In the opinion of Bond Counsel, under existing statutes, regulations, rulings and court decisions, interest on the Bonds will not be includible in the gross income of the holders thereof for federal income tax purposes, assuming continuing compliance by the School District with the requirements of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended. Interest on the Bonds will not be a specific preference item for purposes of computing the federal alternative minimum tax on individuals. Under laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, as enacted and construed on the date hereof, interest on the Bonds is exempt from Pennsylvania personal income tax and Pennsylvania corporate net income tax, and the Bonds are exempt from personal property taxes in Pennsylvania. See "TAX EXEMPTION AND OTHER TAX MATTERS" herein.

For further information concerning federal and state tax matters relating to the Bonds, see "Tax Exemption" herein.

### \$48,505,000

## West Chester Area School District

(Chester and Delaware Counties, Pennsylvania)

**Consisting of:** 

\$30,305,000 General Obligation Bonds, Series of 2025 \$18,200,000 General Obligation Bonds, Series A of 2025

Bonds Dated: Date of Delivery
Interest Due: May 15 and November 15
Principal Due: May 15, as shown on inside cover
First Interest Payment: November 15, 2025

The Bonds described herein are in the combined, aggregate principal amount of \$48,505,000 and consist of two series, the \$30,305,000 General Obligation Bonds, Series of 2025 (the "2025 Bonds"), and the \$18,200,000 General Obligation Bonds, Series A of 2025 (the "2025A Bonds"). The 2025 Bonds and 2025A Bonds are sometimes collectively referred to as the "Bonds". The Bonds will be issued in denominations of \$5,000 and integral multiples thereof, and will be registered in the name of Cede & Co., as the owner and nominee of The Depository Trust Company ("DTC"), New York, New York, under its book-entry only system maintained through its brokers and dealers who are, or act through, DTC Participants. The purchasers of the Bonds will not receive physical delivery of paper Bond certificates. A purchaser of the Bonds must maintain an account with a broker or a dealer who is, or acts through, a DTC Participant to receive payment of principal of and interest on the Bonds. See "BOOK-ENTRY ONLY SYSTEM" herein. If, under the circumstances described herein, Bonds are ever issued in certificated form, such Bonds will be subject to registration or transfer, exchange and payment as described herein. The principal of any certificated Bonds will be paid to the registered owners or assigns, when due, upon presentation and surrender of such Bonds to Manufacturers and Traders Trust Company (the "Paying Agent"), acting as paying agent, registrar and sinking fund depository, at its designated corporate trust office. Interest on the Bonds is payable initially on November 15, 2025 and thereafter semiannually on May 15 and November 15 of each year, until the principal sum thereof is paid. DTC Participants and Indirect Participants will be responsible for remitting interest and principal payments to Beneficial Owners of the Bonds.

The Bonds are general obligations of the West Chester Area School District, a public school district consisting of portions of Chester and Delaware Counties, Pennsylvania (the "School District"), payable from its tax and other general revenues. The School District has covenanted in a Resolution adopted by the Board of the School District on March 24, 2025 (the "Resolution"), that authorized and secures the Bonds, that it will provide in its budget in each year, and will appropriate from its general revenues in each such year, the amount of the debt service due on the Bonds for such year and will duly and punctually pay or cause to be paid from the sinking fund established under the Resolution or any other of its revenues or funds the principal of every Bond and the interest thereon on the dates, at the place and in the manner stated in the Bonds, and for such budgeting, appropriation and payment the School District has irrevocably pledged its full faith, credit and taxing power, which taxing power presently includes the power to levy an annual ad valorem tax on all taxable real property within the School District, within the limits provided by law. (See "THE BONDS – "Security" and "TAXING POWERS OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT" infra).

The 2025 Bonds are subject to optional redemption prior to maturity, as described herein.

The 2025A Bonds are not subject to optional redemption prior to maturity.

Proceeds of the 2025 Bonds will be used to: (1) plan, design, acquire and construct alterations and improvements to elementary schools, and other buildings and facilities, and (2) pay the allocable issuance costs of the 2025 Bonds.

Proceeds of the 2025A Bonds will be used to: (1) currently refund a portion of the School District's outstanding General Obligation Bonds, Series AA of 2014, and (2) pay the allocable issuance costs of the 2025A Bonds.

The Bonds are an authorized investment for fiduciaries in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania pursuant to the Pennsylvania Probate, Estate and Fiduciaries Code, Act of June 30, 1972, No. 164, P.L. 508, as amended and supplemented.

## MATURITIES, AMOUNTS, RATES, YIELDS/PRICES AND CUSIPS [As Shown on Inside Front Cover]

The Bonds are offered when, as and if issued, subject to withdrawal or modification of the offer without notice, and subject to the approving legal opinion of Eckert Seamans Cherin & Mellott, LLC, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, Bond Counsel to the School District, to be furnished upon delivery of the Bonds. Certain other legal matters will be passed upon for the School District by Unruh, Turner, Burke & Frees, P.C., West Chester, Pennsylvania, School District Solicitor. PFM Financial Advisors LLC, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, will serve as the School District's Financial Advisor in connection with the issuance of the Bonds. It is expected that the Bonds will be available for delivery through DTC, on or about May 8, 2025.



## \$48,505,000

### **West Chester Area School District**

(Chester and Delaware Counties, Pennsylvania)
Consisting of:

#### \$30,305,000 General Obligation Bonds, Series of 2025

Bonds Dated: Date of Delivery Principal Due: May 15 (as shown below)
Interest Due: May 15 and November 15
First Interest Payment: November 15, 2025

**Denomination:** Integral multiples of \$5,000 Form: DTC Book-Entry Only

#### **2025 BOND MATURITY SCHEDULE:**

Maturity Date					
(May 15)	Principal	Interest	<b>Initial Offering</b>	<b>Initial Offering</b>	
Year	Amounts	Rates	Yields	Prices	CUSIP(1)
2026	\$5,000	5.000%	3.000%	101.992%	9520307R9
2027	5,000	5.000	3.050	103.790	9520307S7
2028	5,000	5.000	3.100	105.435	9520307T5
2029	5,000	5.000	3.150	106.932	9520307U2
2030	5,000	5.000	3.200	108.285	9520307V0
2031	5,000	5.000	3.250	109.497	9520307W8
2032	5,000	5.000	3.290	110.639	9520307X6
2033	1,655,000	4.000	3.330*	104.162*	9520307Y4
2034	1,720,000	4.000	3.410*	103.654*	9520307Z1
2035	1,790,000	4.000	3.500*	103.087*	9520308A5
2036	1,860,000	4.000	3.570*	102.648*	9520308B3
2037	1,935,000	4.000	3.640*	102.211*	9520308C1
2038	2,010,000	4.000	3.700*	101.839*	9520308D9
2039	2,090,000	4.000	3.780*	101.344*	9520308E7
2040	2,175,000	4.000	3.890*	100.669*	9520308F4
2041	2,265,000	4.000	4.000	100.000	9520308G2
2042	2,355,000	4.000	4.060	99.267	9520308H0
2043	2,445,000	4.125	4.125	100.000	9520308J6
2044	2,550,000	4.125	4.190	99.152	9520308K3
2045	2,655,000	4.250	4.250	100.00	9520308L1
2046	2,765,000	4.250	4.300	99.311	9520308M9

<sup>(1)</sup>The above CUSIP (Committee on Uniform Securities Identification Procedures) numbers have been assigned by an organization not affiliated with the School District or the Underwriter, and such parties are not responsible for the selection or use of the CUSIP numbers. The CUSIP numbers are included solely for the convenience of bondholders and no representation is made as to the correctness of such CUSIP numbers. CUSIP numbers assigned to securities may be changed during the term of such securities based on a number of factors including, but not limited to, the refunding or defeasance of such issue or the use of secondary market financial products. Neither the School District nor the Underwriter has agreed to, and there is no duty or obligation to, update this Official Statement to reflect any change or correction in the CUSIP numbers set forth above.

<sup>\*</sup>Priced/Yield to Optional Redemption Date of May 15, 2032

#### \$18,200,000 General Obligation Bonds, Series A of 2025

Bonds Dated: Date of Delivery Principal Due: May 15 (as shown below)
Interest Due: May 15 and November 15
First Interest Payment: November 15, 2025

**Denomination:** Integral multiples of \$5,000 Form: DTC Book-Entry Only

#### **2025A BOND MATURITY SCHEDULE:**

Maturity Date					
(May 15)	Principal	Interest	<b>Initial Offering</b>	<b>Initial Offering</b>	
Year	Amounts	Rates	Yields	Prices	CUSIP <sup>(1)</sup>
2026	\$5,000	5.000%	2.680%	102.317%	9520308N7
2027	18,195,000	5.000	2.680	104.530	9520308P2

<sup>(1)</sup>The above CUSIP (Committee on Uniform Securities Identification Procedures) numbers have been assigned by an organization not affiliated with the School District or the Underwriter, and such parties are not responsible for the selection or use of the CUSIP numbers. The CUSIP numbers are included solely for the convenience of bondholders and no representation is made as to the correctness of such CUSIP numbers. CUSIP numbers assigned to securities may be changed during the term of such securities based on a number of factors including, but not limited to, the refunding or defeasance of such issue or the use of secondary market financial products. Neither the School District nor the Underwriter has agreed to, and there is no duty or obligation to, update this Official Statement to reflect any change or correction in the CUSIP numbers set forth above.

#### WEST CHESTER AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

(Chester and Delaware Counties, Pennsylvania)

#### **BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS**

Karen Fleming	President
Gary Bevilacqua	Vice President
Alex Christy	Member
Dr. Laura Detre	Member
Daryl Durnell	Member
Katy Frey	Member
Dr. Karen Herrmann	Member
Jewell Parkinson	Member
Stacey Whomsley	Member
Linda Cherashore	Secretary*
Karen Avagliano	Assistant Secretary*
John T. Scully	Treasurer*

<sup>\*</sup>Non-Voting Member

## **SUPERINTENDENT** DR. DAVID CHRISTOPHER

#### DIRECTOR OF BUSINESS AFFAIRS

JOHN T. SCULLY

#### SCHOOL DISTRICT SOLICITOR

UNRUH, TURNER, BURKE & FREES, P.C. West Chester, Pennsylvania

#### BOND COUNSEL

ECKERT SEAMANS CHERIN & MELLOTT, LLC Harrisburg, Pennsylvania

#### FINANCIAL ADVISOR

PFM FINANCIAL ADVISORS LLC Harrisburg, Pennsylvania

#### **UNDERWRITER FOR THE 2025 BONDS**

ROBERT W. BAIRD & CO. INCORPORATED Milwaukee, Wisconsin

#### **UNDERWRITER FOR THE 2025A BONDS**

JEFFERIES LLC New York, New York

#### **PAYING AGENT**

MANUFACTURERS AND TRADERS TRUST COMPANY Buffalo, New York and Harrisburg, Pennsylvania

#### SCHOOL DISTRICT ADDRESS

782 Springdale Drive Exton, Pennsylvania

No dealer, broker, salesman or other person has been authorized by the School District to give information or to make any representations, other than those contained in this Official Statement, and if given or made, such other information or representations must not be relied upon. This Official Statement does not constitute an offer to sell or the solicitation of an offer to buy, nor shall there be any sale of the Bonds in any jurisdiction in which it is unlawful to make such offer, solicitation or sale. The information set forth herein has been obtained from the School District and from other sources which are believed to be reliable but the School District does not guarantee the accuracy or completeness of information from sources other than the School District. The information and expressions of opinion herein are subject to change without notice and neither the delivery of this Official Statement nor any sale made hereunder shall, under any circumstances, create any implication that there has been no change in any of the information set forth herein since the date hereof.

#### TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<b>Page</b>		Page
INTRODUCTION	1	Real Property Tax	17
PURPOSE OF THE ISSUE		Other Taxes	
Estimated Sources and Uses of Bond Proceeds		COMMONWEALTH AID TO SCHOOL DISTRICT	ΓS19
THE BONDS		DEBT AND DEBT LIMITS	
Description		Debt Statement	
Payment of Principal and Interest		Debt Limit and Remaining Borrowing Capacity	
Transfer, Exchange and Registration of Bonds		Debt Service Requirements	
Security		Future Financing	
Commonwealth Enforcement of School District Debt	3	LABOR RELATIONS	
Service Payments	3	School District Employees	
Past Delays and Legislative Impasses in Adopting	3	Pension Program	
Pennsylvania Budgets	3	Other Post-Employment Benefits ("OPEB")	
Pa. Act 85 of 2016 – State Enforcement of School Distr	ict	LITIGATION	2
Debt Service Payments During a State Budget Impasse.		DEFAULTS AND REMEDIES	
Bonds Sinking Fund			
Actions in the Event of Default on Bonds		TAX EXEMPTION AND OTHER TAX MATTERS	
BOOK-ENTRY ONLY SYSTEM		CONTINUING DISCLOSURE UNDERTAKING	
REDEMPTION OF BONDS		Continuing Disclosure Filing History	
		Future Continuing Disclosure Compliance	
Optional Redemption of 2025 Bonds		RATING	
Optional Redemption of 2025A Bonds		UNDERWRITING	28
Mandatory Sinking Fund Redemptions		LEGAL OPINIONS	28
Notice of Redemption		FINANCIAL ADVISOR	
Manner of Redemption		MISCELLANEOUS	
THE SCHOOL DISTRICT		APPENDIX A-DEMOGRAPHIC AND ECONOMIC INFOR	
Introduction			
Administration		RELATING TO THE WEST CHESTER AREA SCHOOL DIS	
School District Facilities		Introduction	
Enrollment Trends		Employment	
SCHOOL DISTRICT FINANCES		Income	
Introduction		Commercial Activity	
Financial Reporting	9	Housing	
Budgeting Process as modified by Act 1 of 2006	0	Educational Institutions	
(Taxpayer Relief Act)		Medical Facilities	
Summary and Discussion of Financial Results		Transportation	
General Fund Revenue		Utilities	
General Fund Expenditures		Municipal Services	
TAXING POWERS OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT.			3
In General	13	APPENDIX B-FORM OF OPINION OF BOND COUNSEL	
The Taxpayer Relief Act (Act 1) – Limitations on		APPENDIX C-FORM OF CONTINUING DISCLOSURE	
Pennsylvania School Districts Raising Taxes		CERTIFICATE	
Status of the Bonds Under Act 1		APPENDIX D-AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS	
Legislation Limiting Unreserved Fund Balances			
Tax Levy Trends	16		



#### OFFICIAL STATEMENT \$48,505,000

#### West Chester Area School District (Chester and Delaware Counties, Pennsylvania) Consisting of:

\$30,305,000 General Obligation Bonds, Series of 2025 \$18,200,000 General Obligation Bonds, Series A of 2025

#### INTRODUCTION

This Official Statement, including the cover page and inside cover page hereof and Appendices hereto, is furnished by West Chester Area School District (the "School District"), a public school district consisting of portions of Chester County and Delaware County, Pennsylvania, in connection with the offering of the \$48,505,000 aggregate principal amount of general obligation bonds consisting of the \$30,305,000 General Obligation Bonds, Series of 2025 (the "2025 Bonds") and the \$18,200,000 General Obligation Bonds, Series A of 2025 (the "2025A Bonds"), to be dated as of the date of settlement (collectively, the 2025 Bonds and the 2025A Bonds are sometimes referred to collectively as the "Bonds"). The Bonds are being issued pursuant to, and are secured by, a Resolution of the Board of School Directors of the School District adopted on March 24, 2025 (the "Resolution"), and pursuant to the Local Government Unit Debt Act of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania (the "Commonwealth" or "State"), 53 Pa. C.S. Chs. 80-82 (the "Debt Act")

#### PURPOSE OF THE ISSUE

Proceeds of the 2025 Bonds will be used to: (1) plan, design, acquire and construct alterations and improvements to elementary schools, and other buildings and facilities, and (2) pay the allocable costs of issuing the 2025 Bonds.

Proceeds of the 2025A Bonds will be used to: (1) currently refund a portion (\$18,505,000 principal amount) of the School District's \$54,930,000 outstanding General Obligation Bonds, Series AA of 2014 (the "Refunded 2014AA Bonds"); and (2) to pay the allocable costs of issuing the 2025A Bonds.

Proceeds of the 2025A Bonds will be deposited with Manufacturers and Traders Trust Company, as paying agent for the Refunded 2014AA Bonds, in amounts sufficient (without investment earnings) to optionally redeem the Refunded 2014AA Bonds on or within 90 days of the issuance date of the 2025A Bonds.

#### Sources and Uses of Bond Proceeds

The following is a summary of the estimated sources and uses of the proceeds from the issuance of the Bonds.

Sources of Funds  Par Amount of the Bonds  Original Issue Premium  Total Sources of Funds	2025 Bonds	2025A Bonds	Total
	\$30,305,000.00	\$18,200,000.00	\$48,505,000.00
	303,018.60	824,349.35	1,127,367.95
	\$30,608,018.60	\$19,024,349.35	\$49,632,367.95
Uses of Funds Amount Required to Redeem the Refunded 2014AA Bonds Construction Fund Deposit(1) Costs of Issuance <sup>(2)</sup> Total Uses of Funds	\$0	\$18,949,634.03	\$18,949,634.03
	30,000,000.00	0	30,000,000.00
	608,018.60	74,715.32	682,733.92
	\$30,608,018.60	\$19,024,349.35	\$49,632,367.95

<sup>(1)</sup>Interest earnings on the Construction Fund Deposit will remain in the Construction Fund and applied to the capital projects.

#### THE BONDS

#### Description

The 2025 Bonds will be issued in fully registered form in denominations of \$5,000 principal amount and integral multiples thereof, in the aggregate principal amount of \$30,305,000. The 2025 Bonds will be dated as of the date of the original issuance and delivery thereof, and of the 2025A Bonds (the "Date of Delivery"), and will bear interest at the rates and mature in the amounts and on the dates set forth on the inside front cover of this Official Statement. Interest on each of the 2025 Bonds will be payable initially on November 15, 2025, and, thereafter, semiannually on May 15 and November 15 of each year until the maturity date of such 2025 Bond or, if such 2025 Bond is redeemable and is called for redemption prior to maturity, until the date fixed for redemption thereof, if payment of the redemption price has been duly made or provided for.

The 2025A Bonds will be issued in fully registered form in denominations of \$5,000 principal amount and integral multiples thereof, in the aggregate principal amount of \$18,200,000. The 2025A Bonds will be dated as of the Date of Delivery, and will bear

<sup>(2)</sup> Includes legal, financial advisor, printing, rating, total underwriters' discount, CUSIP, paying agent, and miscellaneous costs.

interest at the rates and mature in the amounts and on the dates set forth on the inside front cover of this Official Statement. Interest on each of the 2025A Bonds will be payable initially on November 15, 2025, and, thereafter, semiannually on May 15 and November 15 of each year until the maturity date of such 2025A Bond.

When issued, the Bonds will be registered in the name of Cede & Co., as nominee for The Depository Trust Company ("DTC"), New York, New York. Purchasers of the Bonds (the "Beneficial Owners") will not receive any physical delivery of Bond certificates, and beneficial ownership of the Bonds will be evidenced only by book entries. See "BOOK – ENTRY ONLY SYSTEM" herein.

#### **Payment of Principal and Interest**

So long as Cede & Co., as nominee of DTC, is the registered owner of the Bonds, payments of principal of, redemption premium, if any, and interest on the Bonds, when due, are to be made to DTC, and all such payments shall be valid and effective to satisfy fully and to discharge the obligations of the School District with respect to, and to the extent of, principal, redemption premium, if any, and interest so paid. If the use of the Book-Entry Only System for the Bonds is discontinued for any reason, bond certificates will be issued and payment of principal, redemption premium, if any, and interest on the Bonds shall be made as described in the following paragraphs:

The principal of any certificated Bonds, when due upon maturity or upon any earlier redemption, will be paid to the registered owners of the Bonds, or registered assigns, upon surrender of such Bonds to Manufacturers and Traders Trust Company (the "Paying Agent"), acting as paying agent and sinking fund depositary for the Bonds, at its designated corporate trust offices (or to any successor paying agent at its designated office(s)).

Interest on any certificated Bonds will be payable to the registered owner of such Bond from the interest payment date next preceding the date of registration and authentication of such Bond, unless: (a) such Bond is registered and authenticated as of an interest payment date, in which event such Bond shall bear interest from said interest payment date, or (b) such Bond is registered and authenticated after a Record Date (hereinafter defined) and before the next succeeding interest payment date, in which event such Bond shall bear interest from such interest payment date, or (c) such Bond is registered and authenticated on or prior to the Record Date preceding November 15, 2025, in which event such Bond shall bear interest from the Date of Delivery, or (d) as shown by the records of the Paying Agent, interest on such Bond shall be in default, in which event such Bond shall bear interest from the date to which interest was last paid on such Bond. Interest on a certificated Bond will be payable by check drawn on the Paying Agent, which shall be mailed to the registered owner whose name and address shall appear, at the close of business on the fifteenth (15th) day (whether or not a day on which the Paying Agent is open for business) next preceding each interest payment date (the "Record Date"), on the registration books maintained by the Paying Agent, irrespective of any transfer or exchange of each Bond subsequent to such Record Date and prior to such interest payment date, unless the School District shall be in default in payment of interest due on such interest payment date. In the event of any such default, such defaulted interest shall be payable to the person in whose name the certificated Bond is registered at the close of business on a special record date for the payment of such defaulted interest established by notice mailed by the Paying Agent to the registered owner of such Bond not less than fifteen (15) days preceding such special record date. Such notice shall be mailed to the person in whose name such Bond is registered at the close of business on the fifth (5th) day preceding the date of mailing.

If the date for payment of the principal of or interest on any Bonds shall be a Saturday, Sunday, legal holiday or a day on which banking institutions in the Commonwealth are authorized or required by law or executive order to close, then the date for payment of such principal or interest shall be the next succeeding day which is not a Saturday, Sunday, legal holiday or a day on which such banking institutions are authorized or required to close, and payment on such date shall have the same force and effect as if made on the nominal date established for such payment.

