides retirement benefits as well as, death and disability benefits to plan members and beneficiaries as authorized by the Education Law and the Retirement and Social Security Law of the State of New York. The System is governed by a 10 member Board of Trustees. System benefits are established under New York State Law. Membership is mandatory and automatic for all full-time teachers, teaching assistants, guidance counselors and administrators employed in New York Public Schools and BOCES who elected to participate in TRS. Once a public employer elects to participate in the System, the election is irrevocable. The New York State Constitution provides that pension membership is a contractual relationship and plan benefits cannot be diminished or impaired. Benefits can be changed for future members only by enactment of a State statute. Additional information regarding the System, may be obtained by writing to the New York State Teachers' Retirement System, 10 Corporate Woods Drive, Albany, NY 12211-2395 or by referring to the NYSTRS Comprehensive Annual Financial report which can be found on the System's website at [www.nystrs.org](http://www.nystrs.org).

NOTES TO AUDITED BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

June 30, 2019

NOTE 9 – PENSION PLANS - Continued

---

**Employees' Retirement System (ERS) Plan Description**

The BOCES participates in the New York State and Local Employees' Retirement System (ERS). This is a cost-sharing multiple-employer retirement system. The System provides retirement benefits as well as death and disability benefits. The net position of the System is held in the New York State Common Retirement Fund (the Fund), which was established to hold all net assets and record changes in plan net position allocated to the System. The Comptroller of the State of New York serves as the trustee of the Fund and is the administrative head of the System. System benefits are established under the provisions of the New York State Retirement and Social Security Law (RSSL). Once a public employer elects to participate in the System, the election is irrevocable. The New York State Constitution provides that pension membership is a contractual relationship and plan benefits cannot be diminished or impaired. Benefits can be changed for future members only by enactment of a State statute. The BOCES also participates in the Public Employees' Group Life Insurance Plan (GLIP), which provides death benefits in the form of life insurance. The System is included in the State's financial report as a pension trust fund. That report, including information with regard to benefits provided, may be found at [www.osc.state.ny.us/retire/publications/index.php](http://www.osc.state.ny.us/retire/publications/index.php) or obtained by writing to the New York State and Local Retirement System, 110 State Street, Albany, NY 12244.

**TRS Benefits Provided**

Benefits

The benefits provided to members of the System are established by New York State law and may be amended only by the Legislature with the Governor's approval. Benefit provisions vary depending on date of membership and are subdivided into the following six classes:

*Tier 1*

Members who last joined prior to July 1, 1973 are covered by the provisions of Article 11 of the Education Law.

*Tier 2*

Members who last joined on or after July 1, 1973 and prior to July 27, 1976 are covered by the provisions of Article 11 of the Education Law and Article 11 of the Retirement and Social Security Law (RSSL).

**NOTES TO AUDITED BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

June 30, 2019

**NOTE 9 – PENSION PLANS - Continued**

---

**TRS Benefits Provided - Continued**

*Tier 3*

Members who last joined on or after July 27, 1976 and prior to September 1, 1983 are covered by the provisions of Article 14 and Article 15 of the RSSL.

*Tier 4*

Members who last joined on or after September 1, 1983 and prior to January 1, 2010 are covered by the provisions of Article 15 of the RSSL.

*Tier 5*

Members who joined on or after January 1, 2010 and prior to April 1, 2012 are covered by the provisions of Article 15 of the RSSL.

*Tier 6*

Members who joined on or after April 1, 2012 are covered by the provisions of Article 15 of the RSSL.

Service Retirements

Tier 1 members are eligible, beginning at age 55, for a service retirement allowance of approximately 2% per year of credited service times final average salary.

Under Article 19 of the RSSL, eligible Tier 1 and 2 members can receive additional service credit of one-twelfth of a year for each year of retirement credit as of the date of retirement or death up to a maximum of 2 additional years.

Tiers 2 through 5 are eligible for the same but with the following limitations: (1) Tiers 2 through 4 members receive an unreduced benefit for retirement at age 62 or retirement at ages 55 through 61 with 30 years of service or reduced benefit for retirement at ages 55 through 61 with less than 30 years of service. (2) Tier 5 members receive an unreduced benefit for retirement at age 62 or retirement at ages 57 through 61 with 30 years of service. They receive a reduced benefit for retirement at age 55 and 56 regardless of service credit, or ages 57 through 61 with less than 30 years of service.

**NOTES TO AUDITED BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

June 30, 2019

**NOTE 9 – PENSION PLANS - Continued**

---

**TRS Benefits Provided - Continued**

Tier 6 members are eligible for a service retirement allowance of 1.75% per year of credited service for the first 20 years of service plus 2% per year for years of service in excess of 20 years times final average salary. Tier 6 members receive an unreduced benefit for retirement at age 63. They receive a reduced benefit at ages 55-62 regardless of service credit.

Vested Benefits

Retirement benefits vest after 5 years of credited service except for Tier 5 and 6 where 10 years of credited service are required. Benefits are payable at age 55 or greater with the limitations previously noted for service retirements.

Disability Retirement

Members are eligible for disability retirement benefits after 10 years of credited New York State service except for Tier 3 where disability retirement is permissible after 5 years of credited New York State service pursuant to the provisions of Article 14 of the RSSL. The Tier 3 benefit is integrated with Social Security.

Death Benefits

Death benefits are paid to the beneficiary of active members who die in service. The benefit is based on final salary and the number of years of credited service.

Prior Service

After 2 years of membership, members of all tiers may claim and receive credit for prior New York State public or teaching service. Only Tier 1 and 2 members may, under certain conditions, claim out-of-state service.

Tier Reinstatement

In accordance with Chapter 640 of the Laws of 1998, any active member who had a prior membership may elect to be reinstated to their original date and Tier of membership.



**NOTES TO AUDITED BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

June 30, 2019

**NOTE 9 – PENSION PLANS - Continued**

---

**TRS Benefits Provided - Continued**

Permanent Cost-of-Living Adjustment (COLA)

Section 532-a of the Education Law provides a permanent cost-of-living benefit to both current and future retired members. This benefit will be paid commencing September of each year to retired members who have attained age 62 and have been retired for 5 years or attained age 55 and have been retired for 10 years. Disability retirees must have been retired for 5 years, regardless of age, to be eligible. The annual COLA percentage is equal to 50% of the increase in the consumer price index, not to exceed 3% nor be lower than 1%. It is applied to the first eighteen thousand dollars of annual benefit. The applicable percentage payable beginning September 2018 is 1.2%. Members who retired prior to July 1, 1970 are eligible for a minimum benefit of seventeen thousand five hundred dollars for 35 years of credited full-time New York State service. Certain members who retire pursuant to the provisions of Article 14 of the RSSL are eligible for automatic cost-of-living supplementation based on the increase in the consumer price index with a maximum per annum increase of 3%.

**ERS Benefits Provided**

Benefits

The System provides retirement benefits as well as death and disability benefits.

*Tier 1 and 2*

Eligibility: Tier 1 members, with the exception of those retiring under special retirement plans, must be at least age 55 to be eligible to collect a retirement benefit. There is no minimum service requirement for Tier 1 members. Tier 2 members, with the exception of those retiring under special retirement plans, must have 5 years of service and be at least age 55 to be eligible to collect a retirement benefit. The age at which full benefits may be collected for Tier 1 is 55, and the full benefit age for Tier 2 is 62.

**NOTES TO AUDITED BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

June 30, 2019

**NOTE 9 – PENSION PLANS - Continued**

---

**ERS Benefits Provided - Continued**

*Tier 1 and 2*

Final average salary is the average of the wages earned in the 3 highest consecutive years of employment. For Tier 1 members who joined on or after June 17, 1971, each year's compensation in the final average salary calculation is limited to no more than 20 percent greater than the previous year. For Tier 2 members, each year of final average salary is limited to no more than 20 percent of the average of the previous two years.

