dba STEM School Highlands Ranch (A Component Unit of Douglas County School District RE. 1)

# **Financial Statements**

with Independent Auditor's Report

June 30, 2024



dba STEM School Highlands Ranch
(A Component Unit of Douglas County School District RE.1)
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June 30, 2024

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# **Independent Auditor's Report**

Board of Directors KOSON Schools dba STEM School Highlands Ranch Highlands Ranch, Colorado

# Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

#### **Opinions**

We have audited the financial statements of the governmental activities and each major fund of KOSON Schools, *dba STEM School Highlands Ranch* (the School), a component unit of Douglas County School District RE. 1), as of and for the year ended June 30, 2024, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the School's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, the aggregate discretely presented component units, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the School, as of June 30, 2024, and the respective changes in financial position and, where applicable, cash flows thereof for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

# **Basis for Opinions**

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS) and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in Government Auditing Standards, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of the School and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

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Board of Directors KOSON Schools dba STEM School Highlands Ranch Page 2

# **Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements**

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

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

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

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

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS, we:

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

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



Board of Directors KOSON Schools dba STEM School Highlands Ranch Page 3

# **Required Supplementary Information**

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the required supplementary information listed in the table of contents, such as management's discussion and analysis and budgetary comparison information as noted in the table of contents be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information or provide any assurance.

Hill & Compay.pc

Englewood, Colorado October 31, 2024



#### KOSON SCHOOLS

#### DBA STEM SCHOOL HIGHLANDS RANCH

# MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

#### FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDED

#### **JUNE 30, 2024**

As management of KOSON Schools dba STEM School Highlands Ranch (School) we offer readers of the School's annual financial report this narrative overview and analysis of the financial activities of the School for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024. Readers are encouraged to consider the information presented here in conjunction with the annual financial report.

#### FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

- As of June 30, 2024, net position increased by \$1,340,585 to \$(9,604,793).
- The School's total net pension liability at June 30, 2024 was \$23,527,028 which had an impact on the ending net pension. The Net OPEB liability was \$568,083.
- As of the close of the current fiscal year, the School's general fund reported an ending fund balance of \$18,077,993, an increase of \$1,242,266.

#### **OVERVIEW OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

This discussion and analysis serve as an introduction to the School's basic financial statements. The School's basic financial statements consist of three components: (1) government-wide financial statements, (2) fund financial statements, and (3) notes to the financial statements. This report also contains required and other supplementary information in addition to the basic financial statements.

#### **Government-wide Financial Statements**

The *government-wide financial statements* are designed to provide readers with a broad overview of the School's finances as a whole, in a manner similar to a private-sector business and include two statements:

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

The statement of activities presents information reporting how the School's net position changed during the most recent fiscal year. All changes in net position are reported as soon as the underlying event giving rise to the change occurs, regardless of the timing of related cash flows. Thus, revenues and expenses are reported in this statement for some items that will result in cash flows in future fiscal periods. Accrued interest expense is an example of this type of item.

Both government-wide financial statements distinguish functions of the School that are principally supported by taxes and intergovernmental revenues (governmental activities) from other functions that are intended to recover all or a significant portion of their costs through user fees and charges (business-type activities). The governmental activities of the School include general government of running a K-12 charter school authorized by Douglas County School District (DCSD) and include instruction and supporting services.

#### **Fund Financial Statements**

A fund is a grouping of related accounts used to maintain control over resources segregated for specific activities or objectives. The fund financial statements provide more detailed information about the School's operations, focusing on its most significant funds, not the School as a whole. The School keeps track of these monies to ensure and demonstrate compliance with finance-related legal requirements. The School has a general fund, which is a governmental fund.

Governmental Funds: The School's basic services are included in this governmental fund, which focuses on (1) how money flows into and out of the fund and (2) the balances left at year-end that are available for spending or reserves. Consequently, the governmental fund statements provide a detailed short-term view that helps determine the status of financial resources that can be spent in the near future to finance the School's programs.

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

# **Notes to the Basic Financial Statements**

The notes to the basic financial statements provide additional information that is essential to a full understanding of the data provided in the government-wide and fund financial statements.

# **Required Supplementary Information**

In addition to the basic financial statements and accompanying notes, this report also presents required supplementary information concerning the School. The School adopts an annual appropriated budget for the general fund. A budgetary comparison schedule has been provided to demonstrate compliance with the budget. Other schedules have also been included to report certain pension and OPEB information.

#### GOVERNMENT-WIDE FINANCIAL ANALYSIS

As noted earlier, net position may serve over time as a useful indicator of the School's financial position. In the case of the School total liabilities and deferred inflows of resources exceeded assets and deferred outflows of resources by \$9,604,793 as of June 30, 2024, resulting in a negative net position. This includes long-term liabilities and related assets that are not due and payable in the current period. This liability includes net pension (\$23,527,028), net OPEB liability (\$568,083), deferred outflows related to pensions \$6,642,204, deferred outflows related OPEB \$89,495, deferred inflows related to pensions (\$1,903,035), and deferred inflows related to OPEB (\$235,045).

# **Net Position**

	<b>Governmental Activities</b>			
	2024	2023		
ASSETS				
Cash and Investments	\$15,373,505	\$14,348,485		
Restricted Cash and Investments	3,402,464	4,022,826		
Accounts/Grants Receivable	63,497	139,321		
Prepaid Expenses	46,013	133,715		
Capital Assets, Net	28,893,094	29,446,705		
Total Assets	47,778,573	48,091,052		
DEFFERRED OUTFLOW OF RESOURCES				
Related to Pensions	6,642,204	4,857,487		
Related to OPEB	89,495	117,938		
Total Deferred Outflows	6,731,699	4,975,425		
LIABILITIES				
Current Liabilities	1,121,664	2,126,275		
Noncurrent Liabilities	36,760,210	37,147,702		
Net Pension Liability	23,527,028	19,649,753		
Net OPEB Liability	568,083	670,081		
Total Liabilities	61,976,985	59,593,811		
DEFFERRED INFLOW OF RESOURCES				
Related to Pensions	1,903,035	4,125,216		
Related to OPEB	235,045	292,828		
	2,138,080	4,418,044		
NET POSITION				
Net Investment in Capital Assets	(7,867,116)	29,446,705		
Restricted for Emergencies	4,032,464	4,532,256		
Unrestricted	(5,770,141)	(44,924,339)		
TOTAL NET POSITION	\$(9,604,793)	\$(10,945,378)		

# Change in Net Assets For the Years Ended June 30, 2024 and June 30,2023

	6/30/2024	6/30/2023
Program Revenue:		
Charges for Services	\$283,008	\$321,781
Operating Grants and Contributions	478,680	955,415
Total Program Revenue	761,688	1,277,196
General Revenue:		
Per Pupil Operation Revenue	14,217,846	13,576,974
Mill Levy Override	3,219,547	1,917,288
Other	6,961,909	1,385,874
Total General Revenue	24,399,302	16,880,136
Total Revenue	25,160,990	18,157,332
Expenses:		
Instruction	8,768,946	8,655,170
Supporting Services	13,436,900	7,258,671
Interest and Fiscal Charges	1,614,559	1,630,925
Total Expenses	23,820,405	17,544,766
Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets	1,340,585	612,566
Beginning Net Assets, June 30 as Restated	(10,945,378)	(11,557,944)
Ending Net Assets, June 30, 2022	\$(9,604,793)	\$(10,945,378)

# ANALYSIS OF THE SCHOOL'S FUNDS

As noted earlier, the School is obligated under fund accounting to ensure and demonstrate compliance with finance-related legal requirements.

The focus of the School's governmental funds is to provide information on near-term inflows, outflows, and balances of spendable resources. Such information is useful in assessing the School's financing requirements. In particular, unassigned fund balance may serve as a useful measure of the School's net resources available for spending at the end of the fiscal year.

The general fund is the operating fund of the School. The fund balance for the general fund is \$18,885,479 at the end of the current fiscal year.

#### **BUDGETARY HIGHLIGHTS**

The School's budget is prepared in accordance with state law. During the year the School amended its General Fund budget primarily to reflect the following changes:

• True up of October pupil count of 1,374 FTE students which is an increase from the FY22 school year. Enrollment is steadily increasing for the growing school.

#### CAPITAL ASSETS AND DEBT ADMINISTRATION

# **Capital Assets**

Capital assets include all capital outlays related to building improvements and equipment. Capital assets net of depreciation was \$28,893,094 as of June 30, 2024. There were not significant capital outlays during the year. See Note 3 for more information.

#### **Debt Administration**

As of June 30, 2024 the school's obligated debt under a lease agreement to make monthly payments to the Building Corporation equal to the Corporation's loan obligations for using the education facilities of \$36,760,210. See Note 4 for more information.

# **ECONOMIC FACTORS**

• STEM School Highlands Ranch is located in Highlands Ranch, in southern Colorado. The State economy was stabilizing after the recent recession, and the recovery for the Douglas County region had been on a steady increase of economic outlook. Forecasts from the Governor's Budget Office prior to COVID19 were for continued slow growth. FY24 budget requests by the governor includes another increase in school funding.