#### Transfer, Exchange and Registration of Bonds

Subject to the provisions described below under "Book-Entry Only System," any certificated Bond is transferable or exchangeable by the registered owner, thereof upon surrender of such Bond to the Paying Agent, accompanied by a written instrument or instruments in form, with instructions, and with guaranty of signature satisfactory to the Paying Agent, duly executed by the registered owner of such Bond or his attorney-in-fact or legal representative. The Paying Agent shall enter any transfer of ownership of certificated Bonds in the registration books and shall authenticate and deliver at the earliest practicable time in the name of the transferee or transferees a new fully registered Bond or Bonds of authorized denominations of the same maturity and interest rate for the aggregate principal amount which the registered owner is entitled to receive. The School District and the Paying Agent may deem and treat the registered owner of any Bond as the absolute owner thereof (whether or not such Bond shall be overdue) for the purpose of receiving payment of or on account of principal and interest and for all other purposes, and the School District and the Paying Agent shall not be affected by any notice to the contrary.

The School District and the Paying Agent shall not be required (a) to register the transfer or exchange any Bonds then considered for redemption during a period beginning at the close of business on the fifteenth (15<sup>th</sup>) day next preceding any date of selection of Bonds to be redeemed and ending at the close of business on the day on which the applicable notice of redemption is mailed or (b) to register the transfer of or exchange any portion of any Bond selected for redemption until after the redemption date. Bonds may be exchanged for a like aggregate principal amount of Bonds of other authorized denominations of the same maturity and interest rate.

#### Security

The Bonds will be general obligations of the School District, payable on a parity basis with each other, and all other existing and future general obligation debt of the School District, from its tax and other general revenues. The School District has covenanted that it will provide in its budget for each year, and will appropriate from its general revenues in each such year, the amount of the debt service on the Bonds for such year, and will duly and punctually pay or cause to be paid from its Sinking Fund, as hereinafter defined, or any other of its revenues or funds, the principal of each of the Bonds and the interest thereon at the dates and place and in the manner stated on the Bonds, and for such budgeting, appropriation and payment the School District irrevocably has pledged its full faith, credit and taxing power, which taxing power includes the power to levy an annual ad valorem tax on all taxable property within the School District, within the limits provided by law (see "TAXING POWERS OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT" herein). The Debt Act presently provides for the enforcement of debt service payments as hereinafter described (see "DEFAULTS AND REMEDIES" herein), and the Public School Code presently provides for the withholding and application of subsidies in the event of failure to pay debt service (See "Commonwealth Enforcement of School District Debt Service Payments" below).

#### **Commonwealth Enforcement of School District Debt Service Payments**

Section 633 of the Pennsylvania Public School Code of 1949, as amended by Act 150 of 1975, and as further amended and supplemented (the "Public School Code"), presently provides that in all cases where the board of school directors of any school district fails to pay or to provide for the payment of any indebtedness on the date of maturity or date of mandatory redemption or on any sinking fund deposit date, or any interest due on such indebtedness on any interest payment date or on any sinking fund deposit date, in accordance with the schedule under which the Bonds were issued, the Secretary of Education shall notify such board of school directors of its obligation and shall withhold out of any Commonwealth appropriation due such school district an amount equal to the sum of the principal amount maturing or subject to mandatory redemption and interest owing by such school district, or sinking fund deposit due by such school district, and shall pay over the amount so withheld to the bank or other person acting as sinking fund depositary for such Bond issue. These withholding provisions are not part of any contract with the holders of the Bonds, and may be amended or repealed by future legislation.

The effectiveness of Section 633 of the Public School Code may be limited by the application of other withholding provisions contained in the Public School Code, such as provisions for withholding and paying over of appropriations for payment of unpaid teachers' salaries. Enforcement may also be limited by bankruptcy, insolvency, or other laws or equitable principles affecting the enforcement of creditors' rights generally. See "Pennsylvania Budget Adoption" hereinafter.

#### Past Delays and Legislative Impasses in Adopting Pennsylvania Budgets

Due to the uncertainty of funding and expenditures caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, on May 29, 2020, the governor passed a five-month stopgap budget for the fiscal year 2020-21. This budget provided five months of flat funding for most state programs and a full twelve months of flat funding for public education. On November 20, 2020, the General Assembly passed Senate Bill 1350 and House Bill 2536, which included the 2020-21 Supplemental Budget to fund the Commonwealth through the remaining seven-months of fiscal year 2020-21. On November 23, 2020, the Governor approved the 2020-21 Supplemental Budget. The 2020-21 Supplemental Budget included mostly flat funding for public education similar to the stopgap budget adopted for the first five months of the 2020-21 fiscal year.

The Governor timely signed the state's 2021-2022 fiscal year budget on June 30, 2021. That budget included an increase of \$300 million for basic education, with \$100 million of that targeted to the 100 historically underfunded school districts that included some in both urban and rural areas of the state. Special education received a \$50 million increase, boosting that budget line to \$1.24 billion, while preschool and Head Start programs received a \$30 million increase, to \$311.5 million. All told, funding for K-12 schools reached a record high of \$13.55 billion in the 2021-2022 budget.

After a week's delay, a \$42.7 billion budget for the state's 2022-2023 fiscal year was signed by then Governor Tom Wolf on July 8, 2022, which included \$7.6 billion for the basic education funding appropriation and \$225 million to supplement school districts with a higher at risk student population. The total amount was a \$525 million increase over the 2021-2022 fiscal year appropriation.

After over a month delay, a \$44.9 billion budget for the state's 2023-24 fiscal year was signed by Governor Josh Shapiro on August 3, 2023, which included \$7.87 billion for the basic education funding appropriation. The total amount was a \$567 million increase over the 2022-2023 fiscal year appropriation. The budget also provided \$50 million in additional aid to school districts for special education services for a total of \$1.4 billion. Certain funds authorized within the 2023-24 Budget required companion implementation language amending the Fiscal Code to be fully implemented. On December 13, 2023 multiple code bills were passed finalizing the 2023-24 Budget for education.

Governor Josh Shapiro signed the state's budget for the 2024-25 fiscal year 11 days late on July 11, 2024. The \$47.6 billion budget included \$8.097 billion for the basic education funding appropriation. The total amount was a \$225 million increase over the 2023-2024 fiscal year appropriation. The budget also provided \$100 million in additional aid to school districts for special education services for a total of \$1.487 billion and \$100 million for cyber charter school tuition reimbursement. 348 school districts (including the School District) will receive additional funding totaling \$493.8 million under a new Adequacy Supplement. 182 school districts will receive an additional \$60 million in total of Hold Harmless Relief Supplement as a component of their basic education funding.

During a state budget impasse, school districts in Pennsylvania cannot be certain when state subsidies and revenues owed them from the Commonwealth will become available. This includes many of the major state subsidies, and overall revenues, that a Pennsylvania school district receives including basic education funding, special education funding, PlanCon reimbursements, and certain block grants, among many others. Future budget impasses may affect the timeliness or amount of payments by the Commonwealth under the withholding provisions of Section 633 of the School Code, however recent legislation included in Act 85 of 2016 has attempted to address the timeliness of the withholding provisions of Section 633 of the School Code during any future budget impasses. See "Pa. Act 85 of 2016 - State Enforcement of School District Debt Service Payments During a State Budget Impasse" below.

#### Pa. Act 85 of 2016 - State Enforcement of School District Debt Service Payments During a State Budget Impasse

On July 13, 2016, the Governor of the Commonwealth signed into law Act No. 85 of 2016, (P.L. 664, No. 85) ("Act 85 of 2016"), an amendment to the Act of April 9, 1929 (P.L. 343, No. 176), known as the Fiscal Code ("Fiscal Code"). Act 85 of 2016 adds to the Fiscal Code Article XV1-E.4, entitled "School District Intercepts for the Payment of Debt Service During Budget Impasse", which provides for intercept of subsidy payments by the Pennsylvania Department of Education ("PDE") to a school district subject to an "intercept statute" or an "intercept agreement" in the event of a Commonwealth budget impasse in any fiscal year.

Act 85 of 2016 includes in the definition of "intercept statute" Section 633 of the Public School Code. The School District's general obligation bonds, including the Bonds, are subject to Section 633 of the Public School Code.

Act 85 of 2016 provides that the amounts that may be necessary for PDE to comply with the provisions of the applicable intercept statute or intercept agreement "shall be appropriated" to PDE from the General Fund of the Commonwealth after PDE submits justification to the majority and minority chairs of the appropriations committees of the Pennsylvania Senate and House of Representatives allowing ten (10) calendar days for their review and comment, if, in any fiscal year:

- (1) annual appropriations for payment of Commonwealth money to school districts have not been enacted by July 1 and continue not to be enacted when a payment is due;
- (2) the conditions under which PDE is required to comply with an intercept statute or intercept agreement have occurred, thereby requiring PDE to withhold payments which would otherwise be due to school districts; and
- (3) the Secretary of PDE, in consultation with the Secretary of the Budget, determines that there are no payments or allocations due to be paid to the applicable school districts from which PDE may withhold money as required by the applicable intercept statute or intercept agreement.

The necessary amounts shall be appropriated on the expiration of the tenth (10th) day following submission of the justification described above to the majority and minority chairs of the appropriations committees, who may comment on the justification but cannot prevent the effectiveness of the appropriation.

The total of all intercept payments under Article XV11-E.4 for a school district may not exceed 50% of the total nonfederal general fund subsidy payments made to that school district in the prior fiscal year.

Act 85 of 2016 requires that each school district with bonds or notes subject to an intercept statute or intercept agreement must deliver to PDE, in such format as PDE may direct, a copy of the final Official Statement for the relevant bonds or notes or the loan documents relating to the obligations, within thirty (30) days of receipt of the proceeds of the obligations. The School District intends on submitting this information with respect to the Bonds to PDE within the prescribed timeframe following the issuance of the Bonds. Act 85 of 2016 provides that any obligation for which PDE does not receive the required documents shall not be subject to the applicable intercept statute or intercept agreement.

The provisions of Act 85 of 2016 are not part of any contract with the holders of the Bonds and may be amended or repealed by future legislation.

#### **Bonds Sinking Fund**

Two sinking funds for the respective of the debt service on the respective Bonds (collectively, the "Sinking Fund"), has been created pursuant to the Resolution and shall be maintained by the Paying Agent, as sinking fund depository. The School District shall deposit in the Sinking Fund a sufficient sum not later than the date when interest and/or principal is to become due on each series of the Bonds so that on each payment date the Sinking Fund will contain an amount which, together with any other funds available therein, is sufficient to pay, in full, interest and/or principal then due on the Bonds.

The Sinking Fund shall be held by the Paying Agent, as sinking fund depository, and invested by the Paying Agent in such securities or shall be deposited in such funds or accounts as are authorized by the Act, upon direction of the School District. Such deposits and securities shall be in the name of the School District, but subject to withdrawal or collection only by the Paying Agent, as sinking fund depository, and such deposits and securities, together with the interest thereon, shall be a part of the Sinking Fund.

The Paying Agent, as sinking fund depository, is authorized without further order from the School District to pay from the Sinking Fund the principal of and interest on the Bonds, as and when due and payable.

#### **Actions in the Event of Default on Bonds**

In the event of failure of the School District to pay or cause to be paid the interest on or principal of the Bonds, as the same becomes due and payable, the holders of the Bonds shall be entitled to certain remedies provided by the Debt Act. Among the remedies, if the failure to pay shall continue for 30 days, holders of the Bonds shall have the right to recover the amount due by bringing an action in assumpsit in the Court of Common Pleas of a county in which the School District is located. The Debt Act provides any judgment shall have an appropriate priority upon the funds next coming into the treasury of the School District. The Debt Act also provides that upon a default of at least 30 days, holders of at least 25% of the Bonds may appoint a trustee to represent them. The Debt Act provides certain other remedies in the event of default, and further qualifies the remedies hereinbefore described.

#### BOOK-ENTRY ONLY SYSTEM

The information in this section has been obtained from materials provided by DTC for such purpose. The School District (herein referred to as the "Issuer") and the Underwriter do not guaranty the accuracy or completeness of such information, and such information is not to be construed as a representation of the School District or the Underwriter.

The Depository Trust Company ("DTC"), New York, NY, will act as securities depository for the Bonds (the "Bonds"). The Bonds will be issued as fully-registered securities registered in the name of Cede & Co. (DTC's partnership nominee) or such other name as may be requested by an authorized representative of DTC. One fully-registered Bond certificate will be issued for each maturity of the Bonds, each in the aggregate principal amount of such maturity, and will be deposited with DTC.

DTC the world's largest securities depository is a limited-purpose trust company organized under the New York Banking Law, a "banking organization" within the meaning of the New York Banking Law, a member of the Federal Reserve System. a "clearing corporation" within the meaning of the New York Uniform Commercial Code, and a "clearing agency" registered pursuant to the provisions of Section 17A of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. DTC holds and provides asset servicing for over 3.5 million issues of U.S. and non-U.S. equity issues, corporate and municipal debt issues, and money market instruments (from over 100 countries) that DTC's participants ("Direct Participants") deposit with DTC. DTC also facilitates the post-trade settlement among Direct Participants of sales and other securities transactions in deposited securities, through electronic computerized book-entry transfers and pledges between Direct Participants' accounts. This eliminates the need for physical movement of securities certificates. Direct Participants include both U.S. and non-U.S. securities brokers and dealers, banks, trust companies, clearing corporations, and certain other organizations. DTC is a wholly-owned subsidiary of The Depository Trust & Clearing Corporation ("DTCC"). DTCC is the holding company for DTC, National Securities Clearing Corporation and Fixed Income Clearing Corporation, all of which are registered clearing agencies. DTCC is owned by the users of its regulated subsidiaries. Access to the DTC system is also available to others such as both U.S. and non-U.S. securities brokers and dealers, banks, trust companies, and clearing corporations that clear through or maintain a custodial relationship with a Direct Participant, either directly or indirectly ("Indirect Participants"). DTC has a Standard & Poor's rating of AA+. The DTC Rules applicable to its Participants are on file with the Securities and Exchange Commission. More information about DTC can be found at www.dtcc.com.

Purchases of Bonds under the DTC system must be made by or through Direct Participants, which will receive a credit for the Bonds on DTC's records. The ownership interest of each actual purchaser of each Bond ("Beneficial Owner") is in turn to be recorded on the Direct and Indirect Participants' records. Beneficial Owners will not receive written confirmation from DTC of their purchase. Beneficial Owners are, however, expected to receive written confirmations providing details of the transaction, as well as periodic statements of their holdings, from the Direct or Indirect Participant through which the Beneficial Owner entered into the transaction. Transfers of ownership interests in the Bonds are to be accomplished by entries made on the books of Direct and Indirect Participants acting on behalf of Beneficial Owners. Beneficial Owners will not receive certificates representing their ownership interests in Bonds, except in the event that use of the book-entry system for the Bonds is discontinued.

To facilitate subsequent transfers, all Bonds deposited by Direct Participants with DTC are registered in the name of DTC's partnership nominee, Cede & Co., or such other name as may be requested by an authorized representative of DTC. The deposit of Bonds with DTC and their registration in the name of Cede & Co. or such other DTC nominee do not affect any change in beneficial ownership. DTC has no knowledge of the actual Beneficial Owners of the Bonds: DTC's records reflect only the identity of the Direct Participants to whose accounts such Bonds are credited, which may or may not be the Beneficial Owners. The Direct and Indirect Participants will remain responsible for keeping account of their holdings on behalf of their customers.

Conveyance of notices and other communications by DTC to Direct Participants, by Direct Participants to Indirect Participants, and by Direct Participants and Indirect Participants to Beneficial Owners will be governed by arrangements among them, subject to any statutory or regulatory requirements as may be in effect from time to time. Beneficial Owners of Bonds may wish to take certain steps to augment the transmission to them of notices of significant events with respect to the Bonds, such as redemptions, tenders, defaults, and proposed amendments to the Bond documents. For example, Beneficial Owners of Bonds may wish to ascertain that the

nominee holding the Bonds for their benefit bas agreed to obtain and transmit notices to Beneficial Owners. In the alternative, Beneficial Owners may wish to provide their names and addresses to the registrar and request that copies of notices be provided directly to them.

Redemption notices shall be sent to DTC. If less than all of the Bonds of any particular maturity are being redeemed, DTC's practice is to determine by lot the amount of the interest of each Direct Participant in such maturity to be redeemed.

Neither DTC nor Cede & Co. (nor any other DTC nominee) will consent or vote with respect to Bonds unless authorized by a Direct Participant in accordance with DTC's MMI Procedures. Under its usual procedures, DTC mails an Omnibus Proxy to Issuer as soon as possible after the record date. The Omnibus Proxy assigns Cede & Co.'s consenting or voting rights to those Direct Participants to whose accounts Bonds are credited on the record date (identified in a listing attached to the Omnibus Proxy).

Payments of Principal, interest and redemption premium, if any, on the Bonds, will be made to Cede & Co., or such other nominee as may be requested by an authorized representative of DTC. DTC's practice is to credit Direct Participants' accounts upon DTC's receipt of funds and corresponding detail information from the Issuer or the Paying Agent, on payable date in accordance with their respective holdings shown on DTC's records. Payments by Participants to Beneficial Owners will be governed by standing instructions and customary practices, as is the case with securities held for the accounts of customers in bearer form or registered in "street name," and will be the responsibility of such Participant and not of DTC, the Issuer or the Paying Agent, subject to any statutory or regulatory requirements as may be in effect from time to time. Payments of Principal, interest and redemption premium, if any, on the Bonds, to Cede & Co. (or such other nominee as may be requested by an authorized representative of DTC) is the responsibility of the Issuer or the Paying Agent, disbursement of such payments to Direct Participants will be the responsibility of DTC, and disbursement of such payments to the Beneficial Owners will be the responsibility of Direct and Indirect Participants.

DTC may discontinue providing its services as depository with respect to the Bonds at any time by giving reasonable notice to the Issuer or the Paying Agent. Under such circumstances, in the event that a successor depository is not obtained, Bond certificates are required to be printed and delivered.

The issuer may decide to discontinue use of the system of book-entry-only transfers through DTC (or a successor securities depository). In that event, Bond certificates will be printed and delivered to DTC.

The information in this section concerning DTC and DTC's book-entry system has been obtained from sources that Issuer believes to be reliable, but Issuer takes no responsibility for the accuracy thereof.

NEITHER THE ISSUER NOR THE PAYING AGENT WILL HAVE ANY RESPONSIBILITY OR OBLIGATION TO ANY DTC PARTICIPANT, INDIRECT PARTICIPANT OR BENEFICIAL OWNER OR ANY OTHER PERSON WITH RESPECT TO: (1) THE BONDS; (2) THE ACCURACY OF ANY RECORDS MAINTAINED BY DTC OR ANY DTC PARTICIPANT OR INDIRECT PARTICIPANT; (3) THE PAYMENT BY DTC OR ANY DTC PARTICIPANT OR INDIRECT PARTICIPANT OF ANY AMOUNT DUE TO ANY BENEFICIAL OWNER IN RESPECT OF THE PRINCIPAL OR REDEMPTION PRICE OF OR INTEREST ON THE BONDS; (4) THE DELIVERY TO ANY BENEFICIAL OWNER BY DTC OR ANY DTC PARTICIPANT OR INDIRECT PARTICIPANT OF ANY NOTICE WHICH IS REQUIRED OR PERMITTED UNDER THE TERMS OF THE ORDINANCE TO BE GIVEN TO BONDHOLDERS; (5) THE SELECTION OF THE BENEFICIAL OWNERS TO RECEIVE PAYMENT IN THE EVENT OF ANY PARTIAL REDEMPTION OF THE BONDS; OR (6) ANY OTHER ACTION TAKEN BY DTC AS BONDHOLDER.

The Issuer and the Paying Agent cannot give any assurances that DTC or the Participants will distribute payments of the principal or redemption price of and interest on the Bonds paid to DTC or its nominee, as the registered owner of the Bonds, or any redemption or other notices, to the Beneficial Owners or that they will do so on a timely basis, or that DTC will serve and act in the manner described in this Official Statement.

#### REDEMPTION OF BONDS

#### **Optional Redemption of 2025 Bonds**

The 2025 Bonds stated to mature on or after May 15, 2033, shall be subject to redemption prior to maturity, at the option of the School District, as a whole, on May 15, 2032 or on any date thereafter, or from time to time, in part (and if in part, in any order of maturity as selected by the School District and within a maturity by lot), in either case upon payment of a redemption price of 100% of the principal amount redeemed, together with accrued interest to the redemption date.

#### Optional Redemption of 2025A Bonds

The 2025A Bonds are **not** subject to optional redemption prior to maturity.

#### **Mandatory Sinking Fund Redemptions**

Bidders may elect to structure the issue to include term bonds, which term bonds, if selected by the bidder, will be subject to mandatory redemption prior to maturity, in the years and amounts as shown in the Invitation to Bid, upon payment of the principal amount of Bonds to be redeemed, together with accrued interest to the date fixed for redemption, or upon maturity, as applicable. Bonds to be redeemed from within a particular maturity shall be selected by lot by the Paying Agent.

In lieu of such Mandatory Redemption, the Paying Agent, on behalf of the School District, may purchase from money in the Sinking Fund, at a price not to exceed the principal amount plus accrued interest, or the School District may tender to the Paying Agent, all or part of the Bonds subject to being drawn for redemption in any such year.

#### **Notice of Redemption**

So long as Cede & Co., as nominee of DTC, is the registered owner of the Bonds, the School District and the Paying Agent shall send redemption notices only to Cede & Co. See "BOOK-ENTRY ONLY SYSTEM" herein for further information regarding conveyance of notices to Beneficial Owners.

Notice of any redemption of certificated Bonds shall be given by depositing a copy of a redemption notice in first class mail not less than thirty (30) days prior to the date fixed for redemption, addressed to the registered owners of each of the Bonds to be redeemed, in whole or in part, at the addresses shown on the registration books kept by the Paying Agent as of the day such Bonds are selected for redemption; provided, however, that failure to give such notice by mailing, or any defect therein or in the mailing thereof, shall not affect the validity of any proceeding for redemption of other Bonds called for redemption as to which proper notice has been given.