*Tier 3, 4, and 5*

Eligibility: Tier 3 and 4 members, with the exception of those retiring under special retirement plans, must have 5 years of service and be at least age 55 to be eligible to collect a retirement benefit. Tier 5 members, with the exception of those retiring under special retirement plans, must have 10 years of service and be at least age 55 to be eligible to collect a retirement benefit. The full benefit age for Tier 3, 4 and 5 is 62.

Benefit Calculation: Generally, the benefit is 1.67 percent of final average salary for each year of service if the member retires with less than 20 years. If a member retires with between 20 and 30 years of service, the benefit is 2 percent of final average salary for each year of service. If a member retires with more than 30 years of service, an additional benefit of 1.5 percent of final average salary is applied for each year of service over 30 years. Tier 3 and 4 members with five or more years of service and Tier 5 members with 10 or more years of service can retire as early as age 55 with reduced benefits. Tier 3 and 4 members age 55 or older with 30 or more years of service can retire with no reduction in benefits.

Final average salary is the average of the wages earned in the 3 highest consecutive years of employment. For Tier 3, 4 and 5 members, each year's compensation used in the final average salary calculation is limited to no more than 10 percent greater than the average of the previous 2 years.

*Tier 6*

Eligibility: Tier 6 members, with the exception of those retiring under special retirement plans, must have 10 years of service and be at least age 55 to be eligible to collect a retirement benefit. The full benefit age for Tier 6 is 63 for ERS members.

**NOTES TO AUDITED BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

June 30, 2019

**NOTE 9 – PENSION PLANS - Continued**

---

**ERS Benefits Provided - Continued**

Benefit Calculation: Generally, the benefit is 1.67 percent of final average salary for each year of service if the member retires with less than 20 years. If a member retires with 20 years of service, the benefit is 1.75 percent of final average salary for each year of service. If a member retires with more than 20 years of service, an additional benefit of 2 percent of final average salary is applied for each year of service over 20 years. Tier 6 members with 10 or more years of service can retire as early as age 55 with reduced benefits.

Final average salary is the average of the wages earned in the five highest consecutive years of employment. For Tier 6 members, each year's compensation used in the final average salary calculation is limited to no more than 10 percent greater than the average of the previous four years.

Vested Benefits

Members who joined the System prior to January 1, 2010 need five years of service to be 100 percent vested. Members who joined on or after January 1, 2010 require ten years of service credit to be 100 percent vested.

Disability Retirement Benefits

Disability retirement benefits are available to ERS members unable to perform their job duties because of permanent physical or mental incapacity. There are three general types of disability benefits: ordinary, performance of duty, and accidental disability benefits. Eligibility, benefit amounts, and other rules such as any offset of other benefits depend on a member's tier, years of service, and plan.

Ordinary Death Benefits

Death benefits are payable upon the death, before retirement, of a member who meets eligibility requirements as set forth by law. The first \$50,000 of an ordinary death benefit is paid in the form of group term life insurance. The benefit is generally three times the member's annual salary. For most members, there is also a reduced post-retirement ordinary death benefit available.

**NOTES TO AUDITED BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

June 30, 2019

**NOTE 9 – PENSION PLANS - Continued**

**ERS Benefits Provided - Continued**

Post-Retirement Benefit Increases

A cost-of-living adjustment is provided annually to: (i) all retirees who have attained age 62 and have been retired for five years; (ii) all retirees who have attained age 55 and have been retired for 10 years; (iii) all disability retirees, regard less of age, who have been retired for five years; (iv) ERS recipients of an accidental death benefit, regardless of age, who have been receiving such benefit for five years and (v) the spouse of a deceased retiree receiving a lifetime benefit under an option elected by the retiree at retirement. An eligible spouse is entitled to one- half the cost-of-living adjustment amount that would have been paid to the retiree when the retiree would have met the eligibility criteria. This cost-of-living adjustment is a percentage of the annual retirement benefit of the eligible retiree as computed on a base benefit amount not to exceed \$18,000 of the annual retirement benefit. The cost-of-living percentage shall be 50 percent of the annual Consumer Price Index as published by the U.S. Bureau of Labor but cannot be less than 1 percent or exceed 3 percent.

**Funding Policies**

The Systems are noncontributory except for employees who joined after July 27, 1976, who contribute 3 percent of their salary for the first ten years of membership, and employees who joined on or after January 1, 2010 who generally contribute 3.0% to 3.5% of their salary for their entire length of service. In addition, employee contribution rates under ERS tier VI vary based on a sliding salary scale. For TRS, contribution rates are established annually by the New York State Teachers' Retirement Board pursuant to Article 11 of the Education Law. For ERS, the Comptroller annually certifies the actuarially determined rates expressly used in computing the employers' contributions for the ERS' fiscal year ended March 31. The BOCES paid 100% of the required contributions as billed by the TRS and ERS for the current year and each of the two preceding years. (The BOCES chose to prepay the required contributions by December 15, 2018 and received an overall discount of \$9,811).

The BOCES' share of the required contributions, based on covered payroll paid for the current and two preceding years were:

	<b>NYSTRS</b>	<b>NYSERS</b>
2018-2019	\$ 1,901,178	\$ 1,155,106
2017-2018	2,226,686	1,152,097
2016-2017	2,481,242	1,116,579

**NOTES TO AUDITED BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

June 30, 2019

**NOTE 9 – PENSION PLANS - Continued**

---

**Funding Policies - Continued**

Since 1989, the NYSERS billings have been based on Chapter 62 of the Laws of 1989 of the State of New York. This legislation requires participating employers to make payments on a current basis, while amortizing existing unpaid amounts relating to the System’s fiscal years ended March 31, 1988 and 1989 over a 17-year period, with an 8.75% interest factor added. Local governments were given the option to prepay this liability, which the BOCES exercised.

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

At June 30, 2019, the BOCES’ reported the following asset (liability) for its proportionate share of the net pension asset (liability) for each of the Systems. The net pension asset (liability) was measured as of March 31, 2019 for ERS and June 30, 2018 for TRS. The total pension asset (liability) used to calculate the net pension asset (liability) was determined by an actuarial valuation. The BOCES’ proportion of the net pension asset (liability) was based on a projection of the BOCES’ long-term share of contributions to the Systems relative to the projected contributions of all participating members, actuarially determined. This information was provided by the ERS and TRS Systems in reports provided to the BOCES.

	<b>ERS</b>	<b>TRS</b>
Measurement Date	March 31, 2019	June 30, 2018
BOCES' Proportionate Share of the Net Pension		
Asset (Liability)	\$ (2,283,625)	\$ 2,153,611
BOCES' Portion (%) of the Plan's Total		
Net Pension Asset (Liability)	0.0322304%	0.119098%
Change in Proportion (%) Since the Prior Measurement Date	0.0025275%	-0.000795%

**NOTES TO AUDITED BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

June 30, 2019

**NOTE 9 – PENSION PLANS - Continued**

**Pension Assets, Pension Liabilities, Pension Expense, and Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to Pensions - Continued**

For the year ended June 30, 2019, the BOCES’ recognized pension expense (credit) of \$267,338 for ERS and \$(373,295) for TRS. At June 30, 2019, the BOCES’ reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions from the following sources:

	<u>Deferred Outflows of Resources</u>		<u>Deferred Inflows of Resources</u>	
	<u>ERS</u>	<u>TRS</u>	<u>ERS</u>	<u>TRS</u>
Differences Between Expected and Actual Experience	\$ 449,694	\$ 1,609,376	\$ 153,295	\$ 291,521
Changes of Assumptions	574,010	7,528,284	-	-
Net Difference Between Projected and Actual Earnings on Pension Plan Investments	-	-	586,104	2,390,673
Changes in Proportion and Differences Between the BOCES' Contributions and Proportionate Share of Contributions	138,639	118,916	116,385	40,146
BOCES' Contributions Subsequent to the Measurement Date	420,412	2,054,569	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<u>\$ 1,582,755</u>	<u>\$ 11,311,145</u>	<u>\$ 855,784</u>	<u>\$ 2,722,340</u>

BOCES’ contributions subsequent to the measurement date will be recognized as a reduction of the net pension asset (liability) in the year ended June 30, 2020, if applicable. Other amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions will be recognized in pension expense for the year ended as follows:

	<b>ERS</b>	<b>TRS</b>
2020	\$ 470,440	\$ 2,169,078
2021	(443,433)	1,476,030
2022	(34,330)	165,003
2023	313,882	1,470,956
2024	-	1,010,000
Thereafter	-	243,169

**NOTES TO AUDITED BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

June 30, 2019

**NOTE 9 – PENSION PLANS - Continued**

---

**Actuarial Assumptions**

The total pension asset (liability) as of the measurement date was determined by using an actuarial valuation as noted in the table below, with update procedures used to roll forward the total pension asset (liability) to the measurement date.