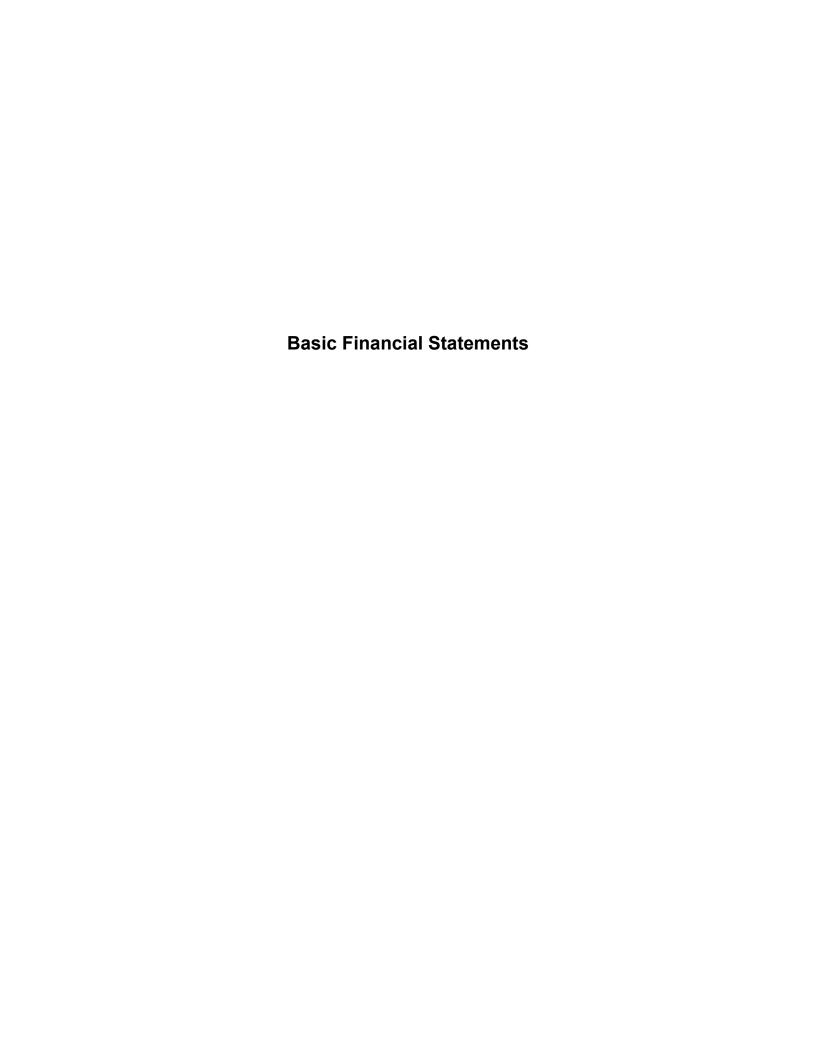
# **SCHOOL INFORMATION**

- STEM School Highlands Ranch is a K-12 charter school operating under the authorization of the Douglas County School District since 2011.
- It is anticipated that the full capacity of the school could be approx. 1,400 students, which are the enrollment assumptions used for budgeting purposes. This number may fluctuate slightly on student count day causing the annual operating budget to be originally based on slightly fewer students and then adjusted to actual enrollment at mid-year.
- STEM is a locally recognized high achieving school, earning seven consecutive John Irwin School of Excellence Awards and finishing with a 95.6% Achievement Rating with the Colorado Department of Education.

# REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION

This financial report is designed to provide the School's taxpayers and creditors with a general overview of the School's finances and to demonstrate the School's accountability for the money it receives Questions concerning any of the information provided in this report or requests for additional financial information should be addressed to the School:

Koson Schools dba STEM School in Highlands Ranch 8773 S Ridgeline Blvd Highlands Ranch, CO 80129



dba STEM School Highlands Ranch (A Component Unit of Douglas County School District RE.1) Statement of Net Position June 30, 2024

	Governmental Activities
Assets	<b>A.</b> 45.070.505
Cash and Investments	\$ 15,373,505
Restricted Cash and Investments	3,402,464
Accounts Receivable	63,497
Prepaid Expenses	46,013
Capital Assets, Not Being Depreciated	2,370,970
Capital Assets, Net of Accumulated Depreciation	26,522,124
Total Assets	47,778,573
Deferred Outflows of Resources	
Pensions, Net of Accumulated Amortization	6,642,204
OPEB, Net of Accumulated Amortization	89,495
Total Deferred Outflows of Resources	6,731,699_
Liabilities	
Accounts Payable	69,207
Accrued Liabilities	113,239
Accrued Salaries and Benefits	625,040
Accrued Interest Payable	314,178
Noncurrent Liabilities	
Due Within One Year	365,000
Due in More Than One Year	36,395,210
Net Pension Liability	23,527,028
Net OPEB Liability	568,083
Total Liabilities	61,976,985
Deferred Inflows of Resources	
Pensions, Net of Accumulated Amortization	1,903,035
OPEB, Net of Accumulated Amortization	235,045
Total Deferred Inflows of Resources	2,138,080
Net Position	
Net Investment in Capital Assets	(7,867,116)
Restricted for:	
Debt Service	3,062,546
Repair and Replacement	339,918
Emergencies	630,000
Unrestricted	(5,770,141)
Total Net Position	\$(9,604,793)

dba STEM School Highlands Ranch
(A Component Unit of Douglas County School District RE.1)
Statement of Activities
For the Year Ended June 30, 2024

			Program Revenues					N	let (Expense)	
				L		Operating		Capital	F	Revenue and
Functions/Programs		Expenses		harges for Services		Grants and ontributions		ants and		Change in Net Position
Primary Government									_	
Governmental Activities										
Instruction	\$	8,768,946	\$	283,008	\$	303,814	\$	-	\$	(8,182,124)
Supporting Services		13,436,900		-		15,935		-		(13,420,965)
Interest on Long-Term Debt	_	1,614,559	_	-	_			-	-	(1,614,559)
Total Governmental Activities	\$_	23,820,405	\$	283,008	\$	319,749	\$	-	. <del>-</del>	(23,217,648)
	Ge	neral Revenu	es							
	P	er Pupil Reve	nue							14,217,846
		istrict Mill Lev	y							3,219,547
	C	Capital Constru	ction							593,515
	G	Grants and Cor	ntribut	ions not						
		Restricted to	Specif	fic Programs						106,312
		nvestment Inco	ome							909,614
		Other								1,492,661
	Т	ransfers							-	4,018,738
		Total Genera	Reve	enues and Tra	nsfe	rs			_	24,558,233
	Cha	ange in Net Po	sition							1,340,585
	Net	t Position, Be	ginnin	g of Year					-	(10,945,378)
	Net	t Position, En	d of Y	ear					\$_	(9,604,793)

dba STEM School Highlands Ranch
(A Component Unit of Douglas County School District RE.1)
Balance Sheet
Governmental Fund
June 30, 2024

	_	General		Building		Total
Assets Cash and Investments Restricted Cash and Investments Accounts Receivable Prepaid Expenses	\$	15,373,505 - 63,497 46,013	\$	3,402,464 - -	\$	15,373,505 3,402,464 63,497 46,013
Total Assets	\$_	15,483,015	\$_	3,402,464	\$_	18,885,479
Liabilities and Fund Balance Liabilities Accounts Payable Accrued Liabilities Accrued Salaries and Benefits	\$	69,207 113,239	\$	-	\$	69,207 113,239
Total Liabilities	-	625,040 807,486	_	-	_	625,040 807,486
Fund Balance Nonspendable Prepaid Expenditures Restricted for: Emergencies Debt Service Repair and Replacement Unrestricted, Unassigned	_	46,013 630,000 - - 13,999,516	_	- 3,062,546 339,918 -	_	46,013 630,000 3,062,546 339,918 13,999,516
Total Fund Balance	_	14,675,529	_	3,402,464	_	18,077,993
Total Liabilities and Fund Balance	\$_	15,483,015	\$_	3,402,464	\$_	18,885,479
Amounts Reported for Governmental Activities in the Statement of Net Position are Different Because:						
Total Fund Balance of the Governmental Fund					\$	18,077,993
Capital assets used in governmental activities are not financial resources and, therefore, are not reported in governmental funds.	,					28,893,094
Long-term liabilities and related items are not due and payable in the current year and, therefore, are not reported in governmental funds.  Accrued Interest Payable Long Term Debt Net pension liability Pension-related deferred outflows of resources Pension-related deferred inflows of resources Net OPEB liability OPEB-related deferred outflows of resources OPEB-related deferred inflows of resources Total Net Position of Governmental Activities					\$	(314,178) (36,760,210) (23,527,028) 6,642,204 (1,903,035) (568,083) 89,495 (235,045)

dba STEM School Highlands Ranch
(A Component Unit of Douglas County School District RE.1)
Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance
Governmental Fund
For the Year Ended June 30, 2024

		General		Building		Total
Revenues						
Local Sources	\$	20,068,054	\$	2,170,303	\$	22,238,357
State Sources	_	904,280	_	-	_	904,280
Total Revenues	_	20,972,334		2,170,303	_	23,142,637
Expenditures						
Instruction		8,995,574		-		8,995,574
Supporting Services		10,454,014		445,255		10,899,269
Debt Service						
Principal		-		355,000		355,000
Interest	_	<u>-</u>	_	1,650,568	_	1,650,568
Total Expenditures	_	19,449,588		2,450,823	_	21,900,411
Net Change in Fund Balance		1,522,746		(280,520)		1,242,226
Other Financing Sources (Uses)						
Transfers In(Out)	_	(235,425)		235,425	_	
Net Change in Fund Balance		1,287,321		(45,095)		1,242,226
Fund Balance, Beginning of Year	_	13,388,208	_	3,447,559	_	16,835,767
Fund Balance, End of Year	\$	14,675,529	\$	3,402,464	\$	18,077,993

dba STEM School Highlands Ranch
(A Component Unit of Douglas County School District RE.1)
Reconciliation of the Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance of the Governmental Fund to the Statement of Activities
For the Year Ended June 30, 2024