On the date designated for redemption, notice having been provided as aforesaid, and money for payment of the principal and accrued interest being held by the Paying Agent, interest on the Bonds or portions thereof so called for redemption shall cease to accrue and such Bonds or portions thereof shall cease to be entitled to any benefit or security under the Resolution, and registered owners of such Bonds or portions thereof so called for redemption shall have no rights with respect thereto, except to receive payment of the principal thereof and accrued interest thereon to the date fixed for redemption.

If at the time of mailing of a notice of redemption the School District shall not have deposited with the Paying Agent, as sinking fund depository, money sufficient to redeem all Bonds or portions thereof called for redemption, the notice of redemption may state that it is conditional, *i.e.*, that it is subject to the deposit of sufficient redemption money with the Paying Agent not later than the redemption date, and such notice shall be of no effect unless such money is so deposited. If the Bonds to be called for redemption shall have been refunded, money sufficient to redeem such Bonds shall be deemed to be on deposit with the Paying Agent for the purposes of this paragraph and the notice of redemption need not state that it is conditional, if the redemption money has been deposited irrevocably with another bank or bank and trust company which shall have been given irrevocable instructions to transfer the same to the Paying Agent not later than the redemption date. If sufficient funds are not received, such notice of redemption shall be of no effect.

#### Manner of Redemption

So long as Cede & Co., as nominee of DTC, is the registered owner of the Bonds, payment of the redemption price shall be made to Cede & Co. in accordance with the existing arrangements by and among the School District, the Paying Agent and DTC and, if less than all Bonds of any particular maturity of a series are to be redeemed, the amount of the interest of each DTC Participant, Indirect Participant and Beneficial Owner in such Bonds to be redeemed shall be determined by the governing arrangements among them, subject to any statutory or regulatory requirements as may be in effect from time to time. See "BOOK-ENTRY ONLY SYSTEM" herein for further information regarding redemption of Bonds registered in the name of Cede & Co.

If a Bond is of a denomination larger than \$5,000, a portion of such Bond may be redeemed. For the purposes of redemption, a Bond shall be treated as representing the number of Bonds that is equal to the principal amount thereof divided by \$5,000, each \$5,000 portion of such Bond being subject to redemption. In the case of partial redemption of a Bond, payment of the redemption price shall be made only upon surrender of such Bond in exchange for Bonds of the same maturity and in authorized denominations of the same series, maturity and interest rate in an aggregate principal amount equal to the unredeemed portion of the principal amount thereof.

If the redemption date for any Bonds shall be a Saturday, Sunday, legal holiday or a day on which banking institutions in the Commonwealth are authorized or required by law or executive order to close, then the date for payment of the principal, premium, if any, and interest upon such redemption shall be the next succeeding day which is not a Saturday, Sunday, legal holiday or a day on which such banking institutions are authorized or required to close, and payment on such date shall have the same force and effect as if made on the nominal date of redemption.

#### THE SCHOOL DISTRICT

#### Introduction

The School District consists of the Borough of West Chester and surrounding municipalities in central Chester County and one municipality in western Delaware County and covers an area of approximately 75 square miles. The School District's boundaries are coterminous with those of the Borough of West Chester and the Townships of East Bradford, East Goshen, Thornbury, West Goshen, Westtown and West Whiteland, all located in Chester County, and the Township of Thornbury in Delaware County. The Borough of West Chester, located in the geographic center of the School District and county seat of Chester County, is approximately 25 miles west of metropolitan Philadelphia, 15 miles north of Wilmington, Delaware, and 15 miles south of King of Prussia and Valley Forge. Many well-known unincorporated communities are located within the School District and these include: Exton in West Whiteland Township, Goshenville in East Goshen Township, Chatwood in West Goshen Township, Cheyney and Glen Mills in Thornbury Township, Delaware County, and Darlington Corners in Westtown Township.

West Chester Area School District is characterized by rolling hills and fertile valleys flanking the east branch of the Brandywine Creek and the tributaries of the Chester Creek. The Borough of West Chester is the financial and professional center for the surrounding area. The Townships encompassed within the School District are principally residential in character, with regional shopping centers and industrial parks. Four major public institutions are within the School District: West Chester University; Cheyney University; Chester County Courthouse; and Chester County Hospital.

#### Administration

The School District is governed by a nine member Board of School Directors (the "School Board") who are elected for four-year terms. The Superintendent is the chief administrative officer of the School District, with overall responsibility for all aspects of operations, including education. The Director of Business Affairs is responsible for budget and financial operations. Both of these officials are appointed by the School Board.

#### **School District Facilities**

The School District operates eleven elementary schools, three middle schools and three high schools, an administration building and athletic and support facilities, all as described on the following table. Students at the secondary level also attend the Central Chester County Area Vocational Technical School.

TABLE 1
WEST CHESTER AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT FACILITIES

	Original	Addition and/or		2021.25
Building	Construction Date	Renovation Date	Grades	2024-25 Enrollment
High Schools	<u>Date</u>	<u>Date</u>	Graues	Enronment
B. Rustin High School	2003-06		9-12	1,159
East High School	1973	1976/92/93/04	9-12	1,217
Henderson High School	1973	1956/64/76/94/98/04	9-12	1,446
Middle Schools	1931	1930/04/70/94/98/04	9-12	1,440
E. N. Peirce Middle School	1963	1998/01/03	6-8	1,040
G. A. Stetson Middle School	1959	1961/98/03/07	6-8	808
J. R. Fugett Middle School	1969	2009	6-8	931
Elementary Schools	1909	2009	0-8	931
East Bradford Elementary	1958	1966/70/89/14	K-5	455
East Goshen Elementary	1955	1960/64/67/95/01/20	K-5 K-5	511
Exton Elementary	1940	1953/57/91/92/93/00/19	K-5 K-5	533
Fern Hill Elementary	1955	1960/89/2016	K-5 K-5	408
Glen Acres Elementary	1966	1997/2024	K-5 K-5	451
Greystone Elementary	2021	177/12024	K-5 K-5	511
Hillsdale Elementary	1976	2007	K-5 K-5	537
Mary C. Howse Elementary	1962	1965/97	K-5 K-5	442
Penn Wood Elementary	1966	1970/89/01/13	K-5	439
Sarah W. Starkweather Elementary	1991	1998	K-5 K-5	576
Westtown-Thornbury Elementary	1954	1956/89/13/22	K-5 K-5	529
Other	1754	1730/07/13/22	K-3	32)
Facilities & Operations Center	1999	_	_	
Spellman Education Center	1988	2017	Admin	
East/Fugett Athletic Fields	2004	2017	- Admin	
Henderson-North Campus Athletics	2006	_	_	
402 North Penn Street	2020*			
400 North Penn Street	2025**			
100 Title Folki Subst	2020		Totals	11,993

<sup>\*</sup>The School District purchased the building on April 28, 2020 for special education use.

Source: School District Officials. Enrollments do not include vo-tech students or students attending facilities not operated by the School District.

<sup>\*\*</sup>The School District purchased the building on January 31, 2025 for special education use.

#### **Enrollment Trends**

The following table presents recent trends in School District enrollment and projections of enrollment for the next 5 years, as prepared by the School District's administrative officials.

TABLE 2
WEST CHESTER AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT ENROLLMENT TRENDS

Actual Enrollments					Projected Enrollments				
School <u>Year</u>	<u>K-5</u>	6-8	9-12	Total	School Year	<u>K-5</u>	6-8	9-12	<u>Total</u>
2020-21	5,225	2,843	3,900	11,968	2025-26	<u>K-3</u> 5,447	2,808	3,794	12,049
2021-22	5,399	2,819	3,875	12,093	2026-27	5,460	2,835	3,749	12,044
2022-23	5,466	2,771	3,909	12,146	2027-28	5,571	2,800	3,720	12,091
2023-24	5,459	2,698	3,906	12,063	2028-29	5,678	2,776	3,816	12,270
2024-25	5,392	2,779	3,822	11,993	2029-30	5,775	2,761	3,847	12,383

Source: School District officials.

#### SCHOOL DISTRICT FINANCES

#### Introduction

The School District budgets and expends funds according to procedures mandated by the Pennsylvania Department of Education. An annual operating budget is prepared by the Superintendent and Director of Business Affairs and submitted to the School Board for approval prior to the beginning of each fiscal year ("FY") on July 1.

#### **Financial Reporting**

The School District keeps the books and prepares the financial reports for the General Fund according to a modified accrual basis of accounting. Major accrual items are payrolls, payroll taxes and pension fund contributions payable, loans receivable from other funds, and revenues receivable from other governmental units. Taxes are credited when received.

As of July 1, 2001, the School District adopted provisions of Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement No. 34, Basic Financial Statements-and Management's Discussion and Analysis - For State and Local Governments, Statement No. 37, Basic Financial Statements – and Management Discussion and Analysis - For State and Local Governments: Omnibus, and Interpretation No. 6, Recognition and Measurement of Certain Liabilities and Expenditures in Governmental Fund Balance Statements.

The School District financial statements are audited annually by an independent certified public accountant, as required by Commonwealth law. The firm of Withum, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, currently serves as the School District's auditor.

The School District's auditor has not been engaged to perform, and has not performed, since the date of its report included in an Appendix to this Official Statement, any procedure on the financial statements addressed in that report. Such auditor also has not performed any procedures relating to this Official Statement.

#### Budgeting Process as modified by Act 1 of 2006 (Taxpayer Relief Act)

<u>In General</u>. School districts budget and expend funds according to procedures mandated by the Pennsylvania Department of Education ("PDE"). An annual operating budget is prepared by school district administrative officials on a uniform furnished by PDE and submitted to the board of school directors for approval prior to the beginning of the fiscal year on July 1.

Procedures for Adoption of the Annual Budget. Under Pennsylvania Act No. 1 of the Special Session of 2006, as amended by Act 25 of 2011 (the "Taxpayer Relief Act" or "Act 1"), all school districts of the first class A, second class, third class and fourth class (except as described below) must adopt a preliminary budget proposal (which must include estimated revenues and expenditures and proposed tax rates) no later than 90 days prior to the date of the election immediately preceding the fiscal year. The preliminary budget proposal must be printed and made available for public inspection at least 20 days prior to its adoption; the board of school directors may hold a public hearing on the budget; and the board must give at least 10 days public notice of its intent to adopt the final budget.

If the adopted preliminary budget includes an increase in the rate of any tax levy, the preliminary budget must be submitted to PDE no later than 85 days prior to the date of the election immediately preceding the fiscal year. PDE is to compare the proposed percentage increase in the rate of any tax with the school district's Index (see "The Taxpayer Relief Act" herein) and within 10 days, but not later than 75 days prior to the upcoming election, inform the school district whether the proposed percentage increase is less than or equal to the Index. If PDE determines that a proposed tax increase will exceed the Index, the school district must reduce the proposed tax increase, seek voter approval for the tax increase at the upcoming election, or seek approval to utilize one of the referendum exceptions authorized under The Taxpayer Relief Act.

With respect to the utilization of any of the Taxpayer Relief Act referendum exceptions for which PDE approval is required (see "The Taxpayer Relief Act (Act 1)" herein), the school district must publish notice of its intent to seek PDE approval not less than one

week before submitting its request for approval to PDE and, if PDE determines to schedule a public hearing on the request, a notice of the date, time and place of such hearing. PDE is required by the Taxpayer Relief Act to rule on the school district's request and inform the school district of its decision no later than 55 days prior to the upcoming election so that, if PDE denies the school district's request, the school district may submit a referendum question to the local election officials at least 50 days before the upcoming election, if it so chooses.

If a school district seeks voter approval to increase taxes at a rate higher than the applicable Index, whether or not it first seeks approval to utilize one of the referendum exceptions available under the Taxpayer Relief Act, and the referendum question is not approved by a majority of the voters voting on the question, the board of school directors may not approve an increase in the tax rate greater than the applicable Index.

Simplified Procedures in Certain Cases. The above budgetary procedures will not apply to a school district if the board of school directors adopts a resolution no later than 110 days prior to the election immediately preceding the upcoming fiscal year declaring that it will not increase any tax at a rate that exceeds the Index and that a tax increase at or below the rate of the Index will be sufficient to balance its budget. In that case, the Taxpayer Relief Act requires only that the proposed annual budget be prepared at least 30 days, and made available for public inspection at least 20 days, prior to its adoption, and that at least ten (10) days' public notice be given of the board's intent to adopt the annual budget. No referendum exceptions are available to a school district adopting such a resolution.

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#### **Summary and Discussion of Financial Results**

A summary of the comparative governmental fund balance sheets is presented in Table 3 and Table 4 shows historic changes in the general fund balances of the School District. Table 5 summarizes revenues and expenditures for the past five years and the budgeted 2024-25.

TABLE 3
WEST CHESTER AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
SUMMARY OF COMPARATIVE GOVERNMENTAL FUND BALANCE SHEET
(Fiscal Years Ending June 30)

ASSETS	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Current:				2020	<del></del>
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$25,548,566	\$25,884,217	\$22,871,678	\$24,846,582	\$22,005,377
Investments	87,046,824	112,768,222	128,831,956	138,122,350	126,013,698
Internal Balances	91,859	71,600	141,140	144,798	0
Property Taxes Receivable, Net	3,586,978	3,683,216	3,426,557	3,389,065	3,694,763
Due from other Governments	8,288,183	7,856,799	7,620,991	8,501,248	9,354,913
Other Receivables	1,454,032	1,401,002	1,875,545	2,002,109	2,291,289
Prepaid Expenditures	3,499,326	3,243,482	2,429,655	1,958,564	2,448,273
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	\$129,515,768	\$154,908,538	\$167,197,522	\$178,964,716	\$165,808,313
Noncurrent Assets					
Capital Assets:					
Investments	\$497,497	\$5,655,289	\$474,483	\$0	\$0
Land	28,289,916	28,289,916	28,289,916	28,289,916	28,289,916
Land Improvements	16,416,508	16,502,403	17,020,529	17,333,220	18,032,787
Buildings	426,266,132	428,617,821	431,623,868	470,640,314	501,902,105
Construction in Progress	44,337,846	63,813,485	70,496,090	47,023,603	30,445,829
Right to use leased equipment	0	0	875,444	1,063,021	1,063,021
Furniture and Equipment	43,349,091	49,661,778	54,750,468	56,426,141	58,874,995
NET OF DEPRECIATION	\$559,156,990	\$592,540,692	\$603,530,798	\$620,776,215	\$638,608,653
Town Assessment to 1 to 12 cl	(00.40.116.202)	(02.61.075.025)	(0077 100 517)	(0202.701.222)	(6313.070.140)
Less: Accumulated depreciation	(\$248,116,393)	(\$261,975,935)	(\$277,192,516)	(\$293,791,222)	(\$313,070,148)
TOTAL ASSETS	\$440,556,365	\$485,473,295	\$493,535,804	\$505,949,709	\$491,346,818
DEFFERED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES					
Deferred amount on refunding	\$3,422,433	\$2,267,669	\$2,887,253	\$2071,995	\$1,937,657
Deferred Pension Contributions	39,469,196	53,622,239	58,085,055	58,092,817	59,198,129
Deferred OPEB	3,243,222	4,243,207	5,650,393	5,074,878	4,476,721
TOTAL DEFERRED OUTFLOWS	\$46,134,851	\$60,133,115	\$66,622,701	\$65,239,690	\$65,612,507
TOTAL DEFERRED OUTFLOWS	\$40,134,631	\$00,133,113	\$00,022,701	\$03,237,070	\$05,012,507
TOTAL ASSETS AND DEFERRED		<b>***</b> *********		<b>****</b>	
OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES	\$486,691,216	\$545,606,410	\$560,158,505	\$571,189,399	\$556,959,325
LIABILITIES					
Current:					
Accounts Payable and other current liabilities	\$26,769,956	\$28,147,215	\$28,941,067	\$38,531,263	\$29,757,830
Bond and Notes Payable Due Within One Year	19,974,941	20,839,036	21,058,911	20,172,007	20,854,392
Accrued Interest	1,639,225	1,628,691	1,728,798	1,483,652	1,288,382
Deferred Revenues	235,320	177,622	174,357	379,787	275,030
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES	\$48,619,442	\$50,792,564	\$51,903,133	\$60,566,709	\$52,175,634
Long-Term:	¢266 661 500	¢202 422 500	¢2(2,201,017	6242.210.010	P221 412 247
Bonds and Notes Payable Due After One Year	\$266,661,598	\$282,433,599	\$262,391,917	\$242,219,910	\$221,413,347
Lease Liabilities	0	0	\$431,818	\$350,234	134,948
Accrued Severance and Compensated Absences	5,440,155	6,117,856	5,820,153	5,506,988	6,061,021
Other post-employment benefits	28,809,834	29,066,162	30,992,288	23,053,277	23,333,388
Net pension liability	320,414,000	341,620,000	291,380,000	322,770,000	324,751,000
TOTAL LONG-TERM LIABILITIES	\$621,325,587	\$659,237,617	\$591,016,176	\$593,900,409	\$575,693,704
TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$669,945,029	\$710,030,181	\$642,919,309	\$654,467,118	\$627,869,338
DEFERRED INFLOW OF RESOURCES					
Deferred pension	\$12,393,000	\$8,728,000	\$50,434,000	\$8,268,000	\$4,446,000
Deferred OPEB					8,656,405
Deferred OPEB	1,672,040 \$14,065,040	2,386,273 \$11,114,273	2,447,216 \$52,881,216	9,822,392 \$18,090,392	\$13,102,405
	Ψ11,005,040	Ψ11,117,2/3	Ψ22,001,210	Ψ10,070,372	φ13,102,π03
NET POSITION (DEFICIT)					
Net investment in capital assets	\$49,714,318	\$63,045,948	\$73,083,096	\$82,415,067	\$90,657,451
Restricted for Capital Projects	21,345,455	23,571,239	23,443,492	32,138,400	33,101,201
Unrestricted (Deficit)	(268,378,626)	(262,155,231)	(232,168,608)	(215,921,578)	(207,771,070)
TOTAL FUND EQUITIES	(\$197,318,853)	(\$175,538,044)	(\$135,642,020)	(\$101,368,111)	(\$84,012,418)
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND					
FUND EQUITIES/NET ASSETS	\$486,691,216	\$545,606,410	\$560,158,505	\$571,189,399	\$556,959,325

Source: School District's Annual Financial Reports.

## TABLE 4 WEST CHESTER AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT GENERAL FUND SUMMARY OF CHANGES IN GENERAL FUND BALANCE\* (Fiscal Years Ending June 30)

		Actual					
	<u>2020</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2024</u>	$2025^{(1)}$	
Beginning Fund Balance	\$38,868,824	\$55,455,484	\$69,152,527	\$83,612,008	\$88,560,621	\$94,036,155	
Revenues over (under) Expenditure	\$16,586,661	\$13,697,042	\$14,459,482	\$4,948,613	\$5,475,534	(\$35,092,202)	
Ending Fund Balance	\$55,455,485	\$69,152,527	\$83,612,008	\$88,560,621	\$94,036,155	\$58,943,953	

<sup>\*</sup>Totals may not add due to rounding.

Source: School District Annual Financial Reports and Budget.

#### **General Fund Revenue**

The School District received \$295,885,080 in total revenue in FY 2023-24 and has budgeted total revenue of \$287,471,747 in FY 2024-25. Local sources decreased as a share of total revenue in the past five years, from 81.83% in FY 2019-20 to 81.54% in FY 2023-24. Revenue from Commonwealth sources increased slightly as a share of the total revenue from 17.28% in FY 2019-20 to 17.66% in FY 2023-24. Federal and other revenue decreased as a share of the total revenue from 0.89% in FY 2019-20 to 0.80% in FY 2023-24.

# TABLE 5 WEST CHESTER AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT SUMMARY OF SCHOOL DISTRICT GENERAL FUND REVENUES\* (Fiscal Years Ending June 30)

REVENUE:			Actual			Budgeted
Local Sources:	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025(1)
Real Estate Taxes (Current)	\$173,636,758	\$174,260,525	\$180,091,669	\$186,360,120	\$188,958,992	\$189,783,564
Interim Real Estate Taxes	984,090	1,997,620	4,054,176	1,933,510	1,350,888	759,951
Total Act 511 Taxes	26,240,881	30,440,986	35,622,969	33,796,490	34,806,900	32,964,775
Public Utility Realty Tax	177,571	195,012	203,574	204,098	199,704	180,000
Delinquencies on Taxes Levied	3,160,170	3,264,401	3,485,512	2,920,511	2,606,238	2,858,800
Earnings from Temporary Deposits & Investments	2,179,046	220,923	76,773	6,556,409	9,815,331	627,580
PA Rev. Rec'd - Other Intermediate Sources	0	0	240,864	281,110	266,120	196,500
Fed. Rev. Rec'dOther Intermediate	1,334,850	1,545,191	1,730,783	1,371,535	1,993,365	1,749,835
Tuition from Patrons	42,389	13,604	50,974	38,577	30,062	104,000
Rentals	270,577	212,546	319,729	702,634	709,676	310,200
Contributions and Donations	9,557	0	5,357	1,950	7,027	0
Receipts from Other LEAs	302,217	89,407	40,095	94,260	10,7054	0
Refund of Prior Years' Expenditures	5,666	20,080	2,219	6,110	11,304	380,490
All Other Local Revenues Not Specified	302,605	1,575	277,825	339,981	103,222	0
Other Sources	97,425	119,487	110,607	79,116	303,679	0
Total Local Sources	\$208,743,801	\$212,381,357	\$226,313,124	\$234,686,412	\$241,269,561	\$229,915,695
State Sources:						
Total State Sources	\$44,089,036	\$43,625,782	\$46,937,783	\$49,369,225	\$52,257,112	\$55,347,636
Federal Sources:						
Total Federal Sources	\$2,275,583	\$5,216,880	\$4,460,397	\$5,749,009	\$2,358,407	\$2,208,416
Other Sources:						
Total Other Sources	\$0	\$0	\$2,750,000	\$0	\$0	\$0
TOTAL REVENUE	\$255,108,420	\$261,224,019	\$280,461,303	\$289,804,646	\$295,885,080	\$287,471,747

<sup>\*</sup>Totals may not add due to rounding.