Significant actuarial assumptions used in the valuations were as follows:

	<b>ERS</b>	<b>TRS</b>
Measurement Date	March 31, 2019	June 30, 2018
Actuarial Valuation Date	April 1, 2018	June 30, 2017
Interest Rate	7.00%	7.25%
Salary Scale	4.2%	1.9% - 4.72%
Decrement Tables	April 1, 2010 - March 31, 2015 System's Experience	July 1, 2009 - June 30, 2014 System's Experience
Inflation Rate	2.5%	2.25%

For ERS, annuitant mortality rates are based on April 1, 2010 – March 31, 2015 System’s experience with adjustments for mortality improvements based on Society of Actuaries’ Scale MP-2014. For TRS, annuitant mortality rates are based on July 1, 2009 – June 30, 2014 System’s experience with adjustments for mortality improvements based on Society of Actuaries’ Scale MP-2014.

For ERS, the actuarial assumptions used in the April 1, 2018 valuation are based on the results of an actuarial experience study for the period April 1, 2010 – March 31, 2015. For TRS, the actuarial assumptions used in the June 30, 2017 valuation are based on the results of an actuarial experience study for the period July 1, 2009 – June 30, 2014.

The long-term rate of return on pension plan investments was determined using a building-block method in which best estimate ranges of expected future real rates of return (expected returns net of 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 each target asset allocation percentage and by adding expected inflation.

**NOTES TO AUDITED BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

June 30, 2019

**NOTE 9 – PENSION PLANS - Continued**

**Actuarial Assumptions - Continued**

Best estimates of the arithmetic real rates of return for each major asset class included in the target asset allocation are as follows:

Measurement Date	<b>ERS</b>	<b>TRS</b>
	March 31, 2019	June 30, 2018
Asset Type		
Domestic Equity	4.55%	5.80%
International Equity	6.35%	7.30%
Private Equity	7.50%	8.90%
Global Equity		6.70%
Real Estate	5.55%	4.90%
Absolute Return Strategies	3.75%	
Opportunistic Portfolio	5.68%	
Real Assets	5.29%	
Bonds and Mortgages	1.31%	
Cash	-0.25%	
Inflation - Indexed Bonds	1.25%	
Private Debt		6.80%
Real Estate Debt		2.80%
Domestic Fixed Income Securities		1.30%
Global Fixed Income Securities		0.90%
Short-Term		0.30%
High-Yield Fixed Income Securities		3.50%

**Discount Rate**

The discount rate used to calculate the total pension asset (liability) was 7.00% for ERS and 7.25% for TRS. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumes that contributions from plan members will be made at the current contribution rates and that contributions from employers will be made at statutorily required rates, actuarially determined. Based upon the assumptions, the Systems' 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 asset (liability).



**NOTES TO AUDITED BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

June 30, 2019

**NOTE 9 – PENSION PLANS - Continued**

**Sensitivity of the Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Asset (Liability) to the Discount Rate Assumption**

The following presents the BOCES' proportionate share of the net pension asset (liability) calculated using the discount rate of 7.00% for ERS and 7.25% for TRS, as well as what the BOCES' proportionate share of the net pension asset (liability) would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1-percentage point lower (6.00% for ERS and 6.25% for TRS) or 1-percentage point higher (8.00% for ERS and 8.25% for TRS) than the current rate:

<b>ERS</b>	<b>1% Decrease (6.00%)</b>	<b>Current Assumption (7.00%)</b>	<b>1% Increase (8.00%)</b>
Employer's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Asset (Liability)	\$ (9,984,374)	\$ (2,283,625)	\$ 4,185,550

<b>TRS</b>	<b>1% Decrease (6.25%)</b>	<b>Current Assumption (7.25%)</b>	<b>1% Increase (8.25%)</b>
Employer's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Asset (Liability)	\$ (14,795,661)	\$ 2,153,611	\$ 16,352,391

**Pension Plan Fiduciary Net Position**

The components of the current year net pension asset (liability) of the employers as of the respective measurement dates, were as follows:

	(Dollars in Thousands)		
	<b>ERS</b>	<b>TRS</b>	<b>Total</b>
Measurement Date	March 31, 2019	June 30, 2018	
Employer's Total Pension Asset (Liability)	\$ (189,803,429)	\$ (118,107,254)	\$ (307,910,683)
Plan Net Position	182,718,124	119,915,518	302,633,642
Employer's Net Pension Asset (Liability)	\$ (7,085,305)	\$ 1,808,264	\$ (5,277,041)
Ratio of Plan Net Position to the Employer's Total Pension Asset (Liability)	96.27%	101.53%	

**NOTES TO AUDITED BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

June 30, 2019

**NOTE 9 – PENSION PLANS - Continued**

**Payables to the Pension Plan**

For ERS, employer contributions are paid annually based on the System’s fiscal year which ends on March 31. Accrued retirement contributions as of June 30, 2019 represent the projected employer contribution for the period of April 1, 2019 through June 30, 2019 based on paid ERS wages multiplied by the employer’s contribution rate, by tier. Accrued retirement contributions as of June 30, 2019 amounted to \$420,412. Employee contributions are remitted monthly.

For TRS, employer and employee contributions for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2019 are paid to the System in September, October and November 2019 through a state aid intercept. Accrued retirement contributions as of June 30, 2019 represent employee and employer contributions for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2019 based on paid TRS wages multiplied by the employer’s contribution rate, by tier and employee contributions for the fiscal year as reported to the TRS System. Accrued retirement contributions as of June 30, 2019 amounted to \$2,307,734.

**NOTE 10 – INTERFUND TRANSACTIONS – GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS**

Interfund balances at June 30, 2019 are as follows:

	<b>Interfund</b>		<b>Interfund</b>	
	<b>Receivables</b>	<b>Payables</b>	<b>Revenues</b>	<b>Expenditures</b>
General	\$ 1,140,756	\$ 43,211	\$ 20,000	\$ 525,000
Special Aid	-	1,140,571	-	-
Capital Projects	43,211	-	525,000	20,000
Total Governmental Funds	1,183,967	1,183,782	545,000	545,000
Fiduciary	-	185	-	-
Total	<u>\$ 1,183,967</u>	<u>\$ 1,183,967</u>	<u>\$ 545,000</u>	<u>\$ 545,000</u>

The BOCES typically loans resources between funds for the purpose of mitigating the effects of transient cash flow issues. The General Fund advanced funds to the Special Aid Fund to provide temporary cash until New York State has reimbursed the grant programs. Unexpended funds from a capital project are transferred to the debt service fund upon completion.