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

Net Change in Fund Balance of the Governmental Fund	\$	1,242,226
Governmental funds report capital outlays as expenditures. However, in the statement of activities the cost of those assets is allocated over their estimated useful lives and reported as depreciation expense.		
Capital outlay		739,087
Depreciation expense		(1,292,698)
Debt proceeds provide current financial resources to governmental funds, but issuing		
debt increases long-term liabilities in the statement of net position and does not affect the		
statement of activities. Repayments of debt principal are expenditures in governmental funds,		
but they reduce long-term liabilities in the statement of net position and do not affect the		
statement of activities.		007.400
Loan Payments		387,492
Some expenses reported in the statement of activities do not require the use of current		
financial resources and, therefore, are not reported as expenditures in governmental funds.		
This includes changes in the following.		
Net pension liability		(3,877,275)
Pension-related deferred outflows of resources		1,784,717
Pension-related deferred inflows of resources		2,222,181
Net OPEB liability		101,998
OPEB-related deferred outflows of resources		(28,443)
OPEB-related deferred inflows of resources		57,783
Accrued Interest Payable	_	3,517
Change in Net Position of Governmental Activities	\$	1,340,585

dba STEM School Highlands Ranch
(A Component Unit of Douglas County School District RE.1)
Notes to Financial Statements
June 30, 2024

# Note 1: Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

The Science Technology Engineering and Math (STEM) School Highlands Ranch, *dba* STEM School Highlands Ranch (the School) was organized pursuant to the Colorado Charter Schools Act to form and operate a charter school within the Douglas County School District (the District). Effective September 6, 2022, the School officially changed its name to KOSON Schools *dba STEM School Highlands Ranch*.

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

# Reporting Entity

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

The School includes the LightHouse Building Corporation (the Corporation) within its reporting entity. The Corporation was organized to own property or interests therein to be leased to the School. The Corporation is blended into the School's financial statements as a Special Revenue Fund and does not issue separate financial statements.

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

# **Government-wide and Fund Financial Statements**

The government-wide financial statements (i.e., the Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities) report information on all activities of the School and its component units. For the most part, the effect of interfund activity has been removed from these statements. Exceptions to this general rule are charges for interfund services that are reasonably equivalent to the services provided. Governmental activities, which normally are supported by taxes and intergovernmental revenues, are reported separately from business-type activities, which rely to a significant extent on fees and charges for support. The primary government is reported separately from the legally separate component unit for which the School is financially accountable.

dba STEM School Highlands Ranch
(A Component Unit of Douglas County School District RE.1)

Notes to Financial Statements

June 30, 2024

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

# Government-wide and Fund Financial Statements (Continued)

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

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

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

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

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

The School reports the following major funds:

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

Special Revenue Fund - This fund is used to account for the financial activities of the Corporation, including facilities acquisition and construction, and the related debt service.

dba STEM School Highlands Ranch
(A Component Unit of Douglas County School District RE.1)
Notes to Financial Statements
June 30, 2024

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

# Assets, Liabilities and Net Position/Fund Balance

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

Account Receivables - All receivables are reported at their gross value and, where appropriate, are reduced by the estimated portion that is expected to be uncollectible.

*Prepaid Expenses* - Certain payments to vendors reflect costs applicable to future years and are reported as prepaid expenses.

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

Depreciation or amortization of exhaustible capital assets is charged as an expense against operations, and accumulated depreciation or amortization is reported in the Statement of Net Position in the government-wide financial statements. Depreciation or amortization has been provided over the following estimated useful life of the capital assets or related lease agreement using the straight-line method.

Land Improvements	10 years
Buildings	40 years
Building Improvements	10 - 15 years
Equipment	2 - 10 years

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

Compensated Absences - The School's policy allows licensed eligible employees to use nine days of personal and sick leave annually. Employees are compensated for any unused leave at \$150 per day and unused personal time is paid out at an employee's daily rate. Upon termination, employees are paid for any unused sick and personal leave. No liability for these compensated absences is reported in the financial statements because employees are compensated for any unused leave prior to the end of each fiscal year.

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

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

Long-Term Debt - In the government-wide financial statements, long-term debt and other long-term obligations are reported as liabilities. Debt premiums, discounts and accounting losses resulting from debt refunding's are deferred and amortized over the life of the debt using the straight-line method. In the governmental fund financial statements, the face amount of debt issued is reported as other financing sources. Premiums received on debt issuances are reported as other financing sources while discounts are reported as other financing uses. Issuance costs, whether or not withheld from the debt proceeds, are reported as current expenses or expenditures.

Pensions – The School participates in the School Division Trust Fund (SCHDTF), a cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan administered by the Public Employees' Retirement Association of Colorado (PERA). The net pension liability, deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions, pension expense, information about the fiduciary net position (FNP), and additions to/deductions from the FNP of the SCHDTF have been determined using the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting. For this purpose, benefit payments (including refunds of employee contributions) are recognized when due and payable in accordance with the benefit terms. Investments are reported at fair value.

Postemployment Benefits Other Than Pensions (OPEB) - The School participates in the Health Care Trust Fund (HCTF), a cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit OPEB fund administered by the Public Employees' Retirement Association of Colorado (PERA). The net OPEB liability, deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB, OPEB expense, information about the fiduciary net position (FNP), and additions to/deductions from the FNP of the HCTF's have been determined using the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting. For this purpose, benefits paid on behalf of health care participants are recognized when due and/or payable in accordance with the benefit terms. Investments are reported at fair value.

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

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

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

# Risk Management

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

# Subsequent Events

The School has evaluated subsequent events through October 31, 2024, the date the financial statements were available to be issued.

# Note 2: Deposits and Investments

A summary of cash and investments at June 30, 2024, follows:

Petty Cash Deposits Investments	\$	150 15,373,355 3,402,464
Total	\$ <u>_</u>	18,775,969
Cash and investments are reported in the financial statements as follows:		
Cash and Investments Restricted Cash and Investments	\$	15,373,505 3,402,464
Total	\$	18,775,969

#### Deposits

The Colorado Public Deposit Protection Act (PDPA) requires all local government entities to deposit cash in eligible public depositories. Eligibility is determined by State regulations. Amounts on deposit in excess of federal insurance levels must be collateralized by eligible collateral as determined by the PDPA. The PDPA allows the financial institution to create a single collateral pool for all public funds held. The pool is to be maintained by another institution or held in trust for all uninsured public deposits as a group. The market value of the collateral must be at least equal to 102% of the uninsured deposits. At June 30, 2024, the School had bank deposits of \$1,191,235 collateralized with securities held by the financial institution's agent but not in the School's name.

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# Note 2: Deposits and Investments (Continued)

#### Investments

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

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

Fair Value Measurements - At June 30, 2024, the School's investment in Colotrust and the Corporation's investment in a money market fund were reported at the net asset value per share.

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

Credit Risk - State statutes limit investments in money market funds to those that maintain a constant share price, with a maximum remaining maturity in accordance with the Securities and

Exchange Commission's Rule 2a-7, and either have assets of one billion dollars or the highest rating issued by one or more nationally recognized statistical rating organizations. At June 30, 2024, the Corporation had \$12,287,603, invested in a money market fund rated AAAm by Standard and Poor's.

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

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# Note 2: Deposits and Investments (Continued)

#### **Investments** (Continued)

Local Government Investment Pool - At June 30, 2024, the School had \$14,622,061 invested in the Colorado Local Government Liquid Asset Trust (Colotrust), an investment vehicle established for local government entities in Colorado to pool surplus funds for investment purposes. The Colorado Division of Securities administers and enforces the requirements of creating and operating Colotrust. Colotrust operates in conformity with the Securities and Exchange Commission's Rule 2a-7, with each share valued at \$1. Colotrust is rated AAAm by Standard and Poor's. Investments of Colotrust are limited to those allowed by State statutes. A designated custodial bank provides safekeeping and depository services in connection with the direct investment and withdrawal functions. The custodian's internal records identify the investments owned by the participating governments.

# Restricted Cash and Investments

At June 30, 2024, the Corporation held investments of \$3,402,464 restricted for future debt service and building repair and replacement.

# Note 3: Capital Assets

Capital asset activity for the year ended June 30, 2024, is summarized below. Depreciation and amortization are combined in the following table.

Governmental Activities	Balance 06/30/23	Additions	Deletions	Balance 06/30/24
Capital Assets, <i>Not Being Depreciated</i> Land	\$2,370,970	\$	\$	\$2,370,970_
Total Capital Assets, Not Being Depreciated	2,370,970			2,370,970
Capital Assets, Being Depreciated				
Land Improvements	190,078	59,366	-	249,444
Buildings	14,630,234	-	-	14,630,234
Building Improvements	17,567,252	470,813	-	18,038,065
Equipment	1,050,251	208,908		1,259,159
Total Capital Assets, Being Depreciated	33,437,815	739,087	_	34,176,902

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June 30, 2024

# Note 3: Capital Assets (Continued)

	Balance			Balance
Governmental Activities (Continued)	06/30/23	Additions	Deletions	06/30/24
Less Accumulated Depreciation				
Land Improvements	(57,023)	(19,998)	-	(77,021)
Buildings	(2,326,935)	(392,198)	-	(2,719,133)
Building Improvements	(3,039,632)	(799,773)	-	(3,839,405)
Equipment	(938,490)	(80,729)		(1,019,219)
Total Accumulated Depreciation	(6,362,080)	(1,292,698)	<u>-</u>	(7,654,778)
Total Capital Assets, Being Depreciated , Net	27,075,735	(553,611)		26,522,124
Governmental Activities Capital Assets, Net	\$ <u>29,446,705</u> \$	(553,611)	\$	\$ 28,893,094

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

# Note 4: Long-Term Debt

Following is a summary of long-term debt transactions for the year ended June 30, 2024:

		Balance 6/30/23		Additions			Payments		Balance 6/30/24		Due Within One Year
Governmental Activities											
2014 Building Loan	\$	13,005,000	\$		-	\$	(250,000)	\$	12,755,000	\$	260,000
2014 Loan Discount		(99,247)			-		3,817		(95,430)		-
2019 Building Loan		10,580,000			-		(80,000)		10,500,000		85,000
2019 Bond Premium		698,263			-		(22,226)		676,037		-
2021 Building Loan		12,425,000			-		(25,000)		12,400,000		20,000
2021 Bond Premium	_	538,686	-			_	(14,083)	_	524,603	_	
	\$_	37,147,702	\$		_	\$_	(387,492)	\$_	36,760,210	\$_	365,000

On November 1, 2019, CECFA issued \$10,795,000 Charter School Revenue Bonds, Series 2019. Proceeds in the amount of \$2,650,000 were used to pay in full the previously issued Charter School Taxable Revenue Bonds, Series 2016. Additional proceeds of \$8,145,000 were loaned to the Corporation to finance the acquisition of the School's educational facilities, funding a Reserve Fund and Paying costs associated with the issuance of 2019 Bond. Interest accrues on the bonds at rates ranging from 4% to 5% per annum and is payable semi-annually on May 1 and November 1. Principal payments are due annually on November 1, through 2054.