Source: School District Annual Financial Reports and Budget.

<sup>(1)</sup>Budget, as adopted May 29, 2024.

<sup>(1)</sup>Budget, as adopted May 29, 2024.

## TABLE 5 WEST CHESTER AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT SUMMARY OF SCHOOL DISTRICT GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES\*

(Fiscal Years Ending June 30)

			Actual			Budgeted
EXPENDITURES:	2020	<u>2021</u>	2022	2023	2024	2025(1)
Instruction	\$139,156,059	\$144,653,283	\$153,855,965	\$161,529,452	\$169,326,800	\$181,204,144
Pupil Personnel	9,151,408	9,591,075	10,293,457	10,667,933	11,549,870	12,342,027
Instructional Staff	5,668,075	5,753,212	6,258,064	6,940,569	7,403,116	8,523,868
Support Services - Administration	11,293,929	11,643,066	12,731,825	13,018,620	13,908,372	15,272,162
Support Services - Pupil Health	2,395,807	2,585,826	2,793,028	3,064,317	3,252,228	3,507,496
Business	1,787,151	1,813,374	1,903,562	2,085,139	2,020,420	2,218,795
Operation & Maintenance	16,068,868	17,085,115	21,212,062	20,601,526	21,515,635	23,547,369
Pupil Transportation	12,409,575	12,015,030	12,302,371	13,489,718	14,210,531	15,338,969
Central Support Services	3,595,539	4,138,486	4,045,747	4,512,355	5,120,139	5,985,826
Support Services - Other	147,771	269,364	725,038	267,609	276,722	230,344
Non-instructional Services	4,854,313	4,928,997	5,493,284	5,810,137	5,896,493	6,203,382
Facilities, Acquisition, Construction & Improv.	0	0	0	2,382,380	0	0
Debt Service	26,541,652	25,416,626	27,657,315	28,028,782	27,290,642	27,520,541
Budgetary Reserves & Transfers	5,451,612	7,633,522	6,730,104	12,457,496	8,638,577	20,669,026
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$238,521,759	\$247,526,976	\$266,001,822	\$284,856,033	\$290,409,546	\$322,563,949
SURPLUS (DEFICIT) OF REVENUES						
OVER EXPENDITURES	\$16,586,661	\$13,697,042	\$14,459,482	\$4,948,613	\$5,475,534	(\$35,092,202)

<sup>\*</sup>Totals may not add due to rounding.

Source: School District Annual Financial Reports and Budget.

#### TAXING POWERS OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT

#### In General

Subject to statutory limitations imposed by the Taxpayer Relief Act, Act No. 1 of the Special Session of 2006, as amended (see "The Taxpayer Relief Act (Act 1)" herein), the School District is empowered by the School Code and other statutes to levy the following taxes:

- 1. A basic annual tax on all real property taxable for school purposes, not to exceed 25 mills on each dollar of assessed valuation, to be used for general school purposes.
- 2. An unlimited ad valorem tax on the property taxable for school purposes to provide funds:
  - a. for minimum salaries and increments of the teaching and supervisory staff;
  - b. to pay rentals due any municipality authority or non-profit corporation or due the State Public School Building Authority;
  - c. to pay interest and principal on any indebtedness incurred pursuant to the Local Government Unit Debt Act, or any prior or subsequent act governing the incurrence of indebtedness of the school district; and
  - d. to pay for the amortization of a bond or note issue which provided a school building prior to the first Monday of July, 1959.
- 3. An annual per capita tax on each resident or inhabitant over 18 years of age of not more than \$5.00.
- 4. Additional taxes subject to division with other political subdivisions authorized to levy similar taxes on the same person, subject, business, transaction or privilege, under Act No. 511, enacted December 31, 1965, as amended ("The Local Tax Enabling Act"). These taxes, which may include, among others, an additional per capita tax, a wage and other earned income tax, a real estate transfer tax, a gross receipts tax, a local services tax and an occupation tax, shall not exceed, in the aggregate, an amount equal to the product of the market valuation of real estate in the School District (as certified by the State Tax Equalization Board of the Commonwealth "STEB") multiplied by twelve mills. All local taxing authorities are required by the Local Tax Enabling Act to exempt disabled veterans and members of the armed forces reserve who are called to active duty at any time during the tax year from any local services tax and to exempt from any local services tax levied at a rate in excess of \$10 those persons whose total income and net profits from all sources within the political subdivision is less than \$12,000 for the tax year. The Local Tax Enabling Act also

<sup>(1)</sup>Budget, as adopted May 29, 2024.

authorizes, but does not require, taxing authorities to exempt from per capita, occupation, and earned income taxes and any local services tax levied at a rate of \$10 or less per year, any person whose total income from all sources is less than \$12,000 per year.

#### The Taxpayer Relief Act (Act 1) – Limitations on Pennsylvania School Districts Raising Taxes

Under Act 1, a school district may not levy any new tax for the support of the public schools which was not levied in the previous fiscal year, raise the rate of any earned income and net profits tax if already imposed under the authority of the Local Tax Enabling Act (Act 511), or increase the rate of any tax for school purposes by more than the Index (defined below), unless in each case either (a) such increase is approved by the voters in the school district at a public referendum or (b) one of the exceptions summarized below is applicable and the use of such exception is approved by the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE):

- 1. to pay interest and principal on indebtedness approved ("incurred" as defined by Act 1) (i) prior to September 4, 2004, in the case of a school district which had elected to become subject to the provisions of the prior Homeowner Tax Relief Act, Act 72 of 2004, or (ii) prior to June 27, 2006, in the case of a school district which had not elected to become subject to Act 72 of 2004; to pay interest and principal on any indebtedness approved by the voters at referendum (electoral debt); and to pay interest and principal on debt refunding or refinancing debt for which one of the above exceptions is permitted, as long as the refunding or refinancing incurs no additional debt other than for costs and expenses related to the refunding or refinancing and the funding of appropriate debt service reserves;
- to pay costs incurred in providing special education programs and services to students with disabilities, under specified circumstances; and
- 3. to make payments into the State Public School Employees' Retirement System when the increase in the estimated payments between the current year and the upcoming year is greater than the Index, as determined by PDE in accordance with the provisions of Act 1.

Any revenue derived from an increase in the rate of any tax allowed under the exception numbered 1 above may not exceed the anticipated dollar amount of the expenditure, and any revenue derived from an increase in the rate of any tax allowed pursuant to any other exception enumerated above may not exceed the rate increase required, as determined by PDE. If a school district's petition or request to increase taxes by more than the Index pursuant to one or more of the allowable exceptions is not approved, the school district may submit the proposed tax increase to a referendum.

The Index (to be determined and reported by PDE by September of each year for application to the following fiscal year) is the average of the percentage increase in the statewide average weekly wage, as determined by the State Department of Labor and Industry for the preceding calendar year, and the employment cost index for elementary and secondary schools, as reported by the federal Bureau of Labor Statistics for the preceding 12-month period beginning July 1 and ending June 30. If and when a school district has a Market Value/Income Aid Ratio greater than 0.40 for the prior school year, however, the Index is adjusted upward by multiplying the unadjusted Index by the sum of 0.75 and such Aid Ratio.

The Act 1 Index applicable to the School District in the next, current, and prior fiscal years are as follows:

Fiscal Year	Index %
2025-26	4.0%
2024-25	5.3
2023-24	4.1
2022-23	3.4
2021-22	3.0

Source: Pennsylvania Department of Education website.

In accordance with Act 1, the School District put a referendum question on the ballot at the May, 15, 2007, primary election seeking voter approval to levy (or increase the rate of) an earned income and net profits tax ("EIT") or a personal income tax ("PIT") and use the proceeds to reduce local real estate taxes by a homestead and farmstead exclusion. This referendum question was not approved by the voters. A board of school directors may submit, but is not required to submit, a referendum question to the voters at the municipal election in any later year seeking approval to levy or increase the rate of an EIT or a PIT for the purpose of funding homestead and farmstead exclusions, but the proposed rate of the EIT or PIT shall not exceed the rate that is required to provide the maximum homestead and farmstead exclusions allowable under law.

SET FORTH ABOVE IS A SUMMARY OF PORTIONS OF ACT 1. THIS SUMMARY IS NOT INTENDED TO BE AN EXHAUSTIVE DISCUSSION OF THE PROVISIONS OF ACT 1 NOR A LEGAL INTERPRETATION OF ANY PROVISION OF ACT 1, AND A PROSPECTIVE PURCHASER OF THE BONDS SHOULD REVIEW THE FULL TEXT OF ACT 1 AS A PART OF ANY DECISION TO PURCHASE THE BONDS.

#### Status of the Bonds Under Act 1

No exceptions to the Act 1 index and taxing limits on raising School District taxes are expected to apply to the 2025 Bonds.

A portion of the 2025A Bonds described in this Official Statement are being issued to refund indebtedness that was originally approved ("incurred") by the School District under the Local Government Unit Debt Act prior to June 27, 2006, the effective date of the Taxpayer Relief Act. The School District already has levied and has in place sufficient tax millage to provide for payment of the annual debt service on the indebtedness being refunded. The annual debt service on the 2025A Bonds will be less than or approximately equal to the annual debt service on the indebtedness being refunded by the 2025A Bonds and, therefore, for the School District does not expect to levy any new tax or to increase the rate of any existing tax in order to provide for payment of the interest and principal of the 2025A Bonds.

#### **Legislation Limiting Unreserved Fund Balances**

Pennsylvania Act No. 2003-48 (enacted December 23, 2003) prohibits a school district from increasing real property taxes, unless the school district has adopted a budget for such school year that includes an estimated ending unreserved undesignated fund balance which is not more than a specified percentage of the total budgeted expenditures, as set forth below:

	Estimated Ending Unreserved Undesignated Fund Balance
Total Budgeted Expenditures	as a Percentage of Total Budgeted Expenditures
Less than or equal to \$11,999,999	12.0%
Between \$12,000,000 and \$12,999,999	11.5%
Between \$13,000,000 and \$13,999,999	11.0%
Between \$14,000,000 and \$14,999,999	10.5%
Between \$15,000,000 and \$15,999,999	10.0%
Between \$16,000,000 and \$16,999,999	9.5%
Between \$17,000,000 and \$17,999,999	9.0%
Between \$18,000,000 and \$18,999,999	8.5%
Greater than or equal to \$19,000,000	8.0%*

"Estimated ending unreserved fund balance" is defined in Act 2003-48 as that portion of the fund balance which is appropriable for expenditure or not legally or otherwise segregated for a specific or tentative future use, projected for the close of the school year for which a school district's budget was adopted and held in the general fund accounts of the school district.

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<sup>\*</sup>Applicable to the School District.

#### **Tax Levy Trends**

Table 6 which follows shows the recent trend of tax rates levied by the School District. Table 7 shows the comparative trend of real property tax rates for the School District, the municipalities within the School District, and the entire Counties of Chester and Delaware, Pennsylvania.

TABLE 6
WEST CHESTER AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT TAX RATES

	Chester	Delaware	Real Estate	Wage and
	County	County	Transfer(1)	Income <sup>(1)</sup>
	(mills)	(mills)	<u>(%)</u>	<u>(%)</u>
2020-21	21.6622	16.6626	1.00	1.00
2021-22	22.0604	9.5164	1.00	1.00
2022-23	22.4364	9.9343	1.00	1.00
2023-24	22.4364	9.9424	1.00	1.00
2024-25	22.7319	11.0434	1.00	1.00

 $<sup>\</sup>ensuremath{^{(1)}} Subject to sharing providing the municipality levies the tax.$ 

Source: School District officials.

TABLE 7
WEST CHESTER AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
COMPARATIVE REAL PROPERTY TAX RATES
(Mills on Assessed Value)

	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
School District					
Chester County	21.6622	22.0604	22.4364	22.4364	22.7319
Delaware County	16.6626	9.5164	9.9343	9.9424	11.0434
	<u>2021</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>	2024	<u> 2025</u>
East Bradford Township	1.5000	1.7500	1.5000	1.7500	2.0000
East Goshen Township	1.2500	1.2500	1.2500	1.2500	1.7500
Thornbury Township	0.9950	0.9950	0.9950	0.9950	0.9950
Thornbury Township (Delaware County)	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
West Chester Borough	7.4000	7.7000	7.4000	7.7000	8.0900
West Goshen Township	2.0000	2.0000	2.0000	2.0000	2.0000
West Whiteland Township	0.7140	0.7140	0.7140	0.7140	2.0000
Westtown Township	3.5000	3.5000	3.5000	3.7100	3.9200
Chester County	4.5510	4.5510	4.5510	4.5510	5.1640

Source: Chester County and Delaware County websites.

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#### **Real Property Tax**

The real property tax (including interim collections and excluding delinquent collections) produced will produce revenues estimated at \$192,421,945 in FY 2023-24, approximately 66.4% of the School District's total revenue.

The following tables summarize trends of assessed and market valuations of real property. Since FY 2008-09, eligible taxpayers could opt into the installment method of payment for their school taxes. Installment payments are based upon three (3) one-third payments of the base tax amount.

Table 8 shows real property assessment data for the School District, Table 9 shows assessment by municipality and Table 10 shows assessment by land use. Table 11 summarizes recent trends in real property tax collection. The last countywide reassessment in Chester County was in 1998 and for Delaware County it was in 2021.

TABLE 8
WEST CHESTER AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
REAL PROPERTY ASSESSMENT DATA

Year	Market Value	Assessed Value	Ratio
2023-24	\$17,742,692,125	\$9,458,602,368	53.31%
2022-23	16,620,743,291	9,379,278,253	56.43%
2021-22	15,125,128,108	9,149,232,077	60.49%
2020-21	15,025,213,325	8,613,242,229	77.59%
2019-20	14,366,083,784	8,569,423,385	59.65%

Source: PA State Tax Equalization Board (STEB)/Tax Equalization Division (TED)

TABLE 9
WEST CHESTER AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
REAL PROPERTY ASSESSMENT DATA BY MUNICIPALITY

	2022	2022	2023	2023
	Market	Assessed	Market	Assessed
	<u>Value</u>	Value	<u>Value</u>	<u>Value</u>
School District	\$16,620,743,291	\$9,379,278,253	\$17,742,792,125	\$9,458,602,368
Chester County	71,488,670,628	39,760,762,452	76,720,937,109	40,398,200,356
East Bradford Township	1,479,106,943	829,312,024	1,598,906,810	847,292,174
East Goshen Township	2,906,662,229	1,661,461,790	3,041,939,590	1,650,653,375
Thornbury Township	542,745,815	322,869,539	570,474,960	322,641,099
Thornbury Township (Del County)	1,051,730,149	1,146,418,326	1,172,300,164	1,150,410,236
West Chester Borough	1,811,860,773	757,590,425	1,893,568,117	771,469,745
West Goshen Township	3,758,574,726	1,955,377,249	4,069,819,990	2,000,043,304
West Whiteland Township	3,508,774,741	1,883,653,271	3,742,855,139	1,892,014,076
Westtown Township	1,561,287,915	822,595,629	1,652,927,355	824,078,359

Source: PA State Tax Equalization Board (STEB)/Tax Equalization Division (TED)

TABLE 10 WEST CHESTER AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT ASSESSMENT BY LAND USE

	<u>2019</u>	2020	<u>2021</u>	2022	2023
Residential	\$6,407,158,423	\$6,444,006,872	\$6,951,595,655	\$7,063,640,405	\$7,165,713,770
Lots	27,024,966	38,674,826	43,527,414	35,823,054	31,756,884
Industrial	147,770,765	144,455,395	154,328,875	155,818,405	152,912,725
Commercial	1,961,867,841	1,960,283,726	1,973,256,133	2,097,144,059	2,080,589,919
Agriculture	22,327,250	22,616,460	12,057,940	23,158,940	23,302,370
Trailers	1,379,200	1,371,350	1,337,810	1,229,420	1,224,170
Land	1,894,940	1,833,600	2,128,250	2,463,970	3,102,530
Total	\$8,569,423,385	\$8,613,242,229	\$9,149,232,077	\$9,379,278,253	\$9,458,602,368

Source: PA State Tax Equalization Board (STEB)/Tax Equalization Division (TED)

#### TABLE 11 WEST CHESTER AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT REAL PROPERTY TAX COLLECTION DATA

<u>Year</u>	Assessed Valuation	Chester Co. <u>Mills</u>	Delaware Co. <u>Mills</u>	Adjusted Levied <sup>(1)</sup>	Current Collections Amount	Current Year Collections as Percent	Total Collections <u>Amount<sup>(2)</sup></u>	Total Collections as Percent
2019-20	\$8,569,659,150	$2\overline{1.662}2$	$1\overline{6.259}7$	\$182,704,077	\$177,235,011	98,74%	\$180,395,181	99.04%
2020-21	8,613,242,229	21.6622	16.6626	184,489,773	177,830,871	96.39%	181,095,272	98.16%
2021-22	9,149,232,077	22.0604	9.5164	187,529,676	183,687,863	97.95%	187,173,375	99.81%
2022-23	9,379,278,253	22.4364	9.9343	196,104,602	190,642,621	97.21%	193,563,132	98.70%
2023-24	9,457,535,268	22.4364	9.9424	197,819,819	193,128,602	97.63%	195,734,839	98.95%
2024-25 (est.)	9,518,082,761	22.7319	11.0434	202,830,009	196,695,168	96.98%	199,553,968	98.38%

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>(1)</sup>Plus penalties, less discounts and exonerations.

Source: School District officials.

The 10 real property taxpayers owning properties with the highest assessed valuations in the School District, together with their FY 2024-25 total assessed values, are shown on Table 12 which follows. The aggregate assessed values of these properties totals approximately 3.4% of total assessed value.

TABLE 12 WEST CHESTER AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT TEN LARGEST REAL PROPERTY TAXPAYERS, 2024-25

		2024-25
Owner	Property	Assessed Value
MAIN STREET AT EXTON LP	Shopping Center	\$76,575,590
PP Exton Square Owner LLC	Apartment Complex	37,116,670
Jag/Oak Parkview Apartments	Apartment Complex	34,824,940
CTKB Exton Owner LLC	Apartment Complex	29,659,740
PP West Chester II Owner LLC	Apartment Complex	27,976,000
Wellington Senior Living	Senior Living	27,000,000
Keva Flats LP <sup>(1)</sup>	Apartment Complex	24,618,375
Westtown Apartments <sup>(1)</sup>	Apartment Complex	24,367,500
Exton Square Mall	Shopping Center	21,918,835
BRE ROOK SH BELLINGHAM LP	Senior Living	21,552,770
Total		\$325,610,420

<sup>(1)</sup> Taxpayer initiated appeal.

<sup>(2)</sup>Includes real property assessments plus delinquent collections.

#### Other Taxes

Under Act 511, the School District collected \$34,806,900 in taxes in FY 2023-24. Among the taxes authorized by Act 511, the Real Estate Transfer Tax and Wage and Income Taxes are levied by the School District. The Act 511 limit, equal to 12 mills on the market value of real property, was approximately \$212,912,305.

*Real Estate Transfer.* The School District levies a tax of 0.5% of the value of real estate transfers. In FY 2023-24 the School District's collected share of this tax yielded \$5,532,286 of total revenue.

Wage and Income Tax. The School District levies a tax of 0.5% of the earned income of residents. In FY 2023-24 the School District's collected share of this tax yielded \$29,274,614 of total revenue.

#### COMMONWEALTH AID TO SCHOOL DISTRICTS

Pennsylvania school districts receive financial assistance from the Commonwealth in a number of forms, all subject to statutory provisions and annual appropriation by the Pennsylvania General Assembly.

Basic education funding is allocated to all school districts in an amount equal to: (1) a fixed sum equal to the school district's Fiscal Year 2014-15 basic educational funding; plus (2) an additional increment determined annually pursuant to statutory formula which adjusts a school district's average daily membership by a number of factors specific to the composition of the student population as well as the school district's median household income, local tax effort and capacity to generate local revenue. The additional increment as calculated above for any individual school district may be zero.

Information concerning the calculation of the School District's basic education funding can be found on the Pennsylvania Department of Education's website at https://www.education.pa.gov

School districts may also receive state aid for special education, pupil transportation, vocational education, and health services, among other things.

#### Current Lack of State Appropriations to Pay Debt Service Subsidies to School Districts

Commonwealth law presently provides that the School District will receive, subject to state legislative appropriation, reimbursement from the Commonwealth for a portion of debt service paid on the Bonds following final approval by PDE. Commonwealth reimbursement is calculated based on the "Reimbursable Percentage" assigned to the Bonds by the PDE and the School District's permanent Capital Account Reimbursement Fraction ("CARF") (27.54%) or the wealth based Market Value Aid Ratio ("MVAR") currently (10.00%), whichever is higher. The Reimbursable Percentage is determined through a process known as the "Planning and Construction Workbook" or "PlanCon".

The School District estimates the 2025 Bonds will not be subject to reimbursement by the Commonwealth.

Based on the current PlanCon program, School District officials have estimated that the Reimbursable Percentage of the 2025A Bonds will be 4.66% (there has been no determination by the PDE). The School District's CARF (which is higher than the MVAR) is 27.54%. The product of these two factors is 1.28%, which is the estimated percentage of debt service which may be reimbursed by the Commonwealth, subject to annual appropriation. In future years, this percentage may change as the School District's MVAR changes, or as a result of future legislation regarding changes to, or even elimination of, the PlanCon program.

In May of 2016, the Commonwealth enacted appropriation legislation known as Act 25 ("Act 25"), which contains authorization for the Commonwealth Finance Authority ("CFA") to issue up to \$2.5 billion of debt to fund PlanCon reimbursements to school districts. Act 25 also instituted a moratorium on new projects entering the PlanCon process while an advisory committee established under Act 25 considers amendments to the PlanCon reimbursement program. This moratorium went into effect on May 15, 2016 and most recently became indefinite with the adoption of Act No. 33 of 2023 on December 13, 2023.