**NOTES TO AUDITED BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

June 30, 2019

**NOTE 11 – FUND BALANCE EQUITY**

The following is a summary of the Governmental Funds fund balances (deficits) of the BOCES at June 30, 2019:

<b>Fund Balances (Deficits)</b>	<b>General</b>	<b>Special Aid</b>	<b>Capital Projects</b>	<b>Total Governmental Funds</b>
Nonspendable	\$ 14,271	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 14,271
Restricted				
Employee Benefit Accrued Liability	857,516	-	-	857,516
Retirement Contributions	682,317	-	-	682,317
Unemployment Insurance	846,349	-	-	846,349
Advanced Technical Equipment	-	-	310,624	310,624
Debt Reserve - DASNY	-	-	301,144	301,144
Unassigned (Deficit)				
Capital Projects			(184,931)	(184,931)
Special Aid	-	(29,713)	-	(29,713)
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>
Total Governmental Fund Balances (Deficits)	<u>\$2,400,453</u>	<u>\$ (29,713)</u>	<u>\$ 426,837</u>	<u>\$ 2,797,577</u>

**NOTE 12 – POSTEMPLOYMENT (HEALTH INSURANCE)  
BENEFITS**

**General Information about the OPEB Plan**

*Plan Description* – The BOCES’ defined benefit OPEB plan, provides OPEB for all permanent full-time employees of the BOCES. The plan is a single-employer defined benefit OPEB plan administered by the BOCES. Article 11 of the State Compiled Statutes grants the authority to establish and amend the benefit terms and financing requirements to the BOCES Board. No assets are accumulated in a trust that meets the criteria in paragraph 4 of Statement 75.

*Benefits Provided* – The BOCES provides healthcare benefits for retirees and their dependents. The benefit terms are dependent on which contract each employee falls under. The specifics of each contract are on file at the BOCES offices and are available upon request.

**NOTES TO AUDITED BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

June 30, 2019

**NOTE 12 – POSTEMPLOYMENT (HEALTH INSURANCE)**

**BENEFITS - Continued**

**General Information about the OPEB Plan - Continued**

*Employees Covered by Benefit Terms* – At June 30, 2019, the following employees were covered by the benefit terms:

Inactive employees or beneficiaries currently receiving benefit payments	391
Inactive employees entitled to but not yet receiving benefit payments	-
Active employees	555
Total Covered Employees	946

The BOCES provides two self-insured traditional indemnity plans to eligible retirees and dependents through the St. Lawrence-Lewis Health Care Consortium (the Plan). The Plan allows eligible BOCES’ employees and spouses to continue health coverage upon retirement. Separate financial statements are issued for the Plan.

All active employees and retirees are subject to the following eligibility and contribution requirements:

Administration

- Eligibility for postretirement benefits for NYS TRS and NYS ERS employees requires a minimum age of 55 with at least 10 years of service with the BOCES or one of its component districts.
- All retirees who retire prior to 7/1/2017 are required to contribute 0% of the individual premium. All retirees who retire on or after 7/1/2017 are required to contribute 10% of the individual plan premium amount.
- All spouses are required to contribute 75% of the difference between the individual and family premiums.
- Surviving spouses may only continue coverage through COBRA for 18 months.

**NOTES TO AUDITED BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

June 30, 2019

**NOTE 12 – POSTEMPLOYMENT (HEALTH INSURANCE)  
BENEFITS - Continued**

---

**General Information about the OPEB Plan - Continued**

Federation

- NYS TRS members retiring on or after 7/1/2022 must have at least 10 years of continuous service with the BOCES. All other members retiring prior to 7/1/2022 must be at least age 55 with at least 5 years of service to be eligible for the BOCES postemployment health plan.
- All retirees are required to contribute 0% of the individual premium.
- All spouses are required to contribute 75% of the difference between the individual and family premiums.
- Surviving spouses may only continue coverage through COBRA for 18 months.

Support Staff

- NYS ERS employees must be at least age 55 with at least 10 years of service with the BOCES to be eligible for the BOCES postemployment health plan.
- All retirees who retire prior to 7/1/2017 are required to contribute 0% of the individual premium. All retirees who retire on or after 7/1/2017 are required to contribute 5% of the individual plan premium amount.
- All spouses are required to contribute 75% of the difference between the individual and family premiums.
- Surviving spouses may only continue coverage through COBRA for 18 months.

Teachers

- NYS TRS employees must be at least age 55 with at least 10 years of service with the BOCES to be eligible for the BOCES postemployment health plan.
- All retirees are required to contribute 0% of the individual premium.
- All spouses are required to contribute 75% of the difference between the individual and family premiums.
- Surviving spouses may only continue coverage through COBRA for 18 months.

**NOTES TO AUDITED BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

June 30, 2019

**NOTE 12 – POSTEMPLOYMENT (HEALTH INSURANCE)**

**BENEFITS - Continued**

**General Information about the OPEB Plan - Continued**

The BOCES reimburses the full Medicare Part B amount for all retirees and dependents eligible for postemployment health insurance benefits. Surviving spouses do not receive reimbursements.

The BOCES recognizes the cost of providing health insurance annually as expenditures in the General Fund of the fund financial statements as payments are made. For the year ended June 30, 2019, the BOCES recognized \$4,884,917 for its share of insurance premiums for currently retired employees.

**Total OPEB Liability**

The BOCES has obtained an actuarial valuation report as of June 30, 2019 which indicates that the total liability for other postemployment benefits is \$201,795,170 which is reflected in the Statement of Net Position. The OPEB liability was measured as of July 1, 2018 and was determined by an actuarial valuation as of July 1, 2018.

*Actuarial Assumptions and Other Inputs* – The total OPEB liability in the July 1, 2018 actuarial valuation was determined using the following actuarial assumptions and other inputs, applied to all periods included in the measurement, unless otherwise specified:

**Actuarial Methods and Assumptions**

Measurement Date	07/01/18
Rate of Compensation Increase	3.00%
Inflation Rate	2.20%
Discount Rate	3.87%

**Assumed Medical Trend Rates at June 30**

Health Care Cost Trend Rate Assumed for Next Fiscal Year	7.50%
Rate to Which the Cost Trend Rate is Assumed to Decline (the Ultimate Trend Rate)	3.94%
Fiscal Year that the Rate Reaches the Ultimate Trend Rate	2089

**Additional Information**

Actuarial Cost Method	Entry Age Normal
Amortization Method	Level Percentage
Amortization Period (in Years)	6.54
Method used to determine Actuarial Value of Assets	N/A

**NOTES TO AUDITED BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

June 30, 2019

**NOTE 12 – POSTEMPLOYMENT (HEALTH INSURANCE)  
BENEFITS - Continued**

**Total OPEB Liability - Continued**

The discount rate was based on the Bond Buyer Weekly 20-Bond Go Index as of July 1, 2018.

Mortality rates were based on the sex-distinct RPH-2014 Mortality Tables for employees and healthy annuitants, adjusted backwards to 2006 with scale MP-2014, and then projected forward with scale MP-2018.

The actuarial assumptions used in the July 1, 2018 valuation were based on the results of an actuarial experience study for the period July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018.

**Changes in the Total OPEB Liability**

Balance at June 30, 2018	\$ 187,953,018
Changes for the Year	
Service Cost	6,113,323
Interest	6,915,960
Changes in Benefit Terms	(164,648)
Differences Between Expected and Actual Experience	2,892,449
Changes of Assumptions or Other Inputs	1,997,814
Benefit Payments	<u>(3,912,746)</u>
Net Changes	<u>13,842,152</u>
Balance at June 30, 2019	<u><u>\$ 201,795,170</u></u>

Changes of assumptions and other inputs reflect a change in the discount rate from 3.60 percent on July 1, 2017 to 3.87 percent on July 1, 2018.