On November 20, 2014, the Colorado Educational and Cultural Facilities Authority (CECFA) issued \$14,670,000 Charter School Refunding Revenue Bonds, Series 2014. Bond proceeds were used to refund the outstanding Charter School Revenue Bonds, Series 2012 and 2013, originally loaned to the Corporation to acquire land and a building and to construct improvements to the building for use as an educational facility. Interest accrues on the bonds at rates ranging from 4% to 5.125% per annum and is payable semi-annually on May 1 and November 1. Principal payments are due annually on November 1, through 2049.

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Notes to Financial Statements

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# Note 4: Long-Term Debt (Continued)

On October 1, 2021, the Colorado Educational and Cultural Facilities Authority (CECFA) issued \$12,425,000 Charter School Revenue Bonds, Series 2021. Bond proceeds are to be used to construct and improve the Facilities in two phases, adding a gymnasium, theater in the gymnasium, classrooms and a lobby/connector. Interest accrues on the bonds at rates ranging from 4% per annum and is payable semi-annually on April 1 and October 1. Principal payments are due annually on October 1, through 2061.

The School is obligated under lease agreements to make monthly payments to the Corporation for using the facilities. The Corporation is required to make equal loan payments to the bond trustee for payment of the bonds.

Future debt service requirements for the bonds are as follows:

Year Ended June 30,		Principal		Interest		Total
2025	\$	365,000	\$	1,638,268	\$	2,003,268
2026		375,000		1,622,681		1,997,681
2027		400,000		1,606,081		2,006,081
2028		415,000		1,588,318		2,003,318
2029		430,000		1,569,881		1,999,881
2030-2034		2,495,000		7,530,793		10,025,793
2035-2039		3,170,000		6,858,603		10,028,603
2040-2044		4,040,000		5,980,635		10,020,635
2045-2049		5,180,000		4,851,262		10,031,262
2050-2054		6,635,000		3,492,557		10,127,557
2055-2059		6,595,000		1,991,200		8,586,200
2060-2062		5,555,000		450,200		6,005,200
Total	\$_	35,655,000	\$_	39,180,479	\$_	74,835,479

# Note 5: Defined Benefit Pension Plan

# **General Information**

Plan Description - Eligible employees of the School are provided with pensions through the SCHDTF - a cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan administered by PERA. Plan benefits are specified in Title 24, Article 51 of the Colorado Revised Statutes (C.R.S.), administrative rules set forth at 8 C.C.R. 1502-1, and applicable provisions of the federal Internal Revenue Code. Colorado State law provisions may be amended from time to time by the Colorado General Assembly. PERA issues a publicly available annual comprehensive financial report (ACFR) that can be obtained at www.copera.org/investments/pera-financial-reports.

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# Note 5: Defined Benefit Pension Plan (Continued)

# **General Information** (Continued)

Benefits provided as of December 31, 2023 - PERA provides retirement, disability, and survivor benefits. Retirement benefits are determined by the amount of service credit earned and/or purchased, highest average salary, the benefit structure(s) under which the member retires, the benefit option selected at retirement, and age at retirement. Retirement eligibility is specified in tables set forth at C.R.S. § 24-51-602, 604, 1713, and 1714.

The lifetime retirement benefit for all eligible retiring employees under the PERA benefit structure is the greater of the:

- Highest average salary multiplied by 2.5% and then multiplied by years of service credit.
- The value of the retiring employee's member contribution account plus a 100 percent match on eligible amounts as of the retirement date. This amount is then annualized into a monthly benefit based on life expectancy and other actuarial factors.

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

- Highest average salary multiplied by 2.5% and then multiplied by years of service credit.
- \$15 times the first 10 years of service credit plus \$20 times service credit over 10 years plus a monthly amount equal to the annuitized member contribution account balance based on life expectancy and other actuarial factors.

In all cases the service retirement benefit is limited to 100 percent of highest average salary and cannot exceed the maximum benefit allowed by the federal Internal Revenue Code.

Members may elect to withdraw their member contribution accounts upon termination of employment with all PERA employers; waiving rights to any lifetime retirement benefits earned. If eligible, the member may receive a match of either 50 percent or 100 percent on eligible amounts depending on when contributions were remitted to PERA, the date employment was terminated, whether 5 years of service credit has been obtained and the benefit structure under which contributions were made.

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Notes to Financial Statements

June 30, 2024

# Note 5: Defined Benefit Pension Plan (Continued)

# **General Information** (Continued)

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

Disability benefits are available for eligible employees once they reach five years of earned service credit and are determined to meet the definition of a disability. The disability benefit amount is based on the lifetime retirement benefit formula(s) shown above considering a minimum of 20 years of service credit, if deemed disabled.

Survivor benefits are determined by several factors, which include the amount of earned service credit, highest average salary of the deceased, the benefit structure(s) in place under which service credit was obtained, and the qualified survivor(s) who will receive the benefits.

Contributions provisions as of June 30, 2024 - Eligible employees of the School and the State are required to contribute to the SCHDTF at a rate set by Colorado statute. The contribution requirements for the SCHDTF are established under C.R.S. § 24-51-401, et seq. and § 24-51-413. Eligible employees are required to contribute 11.00% of their PERA-includable salary during the period of July 01, 2023 through June 30, 2024. The School's contribution rate was 21.40% of covered salaries for July 01, 2023 through June 30, 2024. However, a portion of the School's contribution (1.02% of covered salaries) is allocated to the Health Care Trust Fund (See Note 6). Contribution rates for the SCHDTF are expressed as a percentage of salary as defined in C.R.S. § 24-51-101(42).

Employer contributions are recognized by the SCHDTF in the period in which the compensation becomes payable to the member and the School is statutorily committed to pay the contributions to the SCHDTF. Employer contributions recognized by the SCHDTF from the School were \$1,962,795, for the year ended June 30, 2024.

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# Note 5: Defined Benefit Pension Plan (Continued)

# **General Information** (Continued)

For purposes of GASB 68 paragraph 15, a circumstance exists in which a nonemployer contributing entity is legally responsible for making contributions to the SCHDTF and is considered to meet the definition of a special funding situation. As specified in C.R.S. § 24-51-414, the State is required to contribute \$225 million (actual dollars) direct distribution each year to PERA starting on July 1, 2018. A portion of the direct distribution payment is allocated to the SCHDTF based on the proportionate amount of annual payroll of the SCHDTF to the total annual payroll of the SCHDTF, State Division Trust Fund, Judicial Division Trust Fund, and Denver Public Schools Division Trust Fund. The direct distribution from the State was suspended in 2020. To compensate PERA for the suspension, C.R.S. § 24-51-414(6-8) required restorative payment by providing an accelerated payment in 2022. In 2022, the State Treasurer issued payment for the direct distribution of \$225 million plus an additional amount of \$380 million. Due to the advanced payment made in 2022, the State reduced the distribution in 2023 to \$35 million. Additionally, the newly added C.R.S. § 24-51-414(9) providing compensatory payment of \$14.561 million for 2023 only.

# <u>Pension Liabilities, Pension Expense, and Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to Pensions</u>

The net pension liability for the SCHDTF was measured at December 31, 2023, and the total pension liability (TPL) used to calculate the net pension liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of December 31, 2022. Standard update procedures were used to roll forward the TPL to December 31, 2023. The School's proportion of the net pension liability was based on the School's contributions to the SCHDTF for the calendar year, 2023 relative to the total contributions of participating employers and State as a nonemployer contributing entity.

At June 30, 2024, the School reported a liability of \$23,527,028, for its proportionate share of the net pension liability that reflected a reduction for support from the State as a nonemployer contributing entity. The amount recognized by the School as its proportionate share of the net pension liability, the related support from the State as a nonemployer contributing entity, and the total portion of the net pension liability that was associated with the School were as follows:

Proportionate share of the net pension liability	\$ 24,042,906
State's proportionate share of the net pension liability as a	
nonemployer contributing entity associated with the School	(515,878)
School's proportionate share of net pension liability	\$ 23,527,028

At December 31, 2023, the School's proportion was 0.1330456749%, which was an increase of 0.0251361176% from its proportion measured at December 31, 2022.