To date, the CFA has issued \$1,903,065,000, to provide for PlanCon reimbursements owed to school districts, including the issuance of its Revenue Bonds, Series A of 2016 (Federally Taxable) in the principal amount of \$758,185,000 issued on October 31, 2016, its Revenue Bonds, Series A of 2018 (Federally Taxable) in the total amount of \$412,520,000 issued on January 18, 2018, its Revenues Bonds (Federally Taxable), Series A of 2019 in the total amount of \$388,975,000 issued on May 9, 2019, as well as its Revenue Bonds (Federally Taxable), Series A of 2021 in the total amount of \$343,385,000 issued on June 23, 2021. It is expected that proceeds of these issues have been and will continue to be used to provide PlanCon reimbursement that is owed to the School District for past and current fiscal years. However, the School District cannot be certain that any future PlanCon reimbursement will be received by PDE as the ability for CFA to issue additional bonds in the future to fund future PlanCon reimbursements owed to school districts may impact the availability of PlanCon reimbursements payable to the School District. Any failure by the Commonwealth to adopt a timely budget and enact necessary spending authorizations could have a material adverse effect upon the School District's anticipated receipt of PlanCon reimbursements.

Act 70 of 2019 was adopted by the State legislature that has modified the PlanCon process. The Act states that on July 1, 2020, a new PlanCon system will go online. However, the legislation does not include any funding nor does it state when the State would start to allow applicants to enter into the new program.

There can be no assurances that the School District will be able to successfully apply for, be awarded, and receive sufficient PlanCon reimbursement for the costs of any current or future projects of the School District. A failure by the School District to receive such reimbursement could force the School District to apply other available funds, if any, toward the completion costs of the Project and may have a material adverse effect on the financial resources of the School District to fund other obligations, including payment of debt service on the Bonds.

Legislation has been introduced from time to time in the Pennsylvania legislature containing language that would revise or even abolish the debt service reimbursement program for Pennsylvania school districts. As of the date hereof, and except as described above, none of these proposals have been signed into law. To the extent that any future legislation contains material changes to the PlanCon program as it is structured currently, the amount of PlanCon reimbursement to the School District may be positively or negatively affected, which could materially impact the amount of local funds needed to be raised by the School District to pay debt service on its debt obligations.

#### **DEBT AND DEBT LIMITS**

#### **Debt Statement**

Table 13 which follows shows the debt of the School District as of April 1, 2025, and includes the aggregate principal amount of the Bonds.

#### TABLE 13

## WEST CHESTER AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT DEBT STATEMENT

(As of April 1, 2025)\*

Gross

NONELECTORAL DEBT	Outstanding
General Obligation Bonds, Series of 2025 (last maturity 2046)	\$30,305,000
General Obligation Bonds, Series A of 2025 (last maturity 2027)	18,200,000
General Obligation Bonds, Series A of 2024 (last maturity 2044)	9,995,000
General Obligation Bonds, Series of 2024 (last maturity 2032)	11,230,000
General Obligation Bonds, Series of 2022 (last maturity 2032)	30,105,000
General Obligation Bonds, Series of 2021 (last maturity 2041)	29,235,000
General Obligation Bonds, Series of 2020 (last maturity 2032)	9,885,000
General Obligation Bonds, Series of 2019 (last maturity 2040)	34,730,000
General Obligation Bonds, Series of 2018 (last maturity 2039)	9,965,000
General Obligation Bonds, Series A of 2017 (last maturity 2032)	9,720,000
General Obligation Bonds, Series A of 2016 (last maturity 2027)	13,850,000
General Obligation Bonds, Series AA of 2014 (remaining portion) (last maturity 2030)	36,425,000
General Obligation Notes, Series of 2009 (last maturity 2027)	6,810,000
NONELECTORAL DEBT	\$250,200,000
LEASE RENTAL DEBT	
NET LEASE RENTAL DEBT	\$0
TOTAL NET NONELECTORAL AND LEASE RENTAL DEBT	\$250,200,000

<sup>\*</sup>Includes the principal amount of Bonds offered through this Official Statement. Does not include the Refunded 2014AA Bonds herein.

Table 14 presents the overlapping indebtedness and debt ratios of the School District. After the issuance of the Bonds, the principal of direct debt of the School District will total \$250,455,000. After adjustment for available funds and estimated Commonwealth debt service subsidies, the local effort of direct debt will total \$243,611,978.

#### **TABLE 14**

#### WEST CHESTER AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT OVERLAPPING INDEBTEDNESS AND DEBT RATIOS\* (As of April 1, 2025)\*

	Gross	Local Effort or Net of Available Funds and Estimated
SCHOOL DISTRICT (DIRECT) DEBT	Outstanding	Commonwealth Aid(1)
Nonelectoral Debt	\$250,455,000	\$243,611,978
Lease Rental Debt	0	0
TOTAL DIRECT DEBT	\$250,455,000	\$243,611,978
OVERLAPPING DEBT	_	
Chester County, General Obligation <sup>(2)</sup>	\$88,347,369	\$88,347,369
Delaware County, General Obligation <sup>(3)</sup>	7,872,189	7,872,189
Municipal Debt	108,357,537	108,357,537
TOTAL OVERLAPPING DEBT	\$204,577,095	\$204,577,095
TOTAL DIRECT AND OVERLAPPING DEBT	\$455,032,095	\$448,189,074
DEBT RATIOS	_	
Per Capita	\$4,087.35	\$4,025.88
Percent 2023-24 Assessed Value	4.81%	4.74%
Percent 2023-24 Market Value	2.56%	2.53%

<sup>\*</sup>Includes the principal amount of Bonds offered through this Official Statement. Does not include the Refunded 2014AA Bonds herein.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>(1)</sup>Gives effect to expected future Commonwealth Reimbursement of School District sinking fund payments based on current CARF. See "Commonwealth Aid to School Districts".

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>(2)</sup>Pro rata 20.57% share of \$429,585,000 principal outstanding, including self-supporting debt of the County or local municipalities.

<sup>(3)</sup>Pro rata 2.03% share of \$387,873,125 principal outstanding, including self-supporting debt of the County or local municipalities.

#### **Debt Limit and Remaining Borrowing Capacity**

The statutory borrowing limit of the School District under the Debt Act is computed as a percentage of the School District's "Borrowing Base". The "Borrowing Base" is defined as the annual arithmetic average of "Total Revenues" (as defined by the Debt Act), for the three full fiscal years ended next preceding the date of incurring debt. The School District calculates its present borrowing base and borrowing capacity as follows:

Total Revenues for FY 2021-22	\$273,803,348
Total Revenues for FY 2022-23	284,992,583
Total Revenues for FY 2023-24	294,678,352
Total Revenues, All Three Fiscal Years	\$853,474,283
Annual Arithmetic Average (Borrowing Base)	\$284,491,428

Under the Debt Act as presently in effect, no school district shall incur any nonelectoral debt or lease rental debt, if the aggregate net principal amount of such new debt together with any other net nonelectoral debt and lease rental debt then outstanding, would cause the net nonelectoral debt plus net lease rental debt to exceed 225% of the Borrowing Base. The application of the aforesaid percentage to the School District's Borrowing Base produces the following product:

			Remaining
	Legal	Net Debt	Borrowing
	<u>Limit</u>	Outstanding*	<b>Capacity</b>
Net Nonelectoral and Lease Rental Debt Limit:			
225% of Borrowing Base	\$640,105,713	\$250,455,000	\$389,650,713

<sup>\*</sup>Includes the principal amount of the Bonds, and does not reflect credits against gross indebtedness that may be claimed for a portion of principal of any debt to be reimbursed by Commonwealth aid.

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#### **Debt Service Requirements**

Table 15 presents the debt service requirements on all of the School District's outstanding general obligation indebtedness including the principal and interest payments on the Bonds.

The School District has never defaulted on the payment of debt service.

TABLE 15
WEST CHESTER AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT DEBT SERVICE REQUIREMENTS\*

	General Obligation	Series of 2025			Series A of 2025			Total
Year	Debt	Principal	Interest	Subtotal	Principal	Interest	Subtotal	Requirements
2024-25	\$26,462,187	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$26,462,187
2025-26	26,749,740	5,000	1,256,306	1,261,306	5,000	927,694	932,694	28,943,740
2026-27	8,223,753	5,000	1,232,094	1,237,094	18,195,000	909,750	19,104,750	28,565,596
2027-28	27,894,990	5,000	1,231,844	1,236,844	0	0	0	29,131,834
2028-29	26,824,378	5,000	1,231,594	1,236,594	0	0	0	28,060,971
2029-30	26,041,403	5,000	1,231,344	1,236,344	0	0	0	27,277,746
2030-31	20,411,778	5,000	1,231,094	1,236,094	0	0	0	21,647,871
2031-32	20,417,358	5,000	1,230,844	1,235,844	0	0	0	21,653,201
2032-33	10,830,940	1,655,000	1,230,594	2,885,594	0	0	0	13,716,534
2033-34	10,827,980	1,720,000	1,164,394	2,884,394	0	0	0	13,712,374
2034-35	10,827,200	1,790,000	1,095,594	2,885,594	0	0	0	13,712,794
2035-36	10,831,875	1,860,000	1,023,994	2,883,994	0	0	0	13,715,869
2036-37	10,833,350	1,935,000	949,594	2,884,594	0	0	0	13,717,944
2037-38	10,831,225	2,010,000	872,194	2,882,194	0	0	0	13,713,419
2038-39	10,835,100	2,090,000	791,794	2,881,794	0	0	0	13,716,894
2039-40	9,694,200	2,175,000	708,194	2,883,194	0	0	0	12,577,394
2040-41	4,392,200	2,265,000	621,194	2,886,194	0	0	0	7,278,394
2041-42	1,062,800	2,355,000	530,594	2,885,594	0	0	0	3,948,394
2042-43	1,060,000	2,445,000	436,394	2,881,394	0	0	0	3,941,394
2043-44	1,060,800	2,550,000	335,538	2,885,538	0	0	0	3,946,338
2044-45	0	2,655,000	230,350	2,885,350	0	0	0	2,885,350
2045-46	0	2,765,000	117,513	2,882,513	0	0	0	2,882,513
Total	\$276,113,254	\$30,305,000	\$18,753,050	\$49,058,050	\$18,200,000	\$1,837,444	\$20,037,444	\$345,208,749

<sup>\*</sup>Totals may not add due to rounding.

Table 16 presents data on the extent to which Commonwealth Aid provides coverage for debt service requirements.

TABLE 16

#### WEST CHESTER AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT COVERAGE OF DEBT SERVICE REQUIREMENTS BY COMMONWEALTH AID\*

2023-24 Commonwealth Aid Received	\$52,257,112
2023-24 Debt Service Requirements	27,290,642
Maximum Future Debt Service Requirements after Issuance of Bonds	29,131,834
2022-23 Coverage of Debt Service Requirements	1.91 times
Coverage of Maximum Future Debt Service Requirements after Issuance of Bonds	1.79 times

<sup>\*</sup>Assumes current Commonwealth Aid Ratio. See "Commonwealth Aid to School Districts."

#### **Future Financing**

The School District estimates a need to issue additional long-term (non-refunding) debt totaling approximately \$50-70\$ million over the next 2 years.

#### LABOR RELATIONS

#### **School District Employees**

There are approximately 1,586 employees of the School District.

The West Chester Area Education Association (the "Association"), which is affiliated with the Pennsylvania State Education Association (PSEA), covering the professional employees of the School District other than administrators is under a contract which expires June 30, 2027. Secretarial and clerical personnel are represented by the Pennsylvania Education Association (ESPA-PSEA-NEA) under a contract which expires June 30, 2028. Custodial and maintenance personnel are represented by ESPA-PSEA under a contract which expires June 30, 2029.

#### **Pension Program**

Currently, all Pennsylvania school districts and intermediate units participate in a pension program administrated by the Commonwealth. The program is formally known as the Public School Employees' Retirement System ("PSERS"), and a percentage of each eligible employee's salary is contributed by the employee, the School District and the Commonwealth. All full-time employees, part-time employees salaried over eighty days per year and hourly employees with over five hundred hours per year participate in the program.

Contributions are required by active members, School Districts, and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania as established by the Public School Employees' Retirement Code. Members who enrolled prior to January 1, 2002 range from 5.28% to 7.5% of compensation, depending upon the date of commencement of employment and elections made by each employee member. Members who enrolled in the pension plan on or after January 1, 2002 and before July 1, 2011 is 7.5% of compensation. The contribution rate for PSERS members who enrolled on or after July 1, 2011 is 7.5% or 10.3%, depending upon elections made by each employee member. The PSERS Board of Trustees certified an annual employer contribution rate of 34.0% for the fiscal year 2025-26.

The Commonwealth will reimburse the School District at the rate of 50% of its total contributions with respect to all employees who were hired prior to July 1, 1994. With respect to employees hired after July 1, 1994, and who were not previously employed by another public school system in the Commonwealth, the School District will be reimbursed by the Commonwealth at the rate of the higher of 50% of contributions made by the School District or the current Market Value/Personal Income Aid Ratio. The School District is reimbursed on a quarterly basis.

Under Act 5 of 2017 ("Act 5") PSERS will transition from a traditional defined benefit system and begin to offer defined contribution plans as well. Beginning July 1, 2019, in addition to other transaction rules and options based on members' classifications, certain classes of active members may choose to switch from the current defined benefit plan to one of three new retirement benefit plan options which will be available. Additionally, all active members newly hired on or after July 1, 2019 will be required to select one of those three new retirement benefit plan options and will not be eligible to participate in the current defined benefit plan. The three new plans consist of two hybrid plans, with defined benefit and defined contribution components, along with a stand-alone defined contribution plan.

In addition to its comprehensive change in available plans for active members, Act 5 also made certain changes to the PSERS Board of Trustees and administrative protocols and created the Public Pension Management and Asset Investment Review Commission to study and make recommendations to the General Assembly and the Governor regarding investment performance and strategies.

According to the Independent Fiscal Office, Act 5 is not expected to reduce school district and state contributions to PSERS over the first fifteen years. However, beginning in fiscal 2034-35 through fiscal 2049-50, employer contribution rates are expected to begin to decline due to the lower long-term employer costs of the new benefit plans and will be lower, in the aggregate, over the study period.

Annual School District contributions have been as follows:

2020-21	\$34,674,324
2021-22	37,059,663
2022-23	39,340,441
2023-24	39,817,743
2024-25 (budgeted)	43,181,752

At June 30, 2024, the School District reported a liability of \$324,751,000 for its proportionate share of the net pension liability. The net pension liability was measured as of June 30, 2023, and the total pension liability used to calculate the net pension liability was determined by rolling forward the PSERS total pension liability as of June 30, 2022 to June 30, 2023. The School District's proportion of the net pension liability was calculated utilizing its one-year reported covered payroll as it relates to the total one-year reported covered payroll of all school districts. At June 30, 2024, the School District's proportion as 0.7300% which was an increase of 0.0040% from its proportion measured as of June 30, 2023.

As of June 30, 2024, the PSERS plan was 64.63% funded, with an unfunded actuarial accrued liability of approximately \$42.3 billion. PSERS' rate of return for fiscal year ended June 30, 2024 was 7.05%. The Fund had plan net assets of \$76.5 billion at June 30, 2024. For more information, visit the PSERS website at www.psers.pa.gov, which is not incorporated by specific reference into this Official Statement.

Source: School District Administrative Officials and PSERS.

#### Other Post-Employment Benefits ("OPEB")

The School District's OPEB costs include benefits from both a Multiple Employer OPEB Plan as well as a Single Employer OPEB Plan.

The Multiple Employer OPEB Plan, known as the Health Insurance Premium Assistance Program, is provided by PSERS to all eligible retirees who qualify and elect to participate. At June 30, 2024, the District reported a liability of \$13,189,000 for its proportionate share of the net OPEB liability. The School District recognized OPEB expense of \$540,000 for June 30, 2024.

The Single Employer OPEB Plan, in accordance with the PA School Code of 1949, as amended, medical coverage is provided to eligible retirees and spouses with the retiree paying the full active premium rate for coverage until the age of 65. The District's total OPEB liability under the Single Employer OPEB Plan was \$10,144,388, measured as of July 1, 2023. The District recognized OPEB expense of 515,015 for year ended June 30, 2024.

In June 2015, GASB issued GASB Statement No. 75, Accounting and Financial Reporting for Postemployment Benefits Other Than Pension Plans. GASB 75 establishes new accounting and financial reporting requirements for governments whose employees are provided with OPEB, as well as for certain nonemployer governments that have a legal obligation to provide financial support for OPEB provided to the employees of other entities. The provisions of this Statement are effective for financial reporting periods beginning after June 15, 2017.

For further information on the effects of GASB Statement No.75, the School District's OPEB and other vested employee benefits, including valuation and sick pay, see "Appendix D – Audited Financial Statements".

#### LITIGATION

At the time of settlement, the President or Vice-President of the Board of School Directors of the School District will deliver a certificate on the Date of Delivery, certifying that there is no litigation pending which challenges the validity or enforceability of the Bonds.

#### DEFAULTS AND REMEDIES

In the event of the failure of the School District to pay or cause to be paid the interest on or principal of the Bonds, the holders of the Bonds shall be entitled to certain remedies provided by the Debt Act. Among the remedies, if the failure to pay shall continue for 30 days, holders of the Bonds shall have the right to recover the amount due by bringing actions in assumpsit (contests) in the Court of Common Pleas of Chester or Delaware Counties. The Debt Act provides that any judgment shall have an appropriate priority upon the funds next coming into the treasury of the School District. The Debt Act also provides that upon a default of at least 30 days, holders of at least 25% of the Bonds may appoint a trustee to represent them. The Debt Act provides certain other remedies in the event of default, and further qualifies the remedies hereinbefore described.

#### TAX EXEMPTION AND OTHER TAX MATTERS

#### Federal

#### Exclusion of Interest from Gross Income

In the opinion of Bond Counsel, under existing statutes, regulations, rulings and court decisions, interest on the Bonds, [including interest in the form of original issue discount,] will not be includible in gross income of the holders thereof for federal income tax purposes assuming continuing compliance by the School District with the requirements of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code"). Interest on the Bonds will not be a specific preference item for purposes of computing the federal alternative minimum tax on individuals.

In rendering its opinion, Bond Counsel has assumed compliance by the School District with its covenants contained in the Resolution and its representations in the Tax Compliance Certificate executed by the School District on the date of issuance of the Bonds relating to actions to be taken by the School District after issuance of the Bonds necessary to effect or maintain the exclusion from gross income of the interest on the Bonds for federal income tax purposes. These covenants and representations relate to, inter alia, the use and investment of proceeds of the Bonds, and the rebate to the United States Department of Treasury of specified arbitrage earnings, if any. Failure to comply with such covenants could result in interest on the Bonds becoming includible in gross income for federal income tax purposes from the date of issuance of the Bonds.

#### Other Federal Tax Matters

Ownership or disposition of the Bonds may result in other federal tax consequences to certain taxpayers, including, without limitation, certain S corporations, foreign corporations with branches in the United States, property and casualty insurance companies, taxpayers who have an initial basis in the Bonds greater or less than the principal amount thereof, individual recipients of Social Security or Railroad Retirement benefits, and taxpayers, including banks, thrift institutions and other financial institutions subject to Section 265 of the Code, who may be deemed to have incurred or continued indebtedness to purchase or to carry the Bonds.

Bond Counsel is not rendering any opinion regarding any federal tax matters other than as described under the caption "Exclusion of Interest From Gross Income" above and expressly stated in the form of the opinion of Bond Counsel included as APPENDIX B. Prospective purchasers of the Bonds should consult their independent tax advisors with regard to all federal tax matters.

#### Pennsylvania

In the opinion of Bond Counsel, under the laws of the Commonwealth as enacted and construed on the date hereof, interest on the Bonds is exempt from Pennsylvania personal income tax and Pennsylvania corporate net income tax; however, under the laws of the Commonwealth, as enacted and construed on the date hereof, any profits, gains or income derived from the sale, exchange or other disposition of the Bonds will be subject to Pennsylvania taxes and local taxes within the Commonwealth.

Bond Counsel is not rendering any opinion as to any Commonwealth of Pennsylvania tax matters other than those described under the caption "Pennsylvania" above and expressly stated in the form of the opinion of Bond Counsel included as APPENDIX B hereto. Prospective purchasers of the Bonds should consult their independent tax advisors with regard to all Commonwealth of Pennsylvania tax matters.

#### Other

The Bonds and the interest thereon may be subject to state and local taxes in jurisdictions other than the Commonwealth under applicable state or local tax laws.

Purchasers of the Bonds should consult their independent tax advisors with regard to all state and local tax matters that may affect them.

#### CONTINUING DISCLOSURE UNDERTAKING

In accordance with Rule 15c2-12 (the "Rule") promulgated by the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC"), the School District (being an "obligated person" with respect to the Bonds, within the meaning of the Rule), will agree to provide certain financial and operating information to the Municipal Rulemaking Board (the "MSRB") in an electronic format as prescribed by the MSRB, either directly, or indirectly through a designated agent, in accordance with a Continuing Disclosure Certificate, to be signed by the School District, substantially in the form attached hereto as Appendix C.

With respect to the filing of annual financial and operating information, the School District reserves the right to modify from time to time the specific types of information provided or the format of the presentation of such information to the extent necessary or appropriate as a result of a change in legal requirements or a change in the nature of the School District or it operations or financial reporting, but the School District will agree that any such modification will be done in a manner consistent with the Rule.

The School District is required to give notice of certain events as set forth in Section 6 the Continuing Disclosure Certificate (not all of which will be relevant to the School District). The School District may from time to time choose to file notice of other events in addition to those specified in the Continuing Disclosure Certificate, but does not commit to provide notice of the occurrence of any events except those specifically listed in Section 6 of the Continuing Disclosure Certificate.

The School District acknowledges that its undertaking pursuant to the Rule described herein and in the Continuing Disclosure Certificate is intended to be for the benefit of the holders and beneficial owners of the Bonds and shall be enforceable by the older and beneficial owner of the Bonds, but the right of the holders and beneficial owners of the Bonds to enforce the provisions of the School District's continuing disclosure undertaking shall be limited to a right to obtain specific enforcement, and any failure by the School District to comply with the provisions of the undertaking shall not be an event of default with respect to the Bonds.