*Sensitivity of the Total OPEB Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate* – The following presents the total OPEB liability of the BOCES, as well as what the BOCES’ total OPEB liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1 percentage point lower (2.87 percent) or 1 percentage point higher (4.87 percent) than the current discount rate:

	1% Decrease 2.87%	Discount Rate 3.87%	1% Increase 4.87%
Total OPEB Liability	<u>\$ 240,321,454</u>	<u>\$ 201,795,170</u>	<u>\$ 171,392,183</u>

**NOTES TO AUDITED BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

June 30, 2019

**NOTE 12 – POSTEMPLOYMENT (HEALTH INSURANCE)**

**BENEFITS - Continued**

**Changes in the Total OPEB Liability - Continued**

*Sensitivity of the Total OPEB Liability to Changes in the Healthcare Cost Trend Rates* – The following presents the total OPEB liability of the BOCES, as well as what the BOCES’ total OPEB liability would be if it were calculated using healthcare cost trend rates that are 1 percentage point lower (2.94 percent) or 1 percentage point higher (4.94 percent) than the current healthcare cost trend rate:

	1% Decrease Healthcare Cost Trend Rates (Trend Less 1% Decreasing to 2.94%)	Healthcare Cost Trend Rates (Trend Decreasing to 3.94%)	1% Increase Healthcare Cost Trend Rates (Trend Plus 1% Decreasing to 4.94%)
Total OPEB Liability	<u>\$ 168,844,154</u>	<u>\$ 201,795,170</u>	<u>\$ 244,839,693</u>

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

For the year ended June 30, 2019, the BOCES recognized OPEB expense of \$4,196,136. At June 30, 2019, the BOCES reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB from the following sources:

	Deferred Outflows of Resources	Deferred Inflows of Resources
Differences Between Expected and Actual Experience	\$ 2,450,179	\$ -
Changes of Assumptions or Other Inputs	1,692,338	19,607,994
Benefit Payments Subsequent to the Measurement Date	<u>5,019,834</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>\$ 9,162,351</u>	<u>\$ 19,607,994</u>



**NOTES TO AUDITED BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

June 30, 2019

**NOTE 12 – POSTEMPLOYMENT (HEALTH INSURANCE)  
BENEFITS - Continued**

---

**OPEB Expense and Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources  
Related to OPEB – Continued**

BOCES benefit payments subsequent to the measurement date will be recognized as a reduction of the OPEB liability in the year ended June 30, 2020, if applicable. Amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB will be recognized in OPEB expense as follows:

Fiscal Year Ending June 30,		
2020	\$	(3,648,665)
2021		(3,648,665)
2022		(3,648,665)
2023		(3,648,665)
2024 and Thereafter		<u>(870,817)</u>
	\$	<u>(15,465,477)</u>

**NOTE 13 – RISK MANAGEMENT**

---

**General Information**

The BOCES is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts, theft, damage, injuries, errors and omissions, natural disasters, and other risks. These risks are covered by commercial insurance purchased from independent third parties. Settled claims from these risks have not exceeded commercial insurance coverage for the past two years.

**Consortiums and Self-Insured Plans**

The BOCES participates in the St. Lawrence-Lewis Counties School District Healthcare Plan (Plan), a non-risk-retained public entity risk pool for its employee health and accident insurance coverage. The pool is operated for the benefit of 18 individual governmental units located within the pool’s geographic area and is considered a self-sustaining risk pool that will provide coverage for its members up to \$1,000,000 per insured event. The pool obtains independent coverage for insured events in excess of the \$1,000,000 limit, and the BOCES has essentially transferred all related risk to the pool.

**NOTES TO AUDITED BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

June 30, 2019

**NOTE 13 – RISK MANAGEMENT - Continued**

---

**Consortiums and Self-Insured Plans – Continued**

Plan members are subject to a supplemental assessment in the event of deficiencies. If the Plan's assets were to be exhausted, members would be responsible for the plan's liabilities. The Plan uses a reinsurance agreement to reduce its exposure to large losses on insured events. Reinsurance permits recovery of a portion of losses from the reinsurer, although it does not discharge the liability of the Plan as direct insurer of the risks reinsured. The Plan establishes a liability for both reported and unreported insured events, which includes estimates of both future payments of losses and related claim adjustment expenses. However, because actual claims costs depend on complex factors, the process used in computing claims liabilities does not necessarily result in an exact amount. Such claims are based on the ultimate cost of claims (including future claim adjustment expenses) that have been reported but not settled and claims that have been incurred but not reported. Adjustments to claims liabilities are charged or credited to expense in the periods in which they are made.

The Plan issues a publicly available financial report that includes financial statements and required supplementary information. That report may be obtained in writing: St. Lawrence-Lewis Counties School District Employee Medical Plan, Post Office Box 697, Canton, New York 13617.

The BOCES participates in the St. Lawrence-Lewis Counties School District Employees Workers' Compensation Plan, a risk-sharing pool, to insure Workers' Compensation claims. This is a public entity risk pool created under Article 5 of the Workers' Compensation Law to finance liability and risks related to Workers' Compensation claims. The BOCES' share of the liability for unbilled and open claims is \$-0-.

**NOTE 14 – COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES**

---

The BOCES has received grants, which are subject to audit by agencies of the state and federal governments. Such audits may result in disallowances and a request for a return of funds. Based on prior years' experience, the BOCES' administration believes disallowances, if any, will be immaterial.

The recent labor contracts between the BOCES and the St. Lawrence-Lewis Counties BOCES Teachers' Association and the Non-Instructional Support Staff Association expired on June 30, 2018. Management has accrued an estimated wage and benefit increase for the current fiscal year for both labor contracts based on projected retroactive pay adjustments.

**NOTES TO AUDITED BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

June 30, 2019

**NOTE 15 – LEASE OBLIGATIONS**

The BOCES leases certain equipment, office space and personal property under the terms of various non-cancelable leases. Rental expense for the year ended June 30, 2019 was \$330,079.

Minimum annual rentals for each of the remaining years of the lease at June 30 are:

2020	\$	314,387
2021		269,869
2022		188,835
2023		116,204
2024		19,412
	\$	<u>908,707</u>

**NOTE 16 – OTHER CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE**

General Fund - The (\$4,450,985) decrease in fund balance for the year ended June 30, 2019 represents the excess of revenues over expenditures net of any reserve income and expenditures as follows:

Refund of Surplus Unpaid to Component Districts	\$	(4,411,490)
Changes in Reserve Balances		
Employee Benefit Accrued Liability		(12,709)
Reserve for Unemployment Insurance		<u>(26,786)</u>
	\$	<u>(4,450,985)</u>

**NOTE 17 – SUBSEQUENT EVENTS**

Subsequent events have been evaluated through October 10, 2019, which is the date of the issuance of the financial statements.

On September 18, 2019, the Board of Education ratified a memorandum of agreement between the St. Lawrence-Lewis Counties BOCES Teachers' Association and the St. Lawrence-Lewis BOCES Board of Education effective July 1, 2018 – June 30, 2021.

**THIS PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK**

## ST. LAWRENCE-LEWIS COUNTIES BOCES

## REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

---

**SCHEDULE OF CHANGES IN THE BOCES' TOTAL OPEB LIABILITY AND RELATED RATIOS**
**LAST TWO FISCAL YEARS**

Ended June 30, 2019

<b>Total OPEB Liability</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2018</b>
Service Cost	\$ 6,113,323	\$ 8,080,556
Interest	6,915,960	6,046,105
Changes of Benefit Terms	(164,648)	-
Difference between Expected and Actual Experience	2,892,449	-
Changes in Assumptions and Other Inputs	1,997,814	(28,400,816)
Benefit Payments	(3,912,746)	(3,672,669)
<b>Net Change in Total OPEB Liability</b>	<u>13,842,152</u>	<u>(17,946,824)</u>
<b>Total OPEB Liability - Beginning, as Restated</b>	<u>187,953,018</u>	<u>205,899,842</u>
<b>Total OPEB Liability - Ending</b>	<u>\$ 201,795,170</u>	<u>\$ 187,953,018</u>
<b>Covered Payroll</b>	\$ 23,043,383	\$ 22,333,571
<b>Total OPEB Liability as a Percentage of Covered Payroll</b>	875.72%	841.57%

10 years of historical information will not be available upon implementation. An additional year of historical information will be added each year subsequent to the year of implementation until 10 years of historical data is available.

---

See paragraph on supplementary schedules included in independent auditor's report.

**SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE –  
BUDGET (NON-GAAP) BASIS AND ACTUAL – GENERAL FUND**

Year Ended June 30, 2019

	<u>Original Budget</u>	<u>Final Budget</u>
<b>REVENUES</b>		
Administration: 001	\$ 9,104,132	\$ 9,084,057
Occupational Instruction: 100-199	9,913,921	10,139,779
Instruction for Special Education: 200-299	23,915,353	23,881,880
Itinerant Services: 300-399	3,969,785	4,106,002
General Instruction: 400-499	2,356,809	1,911,174
Instructional Support: 500-599	7,457,815	9,858,225
Other Services: 600-699	9,570,780	10,343,535
Total Revenues	<u>66,288,595</u>	<u>69,324,652</u>
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>		
Administration: 001	8,979,130	8,579,058
Occupational Instruction: 100-199	9,913,921	10,139,779
Instruction for Special Education: 200-299	23,915,353	23,881,880
Itinerant Services: 300-399	3,969,787	4,106,003
General Instruction: 400-499	2,356,808	1,911,171
Instructional Support: 500-599	7,457,815	9,858,226
Other Services: 600-699	9,570,781	10,343,535
Total Expenditures	<u>66,163,595</u>	<u>68,819,652</u>
<b>OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)</b>		
Transfers to Other Funds	(125,000)	(525,000)
Transfers from Other Funds	-	20,000
Total Expenditures and Other Financing Sources (Uses)	<u>66,288,595</u>	<u>69,324,652</u>
<b>OTHER CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE</b>		
Refund of Surplus Unpaid	-	-
Employee Benefit Accrued Liability	-	-
Reserve for Unemployment Insurance	-	-
Plus - Encumbrances, Ending	-	-
Less - Encumbrances, Beginning	-	-
Total Other Changes in Fund Balance	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Net Change in Fund Balance	-	-
Fund Balance - Beginning of Year	<u>2,439,948</u>	<u>2,439,948</u>
Fund Balance - End of Year	<u>\$ 2,439,948</u>	<u>\$ 2,439,948</u>

**ST. LAWRENCE-LEWIS COUNTIES BOCES**

Actual	Final Budget Variance with Actual
\$	
9,084,057	-
10,139,779	-
23,881,880	-
4,106,002	-
1,911,174	-
9,858,225	-
10,343,535	-
69,324,652	\$ -

	Year-End Encumbrances	Final Budget Variance with Actual and Encumbrances
8,093,938	-	\$ 485,120
9,914,622	-	225,157
21,491,268	-	2,390,612
3,841,389	-	264,614
1,842,565	-	68,606
9,599,324	-	258,902
9,625,056	-	718,479
64,408,162	-	\$ 4,411,490

(525,000)  
20,000  
64,913,162

(4,411,490)  
(12,709)  
(26,786)  
-  
-  
(4,450,985)  
(39,495)  
2,439,948  
\$ 2,400,453

**Note to Required Supplementary Information Budget Basis of Accounting:** Budgets are adopted on the modified accrual basis of accounting consistent with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

See paragraph on supplementary schedules included in independent auditor's report.

**ST. LAWRENCE-LEWIS COUNTIES BOCES**

**SCHEDULE OF THE BOCES' PROPORTIONATE SHARE OF THE NET PENSION ASSET (LIABILITY) – NYSLRS PENSION PLAN  
LAST FIVE FISCAL YEARS**

Ended June 30, 2019

	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
<b>Teachers' Retirement System (TRS)</b>					
BOCES' Proportion of the Net Pension Asset (Liability)	0.119098%	0.119893%	0.121264%	0.120681%	0.120734%
BOCES' Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Asset (Liability)	\$ 2,153,611	\$ 911,303	\$ (1,298,787)	\$ 12,534,884	\$ 13,449,053
BOCES' Covered Payroll	\$ 19,403,963	\$ 18,993,009	\$ 18,731,976	\$ 18,127,290	\$ 17,849,204
BOCES' Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Asset (Liability) as a Percentage of its Covered Payroll	<u>11.10%</u>	<u>4.80%</u>	<u>6.93%</u>	<u>69.15%</u>	<u>75.35%</u>
Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total Pension Asset (Liability)	101.53%	100.66%	99.01%	110.46%	111.48%
<b>Employees' Retirement System (ERS)</b>					
BOCES' Proportion of the Net Pension Asset (Liability)	0.0322304%	0.0297029%	0.0291552%	0.0285994%	0.0283649%
BOCES' Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Asset (Liability)	\$ (2,283,625)	\$ (958,646)	\$ (2,739,484)	\$ (4,590,291)	\$ (958,236)
BOCES' Covered Payroll	\$ 8,087,520	\$ 7,782,136	\$ 7,477,025	\$ 7,039,536	\$ 7,410,545
BOCES' Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Asset (Liability) as a Percentage of its Covered Payroll	<u>28.24%</u>	<u>12.32%</u>	<u>36.64%</u>	<u>65.21%</u>	<u>12.93%</u>

Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total Pension Asset (Liability)

10 years of historical information will not be available upon implementation. An additional year of historical information will be added each year subsequent to the year of implementation until 10 years of historical data is available.

See paragraph on supplementary schedules included in independent auditor's report.



**SCHEDULE OF THE BOCES' CONTRIBUTIONS – NYSLRS PENSION PLAN**  
**LAST FIVE FISCAL YEARS**  
 Ended June 30, 2019

	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
<b>Teachers' Retirement System (TRS)</b>					
Contractually Required Contribution	\$ 1,901,178	\$ 2,226,686	\$ 2,481,242	\$ 3,177,819	\$ 2,898,081
Contributions in Relation to the Contractually Required Contribution	1,901,178	2,226,686	2,481,242	3,177,819	2,898,081
Contribution Deficiency (Excess)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
BOCES' Covered Payroll	\$ 19,403,963	\$ 18,993,009	\$ 18,731,976	\$ 18,127,290	\$ 17,849,204
Contributions as a Percentage of Covered Payroll	9.80%	11.72%	13.25%	17.53%	16.24%
<b>Employees' Retirement System (ERS)</b>					
Contractually Required Contribution	\$ 1,155,106	\$ 1,152,097	\$ 1,116,579	\$ 1,189,665	\$ 1,363,901
Contributions in Relation to the Contractually Required Contribution	1,155,106	1,152,097	1,116,579	1,189,665	1,363,901
Contribution Deficiency (Excess)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
BOCES' Covered Payroll	\$ 8,087,520	\$ 7,782,136	\$ 7,477,025	\$ 7,039,536	\$ 7,410,545
Contributions as a Percentage of Covered Payroll	14.28%	14.80%	14.93%	16.90%	18.40%

10 years of historical information will not be available upon implementation. An additional year of historical information will be added each year subsequent to the year of implementation until 10 years of historical data is available.

See paragraph on supplementary schedules included in independent auditor's report.

## SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

**SCHEDULE OF CHANGE FROM ADOPTED BUDGET TO FINAL BUDGET – GENERAL FUND**

Year Ended June 30, 2019

**CHANGE FROM ADOPTED BUDGET TO FINAL BUDGET**

Adopted Budget	\$ 66,288,595
Add: Prior Year's Encumbrances	<u>                  -</u>
Original Budget	66,288,595
Budget Revision	<u>          3,036,057</u>
Final Budget	<u><u>      \$ 69,324,652</u></u>

The Original Budget was Revised for the Following Programs:

Budget Increases (Decreases)	
Administration	\$ (20,072)
Occupational Instruction	225,858
Instruction for Special Education	(33,473)
Itinerant Services	136,216
General Instruction	(445,637)
Instructional Support	2,400,411
Other Services	<u>          772,754</u>
Total Budget Increase	<u>          3,036,057</u>
Net Increase	<u><u>      \$ 3,036,057</u></u>

See paragraph on supplementary schedules included in independent auditor's report.