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# Note 5: Defined Benefit Pension Plan (Continued)

# <u>Pension Liabilities, Pension Expense, and Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to Pensions</u> (Continued)

For the year ended June 30, 2024, the School recognized pension expense of \$1,965,359 and benefit of \$48,289 for support from the State as a nonemployer contributing entity. At June 30, 2024, the School reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions from the following sources:

	Deferred Outflows of Resources		Deferred Inflows of Resources
Differences between expected and actual experience	\$	1,115,628	\$ -
Net difference between projected and actual			
earnings on plan investments		1,686,522	_
Changes in proportion		2,685,362	1,903,035
Contributions subsequent to the measurement date	_	1,154,692	
Total	\$_	6,642,204	\$ 1,903,035

\$1,154,692 reported as deferred outflows of resources related to pensions, resulting from contributions subsequent to the measurement date, will be recognized as a reduction of the net pension liability in the subsequent fiscal year. Other amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions will be recognized as pension expense as follows:

Year Ended June 30,		
2025	\$	167,089
2026		1,932,123
2027		1,955,516
2028	_	(470,251)
		_
Total	\$_	3,584,477

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Notes to Financial Statements

June 30, 2024

# Note 5: Defined Benefit Pension Plan (Continued)

# <u>Pension Liabilities, Pension Expense, and Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to Pensions</u> (Continued)

Actuarial Assumptions - The TPL in the December 31, 2022, actuarial valuation was determined using the following actuarial assumptions and other inputs.

Actuarial cost method	Entry age
Price inflation	2.3%
Real wage growth	0.7%
Wage inflation	3.0%
Salary increases, including wage inflation	3.8% - 11.5%
Long-term investment rate of return, net of plan	
investment expenses, including price inflation	7.25%
Discount rate	7.25%
Post retirement benefit increases:	
Hired prior to 1/1/2007	1.00%
Hired after 12/31/2006	ad hoc

The mortality tables described below are generational mortality tables developed on a benefitweighted basis.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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# Note 5: Defined Benefit Pension Plan (Continued)

# <u>Pension Liabilities, Pension Expense, and Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to Pensions</u> (Continued)

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

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

Several factors are considered in evaluating the long-term rate of return assumption, including long-term historical data, estimates inherent in current market data, and a log-normal distribution analysis in which best-estimate ranges of expected future real rates of return (expected return, net of investment expense and inflation) were developed for each major asset class. These ranges were combined to produce the long-term expected rate of return by weighting the expected future real rates of return by the target asset allocation percentage and then adding expected inflation.

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

		30 Year Expected
	Target	Geometric Real
Asset Class	Allocation	Rate of Return
Global Equity	54.00%	5.60%
Fixed Income	23.00%	1.30%
Private Equity	8.50%	7.10%
Real Estate	8.50%	4.40%
Alternatives	6.00%	4.70%
Total	100.00%	

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

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# Note 5: Defined Benefit Pension Plan (Continued)

# <u>Pension Liabilities, Pension Expense, and Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to Pensions</u> (Continued)

Discount Rate - The discount rate used to measure the TPL was 7.25%. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate applied the actuarial cost method and assumptions shown above. In addition, the following methods and assumptions were used in the projection of cash flows:

- Total covered payroll for the initial projection year consists of the covered payroll of the active membership present on the valuation date and the covered payroll of future plan members assumed to be hired during the year. In subsequent projection years, total covered payroll was assumed to increase annually at a rate of 3.00%.
- Employee contributions were assumed to be made at the member contribution rates in
  effect for each year, including the scheduled increases in Senate Bill (SB) 18-200 and
  required adjustments resulting from the 2018 and 2020 AAP assessments. Employee
  contributions for future plan members were used to reduce the estimated amount of total
  service costs for future plan members.
- Employer contributions were assumed to be made at rates equal to the fixed statutory rates specified in law for each year, including the scheduled increase in SB 18-200, required adjustments resulting from the 2018 and 2020 AAP assessments. Employer contributions also include the current and estimated future AED and SAED, until the actuarial value funding ratio reaches 103%, at which point, the AED and SAED will each drop 0.50% every year until they are zero. Additionally, estimated employer contributions reflect reductions for the funding of the AIR and retiree health care benefits. For future plan members, employer contributions were further reduced by the estimated amount of total service costs for future plan members not financed by their member contributions.
- As specified in law, the State, as a nonemployer contributing entity, will provide an annual direct distribution of \$225 million (actual dollars), commencing July 1, 2018, that is proportioned between the State, School, Judicial, and DPS Division Trust Funds based upon the covered payroll of each Division. The annual direct distribution ceases when all Division Trust Funds are fully funded.
- Employer contributions and the amount of total service costs for future plan members were based upon a process to estimate future actuarially determined contributions assuming an analogous future plan member growth rate.
- The AIR balance was excluded from the initial FNP, as, per statute, AIR amounts cannot be used to pay benefits until transferred to either the retirement benefits reserve or the survivor benefits reserve, as appropriate. AIR transfers to the FNP and the subsequent AIR benefit payments were estimated and included in the projections.
- Benefit payments and contributions were assumed to be made in the middle of the year.
- Beginning with the December 31, 2023 measurement date and thereafter, the FNP as of the current measurement date is used as a starting point for the GASB 67 projection test.

dba STEM School Highlands Ranch
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Notes to Financial Statements
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# Note 5: Defined Benefit Pension Plan (Continued)

# <u>Pension Liabilities, Pension Expense, and Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to Pensions</u> (Continued)

Based on the above assumptions and methods, the SCHDTF's FNP was projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments of current members. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return of 7.25% on pension plan investments was applied to all periods of projected benefit payments to determine the TPL. The discount determination does not use the municipal bond index rate, and therefore, the discount rate is 7.25%. There was no change in the discount rate from the prior measurement date.

Sensitivity of the School's proportionate share of the net pension liability to changes in the discount rate - The following presents the proportionate share of the net pension liability calculate using the discount rate of 7.25%, as well as what the proportionate share of the net pension liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is one percentage point lower (6.25%) or one percentage point higher (8.25%) than the current rate:

		Current					
	1	% Decrease (6.25%)	Di	Discount Rate (7.25%)		1% Increase (8.25%)	
Proportionate share	¢	21 450 551	¢	22 527 020	¢	16 012 265	
of the net pension liability	Φ_	31,459,551	Φ_	23,527,028	Ψ_	16,912,265	

Pension plan fiduciary net position - Detailed information about the SCHDTF's FNP is available in PERA's ACFR which can be obtained at www.copera.org/investments/pera-financial-reports.

# Note 6: Postemployment Healthcare Benefits (OPEB)

#### **General Information**

Plan description - Eligible employees of the School are provided with OPEB through the HCTF - a cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit OPEB plan administered by PERA. The HCTF is established under Title 24, Article 51, Part 12 of the Colorado Revised Statutes (C.R.S.), as amended, and sets forth a framework that grants authority to the PERA Board to contract, self-insure, and authorize disbursements necessary in order to carry out the purposes of the PERACare program, including the administration of the premium subsidies. Colorado State law provisions may be amended by the Colorado General Assembly. PERA issues a publicly available annual comprehensive financial report (ACFR) that can be obtained at www.copera.org/investments/pera-financial-reports.

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

# **General Information** (Continued)

Benefits provided - The HCTF provides a health care premium subsidy to eligible participating PERA benefit recipients and retirees who choose to enroll in one of the PERA health care plans, however, the subsidy is not available if only enrolled in the dental and/or vision plan(s). The health care premium subsidy is based upon the benefit structure under which the member retires and the member's years of service credit. For members who retire having service credit with employers in the Denver Public Schools (DPS) Division and one or more of the other four Divisions (State, School, Local Government and Judicial), the premium subsidy is allocated between the HCTF and the Denver Public Schools Health Care Trust Fund (DPS HCTF). The basis for the amount of the premium subsidy funded by each trust fund is the percentage of the member contribution account balance from each division as it relates to the total member contribution account balance from which the retirement benefit is paid.

C.R.S. § 24-51-1202 *et seq.* specifies the eligibility for enrollment in the health care plans offered by PERA and the amount of the premium subsidy. The law governing a benefit recipient's eligibility for the subsidy and the amount of the subsidy differs slightly depending under which benefit structure the benefits are calculated. All benefit recipients under the PERA benefit structure and all retirees under the DPS benefit structure are eligible for a premium subsidy, if enrolled in a health care plan under PERACare. Upon the death of a DPS benefit structure retiree, no further subsidy is paid.

Enrollment in the PERACare health benefits program is voluntary and is available to benefit recipients and their eligible dependents, certain surviving spouses, and divorced spouses and guardians, among others. Eligible benefit recipients may enroll into the program upon retirement, upon the occurrence of certain life events, or on an annual basis during an open enrollment period.

#### PERA Benefit Structure

The maximum service-based premium subsidy is \$230 per month for benefit recipients who are under 65 years of age and who are not entitled to Medicare; the maximum service-based subsidy is \$115 per month for benefit recipients who are over 65 years of age or who are under 65 years of age and entitled to Medicare. The maximum service-based subsidy, in each case, is for benefit recipients with retirement benefits based on 20 or more years of service credit. There is a 5% reduction in the subsidy for each year less than 20. The benefit recipient pays the remaining portion of the premium to the extent the subsidy does not cover the entire amount.

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

# **General Information** (Continued)

For benefit recipients who have not participated in Social Security and who are not otherwise eligible for premium-free Medicare Part A for hospital-related services, C.R.S. § 24-51-1206(4) provides an additional subsidy. According to the statute, PERA cannot charge premiums to benefit recipients without Medicare Part A that are greater than premiums charged to benefit recipients with Part A for the same plan option, coverage level, and service credit. Currently, for each individual PERACare enrollee, the total premium for Medicare coverage is determined by assuming plan participants have both Medicare Part A and Part B and the difference in premium cost is paid by the HCTF or the DPS HCTF on behalf of benefit recipients not covered by Medicare Part A.