The School District's obligations with respect to continuing disclosure described herein shall terminate upon the prior defeasance, redemption or payment in full of all of the Bonds or if and when the School District is no longer an "obligated person" with respect to the Bonds, within the meaning of the Rule.

The MSRB has been designated by the SEC to be the central and sole repository for continuing disclosure information filed by issuers of municipal securities since July 1, 2009. Information and notices filed by municipal issuers (and other defined "obligated persons") with respect to municipal securities issues) are made available through the MSRB's Electronic Municipal Market Access (EMMA) System, which may be access on the internet at http://www.emma.msrb.org.

#### **Continuing Disclosure Filing History**

The School District has entered into prior undertakings to provide information pursuant to previous continuing disclosure certificates for other outstanding bond issues. The following table provides information regarding annual filing deadlines and history of filings for the financial information, operating data and material event notices specified in previous continuing disclosure undertakings during the past five years:

Fiscal Year Ending	Filing Deadline
6/30/2020	12/27/2020
6/30/2021	12/27/2021
6/30/2022	3/27/2023
6/30/2023	3/26/2024
6/30/2024	3/27/2025

EMMA ID
P11106409
P21161679
P11245095
P11298896
P21437596

EMMA ID
P11106409
P21161679
P11245095
P11298895
P21415442

Operating Data Filing Date	EMMA ID
12/20/2020	P11106409
12/20/2021	P21161679
12/16/2022	P11245095
12/18/2023	P11298900
12/19/2024	P21415442

#### **Notes:**

As summarized in the table above, the School District filed annual financial information in a timely manner during the past five (5) years.

#### **Future Continuing Disclosure Compliance**

As detailed above, the School District has reviewed its continuing disclosure obligations and corresponding submissions. Upon discovering any omissions with respect to these filings, the School District acted to bring its continuing disclosure information current, and disclose those omissions as described above. Currently, the School District is not aware of any other outstanding past-due continuing disclosure filings.

In an effort to augment the School District's procedures and policies intended to maintain future compliance, the School District has adopted steps intended to facilitate future compliance with its Continuing Disclosure Certificates. These procedures include implementing the MSRB's EMMA's internal notification system whereby the School District has set-up email reminders a month in advance for all of the School District's annual disclosure filings and coordinating filing and event information with the School District's financial advisor.

A member of the School District's Director of Business Affairs has been designated as the "compliance officer" responsible for overseeing ongoing continuing disclosure compliance. Members of the School District's business office will seek to participate in ongoing continuing education regarding continuing disclosure undertaking if offered by local groups or affiliated organizations such as PASBO, etc. The School District may communicate with its financial advisor, underwriter(s), bond counsel, or solicitor regarding any questions or concerns regarding ongoing continuing disclosure compliance. The School District will also communicate with its local auditor and advise of the School District's need for financial statements in a timely manner. In the event audited financial statements are not available by the filing deadline, the School District will file with EMMA, if available, its PDE-2057 Annual Financial Report as an interim filing until such audited financial statements are available. Some of the operating data requirements may be found contained within the School District's financial statements or budget filing and may not be filed separately.

#### RATING

Moody's Investors Service has assigned an underlying municipal Bond rating of "Aaa" to the Bonds. Such rating reflects only the view of such organization and any desired explanation of the significance of such rating should be obtained from the rating agency furnishing the same, at the following address: Moody's Investors Service, 7 World Trade Center, 250 Greenwich Street, New York, New York 10007. Generally, a rating agency bases its rating on the information and materials furnished to it and on investigations, studies and assumptions of its own. There is no assurance that any such rating will continue for any given period of time or that it will not be revised downward or withdrawn entirely by the rating agency, if circumstances so warrant. Any such downward revision or withdrawal of such rating may have an adverse effect on the market price of the Bonds.

<sup>[1]</sup> For these purposes, assumes the shortest filing deadline of the School District's previous Continuing Disclosure Agreements in effect during the past five years.

<sup>[2]</sup> Submission ID is the EMMA Submission ID for each filing. To access a filing, insert the Submission ID to the end of the web address below: http://emma.msrb.org/ContinuingDisclosureView/ContinuingDisclosureDetails.aspx?submissionId=

#### UNDERWRITING

Robert W. Baird & Co. Incorporated (the "2025 Bonds Underwriter") has agreed to purchase the Bonds from the School District, subject to certain conditions precedent, and will purchase all of the 2025 Bonds if any of such 2025 Bonds are purchased. The 2025 Bonds will be purchased by the 2025 Bonds Underwriter for a purchase price of \$30,135,866.70 equal to the par value of the 2025 Bonds less an underwriters' discount of \$472,151.90 plus an original issue premium of \$303,018.60.

Jefferies LLC (the "2025A Bonds Underwriter") has agreed to purchase the 2025A Bonds from the School District, subject to certain conditions precedent, and will purchase all of the 2025A Bonds if any of such 2025A Bonds are purchased. The 2025A Bonds will be purchased by the 2025A Bonds Underwriter for a purchase price of \$18,998,467.13 equal to the par value of the 2025A Bonds less an underwriters' discount of \$25,882.22 plus an original issue premium of \$824,349.35.

#### LEGAL OPINIONS

The Bonds are offered when, as and if issued, subject to withdrawal or modification of the offer without notice, and subject to the approving legal opinion of Eckert Seamans Cherin & Mellott, LLC, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, Bond Counsel to the School District, to be furnished upon delivery of the Bonds. Certain other legal matters will be passed upon for the School District by Unruh, Turner, Burke & Frees, P.C, of West Chester, Pennsylvania, School District Solicitor.

Neither the Bond Counsel nor the Solicitor has been engaged to verify, and has not independently verified, the accuracy, completeness or truthfulness of any statements, certifications or financial information set forth in this Official Statement, or otherwise used in connection with the offer and sale of the Bonds set forth in or delivered by the School District officials, except where specifically referred to. They express no opinion with respect to whether the School District in connection with the sale of the Bonds or preparation of this Official Statement has made any untrue statement of a material fact necessary in order to make any statement made therein not misleading.

The various legal opinions to be delivered concurrently with the delivery of the Bonds express the professional judgement of the attorneys rendering the opinions as to the legal issues explicitly addressed therein. In rendering a legal opinion, the attorneys do not become an insurer or guarantor of that expression of professional judgement of the transaction opined upon, or the future performance of the parties to the transaction. Nor does rendering a legal opinion guarantee the outcome of any legal dispute that may arise out of the transaction.

#### FINANCIAL ADVISOR

The School District has retained PFM Financial Advisors LLC, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, as financial advisor (the "Financial Advisor") in connection with the preparation, authorization and issuance of the Bonds. The Financial Advisor is not obligated to undertake, and has not undertaken to make, an independent verification or to assume responsibility for the accuracy, completeness, or fairness of the information contained in the Official Statement. PFM Financial Advisors LLC is an independent advisory firm and is not engaged in the business of underwriting, trading or distributing municipal securities or other public securities.

#### MISCELLANEOUS

This Official Statement has been prepared under the direction of the School District by PFM Financial Advisors LLC, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, in its capacity as Financial Advisor to the School District. The information set forth in this Official Statement has been obtained from the School District and from other sources believed to be reliable. Insofar as any statement herein includes matters of opinion or estimates about future conditions, it is not intended as representation of fact, and there is no guarantee that it is, or will be, realized. Summaries or descriptions of provisions of the Bonds, the Resolution, and all references to other materials not purporting to be quoted in full are only brief outlines of some of the provisions thereof. Reference is hereby made to the complete documents, copies of which will be furnished by the School District or the Financial Advisor upon request. The information assembled in this Official Statement is not to be construed as a contract with holders of the Bonds.

The School District has authorized the distribution of this Official Statement.

WEST CHESTER AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT Chester and Delaware Counties, Pennsylvania

By:/s/ Karen Fleming

President Board of Sol

President, Board of School Directors

## APPENDIX A Demographic and Economic Information Relating to the West Chester Area School District



### Introduction

The School District encompasses several communities in central Chester County and one municipality in western Delaware County and covers an area of approximately 75 square miles. The School District's boundaries are coterminous with those of the Borough of West Chester and the Townships of East Bradford, East Goshen, Thornbury, West Goshen, Westtown and West Whiteland, all located in Chester County, and the Township of Thornbury in Delaware County. The Borough of West Chester, located in the geographic center of the School District and county seat of Chester County, is approximately 25 miles west of metropolitan Philadelphia, 15 miles north of Wilmington, Delaware and 15 miles south of King of Prussia and Valley Forge. Many well-known unincorporated communities are located within the School District and these include: Exton in West Whiteland Township, Goshenville in East Goshen Township, Chatwood in West Goshen Township, Cheyney and Glen Mills in Thornbury Township, Delaware County and Darlington Corners in Westtown Township.

West Chester Area School District is characterized by rolling hills and fertile valleys flanking the east branch of the Brandywine Creek and the tributaries of the Chester Creek. The Borough of West Chester is the financial and professional center for the surrounding area. The Townships are principally residential in character, with regional shopping centers and industrial parks. Four major public institutions are within the School District: West Chester University; Cheyney University; Chester County Courthouse; and Chester County Hospital.

Table A-1 which follows shows recent population trends for the School District, Chester County and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Table A-2 shows 2020 age composition for the School District, Chester County and for the Commonwealth.

TABLE A-1
RECENT POPULATION TRENDS

Area	<u>2010</u>	<u>2020</u>	Compound Average Annual Percentage Change 2010-2020
School District	108,441	111,327	0.26%
Chester County	498,886	534,413	0.69%
Pennsylvania	12,281,054	13,002,700	0.57%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2010 & 2020 Redistricting Data (Public Law 94-171) Summary File and the Pennsylvania State Data Center.

TABLE A-2
AGE COMPOSITION

	0-17	18-64	65+	Persons Per
	<b>Years</b>	<b>Years</b>	<b>Years</b>	<b>Household</b>
School District	17.6%	64.3%	15.1%	2.40
Chester County	22.7%	60.9%	16.4%	2.54
Pennsylvania	20.8%	61.4%	17.8%	2.42

Source: American Community Survey- 2020 1 year estimates.

# **Employment**

Overall employment data are not compiled for the School District, but such data are compiled for the Montgomery-Bucks-Chester, PA Metropolitan Division (an area which includes the School District) as shown on Table A-3.

# DISTRIBUTION OF EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY MONTGOMERY-BUCKS-CHESTER, PA METROPOLITAN DIVISION (Bucks, Chester, and Montgomery – PA Counties)

# TABLE A-3 NONFARM JOBS - NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

	Industry Employment				Net Change From:	
Establishment Data	Nov 2024	Oct 2024	Sep 2024	Nov 2023	Oct 2024	Nov 2023
TOTAL NONFARM	3,160,700	3,147,300	3,131,800	3,123,300	13,400	37,400
TOTAL PRIVATE	2,806,600	2,795,400	2,784,200	2,774,700	11,200	31,900
GOODS PRODUCING	308,400	309,600	309,400	306,800	-1,200	1,600
Construction, Natural Resources, and Mining	128,700	130,400	129,600	124,500	-1,700	4,200
Manufacturing	179,700	179,200	179,800	182,300	500	-2,600
Durable Goods	91,900	91,900	92,100	92,800	0	-900
Non-Durable Goods	87,800	87,300	87,700	89,500	500	-1,700
SERVICE-PROVIDING	2,852,300	2,837,700	2,822,400	2,816,500	14,600	35,800
PRIVATE SERVICE-PROVIDING	2,498,200	2,485,800	2,474,800	2,467,900	12,400	30,300
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	557,100	544,300	538,300	557,900	12,800	-800
Wholesale Trade	121,800	121,800	120,900	121,600	0	200
Retail Trade	285,700	278,600	274,800	286,700	7,100	-1,000
Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities	149,600	143,900	142,600	149,600	5,700	0
Information	52,000	52,400	52,500	53,600	-400	-1,600
Financial Activities	230,300	230,300	231,000	229,100	0	1,200
Finance and insurance	188,300	188,200	188,900	187,600	100	700
Professional and Business Services	500,200	501,400	500,400	501,900	-1,200	-1,700
Professional and technical services	252,600	253,700	252,800	252,700	-1,100	-100
Administrative and waste services	177,800	178,300	178,900	180,300	-500	-2,500
<b>Education and Health Services</b>	758,400	752,200	743,100	729,100	6,200	29,300
Health care and social assistance	612,200	607,600	603,200	580,200	4,600	32,000
Hospitals	146,800	145,900	145,500	142,700	900	4,100
Leisure and Hospitality	275,200	280,300	285,600	271,700	-5,100	3,500
Accommodation and food services	221,100	223,400	225,600	218,700	-2,300	2,400
Other Services	125,000	124,900	123,900	124,600	100	400
Government	354,100	351,900	347,600	348,600	2,200	5,500
Federal Government	57,100	57,000	56,400	55,900	100	1,200
State Government	56,800	56,300	55,700	56,600	500	200
Local Government	240,200	238,600	235,500	236,100	1,600	4,100
Data benchmarked to March 2023	***	Data changes of 1	100 may be due to	rounding***		

Source: Pennsylvania Department of Labor & Industry, Center for Workforce Information & Analysis.

# Chester County Top 10 Employers 3rd Quarter 2024

Federal and State Government Entities Aggregated

- 1. The Vanguard Group Inc
- 2. The Chester County Hospital
- 3. County of Chester
- 4. Main Line Hospitals Inc
- 5. Federal Government
- 6. Giant Food Stores LLC
- 7. Downingtown Area School District
- 8. PA State System of Higher Education
- 9. QVC Network Inc
- 10. Chester County Intermediate Unit

Source: Center for Workforce Information & Analysis

Table A-4 shows recent trends in labor force, employment and unemployment for Chester County and the Commonwealth.

TABLE A-4
TRENDS IN LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

	<u> 2019</u>	2020	<u>2021</u>	2022	2023	2024(1)	Compound Average Annual % Rate
<b>Chester County</b>							<del></del>
Civilian Labor Force (000)	291.6	286.4	288.5	294.8	298.5	291.1	0.77%
Employment (000)	282.4	268.5	277.1	286	290.8	283.9	1.61%
Unemployment (000)	9.20	17.90	11.30	8.80	7.70	7.2	-16.74%
Unemployment Rate	3.20%	6.20%	3.90%	3.00%	2.60%	2.50%	
Pennsylvania							
Civilian Labor Force (000)	6,576.00	6,506.00	6,432.00	6,465.00	6,518.00	6,426.0	-0.18%
Employment (000)	6,292.00	5,930.00	6,054.00	6,202.00	6,296.00	6,215.0	1.07%
Unemployment (000)	285.00	577.00	378.00	263.00	223.00	211.0	-18.56%
Unemployment Rate	4.30%	8.90%	5.90%	4.00%	3.40%	3.30%	

<sup>(1)</sup>As of November 2024.

Source: Pennsylvania Department of Labor and Industry, Center for Workforce Information and Analysis website.

### Income

The data on Table A-5 shows recent trends in per capita income for the School District, Chester County and the Commonwealth over the 2010-2020 period.

TABLE A-5

RECENT TRENDS IN PER CAPITA INCOME\*

	2010	2020	Percentage Change 2010-2020
School District	\$41,435	\$54,726	3.14%
Chester County	40,138	52,711	3.07%
Pennsylvania	26,374	35,518	3.36%

<sup>\*</sup>Income is defined by the Bureau of the Census as the sum of wage and salary income, non-farm self-employment income, net self-employment income, Social Security and Railroad retirement income, public assistance income, interest, dividends, pensions, etc. before deductions for personal income taxes, Social Security, etc. School District income is the population-weighted average for political subdivisions.

Source: 2010 & 2020 American Community Survey – 1 year estimates.

# **Commercial Activity**

Commercial activity within the School District is centered in the Borough of West Chester and in large shopping centers, including Exton Square and the West Goshen Shopping Center.

Exton Square, a large shopping mall, includes shops and the Chester County Library centered around two anchored major retail stores. The enclosed mall is situated four miles north of the Borough of West Chester at the intersection of U.S. Route 30 and 100. Other large shopping centers include: Fairfield Place, Main Street at Exton, and Whiteland Towne Center.

Table A-6 shows retail sales for the 2019-2023 period for the County and the Commonwealth.

TABLE A-6
TOTAL RETAIL SALES
(000)

	<u>2019</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2022</u>	2023
Chester County	\$16,149,514	\$16,586,181	\$16,689,538	\$20,551,778	\$19,467,582
Pennsylvania	244,709,540	251,185,116	274,685,600	297,770,326	310,912,244

Source: The Nielsen Company.

# Housing

Housing construction has progressed in an orderly fashion during the past decade as former agricultural land has been developed in accordance with strict zoning guidelines. The School District contains some of the finest single-family residential housing in the greater Delaware Valley area. Most new home construction taking place in the School District is in the \$555,000 median price range. The median selling price of all housing within the School District during 2017 was \$325,000, as compared with Chester County as a whole of \$299,000, according to the Chester County Planning Commission.

## **Educational Institutions**

West Chester University and Cheyney University are located within the School District. Both universities are run by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. West Chester University, which is located in the Borough of West Chester and West Goshen Township, is a multi-purpose university. Cheyney University is located in Thornbury Township, Delaware and Chester Counties. Both universities provide a liberal arts education.

### **Medical Facilities**

Medical care facilities are provided by Chester County Hospital (the "Hospital") in West Chester. The Hospital provides complete professional, medical and surgical treatment to the central and eastern portions of Chester County. Paoli Memorial Hospital, while outside the School District, is within easy reach.

# Transportation

The School District's economic position has been bolstered by a network of federal and state highways and has realized further growth due to the opening of the Exton Bypass. The School District is served by over eighty motor freight companies. U.S. 202 passes through the School District in a north-south direction connecting the area with Valley Forge to the north and Wilmington, Delaware to the south. U.S. 30 crosses the area in an east-west direction connecting the area with Lancaster via Coatesville to the west and Philadelphia via Paoli to the east. State Route 100 connects the School District with the Pennsylvania Turnpike (Downingtown Interchange) U.S. 76 which is approximately 2 miles north of the School District. Other major highways include: U.S. 1 and 322 and State Routes 3 (West Chester Pike), 29, 52, 162, 352, 842, and 926.

Passenger railroad service is provided by one line, Main Line, by Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority (SEPTA). Freight services are provided by two branch lines of Conrail.

Bus service to Philadelphia and Wilmington is provided by SEPTA. Light plane air service is available at West Chester Airport, established in 1959, which has single and multiple engine aircraft available for charter flights with licensed pilots, and student flight training.

### Recreation

School District residents have access to a variety of recreational facilities through public, private and quasi-public agencies. There are four private and several public golf courses located in the School District. The Borough of West Chester, East Bradford, East Goshen, West Goshen and West Whiteland Townships provide recreational parks throughout the area for use by their residents.

### Utilities

Sewer: Residential portions of East Goshen Township, portions of East Bradford Township, portions of West Goshen Township, portions of West Whiteland Township, West Chester Borough and portions of Westtown Township are provided with sewer service by local municipal authorities or the municipality. Some of the less developed portions of these areas are served by on-site systems.

Water: Aqua Pennsylvania, Inc. and other private water companies and municipal authorities supply water service to the Borough and developed portions of the surrounding Townships. Other residents of the Townships are served by on-site wells.

Electricity and Gas: PECO provides both electricity and natural gas to users within the School District.

Cable: Verizon and Comcast supplies cable, including internet and telephone service to residents of the School District.

# **Municipal Services**

Pennsylvania municipalities are statutorily required to provide full-time fire protection, primarily through local, volunteer fire companies. Police protection is provided by municipally funded police departments or, in the absence of a municipal police force, the Pennsylvania State Police. The Embreeville State Police Station is located just outside the boundaries of the School District.



APPENDIX B
Form of Opinion of Bond Counsel



# [FORM OF BOND COUNSEL OPINION]

[Date of Delivery]

Re: \$	aggregate principal amount
Wes	hester Area School District, Chester and Delaware Counties, Pennsylvani
Gen	1 Obligation Bonds, Series of 2025

To the Purchasers of the Within-Described Bonds:

We have served as Bond Counsel to the West Chester Area School District, in Chester and Delaware Counties, Pennsylvania ("Issuer"), in connection with the issuance of its \$\_\_\_\_\_ aggregate principal amount General Obligation Bonds, Series \_\_\_ of 2025 (the "Bonds"). The Bonds are issued pursuant to, and are secured by, the Pennsylvania Local Government Unit Debt Act, 53 Pa. C.S. Chs. 80-82 ("Act"), and a Resolution ("Resolution") adopted on March 24, 2025, by the Board of School Directors of the Issuer.

The proceeds of the Bonds will fund the purposes described in the Resolution, and pay the costs of issuing the Bonds.

As Bond Counsel for the Issuer, we have examined: (a) the relevant provisions of the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania ("Commonwealth"); (b) the Act; (c) the relevant provisions of the Public School Code of 1949; (d) the Resolution and the Debt Statement of the Issuer filed with the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development ("Department"); (e) the proceedings of the Issuer with respect to the authorization, sale and issuance of the Bonds; (f) a Certificate of Approval issued by the Department in respect of the proceedings authorizing the issuance of the Bonds; and (g) certain statements, certifications, affidavits and other documents and matters of law which we have considered relevant, including, without limitation, a certificate dated the date hereof ("Tax Compliance Certificate") of officials of the Issuer having responsibility for issuing or paying the Bonds, given pursuant to the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, and the regulations promulgated thereunder ("Code"), an opinion of the Solicitor to the Issuer as to various matters, and the other documents, certifications and instruments listed in the Closing Index filed with the Paying Agent (hereinafter defined) on the date of original delivery of the Bonds. We have also examined a fully executed and authenticated Bond, or a true copy thereof, and assume all other Bonds are in such form and are similarly executed and authenticated.

In rendering the opinion set forth below, we have relied upon the genuineness, accuracy and completeness of all documents, records, certifications and other instruments we have examined, including, without limitation, the authenticity of all signatures appearing thereon. We have also relied, in the opinion set forth below, upon the opinion of the Solicitor of the Issuer as to all matters of fact and law set forth therein.