**ANALYSIS OF ACCOUNT A431 SCHOOL DISTRICTS**

Year Ended June 30, 2019

<b>JULY 1 - CREDIT BALANCE</b>	\$ (3,176,795)
<b>Debits:</b>	
Billings to School Districts	68,093,846
Refund of Balances Due School Districts	3,176,795
Encumbrances - End of Year	<u>-</u>
<b>TOTAL DEBITS</b>	<u>71,270,641</u>
<b>Credits:</b>	
Collection from School Districts	68,093,846
Adjustment - Credits to School Districts: Revenues in Excess of Expenditures	4,411,490
Encumbrance - Beginning of Year	<u>-</u>
<b>TOTAL CREDITS</b>	<u>72,505,336</u>
<b>JUNE 30 - CREDIT BALANCE</b>	<u><u>\$ (4,411,490)</u></u>

See paragraph on supplementary schedules included in independent auditor's report.

**ST. LAWRENCE-LEWIS COUNTIES BOCES**

**SCHEDULE OF CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND – PROJECT EXPENDITURES AND FINANCING RESOURCES**

Year Ended June 30, 2019

Project Title	Expenditures				Methods of Financing				Fund Balance (Deficit) 6/30/2019		
	Original Appropriation	Revised Appropriation	Prior Year	Current Year	Total	Unexpended Balance	Proceeds of Obligations				
							State Aid	Local Sources		Total	
Future Project - CTE Renovation	\$ 43,500,000	\$ 43,500,000	\$ -	\$ 1,003,381	\$ 1,003,381	\$ 42,496,619	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 543,450	\$ 543,450	\$ (459,931)
Future Project - CTE Storage	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	275,000	275,000	275,000
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$ 43,500,000</b>	<b>\$ 43,500,000</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 1,003,381</b>	<b>\$ 1,003,381</b>	<b>\$ 42,496,619</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 818,450</b>	<b>\$ 818,450</b>	<b>\$ (184,931)</b>

See paragraph on supplementary schedules included in independent auditor's report.

**ST. LAWRENCE-LEWIS COUNTIES BOCES**

---

**NET INVESTMENT IN CAPITAL ASSETS**

Year Ended June 30, 2019

Capital Assets, Net		\$ 27,299,630
Premium on Bonds Payable	\$ 218,373	
Short-Term Portion of Bonds Payable	1,035,000	
Long-Term Portion of Bonds Payable	8,775,000	
Short-Term Portion of Installment Debt	382,428	
Long-Term Portion of Installment Debt	<u>757,784</u>	<u>11,168,585</u>
Net Investment in Capital Assets		<u>\$ 16,131,045</u>

---

See paragraph on supplementary schedules included in independent auditor's report.



**BOWERS & COMPANY  
CPAs PLLC**

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS • BUSINESS CONSULTANTS

**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***

---

**BOARD OF EDUCATION  
ST. LAWRENCE-LEWIS COUNTIES BOCES**

We have audited, in accordance with the 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 and each major fund of the St. Lawrence-Lewis Counties BOCES as of and for the year ended June 30, 2019, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the St. Lawrence-Lewis Counties BOCES' basic financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated October 10, 2019.

**Internal Control Over Financial Reporting**

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered St. Lawrence-Lewis Counties BOCES' 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 St. Lawrence-Lewis Counties BOCES' internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of St. Lawrence-Lewis Counties BOCES' internal control.

A *deficiency in internal control* exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, misstatements on a timely basis. A *material weakness* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control, such that there is 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.

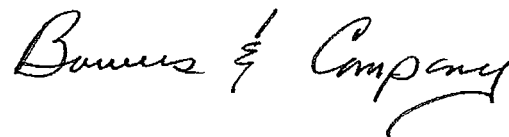
Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not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

### **Compliance and Other Matters**

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether St. Lawrence-Lewis Counties BOCES' 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 statements 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*.

### **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.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Bowers & Company". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned to the right of the date and location information.

Watertown, New York  
October 10, 2019







**BOWERS & COMPANY**  
**CPAs PLLC**

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS • BUSINESS CONSULTANTS

To the Board of Education  
St. Lawrence-Lewis Counties BOCES

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements of St. Lawrence-Lewis Counties BOCES for the year ended June 30, 2019, we considered the BOCES' internal control to determine our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the financial statements and not to provide assurance on the internal control.

However, during our audit we became aware of a certain matter that is an opportunity for strengthening internal controls and operating efficiency. The following summarizes our comment and suggestion regarding this matter.

**Condition: Review Grant Classifications**

We noted that the BOCES had identified a grant as a Federal award, however, upon review of the grant award and confirmation with the granting agency it was determined to be a State award. The misclassification of the award resulted in the BOCES not being subject to a single audit as federal expenditures were below \$750,000 which changes the scope of the audit. It is management's responsibility to properly classify grant revenue sources.

**Recommendation**

We recommend that the BOCES review each grant classification to properly identify Federal, State and Local awards and, if necessary, contact the granting agencies to confirm grant classifications.

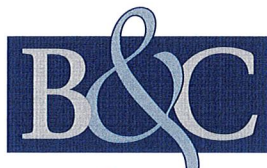
**Management's Response**

The BOCES will take this recommendation into account and work with our program directors to better identify the source of grant funding.

We appreciate the opportunity to conduct the audit and would like to express our thanks to the staff for the fine cooperation extended to us during the course of the audit.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Bowers &amp; Company". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned to the right of the main body of text.

Watertown, New York  
October 10, 2019



**BOWERS & COMPANY**  
**CPAS PLLC**

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS • BUSINESS CONSULTANTS

October 10, 2019

To the President and Members  
of the Board of Education of the  
St. Lawrence Lewis Counties BOCES

We have audited the financial statements of the governmental activities, and each major fund of St. Lawrence Lewis Counties BOCES for the year ended June 30, 2019. Professional standards require that we provide you with information about our responsibilities under generally accepted auditing standards and *Government Auditing Standards*, as well as certain information related to the planned scope and timing of our audit. We have communicated such information in our letter to you dated August 15, 2019. Professional standards also require that we communicate to you the following information related to our audit.

Significant Audit Matters

*Qualitative Aspects of Accounting Practices*

Management is responsible for the selection and use of appropriate accounting policies. The significant accounting policies used by St. Lawrence Lewis Counties BOCES are described in Note 1 to the financial statements. No new accounting policies were adopted, and the application of existing policies was not changed during 2019. We noted no transactions entered into by St. Lawrence Lewis Counties BOCES during the year for which there is a lack of authoritative guidance or consensus. All significant transactions have been recognized in the financial statements in the proper period.

Accounting estimates are an integral part of the financial statements prepared by management and are based on management's knowledge and experience about past and current events and assumptions about future events. Certain accounting estimates are particularly sensitive because of their significance to the financial statements and because of the possibility that future events affecting them may differ significantly from those expected. The most sensitive estimates affecting the financial statement were:

Management's estimate of the depreciation is based on economic useful lives of capital asset classes.

Management estimates actuarial assumptions that are used to determine pension asset (liabilities) and annual pension cost for the year in accordance with GASB Statement No. 68.

Management estimates actuarial assumptions that are used to determine annual postretirement cost for the year in accordance with GASB Statement No. 75.

We have evaluated the key factors and assumptions used to develop the estimates in determining that they are reasonable in relation to the financial statements taken as a whole.

The financial statement disclosures are neutral, consistent, and clear.

*Difficulties Encountered in Performing the Audit*

We encountered no significant difficulties in dealing with management in performing and completing our audit.

*Corrected and Uncorrected Misstatements*

Professional standards require us to accumulate all known and likely misstatements identified during the audit, other than those that are clearly trivial, and communicate them to the appropriate level of management. Attached schedule #1 summarizes uncorrected misstatements of the financial statements. Management has determined that their effects are immaterial, both individually and in the aggregate, to the financial statements taken as a whole. Attached schedule #2 represents material misstatements detected as a result of audit procedures that were corrected by management.