#### DPS Benefit Structure

The maximum service-based premium subsidy is \$230 per month for retirees who are under 65 years of age and who are not entitled to Medicare; the maximum service-based subsidy is \$115 per month for retirees who are 65 years of age or older or who are under 65 years of age and entitled to Medicare. The maximum subsidy, in each case, is for retirees with retirement benefits based on 20 or more years of service credit. There is a 5% reduction in the subsidy for each year less than 20. The retiree pays the remaining portion of the premium to the extent the subsidy does not cover the entire amount.

For retirees who have not participated in Social Security and who are not otherwise eligible for premium-free Medicare Part A for hospital-related services, the HCTF or the DPS HCTF pays an alternate service-based premium subsidy. Each individual retiree meeting these conditions receives the maximum \$230 per month subsidy reduced appropriately for service less than 20 years, as described above. Retirees who do not have Medicare Part A pay the difference between the total premium and the monthly subsidy.

Contributions - Pursuant to Title 24, Article 51, Section 208(1)(f) of the CRS, as amended, certain contributions are apportioned to the HCTF. PERA-affiliated employers of the State, School, Local Government, and Judicial Divisions are required to contribute at a rate of 1.02% of PERA-includable salary into the HCTF.

Employer contributions are recognized by the HCTF in the period in which the compensation becomes payable to the members and the School is statutorily committed to pay the contributions. Employer contributions recognized by the HCTF from the School were \$98,236, for the year ended June 30, 2024.

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

#### <u>OPEB Liabilities, OPEB Expense, and Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred</u> Inflows of Resources Related to OPEB

At June 30, 2024, the School reported a liability of \$568,083 for its proportionate share of the net OPEB liability. The net OPEB liability for the HCTF was measured as of December 31, 2023, and the total OPEB liability (TOL) used to calculate the net OPEB liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of December 31, 2022. Standard update procedures were used to roll forward the TOL to December 31, 2023. The School's proportion of the net OPEB liability was based on the School's contributions to the HCTF for the calendar year ended December 31, 2023, relative to the total contributions of participating employers to the HCTF.

At December 31, 2023, the School's proportion was 0.0795939353%, which was a decrease of 0.0024756363% from its proportion measured at December 31, 2022.

For the year ended June 30, 2024, the School recognized OPEB benefit of \$26,647. At June 30, 2024, the School reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB from the following sources:

	Ou	eferred tflows of sources	lı	Deferred offlows of esources
Differences between expected and actual experience	\$	-	\$	116,433
Changes in assumptions and other inputs		6,681		60,236
Net difference between projected and actual				
earnings on plan investments		17,571		-
Changes in proportion		7,452		58,376
Contributions subsequent to the measurement date		57,791		
Total	\$	89,495	\$	235,045

\$57,791 reported as deferred outflows of resources related to OPEB, resulting from contributions subsequent to the measurement date, will be recognized as a reduction of the net OPEB liability in the subsequent fiscal year. Other amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB will be recognized as OPEB expense as follows:

Year Ended June 30,	
2025	\$ (78,058)
2026	(48,664)
2027	(24,877)
2028	(36,337)
2029	(12,167)
Thereafter	(3,238)
Total	\$(203,341)
iotai	Ψ (203,041)

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Notes to Financial Statements
June 30, 2024

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

# <u>OPEB Liabilities, OPEB Expense, and Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to OPEB</u> (Continued)

Actuarial Assumptions - The TOL in the December 31, 2022 actuarial valuation was determined using the following actuarial cost method, actuarial assumptions and other inputs:

Actuarial cost method	Entry age
Price inflation	2.3%
Real wage growth	0.7%
Wage inflation	3.0%
Salary increases, including wage inflation	3.4% - 11.0%
Long-term investment rate of return, net of plan	
investment expenses, including price inflation	7.25%
Discount rate	7.25%
Health care cost trend rates:	
PERA Benefit Structure	
Service-based premium subsidy	0.0%
PERACare Medicare plans	
7.0% in 2023, 6.0% in 2022, gradually decreasing to 4.5% in 2033	
Medicare Part A premiums:	
3.50% in 2023, gradually increasing to 4.5% in 2035	
DPS Benefit Structure	
Service-based premium subsidy	0.0%
PERACare Medicare plans	N/A
Medicare Part A premiums:	N/A

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

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

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

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

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Notes to Financial Statements

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

## <u>OPEB Liabilities, OPEB Expense, and Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to OPEB</u> (Continued)

Health care cost trend rates for the PERA benefit structure are based on published annual health care inflation surveys in conjunction with actual plan experience (if credible), building block models and industry methods developed by health plan actuaries and administrators. In addition, projected trends for the Federal Hospital Insurance Trust Fund (Medicare Part A premiums) provided by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services are referenced in the development of these rates. Effective December 31, 2022, the health care cost trend rates for Medicare Part A premiums were revised to reflect the current expectation of future increases in rates of inflation applicable to Medicare Part A premiums.

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

PERACare	Medicare Part A
Medicare Plans	Premiums
7.00%	3.50%
6.75%	3.50%
6.50%	3.75%
6.25%	3.75%
6.00%	4.00%
5.75%	4.00%
5.50%	4.00%
5.25%	4.25%
5.00%	4.25%
4.75%	4.25%
4.50%	4.25%
4.50%	4.25%
4.50%	4.50%
	Medicare Plans 7.00% 6.75% 6.50% 6.25% 6.00% 5.75% 5.50% 5.25% 5.00% 4.75% 4.50%

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

Pre-retirement mortality assumptions for the State and Local Government Divisions (members other than Safety Officers) were based upon the PubG-2010 Employee Table with generational projection using scale MP-2019.

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

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Notes to Financial Statements

June 30, 2024

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

## <u>OPEB Liabilities, OPEB Expense, and Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to OPEB</u> (Continued)

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

Pre-retirement mortality assumptions for the Judicial Division were based upon the PubG-2010(A) Above-Median Employee Table with generational projection using scale MP-2019.

Post-retirement non-disabled mortality assumptions for the State and Local Government Divisions (members other than Safety Officers) were based upon the PubG-2010 Healthy Retiree Table, adjusted as follows:

- Males: 94% of the rates prior to age 80 and 90% of the rates for ages 80 and older, with generational projection using scale MP-2019.
- Females: 87% of the rates prior to age 80 and 107% of the rates for ages 80 and older, with generational projection using scale MP-2019.

Post-retirement non-disabled mortality assumptions for Safety Officers were based upon the unadjusted PubS-2010 Healthy Retiree Table, with generational projection using scale MP-2019.

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

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

Post-retirement non-disabled mortality assumptions for the Judicial Division were based upon the unadjusted PubG-2010(A) Above-Median Healthy Retiree Table with generational projection using scale MP-2019.

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

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

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

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

## <u>OPEB Liabilities, OPEB Expense, and Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to OPEB</u> (Continued)

Disabled mortality assumptions for Safety Officers were based upon the unadjusted PubS-2010 Disabled Retiree Table with generational projection using scale MP-2019.

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

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

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

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

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

Several factors are considered in evaluating the long-term rate of return assumption, including long-term historical data, estimates inherent in current market data, and a log-normal distribution analysis in which best-estimate ranges of expected future real rates of return (expected return, net of investment expense and inflation) were developed for each major asset class. These ranges were combined to produce the long-term expected rate of return by weighting the expected future real rates of return by the target asset allocation percentages and then adding expected inflation.

dba STEM School Highlands Ranch
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Notes to Financial Statements

June 30, 2024

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

## <u>OPEB Liabilities, OPEB Expense, and Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to OPEB</u> (Continued)

The PERA Board first adopted the 7.25% long-term expected rate of return as of November 18, 2016. Following an asset/liability study, the Board reaffirmed the assumed rate of return at the Board's November 15, 2019, meeting, to be effective January 1, 2020. As of the most recent reaffirmation of the long-term rate of return, the target asset allocation and best estimates of geometric real rates of return for each major asset class are summarized as presented previously (See Note 5).

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

Discount Rate - The discount rate used to measure the TOL was 7.25%. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate applied the actuarial cost method and assumptions shown above. In addition, the following methods and assumptions were used in the projection of cash flows:

- Updated health care cost trend rates for Medicare Part A premiums as of the December 31, 2023, measurement date.
- Total covered payroll for the initial projection year consists of the covered payroll of the active membership present on the valuation date and the covered payroll of future plan members assumed to be hired during the year. In subsequent projection years, total covered payroll was assumed to increase annually at a rate of 3.00%.
- Employer contributions were assumed to be made at rates equal to the fixed statutory rates specified in law and effective as of the measurement date.
- Employer contributions and the amount of total service costs for future plan members were based upon a process to estimate future actuarially determined contributions assuming an analogous future plan member growth rate.
- Estimated transfers of dollars into the HCTF representing a portion of purchase service agreements intended to cover the costs associated with OPEB benefits.
- Benefit payments and contributions were assumed to be made in the middle of the year.
- Beginning with the December 31, 2023 measurement date and thereafter, the FNP as of the current measurement date is used as a starting point for the GASB 74 projection test.
- As of the December 31, 2023, measurement date, the FNP and related disclosure components for the HCTF reflect payments related to the disaffiliation of Tri-County Health Department as a PERA-affiliated employer, effective December 31, 2022. As of the December 31, 2023, year-end, PERA recognized two additions for accounting and financial reporting purposes: a \$24 million payment received on December 4, 2023, and a \$2 million receivable. The employer disaffiliation payment and receivable allocations to the HCTF and Local Government Division Trust Fund were \$1.033 million and \$24.967 million, respectively.

dba STEM School Highlands Ranch
(A Component Unit of Douglas County School District RE.1)
Notes to Financial Statements
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### Note 6: Postemployment Healthcare Benefits (OPEB) (Continued)

## <u>OPEB Liabilities, OPEB Expense, and Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to OPEB (Continued)</u>

Based on the above assumptions and methods, the FNP for the HCTF was projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments of current members. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return of 7.25% on OPEB plan investments was applied to all periods of projected benefit payments to determine the TOL. The discount rate determination does not use the municipal bond index rate, and therefore, the discount rate is 7.25%. There was no change in the discount rate from the prior measurement date.