Except with respect to paragraph 6 below, our opinion is given only with respect to the internal laws of the Commonwealth as enacted and construed on the date hereof.

Based on the foregoing, we are of the opinion that:

- 1. The Issuer is authorized under the provisions of the Constitution and the laws of the Commonwealth to issue the Bonds.
- 2. The Issuer has established, in accordance with the Debt Act, a sinking fund for the Bonds (the "Sinking Fund") with the financial institution named in the Resolution, as paying agent, registrar and sinking fund depository ("Paying Agent"), and has covenanted in the Resolution to deposit in the Sinking Fund amounts sufficient to pay the principal of and interest on the Bonds as the same becomes due and payable and to apply the amounts so deposited to the payment of such principal and interest.
- 3. The Issuer has effectively covenanted: (i) to include the amount of debt service on the Bonds in each fiscal year of the Issuer in which such sums are due and payable in its budget for that fiscal year; (ii) to appropriate such amounts from its general revenues for the payment of such debt service; and (iii) to duly and punctually pay, or cause to be paid, from the Sinking Fund or any other of its general revenues or funds, the principal or redemption price of and interest on the Bonds on the dates and in the place and in the manner stated in the Bonds according to the true intent and meaning thereof. For such budgeting, appropriation and payment the Issuer has pledged, with respect to the Bonds, its full faith, credit and taxing power, within the limits established by law.
- 4. The Bonds have been duly authorized, executed, authenticated, issued and delivered, and are the legal, valid and binding general obligations of the Issuer, and are enforceable in accordance with the terms thereof, except to the extent that enforcement thereof may be affected by bankruptcy, insolvency, reorganization, moratorium or other similar laws or legal or equitable principles affecting the enforcement of creditors' rights.
- 5. Under the laws of the Commonwealth as enacted and construed on the date hereof, interest on the Bonds is exempt from Pennsylvania personal income tax and Pennsylvania corporate net income tax; however, under the laws of the Commonwealth as enacted and construed on the date hereof, any profits, gains or income derived from the sale, exchange or other disposition of the Bonds will be subject to Commonwealth taxes and local taxes within the Commonwealth.
- 6. Under existing statutes, regulations, rulings and court decisions, interest on the Bonds, including any interest accruing in the form of original issue discount, will not be includible in gross income of the holders thereof for federal income tax purposes, assuming continuing compliance by the Issuer with the requirements of the Code. Interest on the Bonds will not be a specific preference item for purposes of computing the federal alternative minimum tax on individuals.

In rendering this opinion, we have assumed compliance by the Issuer with the covenants contained in the Resolution and the representations of the Issuer in the Tax Compliance Certificate relating to actions to be taken by the Issuer after the issuance of the Bonds necessary to effect or maintain the exclusion from gross income of the interest on the Bonds for federal income tax purposes. These covenants and representations relate to the use and investment of proceeds of the Bonds, and the rebate to the United States Department of Treasury of specified arbitrage

To the Purchasers of the Within-Described Bonds [Date of Delivery] Page 3

earnings, if any. Failure to comply with such covenants could result in the interest on the Bonds becoming includible in gross income for federal income tax purposes from the date of issuance of the Bonds.

We express no opinion as to any matter not set forth in the numbered paragraphs herein. This opinion is rendered on the basis of federal law and the laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania as enacted and construed on the date hereof. This opinion is given as of the date hereof and we assume no obligation to supplement this opinion to reflect changes in law that may hereafter occur or changes in facts or circumstances that may hereafter come to our attention. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, we express no opinion with respect to, and assume no responsibility for, the accuracy, adequacy or completeness of the preliminary official statement or the official statement prepared in respect of the Bonds, and make no representation that we have independently verified the contents thereof.

Very truly yours,

ECKERT SEAMANS CHERIN & MELLOTT, LLC



# APPENDIX C Form of Continuing Disclosure Certificate



# CONTINUING DISCLOSURE CERTIFICATE

Re: WEST CHESTER AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT,
Chester and Delaware Counties, Pennsylvania

\$\_\_\_\_\_ Aggregate Principal Amount
General Obligation Bonds, Series\_\_ of 2025
Dated [Date of Delivery]

[Date of Delivery]

This Continuing Disclosure Certificate (the "Disclosure Certificate") is executed and delivered by West Chester Area School District, in Chester and Delaware Counties, Pennsylvania (the "School District"), in connection with the issuance of its General Obligation Bonds, Series of 2025 (the "Bonds"), dated the date of delivery of the Bonds. The Bonds are being issued pursuant to a resolution adopted by the Board of School Directors of the School District (the "Resolution"). The School District makes the following certifications and representations as an inducement to the Participating Underwriter and others to purchase the Bonds:

SECTION 1. <u>Purpose of the Disclosure Certificate</u>. This Disclosure Certificate is being executed and delivered by the School District for the benefit of the holders of the Bonds and in order to assist the Participating Underwriters in complying with Securities and Exchange Commission Rule 15c2-12(b)(5).

SECTION 2. <u>Definitions</u>. In addition to the definitions set forth in the Resolution, which apply to any capitalized term used in this Disclosure Certificate unless otherwise defined in this Section, the following capitalized terms shall have the following meanings:

"Annual Report" shall mean any Annual Report filed by the School District pursuant to, and as described in, Section 3 of this Disclosure Certificate.

"Bondholder" shall mean any registered owner of the Bonds or any person who (i) has the power, directly or indirectly, to vote or consent with respect to, or to dispose of ownership of, any of the Bonds (including persons holding through any nominee, securities depository or other intermediary) or (ii) is treated as the holder of any Bonds for federal income tax purposes.

"Business Day" shall mean a day other than a Saturday, a Sunday, or a day on which the New York Stock Exchange is closed or a day on which banks located in the Commonwealth are authorized or required by law or executive order to close.

"Commonwealth" shall mean the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

"EMMA" shall mean the MSRB's Electronic Municipal Market Access System at http://emma.msrb.org.

"Financial Obligation" shall mean (i) a debt obligation; (ii) a derivative instrument entered into in connection with, or pledged as security or a source of payment for, an existing or planned debt obligation; or (iii) a guarantee of either (i) or (ii) above. The term Financial Obligation shall not include municipal securities as to which a final official statement has been provided to the MSRB consistent with the Rule.

"Listed Events" shall mean any of the events listed in Section 5 of this Disclosure Certificate.

"MSRB" shall mean the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board. As of the date of this Disclosure Certificate, the rules of the MSRB require all filings described herein shall be made using EMMA.

"Obligated Person" shall mean, for purposes of this Disclosure Certificate, the School District.

"Official Statement" shall mean the final official statement relating to the Bonds prepared by or on behalf of the School District and distributed in connection with the offering and sale of the Bonds by the Participating Underwriters.

"Participating Underwriters" shall mean any of the original underwriters of the Bonds required to comply with the Rule in connection with the primary offering of the Bonds.

"Rule" shall mean Rule 15c2-12(b)(5) adopted by the SEC under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as the same may be amended from time to time.

"SEC" shall mean the United States Securities and Exchange Commission.

SECTION 3. <u>Filing of Annual Reports</u>. The School District shall file annually with the MSRB, <u>on or before **April 1, 2026**, and on or before **April 1** of each year thereafter, an Annual Report that is consistent with the requirements of Section 4 of this Disclosure Certificate.</u>

The Annual Report may be submitted as a single document or as separate documents comprising a package, and may cross-reference other information as provided in Section 4 of this Disclosure Certificate; provided, however, that if the audited financial statements of the School District for the most recent completed fiscal year are not available to be included in the Annual Report when filed, such audited financial statements may be filed separately from the balance of the Annual Report, as provided in the following paragraph.

If the audited financial statements of the School District for the most recent fiscal year are not available as of the date on which the Annual Report is to be filed, the audited financial statements shall be filed with the MSRB as soon as they are available, and the Annual Report, when filed, shall contain a statement to that effect and a statement of the date by which the School District reasonably expects the audited financial statements to become available and to be filed with the MSRB.

SECTION 4. <u>Content of Annual Reports</u>. The School District's Annual Report shall contain or incorporate by reference the following financial information and operating data with respect to the School District:

- (a) financial statements for the most recent fiscal year, prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles for local government units;
- (b) a summary of the budget for the then current fiscal year;
- (c) the total assessed value and aggregate market value of all taxable real estate for the then current fiscal year;
- (d) the taxes and millage rates imposed for the then current fiscal year; and
- (e) the real property tax collection results for the most recent fiscal year, including (a) the real estate levy imposed (expressed both as a millage rate and an aggregate dollar amount), (b) the dollar amount of real estate taxes collected that represented current collections (expressed as an aggregate dollar amount), (c) the amount of real estate taxes collected that represented taxes levied in prior years (expressed as an aggregate dollar amount), and (d) the total amount of real estate taxes collected (expressed as an aggregate dollar amount).

The School District reserves the right to modify from time to time the specific types of information provided or the format of the presentation of such information to the extent necessary or appropriate as a result of a change in legal requirements or a change in the nature of the School District or its operations or financial reporting, but the School District will agree that any such modification will be done in a manner consistent with the Rule.

SECTION 5. <u>Notices of Late Filing of Annual Information</u>. If the School District has failed to file, or is unable to file, an Annual Report with the MSRB within the time set forth in Section 3 above, the School District will file, in a timely manner, a notice with the MSRB stating such fact and, if appropriate, the date by which the School District expects to file the Annual Report.

SECTION 6. Reporting of Listed Events. In a timely manner not in excess of ten (10) Business Days after the occurrence of the event, the School District will file with the MSRB notice of the occurrence of any of the following events with respect to the Bonds:

- (1) principal and interest payment delinquencies;
- (2) non-payment related defaults, if material;
- (3) unscheduled draws on debt service reserves reflecting financial difficulties;
- (4) unscheduled draws on credit enhancements reflecting financial difficulties;
- (5) substitution of credit or liquidity providers, or their failure to perform;

- (6) adverse tax opinions, the issuance by the Internal Revenue Service of proposed or final determinations of taxability, Notices of Proposed Issue (IRS Form 5701-TEB) or other material notices or determinations with respect to the tax-exempt status of the Bonds, or other material events affecting the tax-exempt status of the Bonds;
- (7) modifications to rights of holders of the Bonds, if material;
- (8) bond calls, if material, and tender offers;
- (9) defeasances;
- (10) release, substitution, or sale of property securing repayment of the Bonds, if material;
- (11) rating changes;
- (12) bankruptcy, insolvency, receivership or similar event of the School District:
- (13) the consummation of a merger, consolidation, or acquisition involving the School District or the sale of all or substantially all of the assets of the School District, other than in the ordinary course of business, the entry into a definitive agreement to undertake such an action or the termination of a definitive agreement relating to any such actions, other than pursuant to its terms, if material;
- (14) appointment of a successor or additional trustee, or the change of name of a trustee, if material;
- (15) incurrence of a Financial Obligation of the Obligated Person, if material, or agreement to covenants, events of default, remedies, priority rights, or other similar terms of a Financial Obligation of the Obligated Person, any of which affect security holders, if material; and
- (16) default, event of acceleration, termination event, modification of terms, or other similar events under the terms of a Financial Obligation of the Obligated Person, any of which reflect financial difficulties.

(*Note*: The events listed above are those specified in the Rule, not all of which may be relevant to the Bonds.)

The School District may from time to time choose to provide notice of the occurrence of certain other events affecting the Bonds or the School District, in addition to those listed above, if, in the judgment of the School District, such other event is material with respect to the Bonds, but the School District does not undertake to commit to provide any such notice of the occurrence of any material event except those events listed above.

SECTION 7. <u>Manner of Filing.</u> All filings to be made with the MSRB in accordance with this Disclosure Certificate are to be filed in such electronic format as is prescribed by the MSRB and accompanied by such identifying information as is prescribed by the MSRB.

As of the date of this Disclosure Certificate, the rules of the MSRB require all such filings to be made using EMMA.

SECTION 8. <u>Dissemination Agent</u>. The School District may, at any time and from time to time, appoint or engage another person (the "Dissemination Agent") to assist it in carrying out

its obligations under this Disclosure Certificate, and may discharge such Dissemination Agent, with or without appointing a successor and without notice to Bondholders.

SECTION 9. <u>Termination of Disclosure Obligation</u>. The School District's obligations under this Disclosure Certificate shall terminate upon the prior redemption, defeasance or payment in full of all of the Bonds or if and when the School District no longer remains an "obligated person" with respect to the Bonds, within the meaning of the Rule.

SECTION 10. <u>Default</u>. In the event of a failure of the School District to comply with any provision of this Disclosure Certificate, any Bondholder may take such actions as may be necessary and appropriate, including seeking mandate or specific performance by court order, to cause the School District to comply with its obligations under this Disclosure Certificate. A default under this Disclosure Certificate shall not be deemed an event of default with respect to the Bonds, and the sole remedy under this Disclosure Certificate in the event of any failure of the School District to comply with this Disclosure Certificate shall be an action to compel performance.

SECTION 11. <u>Beneficiaries</u>. This Disclosure Certificate shall inure solely to the benefit of the School District, the Participating Underwriters and Bondholders, and shall create no rights in any other person or entity.

[SIGNATURE PAGE FOLLOWS]

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, The School District causes this Continuing Disclosure Certificate to be executed on its behalf by the President of the Board of School Directors all as of the date set forth above.

WEST CHESTER AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT, Chester and Delaware Counties, Pennsylvania				
By:				
President of the Board of				
School Directors				

# APPENDIX D Audited Financial Statements





# ANNUAL COMPREHENSIVE FINANCIAL REPORT

# For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024



West Chester Area School District 782 Springdale Drive Exton, Pennsylvania 19341



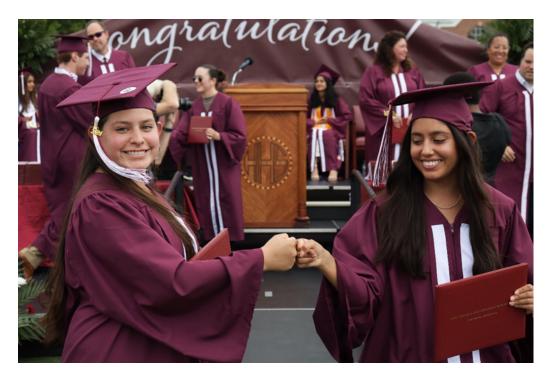


# ANNUAL

# **COMPREHENSIVE**

# FINANCIAL REPORT

# For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024



Prepared by the
West Chester Area School District
Business Office

Mr. John Scully, Director of Business Affairs
Mr. Justin Matys, Assistant Director of Business Affairs
Ms. Jennifer Matthews, Controller

West Chester Area School District 782 Springdale Drive Exton, Pennsylvania 19341

INTRODUCTORY SECTION - UNAUDITED	
Letter of Transmittal	1-4
List of Board of School Directors and District Administrators	5
West Chester Area School District Organizational Chart	6
Association of School Business Officials International, Certificate of Excellence in Financial Reporting, June 30, 2023	7
FINANCIAL SECTION	
Independent Auditor's Report	8-10
Management's Discussion and Analysis – Unaudited	11-20
Basic Financial Statements	
Government-Wide Financial Statements	
Statement of Net Position (Deficit)	21-22
Statement of Activities	23
Fund Financial Statements	24
Reconciliation of Governmental Funds Balance Sheet to Statement of Net Position (Deficit)	25
Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances – Governmental Funds	26
Reconciliation of Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances of Governmental Funds to Statement of Activities	27
Budgetary Comparison Statement – General Fund	28
Statement of Fund Net Position – Proprietary Fund	29
Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Position – Proprietary Fund	30
Statement of Cash Flows – Proprietary Fund	31
Statement of Net Position – Fiduciary Funds	32
Statement of Changes in Net Position – Fiduciary Funds	33
Notes to Financial Statements	34-63
REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION	
Schedule of the District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability - PSERS	64
Schedule of the District's Pension Plan Contributions - PSERS	65
Schedule of the District's Proportionate Share of the OPEB Liability - PSERS	66
Schedule of the District's OPEB Plan Contributions - PSERS	67

REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION (CONTINUED)	
Schedule of Changes in OPEB Liability – Single Employer Plan	68
STATISTICAL SECTION - UNAUDITED	69
Financial Trends	
Net Position by Component Unit	70
Changes in Net Position	71-72
Fund Balance - Governmental Funds	73
Changes in Fund Balance – Governmental Funds	74
General Fund Revenues by Source	75
General Fund Expenditures by Type	76-77
Revenue Capacity	
Governmental Funds – Most Significant Own-Source Revenues	78
Analysis of Assessed Value for Taxable Real Estate	79-80
Market Value versus Assessed Value of Taxable Real Estate	81
Property Tax Rates – All Direct and Overlapping Governments	82
Ten Largest Real Property Taxpayers	83
Real Estate Tax Collection as a Ratio of Levy	84
Debt Capacity	
Computation of Non-Electoral Debt Margin	85
Gross Principal Debt Outstanding	86
Schedule of Direct and Overlapping Debt	87
Ratio of Net General Debt to Assessed Value and Debt per Capita	88
Demographic and Economic Information	
Trends in Population, Market Value, and Personal Income	89
Key Economic and Housing Indices	90
Largest Employers within the School District	91
Operating Information	
Staffing Ratios for Professional Staff	92
District Facilities	93

# STATISTICAL SECTION – UNAUDITED (CONTINUED) School District Employees by Function 94 Student Enrollment Summary 95 Student Market Share Analysis 96-97 SINGLE AUDIT Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards 98-99 Notes to Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards 100 Summary Schedule of Prior Audit Findings 101 Independent Auditor's Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and other Matters Based on an Audit of Financial Statements Performed in Accordance with Government Auditing Standards 102-103 Independent Auditor's Report on Compliance for Each Major Program and on Internal Control Over Compliance Required by the Uniform Guidance 104-106 Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs 107

# WEST CHESTER AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

# **INTRODUCTORY SECTION**





February 7, 2025

Dear Community Member,

We are pleased to present the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR) of West Chester Area School District for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024. This District's Business Office prepared this report.

The ACFR is published to present complete and accurate financial information on all the funds and financial activities of the District for the 2023-24 fiscal year. The Business Office staff and management are responsible for the accuracy of the statements, notes, schedules and statistical tables. We believe that the information in the report is a fair presentation of the financial position and the results of operations of the District based upon a comprehensive framework of internal controls that have been established for this purpose. The report is prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting and financial reporting principles applicable to governmental entities in the United States of America. Most importantly, this report will provide the reader with a comprehensive understanding of the District's financial affairs.

WithumSmith+Brown, PC, an independent firm of certified public accountants, have audited the District's financial statements. They have issued an unmodified opinion on the West Chester Area School District's financial statements for the Year ending June 30, 2024. Their report is located at the beginning of the Financial Section of the ACFR.

The Management's Discussion and Analysis (MD&A), which follows the independent auditors' report, provides an overview of the District's financial performance during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024. It should be read in conjunction with this transmittal letter and the District's basic financial statements.

### Reporting Entity

The West Chester Area School District is an independent reporting entity and a primary government as defined in the criteria established in the Governmental Accounting Standards Board's (GASB) Codification of Governmental Accounting and Financial Reporting. The basic criteria for determining the inclusion in the reporting entity is financial accountability and the nature and significance of the relationship.

# **Profile of the District**

The West Chester Area School District was formed by Pennsylvania state law and began operations on July 1, 1966. The population of the school district is approximately 111,000. The District encompasses several communities in Chester County and one in western Delaware County. The District covers an area of approximately 75-square-miles. The School District's boundaries are coterminous with those of the Borough of West Chester, and the Townships of East Bradford, East Goshen, Thornbury, West Goshen, Westtown and West Whiteland in Chester County and the Township of Thornbury in Delaware County. The Borough of West Chester, located in the geographic center of the School District and is the county seat for Chester County, is approximately 25 miles west of Philadelphia. The Borough of West Chester is the financial and professional center for the surrounding area. The Townships are principally residential in character, with regional shopping centers and industrial parks.

The School District is governed by a nine-member Board of School Directors (the "School Board") who are elected for four-year terms. The Superintendent is the chief administrative officer of the School District, with overall responsibility for all aspects of operations including education. The Director of Business Affairs is responsible for budget and financial operations. Both of these officials are appointed by the School Board.

The purpose of the District is to provide an education system Kindergarten through 12<sup>th</sup> grade, including regular instruction, special instruction, vocational education and support services to the approximately 15,300 students that live within the School District boundaries. To accomplish this goal, the District operates eleven (11) elementary schools, three (3) middle schools and three (3) high schools. The District maintains seventeen school buildings that were initially built in the years spanning 1940 through 2021 (for additional information please see the district facilities page in the statistical section of this report). Additionally, the District is required to pay the tuition for the 403 children that live within the District boundaries that attend charter schools. During the year ending June 30, 2024, the District paid \$7,580,797 in tuition to Charter Schools.

# **Budget Process**

The Board considers preparation of an annual budget to be one of its most important responsibilities because the budget is the financial reflection of the District's educational plan. The budget shall be designed to carry out that plan in a thorough and efficient manner, to maintain the facilities and to honor District obligations. Budget planning for the District is an integral part of program planning so that the annual operating budget may effectively express and implement all programs and activities of the District. Budget planning is a year-round process involving active participation by administrators, Board members, and appropriate District personnel. The District maintains budgetary controls to ensure compliance with legal provisions incorporated within the annual appropriated budget. The annual appropriated budget is adopted by the School Board by June 30 of each year. Legal budgetary control is maintained at the sub-function major object level.

The District follows the Pennsylvania Public School Code requirements, the procedures mandated by the Pennsylvania Department of Education and the District policies for annual General Fund budget approval. Pennsylvania State code requires that each Pennsylvania School District prepare and adopt an annual appropriation budget for the general fund. The District's annual general fund budget sets forth District expenditures and revenues and establishes the tax levy prior to the beginning of each fiscal year. The total amount of the budget may not exceed expected revenue plus a prudent and reasonable contingency and reserve. At least thirty days prior to adoption of the final budget, the Board prepares and presents a proposed budget, which is set forth in detail using the forms required by the Pennsylvania Department of Education. The Board holds one or more public hearings on the annual budget prior to the meeting at which it is formally adopted.