*Disagreements with Management*

For purposes of this letter, a disagreement with management is a financial accounting, reporting, or auditing matter, whether or not resolved to our satisfaction, that could be significant to the financial statements or the auditor's report. We are pleased to report that no such disagreements arose during the course of our audit.

*Management Representations*

We have requested certain representations from management that are included in the management representation letter dated October 10, 2019.

*Management Consultations with Other Independent Accountants*

In some cases, management may decide to consult with other accountants about auditing and accounting matters, similar to obtaining a "second opinion" on certain situations. If a consultation involves application of an accounting principle to St. Lawrence Lewis Counties BOCES' financial statements or a determination of the type of auditor's opinion that may be expressed on those statements, our professional standards require the consulting accountant to check with us to determine that the consultant has all the relevant facts. To our knowledge, there were no such consultations with other accountants.

*Other Audit Findings or Issues*

We generally discuss a variety of matters, including the application of accounting principles and auditing standards, with management each year prior to retention as St. Lawrence Lewis Counties BOCES' auditors. However, these discussions occurred in the normal course of our professional relationship and our responses were not a condition to our retention.

Other Matters

We applied certain limited procedures to *Management's Discussion and Analysis, Schedule of Changes in the BOCES' Total OPEB Liability and Related Ratios, Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance – Budget (Non-GAAP Basis) and Actual – General Fund, Schedule of BOCES' Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Asset (Liability) – NYSLRS Pension Plan, and the Schedule of the BOCES' Contributions – NYSLRS Pension Plan*, which are required supplementary information (RSI) that supplements the basic financial statements. Our procedures 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 did not audit the RSI and do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the RSI.

We were engaged to report on *Schedule of Change from Adopted Budget to Final Budget – General Fund, Analysis of Account A431 School Districts, Schedule of Capital Projects Fund – Project Expenditures and Financing Resources, and Net Investment in Capital Assets*, which accompany the financial statements but are not RSI. With respect to this supplementary information, we made certain inquiries of management and evaluated the form, content, and methods of preparing the information to determine that the information complies with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, the method of preparing it has not changed from the prior period, and the information is appropriate and complete in relation to our audit of the financial statements. We compared and reconciled the supplementary information to the underlying accounting records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves.

Restriction on Use

This information is intended solely for the information and use of the Board of Education and management of St. Lawrence Lewis Counties BOCES and is not intended to be, and should not be, used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Very truly yours,

*Bowers & Company*

**Schedule 1: Immaterial Uncorrected Misstatements**

**Governmental Funds**

***General Fund***

<b>Passed Journal Entries JE # 401</b>		<b>A637.1</b>		
To adjust ERS accrual to actual (Note: not allocated to each applicable CoSer by B&C all applied to administrative)				
A000637-00	Due to Employees' Retirement	79,396.00		
A1	ADMINISTRATION		<u>79,396.00</u>	
<b>Total</b>		<u><u>79,396.00</u></u>		<u><u>79,396.00</u></u>

**Schedule 2: Material Misstatements Corrected by Management**

**Governmental Funds**

General Fund:

<b>Adjusting Journal Entries JE # 3</b>		<b>A410.1</b>		
To record state aid receivable				
A000410-00	State/Federal Aid Receivable	10,367,463.00		
A000658-00	State Aid Due School Districts		10,367,463.00	
<b>Total</b>		<b><u>10,367,463.00</u></b>		<b><u>10,367,463.00</u></b>

Special Aid Fund:

<b>Adjusting Journal Entries JE # 1</b>		<b>F 909.10</b>		
To back out Client entry directly to Fund Balance				
F00917-00	Unassigned Fund Balance	185,034.00		
0904.140-2770-00	Unclassified Revenues		185,034.00	
<b>Total</b>		<b><u>185,034.00</u></b>		<b><u>185,034.00</u></b>

Capital Projects Fund:

<b>Adjusting Journal Entries JE # 4</b>		<b>H-04</b>		
To properly record DASNY credits as interfund expense and to eliminate interfund receivable originally recorded				
751	Interfund Transfers Out	20,000.00		
00391-AF	Due from General Fund		20,000.00	
<b>Total</b>		<b><u>20,000.00</u></b>		<b><u>20,000.00</u></b>

<b>Adjusting Journal Entries JE # 5</b>		<b>H600.1</b>		
To accrue March Associates invoice through 6/30/19				
750-1000-245-000	SATC Architect Expenses - \$41M Project	42,114.00		
750-2000-245-000	NWT Architect Expenses - \$41M Project	42,114.00		
750-3000-245-000	SWT Architect Expenses - \$41M Project	42,114.00		
00600-00	Accounts Payable		126,342.00	
<b>Total</b>		<b><u>126,342.00</u></b>		<b><u>126,342.00</u></b>

**Schedule 1: Material Misstatements Corrected by Management - Continued**

**Government-Wide**

**Non-Current Governmental Assets:**

<b>Adjusting Journal Entries JE # 1</b>		<b>K-0</b>		
To adjust beginning year balance to actual ending balance.				
K00102	Buildings		1.00	
K00104	Equipment		348,695.00	
K00105	Construction in Progress		1,003,381.00	
K00159	Total Non-Current Governmental Assets		163,193.00	
K00103	Improvements Other Than Buildings			1.00
K00112	Accumulated Depreciation - Buildings			887,123.00
K00113	Accumulated Depreciation - Improvements Other Than Buildings			112,875.00
K00114	Accumulated Depreciation - Equipment			515,271.00
<b>Total</b>			<b><u>1,515,270.00</u></b>	<b><u>1,515,270.00</u></b>
<b>Adjusting Journal Entries JE # 2</b>		<b>RP 03 tab</b>		
To record deferred outflows of resources related to TRS, ERS and OPEB				
K00496	Deferred Outflows of Resources - TRS		11,311,145.00	
K00496.1	Deferred Outflows of Resources - ERS		1,582,755.00	
K00496.2	Deferred Outflows of Resources - OPEB		5,249,605.00	
K00159	Total Non-Current Governmental Assets			18,143,505.00
<b>Total</b>			<b><u>18,143,505.00</u></b>	<b><u>18,143,505.00</u></b>
<b>Adjusting Journal Entries JE # 3</b>		<b>RP 03 tab</b>		
To record TRS net pension asset				
K00108	Net Pension Asset - TRS		2,153,611.00	
K00159	Total Non-Current Governmental Assets			2,153,611.00
<b>Total</b>			<b><u>2,153,611.00</u></b>	<b><u>2,153,611.00</u></b>
 <b><u>Non-Current Governmental Liabilities:</u></b>				
<b>Adjusting Journal Entries JE # 1</b>		<b>W685.1</b>		
To adjust IPD to actual - formula error in Peggy's spreadhseet (discussed with Peggy on 8/28/19)				
W00685	Installment Purchase Debt		179,593.00	
W00129	Total Non-Current Governmental Liabilities			179,593.00
<b>Total</b>			<b><u>179,593.00</u></b>	<b><u>179,593.00</u></b>
<b>Adjusting Journal Entries JE # 2</b>		<b>RP 03 tab</b>		
To record deferred inflows of resources related to TRS, ERS and OPEB				
W00129	Total Non-Current Governmental Liabilities		23,186,118.00	
W00697	Deferred Inflows of Resources - TRS			2,722,340.00
W00697.1	Deferred Inflows - ERS			855,784.00
W00697.2	Deferred Inflow of Resources -OPEB			19,607,994.00
<b>Total</b>			<b><u>23,186,118.00</u></b>	<b><u>23,186,118.00</u></b>
<b>Adjusting Journal Entries JE # 3</b>		<b>RP 03 tab</b>		
To record net pension liability and OPEB liability				
W00129	Total Non-Current Governmental Liabilities		204,078,795.00	
W00638	Net Pension Liability			2,283,625.00
W00689	OPEB Obligation-GASB 75			201,795,170.00
<b>Total</b>			<b><u>204,078,795.00</u></b>	<b><u>204,078,795.00</u></b>