Sensitivity of the School's proportionate share of net OPEB liability to changes in the Discount Rate - The following presents the proportionate share of the net OPEB liability calculated using the discount rate of 7.25%, as well as what the proportionate share of the net OPEB liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is one percentage point lower (6.25%) or one percentage point higher (8.25%) than the current rate, as follows:

	Current							
		Decrease (6.25%)	Dis	count Rate (7.25%)	1% Increase (8.25%)			
Proportionate share of the net OPEB liability	\$	670,977	\$	568,083	\$_	480,056		

Sensitivity of the School's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability to changes in the Healthcare Cost Trend Rates - The following presents the net OPEB liability using the current healthcare cost trend rates applicable to the PERA benefit structure, ranging from 3.00% to 7.25%, as well as if it were calculated using healthcare cost trend rates that are one percentage point lower or one percentage point higher than the current rates, as follows:

		Current								
		Healthcare Cost								
	1%	Decrease	Tre	end Rates		1% Increase				
Proportionate share	·	_		_						
of the net OPEB liability	\$	551,778	\$	568,083	\$_	585,819				

*OPEB plan fiduciary net position* - Detailed information about the HCTF's FNP is available in PERA's ACFR which can be obtained at www.copera.org/investments/pera-financial-reports.

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Notes to Financial Statements
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#### Note 7: Commitments and Contingencies

#### **Claims and Judgments**

The School participates in a number of federal and state programs that are fully or partially funded by revenues received from other governmental entities. Expenditures financed by these revenues are subject to audit by the appropriate government. If expenditures are disallowed due to noncompliance with program regulations, the School may be required to reimburse the other government. At June 30, 2024, significant amounts of related expenditures have not been audited but management believes that disallowed expenditures, if any, based on subsequent audits will not have a material effect on the overall financial position of the School.

#### **TABOR Amendment**

In November 1992, Colorado voters approved the TABOR Amendment to the State Constitution which limits state and local government taxing powers and imposes spending limitations. The Amendment is subject to interpretation, but the School believes it is in substantial compliance with the requirements of the Amendment. In accordance with the Amendment, the School has established an emergency reserve, representing 3% of qualifying expenditures. At June 30, 2024, the reserve was reported as restricted fund balance in the General Fund, in the amount of \$630,000.



For the Year Ended June 30, 2024

dba STEM School Highlands Ranch
(A Component Unit of Douglas County School District RE.1)
Required Supplementary Information
Schedule of Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability and Contributions
Public Employees' Retirement Association of Colorado
School Division Trust Fund

Measurement Date		12/31/23		12/31/22		12/31/21		12/31/20		12/31/19
Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability School's Proportion of the Net Pension Liability		0.1330456749%		0.1079095573%		0.1343198136%		0.1532250824%		0.1297788195%
Net Pension Liability School's Proportionate Share State's Proportionate Share	\$_	23,527,028 515,878	\$_	19,649,753 5,726,129	\$	15,631,288 1,791,928	\$	23,164,542	\$	19,388,674 2,459,206
Net Proportionate Share	\$_	24,042,906	\$_	25,375,882	\$_	17,423,216	\$	23,164,542	\$_	21,847,880
School's Covered-Employee Payroll	\$	8,795,509	\$	8,328,134	\$	8,394,521	\$	8,193,595	\$	7,626,357
School's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability as a Percentage of Covered-Employee Payroll  Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total Pension Liability		267% 65%		236% 62%		186% 75%		283% 67%		254% 65%
Reporting Date		6/30/24		6/30/23		6/30/22		6/30/21		6/30/20
School Contributions Statutorily Required Contribution	\$	1,962,795	\$	1,741,697	\$	1,709,512	\$	1,645,812	\$	1,532,742
Contributions in Relation to the Statutorily Required Contribution	_	(1,962,795)	_	(1,741,697)	_	(1,709,512)	-	(1,645,812)	_	(1,532,742)
Contribution Deficiency (Excess)	\$_	<u>-</u>	\$_		\$_		\$_		\$_	-
School's Covered-Employee Payroll	\$	9,630,987	\$	8,137,728	\$	8,565,028	\$	8,278,706	\$	7,908,884
Contributions as a Percentage of Covered-Employee Payroll		20.38%		21.40%		19.96%		19.88%		19.38%

This schedule is presented to show information for 10 years.

(Continued)

dba STEM School Highlands Ranch
(A Component Unit of Douglas County School District RE.1)
Required Supplementary Information
Schedule of Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability and Contributions
Public Employees' Retirement Association of Colorado

School Division Trust Fund For the Year Ended June 30, 2024 (Continued)

Measurement Date		12/31/18		12/31/17		12/31/16		12/31/15		12/31/14
Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability School's Proportion of the Net Pension Liability		0.1328656657%		0.1446067250%		0.1187612728%		0.0865195772%		0.0700334985%
Net Pension Liability School's Proportionate Share State's Proportionate Share	\$_	23,526,595 3,216,934	\$_	46,760,676	\$_	35,359,823 -	\$_	13,232,559 -	\$_	9,491,891
Net Proportionate Share	\$_	26,743,529	\$_	46,760,676	\$_	35,359,823	\$_	13,232,559	\$_	9,491,891
School's Covered-Employee Payroll	\$	7,304,336	\$	6,670,537	\$	5,328,712	\$	3,763,936	\$	2,933,901
School's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability as a Percentage of Covered-Employee Payroll		322%		701%		664%		352%		324%
Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total Pension Liability		57%		44%		43%		59%		63%
Reporting Date		6/30/19		6/30/18		6/30/17		6/30/16		6/30/15
School Contributions Statutorily Required Contribution	\$	1,397,320	\$	1,330,870	\$	1,146,299	\$	806,138	\$	539,534
Contributions in Relation to the Statutorily Required Contribution	_	(1,397,320)	_	(1,330,870)	_	(1,146,299)	_	(806,138)	_	(539,534)
Contribution Deficiency (Excess)	\$_		\$_		\$_		\$_		\$_	
School's Covered-Employee Payroll	\$	8,086,030	\$	7,047,143	\$	6,232,956	\$	4,544,302	\$	3,196,033

17.28%

18.89%

18.39%

17.74%

This schedule is presented to show information for 10 years.

Contributions as a Percentage of Covered-Employee Payroll

16.88%

dba STEM School Highlands Ranch
(A Component Unit of Douglas County School District RE.1)

Notes to Schedule of Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability and Contributions

June 30, 2024

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

#### 2023 Changes in Plan Provisions Since 2022

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

#### 2022 Changes in Plan Provisions Since 2021

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

#### 2021 Changes in Plan Provisions Since 2020

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

#### 2020 Changes in Plan Provisions Since 2019

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

dba STEM School Highlands Ranch
(A Component Unit of Douglas County School District RE.1)

Notes to Schedule of Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability and Contributions

June 30. 2024

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

#### 2019 Changes in Plan Provisions Since 2018

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

#### 2018 Changes in Plan Provisions Since 2017

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

#### 2017 Changes in Plan Provisions Since 2016

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

#### 2016 Changes in Plan Provisions Since 2015

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

#### 2015 Changes in Plan Provisions Since 2014

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

#### 2014 Changes in Plan Provisions Since 2013

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

dba STEM School Highlands Ranch
(A Component Unit of Douglas County School District RE.1)

Notes to Schedule of Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability and Contributions

June 30, 2024

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

- The price inflation assumption was lowered from 2.40% to 2.30%.
- The wage inflation assumption was lowered from 3.50% to 3.00%.
- The real rate of investment return assumption was increased to 4.95% per year, net of investment expenses from 4.85% per year, net of investment expenses.
- Salary scale assumptions were revised to align with revised economic assumptions and to more closely reflect actual experience.
- Rates of termination/withdrawal, retirement, and disability were revised to more closely reflect actual experience.
- The pre-retirement mortality assumption for the School and DPS Divisions was changed to the PubT-2010 Employee Table with generational projection using scale MP-2019.
- The post-retirement non-disabled mortality assumption for the School and DPS Divisions was changed to the PubT-2010 Healthy Retiree Table, adjusted as follows:
  - Males: 112% of the rates prior to age 80 and 94% of the rates for ages 80 and older, with generational projection using scale MP-2019.
  - Females: 83% of the rates prior to age 80 and 106% of the rates for ages 80 and older, with generational projection using scale MP-2019.
- The disabled mortality assumption for the Division Trust Funds (members other than Safety Officers) was changed to the PubNS-2010 Disabled Retiree Table using 99% of the rates for all ages with generational projection using scale MP-2019.
- The mortality tables are generational mortality tables developed on a benefit-weighted basis.

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

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

dba STEM School Highlands Ranch
(A Component Unit of Douglas County School District RE.1)

Notes to Schedule of Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability and Contributions

June 30, 2024

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

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

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

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

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

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

- The investment return assumption was lowered from 7.50% to 7.25%.
- The price inflation assumption was lowered from 2.80% to 2.40%.
- The wage inflation assumption was lowered from 3.90% to 3.50%.
- The post-retirement mortality assumption for healthy lives for the School, Judicial, and DPS Divisions was changed to the RP-2014 White Collar Healthy Annuitant Mortality Table with adjustments for credibility and gender adjustments of a 93% factor applied to ages below 80 and a 113% factor applied to age 80 and above, projected to 2018, for males, and a 68% factor applied to ages below 80 and a 106% factor applied to age 80 and above, projected to 2020, for females.
- For disabled retirees, the mortality assumption was changed to reflect 90% of RP-2014 Disabled Retiree Mortality Table.
- The mortality assumption for active members was changed to RP-2014 White Collar Employee Mortality Table, a table specifically developed for actively working people. To allow for an appropriate margin of improved mortality prospectively, the mortality rates incorporate a 70% factor applied to male rates and a 55% factor applied to female rates.
- The rates of retirement, withdrawal, and disability were revised to reflect more closely actual experience.
- The estimated administrative expense as a percentage of covered payroll was increased from .35% to .40%.
- The SEIR for the State and School Divisions was lowered from 7.50% to 5.26% to reflect the changes to the projection's valuation basis, a projected year of depletion of the FNP, and the resulting application of the municipal bond index rate of 3.86% on the measurement date.

dba STEM School Highlands Ranch
(A Component Unit of Douglas County School District RE.1)

Notes to Schedule of Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability and Contributions

June 30, 2024

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

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

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

### 2014 Changes in Assumptions of Other Inputs Since 2013

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

dba STEM School Highlands Ranch
(A Component Unit of Douglas County School District RE.1)
Required Supplementary Information
Schedule of Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability and Contributions
Public Employees' Retirement Association of Colorado
Health Care Trust Fund
For the Year Ended June 30, 2024

Measurement Date		12/31/23		12/31/22
Proportionate Share of the Net  OPEB Liability  School's Proportion of the  Net OPEB Liability		0.0795939353%		0.0820695716%
School's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability	\$	568,083	\$	776,822
School's Covered Payroll	\$	8,795,509	\$	8,328,134
School's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability as a Percentage of Covered Payroll  Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a		6%		9%
Percentage of the Total OPEB Liability		46%		39%
Reporting Date		6/30/24		6/30/23
School Contributions	•		•	22.225
Statutorily Required Contribution	\$	98,236	\$	83,005
Contributions in Relation to the Statutorily Required Contribution	_	(98,236)	_	(83,005)
Contribution Deficiency (Excess)	\$_		\$_	
School's Covered Payroll	\$	9,630,987	\$	8,137,728
Contributions as a Percentage of Covered Payroll		1.02%		1.02%

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

(Continued)

(Continued)

dba STEM School Highlands Ranch
(A Component Unit of Douglas County School District RE.1)
Required Supplementary Information
Schedule of Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability and Contributions
Public Employees' Retirement Association of Colorado
Health Care Trust Fund
For the Year Ended June 30, 2024

Measurement Date 12/31/21 12/31/20 12/31/19 12/31/18 12/31/17 **Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability** School's Proportion of the **Net OPEB Liability** 0.0877002037% 0.0886037309% 0.0848135508% 0.0863633965% 0.0821649891% School's Proportionate Share of the **Net OPEB Liability** \$ 756,243 \$ 841,935 \$ 953,303 \$ 1,175,010 \$ 1,067,816 School's Covered Payroll \$ 8,394,521 \$ 8,193,595 \$ 7,626,357 \$ 7,304,336 6,670,537 School's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability as a Percentage of Covered Payroll 9% 10% 13% 16% 16% Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total **OPEB Liability** 33% 24% 0% 39% 18% Reporting Date 6/30/22 6/30/21 6/30/20 6/30/19 6/30/18 **School Contributions** Statutorily Required Contribution \$ 87,363 84,443 80,671 74,504 71,881 Contributions in Relation to the Statutorily Required Contribution (87,363)(84,443)(80,671)(74,504)(71,881)Contribution Deficiency (Excess)

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

\$

8,086,030

1.08%

\$

8.278.706

1.02%

\$

7,908,884

1.02%

\$

8,086,030

0.92%

\$

8,685,021

0.83%

School's Covered Payroll

Covered Payroll

Contributions as a Percentage of

dba STEM School Highlands Ranch
(A Component Unit of Douglas County School District RE.1)

Notes to Schedule of Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability and Contributions

June 30, 2024

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

#### 2023 Changes in Plan Provisions Since 2022

As of the December 31, 2023, measurement date, the fiduciary net position (FNP) and related disclosure components for the Health Care Trust Fund (HCTF) reflect payments related to the disaffiliation of Tri-County Health Department (Tri-County Health) as a PERA-affiliated employer, effective December 31, 2022. As of the December 31, 2023, year-end, PERA recognized two additions for accounting and financial reporting purposes: a \$24 million payment received on December 4, 2023, and a \$2 million receivable. The employer disaffiliation payment and receivable allocations to the HCTF and Local Government Division Trust Fund were \$1.033 million and \$24.967 million, respectively.

#### 2022 Changes in Plan Provisions Since 2021

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

### 2021 Changes in Plan Provisions Since 2020

• There were no changes made to plan provisions.

#### 2020 Changes in Plan Provisions Since 2019

• There were no changes made to plan provisions.

#### 2019 Changes in Plan Provisions Since 2018

• There were no changes made to plan provisions.

#### 2018 Changes in Plan Provisions Since 2017

There were no changes made to plan provisions.

#### 2017 Changes in Plan Provisions Since 2016

There were no changes made to plan provisions.

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

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

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

dba STEM School Highlands Ranch
(A Component Unit of Douglas County School District RE.1)

Notes to Schedule of Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability and Contributions

June 30, 2024

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

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

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

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

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

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

- The price inflation assumption was lowered from 2.40% to 2.30%.
- The wage inflation assumption was lowered from 3.50% to 3.00%.
- The real rate of investment return assumption was increased to 4.95% per year, net of investment expenses from 4.85% per year, net of investment expenses.
- Rates of termination/withdrawal, retirement, and disability were revised to more closely reflect actual experience.
- The pre-retirement mortality assumption for the School and DPS Divisions was changed to the PubT-2010 Employee Table with generational projection using scale MP-2019.
- The post-retirement non-disabled mortality assumption for the School and DPS Divisions was changed to the PubT-2010 Healthy Retiree Table, adjusted as follows:
  - Males: 112% of the rates prior to age 80 and 94% of the rates for ages 80 and older, with generational projection using scale MP-2019.
  - Females: 83% of the rates prior to age 80 and 106% of the rates for ages 80 and older, with generational projection using scale MP-2019.
- The post-retirement non-disabled beneficiary mortality assumption for the Division Trust Funds was changed to the Pub-2010 Contingent Survivor Table, adjusted as follows:
  - Males: 97% of the rates for all ages, with generational projection using scale MP-2019
  - Females: 105% of the rates for all ages, with generational projection using scale MP-2019.
- The disabled mortality assumption for the Division Trust Funds (members other than Safety Officers) was changed to the PubNS-2010 Disabled Retiree Table using 99% of the rates for all ages with generational projection using scale MP-2019.
- The mortality tables are generational mortality tables developed on a head-count weighted basis.

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

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

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

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

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

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

dba STEM School Highlands Ranch
(A Component Unit of Douglas County School District RE.1)
Budgetary Comparison Schedule
General Fund
For the Year Ended June 30, 2024

		Original Budget		Final Budget		Actual		Variance Positive (Negative)
Revenues								
Local Sources								
Per Pupil Revenue	\$	15,082,500	\$	13,966,003	\$	14,217,846	\$	251,843
District Mill Levy		1,761,000		3,212,559		3,219,547		6,988
Student Fees and Activities		308,513		285,998		283,008		(2,990)
Contributions and Donations		50,000		461,752		1,598,973		1,137,221
Investment Income	_	425,000	_	560,000	_	748,680	-	188,680
Total Local Sources	_	17,627,013	_	18,486,312	_	20,068,054	_	1,581,742
State Sources								
Categorical Revenue	_	998,000	_	1,342,644	_	904,280	-	(438,364)
Total State Sources		998,000	· <u> </u>	1,342,644	_	904,280	-	(438,364)
Total Revenues	_	18,625,013	_	19,828,956	_	20,972,334	-	1,143,378
Expenditures								
Salaries		9,759,000		9,920,000		10,026,461		(106,461)
Employee Benefits		2,784,890		2,888,100		2,728,281		159,819
Purchased Services		5,126,432		5,311,511		5,697,766		(386,255)
Supplies		527,322		630,100		536,912		93,188
Property		261,000		495,000		399,406		95,594
Other	_	155,000	_	205,000	_	60,762	-	144,238
Total Expenditures	_	18,613,644	_	19,449,711	_	19,449,588	-	123
Excess of Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures		11,369		379,245		1,522,746		1,143,501
Other Financing Sources (Uses) Transfers	_	-	_			(235,425)	_	(235,425)
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)		-		-		(235,425)		(235,425)
Net Change in Fund Balance	_	11,369	_	379,245	_	1,287,321	-	· · · · · ·
-		11,309		319,245		1,201,321		908,076
Fund Balance, Beginning of year	=	13,942,654	_	13,942,654	_	13,388,208	-	(554,446)
Fund Balance, End of year	\$_	13,954,023	\$_	14,321,899	\$_	14,675,529	\$	353,630

dba STEM School Highlands Ranch
(A Component Unit of Douglas County School District RE.1)
Notes to Budgetary Comparison Schedule - General Fund
June 30, 2024

### Note 1: Stewardship, Compliance and Accountability

#### **Budgets and Budgetary Accounting**

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

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

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

All appropriations lapse at fiscal year-end.