During the course of the year, the Pennsylvania School Code prohibits spending to exceed the approved budget. To adjust for price changes and other changes to the original budget assumptions, the District allows for the transfer of funds among budget line items upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and the Director of Business Affairs. By law, such transfers may only be made during the last nine months of the fiscal year and all transfers require Board approval.

### **Internal Controls**

The objective of a system of internal controls is to provide reasonable, but not absolute, assurance that the District assets are properly protected and to ensure that financial transactions, which are relied on in the preparation of financial reports, are accurately recorded. The concept of reasonable assurances recognizes that the cost of the system of internal controls should not exceed the benefits likely to be realized and that the valuation of costs and benefits requires estimates and judgments by management. The District has established policies and procedures to effectively implement and maintain a system of internal accounting controls. Management and independent auditors continually evaluate these policies and procedures to ensure the adequacy and effectiveness of the internal control structure.

### **Economic Condition and Outlook**

The area's economy remains healthy, with Chester County economic indicators surpassing state wide data. The county has one of the lowest unemployment rates among the Commonwealth's 67 counties. Moody's Investors Service reaffirmed the District's Triple-A rating based on the sizeable and affluent residential tax base, solid financial position that is expected to remain stable and manageable debt burden.

That having been said, the District has been impacted by a number of factors. In 2006, the Pennsylvania General Assembly passed into law Act 1 of 2006. This law places restrictions on the amount that School Districts can raise property taxes to within a cost of living increase. The law does allow for exceptions to Act 1 tax increase above the index for Special Education and State Retirement purposes. In 2023-24, the index allowed for a 4.1% increase in property taxes and the School Board opted to not increase property tax and the tax rate in Chester County remained at 22.4364 mills.

As the District continues to navigate under the budgetary constraints of Act 1 funding restrictions, other school districts throughout Pennsylvania incurred a number of unfavorable budgetary impacts. The Pennsylvania economy, which has a direct effect on the District's earned income tax and other local revenues, has seen a slight growth over the past few years. The District pension program, which is administered by the State, saw a decrease in the pension contribution rate from 35.26% in 2022-23 to 34.00% for 2023-24. The pension rates are expected to increase through 2028-29. State revenue increased moderately during the past year although the District anticipates minimal increases in the upcoming years. The District's experienced a decrease in federal revenues during the 2023-24 fiscal year, as the remaining available CARES federal funds were spent down in the prior fiscal year.

Annually, The District compiles student enrollment projections for the upcoming five school years. Enrollment projections are based on cohort survival calculation method and do not include new student growth. The District projects student enrollment to increase from 11,993 in 2024-25 to 12,383 in 2029-30.

As a result of the above noted economic conditions, the District's Comprehensive Plan has incorporated a financial goal of funding priorities based on fiscal realities. Part of the goal requires the District to control debt spending and fund balance limits. The District continues to closely manage economic indicators that will impact the next few budget cycles.

# Long Term Financial Planning and Financial Policies

As stated earlier, the District budgeting process is a year-round process. As part of that process, the Business Office forecasts revenues and expenditures going five years into the future. This long term financial planning is essential to absorbing the anticipated changes to mandated expenditure patterns and revenue streams. To assist with this management, the District has many policies in place which include, but are not limited to, fund balance policies and debt policies.

# **Major Initiatives**

The District is in the midst of a multiyear elementary school renovation project. The most recent elementary school master plan includes renovations of the District's existing ten (10) elementary schools between 2011-2012 and 2028-2029. In 2023-2024, the District completed the final phase of construction of Glen Acres Elementary School and started the design and construction of Mary C Howse Elementary. The original construction and renovation of the District buildings is included in the statistical section of the ACFR under operating information.

The District will be implementing a new elementary special area class called Design Lab that integrates the new STEELS (Science, Technology & Engineering, Environmental Literacy & Sustainability) standards with an emphasis on Design Thinking.

# **Independent Audit**

The District engages an independent certified public accounting firm to audit the School District's annual financial statements. The auditor's report on the Fiscal 2023-2024 financial statements is included in the Financial Section of this report and complies with applicable guidelines.

### **Awards**

The Association of School Business Officials International (ASBO) awarded the Certificate of Excellence (COE) in Financial Reporting to the West Chester Area School district for its Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR) for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2023. This award confirms the school business officials' commitment to financial accountability and transparency. Recognition through the COE program can help strengthen a district's presentation for bond issuance statements and promotes a high level of financial reporting.

# Acknowledgements

The preparation of the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report on a timely basis was made possible by the dedicated service of the entire staff of the Business Office. Each member has our sincere appreciation for contributions made in the preparation of this report.

Respectfully,

John Scully

Director of Business Affairs

# West Chester Area School District List of Board of School Directors and District Administrators June 30, 2024

# 2023-24 School Board Members

Karen Fleming School Board President
Gary Bevilacqua School Board Vice President

Alex Christy Member
Laura Detre Member
Daryl Durnell Member
Katy Frey Member
Karen Herrmann Member
Jewell Parkinson Member
Stacey Whomsley Member

# **District Administrators**

Dr. David Christopher Superintendent

Dr. Kalia Reynolds Assistant Superintendent

Dr. Sara Missett

Wayne Birster

John McGowan

Director of Elementary Education

Director of Facilities and Operations

Director of Information Technology

Dr. Jeff Ulmer

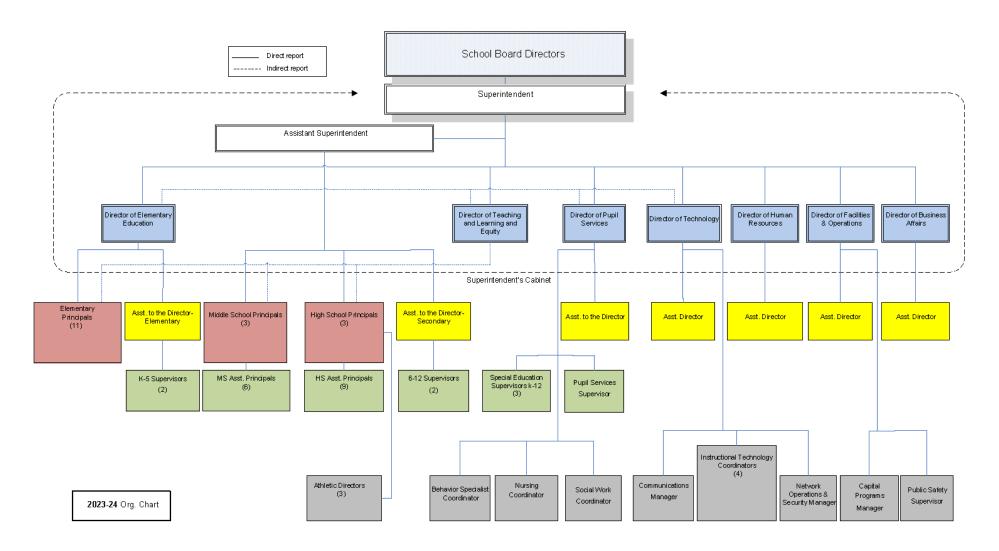
John Scully

Director of Human Resources

Director of Business Affairs

Melissa Kleiman Director of Pupil Services

Dr. Stephen Brown Director of Teaching and Learning and Equity





# The Certificate of Excellence in Financial Reporting is presented to

## **West Chester Area School District**

for its Annual Comprehensive Financial Report for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023.

The district report meets the criteria established for ASBO International's Certificate of Excellence in Financial Reporting.



Ryan S. Stechschulte

Rvan S. Steckschults

**SFO** 

President

James M. Rowan, CAE,

**CEO/Executive Director** 



## WEST CHESTER AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

## FINANCIAL SECTION







#### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Board of School Directors of West Chester Area School District:

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

#### **Opinions**

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of West Chester Area School District, Exton, Pennsylvania as of and for the year ended June 30, 2024, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise West Chester Area School District's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of West Chester Area School District, Exton, Pennsylvania 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 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 West Chester Area School District, Exton, Pennsylvania, and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

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

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

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 West Chester Area School District, Exton, Pennsylvania's ability to continue as a going concern for twelve months beyond the financial statement date, including any currently known information that may raise substantial doubt shortly thereafter.



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

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

In performing an audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and Government Auditing Standards, we:

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

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

#### **Required Supplementary Information**

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the management's discussion and analysis, the schedules of the District's proportionate share of the net pension liability - PSERS and pension plan contributions - PSERS, schedule of changes in OPEB liability single-employer plan, and the schedules of the District's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability -PSERS and OPEB plan contributions – PSERS on pages 11 through 20 and 64 through 68 be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board, who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic or historical context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.



#### **Supplementary Information**

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise West Chester Area School District's basic financial statements. The accompanying schedule of expenditures of federal awards, as required by Title 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations Part 200, Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards, is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the basic financial statements.

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

#### Other Information Included in the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the other information in the financial statements. The other information comprises the introductory and statistical sections, but does not include the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinions on the financial statements do not cover the other information, and we do not express an opinion or any form of assurance thereon. In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and consider whether a material inconsistency exists between the other information and the financial statements, or the other information otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on the work performed, we conclude that an uncorrected material misstatement of the other information exists, we are required to describe it in our report.

#### Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with Government Auditing Standards, we have also issued our report dated February 7, 2025, on our consideration of West Chester Area School District's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of West Chester Area School District's internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with Government Auditing Standards in considering West Chester Area School District's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

February 7, 2025

Withem Smith + Brown, PC

#### INTRODUCTION

The discussion and analysis of the financial performance of West Chester Area School District (the "District") provides an overall review of the District's financial activities for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024. The intent of this discussion and analysis is to look at the District's financial performance as a whole. Readers also should review the financial statements and the notes to the financial statements to enhance their understanding of the District's financial performance.

#### **DISTRICT MISSION STATEMENT**

The Districts' mission is to educate and inspire our students to achieve their personal best.

#### **DISTRICT PROFILE**

The District consists of eleven elementary schools, three middle schools and three high schools, serving 12,100 students. The District serves a 75 square-mile suburban, urban and rural area in Chester County, Pennsylvania and is comprised of West Chester Borough and the surrounding townships of East Goshen, West Goshen, East Bradford, West Whiteland, Westtown and Thornbury in Chester County and Thornbury Township in Delaware County. The Staff, headed by Superintendent Dr. David Christopher, includes more than 1,000 teachers, 70 administrators and 400 support staff. More than 63% of our certified teaching staff, and 100% of our administrative staff hold advanced degrees.

Student achievement is the primary focus in the district as it is consistently ranked among the best in the state and nation, with 93% of its graduates attending college after graduation. Recognition includes US News and World Report, and Newsweek's Best Public High Schools in the nation. Niche, a national database of public schools, rated the district as 31 out of 500 Pennsylvania school districts, and The National Music Merchants rated the District as one of 37 districts in the state and 570 in the nation as Best Communities in Education.

#### **FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS**

- The largest District revenue stream is local property tax. In 2023-24, the School Board did not raise property taxes to balance the budget. The taxpayers in Chester County were assessed for property taxes at 22.4364 mills. (Please note that one mill is equal to one-tenth of a cent or \$0.001 of assessed value.) Delaware County tax rate was assessed based upon the equalized millage calculation, which resulted in a tax rate of 9.9424 mills in 2023-24.
- On a fund level reporting basis, compared to the prior year, the District's General Fund total revenues, excluding other financing sources, increased 2.10% or \$6,075,239. This increase was driven primarily by property tax revenue growth, earned income tax, investment income, basic education state funding, and retirement state subsidy revenue. The Increases were offset by a reduction in federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security ("CARES") and American Rescue Plan ("ARP") funding.
- On a fund level reporting basis, compared to the prior year, the District's General Fund expenditures increased \$9,376,456 or 3.44%. This increase was the result of planned contract increases in salaries for the professional staff, medical benefits costs, student transportation costs and student tuition expense. Salary expense increased by \$4,663,917 or 4.13%. Medical expenses increased by \$4,131,268 or 24.50%. Student transportation expense increased by \$677,286 or 5.03% and Student tuition expense increased by \$542,871 or 3.66%. The increases were partially offset by a decrease in construction and equipment expense of \$2,379,341.

- The statement of Net position reflects the actuarially determined net pension liability of \$324,751,000, deferred outflows of resources of \$59,198,129 comprising contributions made by the District made after the measurement date of June 30, 2023 and deferred inflows of resources of \$4,446,000 comprised of investment returns on pension assets over projected returns. The governmental activities increase in net position was driven by the combined change in the District's actuarially determined proportionate share of the PSERS liability, and related deferred outflows and deferred inflows, resulting in a reduction of expenses which increased net position.
- On an entity-wide basis, the District's total net position was negative \$80,898,052 at June 30, 2024. This represented a decrease of 17.87% from the prior year.

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

The accompanying financial statements have been prepared in accordance with GASB Statement Number 34 and present both entity-wide and fund level financial statements using both the accrual basis and modified accrual basis of accounting, respectively.

#### **Entity-Wide Financial Statements**

The first two statements are entity-wide financial statements - the Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities. These provide both long-term and short-term information about the District's overall financial status.

The entity-wide statements report information about the District as a whole using accounting methods similar to those used by private-sector companies. The Statement of Net Position includes all of the District's assets, deferred outflows of resources, liabilities and deferred inflows of resources. All of the current year's revenues and expenses are accounted for in the Statement of Activities regardless of when cash is received or paid.

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

Over time, increases or decreases in the District's net position are an indication of whether its financial health is improving or deteriorating, respectively.

To assess the overall health of the District, the reader needs to consider additional nonfinancial factors, such as changes in the District's property tax base and the performance of the students.

The entity-wide financial statements of the District are divided into two categories:

- Governmental Activities All of the District's basic services are included here, such as instruction, administration and community services. Property taxes and state and federal subsidies and grants finance most of these activities.
- **Business-type Activities** The District operates a food service operation and charges fees to staff and students to cover the costs of the food service operation.

#### **Fund Level Financial Statements**

The remaining statements are fund financial statements that focus on individual parts of the District's operations in more detail than the entity-wide statements. The governmental fund statements tell how the District's general services were financed in the short term as well as what remains for future spending. Proprietary fund statements offer short-term and long-term financial information about the activities that the District operates like a business. For this District, this is our Food Service Fund. Fiduciary fund statements provide information about financial relationships for which the District acts solely as a trustee or agent for the benefit of others.

- Governmental Funds Most of the District's activities are reported in governmental funds, which focus on the determination of financial position and change in financial position, not on income determination. The District's major governmental funds are the General Fund, the Capital Projects Fund and the Capital Reserve Fund. Governmental funds are reported using the modified accrual accounting method, which measures cash and all other financial assets that can readily be converted to cash. The governmental fund statements provide a detailed short-term view of the District's operations and the services it provides. Governmental fund information helps the reader determine whether there are more or fewer financial resources that can be spent in the near future to finance the District's programs. The relationship (or differences) between governmental activities (reported in the Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities) and governmental funds is reconciled in the financial statements.
- Proprietary Funds These funds are used to account for District activities that are similar to business
  operations in the private sector; or where the reporting is on determining net income, financial position,
  changes in financial position and a significant portion of funding through user charges. When the District
  charges customers for services it provides whether to outside customers or to other units in the District these services generally are reported in proprietary funds. The Food Service Fund is the District's
  proprietary fund and is the same as the business-type activities reported in the entity-wide statements.
- **Fiduciary Funds** The District is the trustee, or fiduciary, for some scholarship funds. All of the District's fiduciary activities are reported in a separate Statement of Fiduciary Net Position. These activities are excluded from the District's other financial statements because the District cannot use these assets to finance its operations.

The financial statements also include notes that explain some of the information in the financial statements and provide more detailed data.

#### FINANCIAL ANALYSIS OF THE DISTRICT - ENTITY-WIDE STATEMENTS

The District's total net position was negative \$80,898,052 at June 30, 2024. This represents a decrease of \$17,598,652 over the prior year. The table below presents condensed financial information for the net position of the District as of June 30, 2024 and 2023.

	Government	al Activities	Business-type Activities			Totals				
	2024	2023		2024		2023		2024	_	2023
Assets										
Current and other assets	\$ 165,808,313	\$ 178,964,716	\$	3,064,501	\$	2,846,284	\$	168,872,814	\$	181,811,000
Capital assets	325,538,505	326,984,993		904,132		782,489	_	326,442,637	_	327,767,482
Total assets	491,346,818	505,949,709		3,968,633	_	3,628,773		495,315,451		509,578,482
Deferred outflows of resources	65,612,507	65,239,690					_	65,612,507		65,239,690
Liabilities										
Current liabilities	52,175,634	60,566,709		854,267		757,366		53,029,901		61,324,075
Noncurrent liabilities	575,693,704	593,900,409					_	575,693,704	_	593,900,409
Total liabilities	627,869,338	654,467,118		854,267		757,366	_	628,723,605	_	655,224,484
Deferred inflows of resources	13,102,405	18,090,392					_	13,102,405		18,090,392
Net position (deficit)										
Net investment in capital assets	90,657,451	82,415,067		904,132		782,489		91,561,583		83,197,556
Restricted for capital projects	33,101,201	32,138,400		-		-		33,101,201		32,138,400
Unrestricted (Deficit)	(207,771,070)	(215,921,578)		2,210,234		2,088,918	_	(205,560,836)	_	(213,832,660)
Total net position (deficit)	\$ (84,012,418)	\$ (101,368,111)	\$	3,114,366	\$	2,871,407	\$	(80,898,052)	\$	(98,496,704)

The governmental activities restricted net position in the amount of \$33,101,201 is set aside to fund capital improvements, the replacement of and additions to public works, and deferred maintenance. The total unrestricted net position in the amount of negative \$205,560,836 included \$2,210,234 which could be used for capital and other expenditures within the District's food service program.

The results of this year's operations as a whole are reported in the Statement of Activities. All expenses are reported in the first column. Specific charges, grants, revenues and subsidies that relate directly to specific expense categories are presented to determine the final amount of the District's activities that are supported by other general revenues. The largest revenues are property taxes, local taxes and the state basic education subsidy.

The table below presents condensed financial information for the Statement of Activities in a different format so that the reader can see the total revenues for the year. Compared to the prior year, the District's total revenues increased by \$6,629,551 or 2.24%. The largest changes in revenue occurred in property taxes, other revenues and operating grants and contributions. Other revenues increased by \$3,514,310 or 41.61% related to increases in investment revenue. Property taxes increased by \$1,701,977 or 0.89%. Grants and subsidies not restricted to specific programs increased by \$1,590,656 or 10.46% due to increases in state subsidy funding.

Expenses increased by \$23,360,290 or 8.93%. The largest drivers of this increase were instruction, student support services, administrative and financial support services, and pupil transportation. The main driving factors for the increase were related to contracted salaries increases, retirement expense and contracted professional services.

	Governmen	tal Activities	Business-ty	pe Activities	Totals	
	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023
Revenues						
Program services						
Charges for services	\$ 1,346,203	\$ 1,381,820	\$ 2,906,819	\$ 2,381,987	\$ 4,253,022	\$ 3,763,807
Operating grants and						
contributions	39,805,060	41,272,583	1,941,784	1,928,693	41,746,844	43,201,276
General revenues						
Property taxes	192,916,118	191,214,141	-	-	192,916,118	191,214,141
Other taxes	35,001,582	34,213,757	-	-	35,001,582	34,213,757
Grants and subsidies						
not restricted to						
specific programs	16,803,823	15,213,167	-	-	16,803,823	15,213,167
Other revenues	11,787,755	8,326,618	172,744	119,571	11,960,499	8,446,189
Total revenues	297,660,541	291,622,086	5,021,347	4,430,251	302,681,888	296,052,337
Expenses						
Instruction	178,747,627	163,696,662	-	-	178,747,627	163,696,662
Instructional student						
support services	22,945,048	20,769,504	-	-	22,945,048	20,769,504
Administrative and financial						
support services	26,333,243	23,733,426	-	-	26,333,243	23,733,426
Operation and maintenance						
of plant services	23,867,995	21,275,695	-	-	23,867,995	21,275,695
Pupil transportation	15,202,250	14,310,797	-	-	15,202,250	14,310,797
Student activities	6,221,829	5,699,023	-	-	6,221,829	5,699,023
Community services	20,533	187,223	-	-	20,533	187,223
Interest on long-term debt	6,966,323	7,675,847	-	-	6,966,323	7,675,847
Food service			4,778,388	4,374,769	4,778,388	4,374,769
Total expenses	280,304,848	257,348,177	4,778,388	4,374,769	285,083,236	261,722,946
Change in net position	17,355,693	34,273,909	242,959	55,482	17,598,652	34,329,391
Net position (deficit)						
Beginning of year	(101,368,111)	(135,642,020)	2,871,407	2,815,925	(98,496,704)	(132,826,095)
End of year	\$ (84,012,418)	\$ (101,368,111)	\$ 3,114,366	\$ 2,871,407	\$ (80,898,052)	\$ (98,496,704)

#### **EXPENSES**

The table below presents condensed financial information on the expenses of the District by function. The table illustrates both the gross and net costs of services. Unrestricted grants, subsidies and contributions are deducted to reflect the amount needed to be funded by other revenue sources. The amount needed to be funded by other revenue sources increased by \$22,869,155 or 11.5% over the prior year. The table for business-type activity reflects condensed financial activities of the food service program, the only business-type activity of the District.

	Total Cost	of Services	Net Cost of Services		
	2024	2023	2024	2023	
Governmental activities					
Expenses					
Instruction	\$ 178,747,627	\$ 163,696,662	\$ 152,072,109	\$ 134,863,930	
Instructional student support	22,945,048	20,769,504	18,966,442	16,886,754	
Administrative and financial support	26,333,243	23,733,426	23,933,451	21,520,666	
Operation and maintenance of					
plant services	23,867,995	21,275,695	19,911,999	17,474,044	
Pupil transportation	15,202,250	14,310,797	12,256,117	11,584,489	
Student activities	6,221,829	5,699,023	5,026,677	4,500,845	
Community services	20,533	187,223	20,467	187,199	
Interest on long-term debt	6,966,323	7,675,847	6,966,323	7,675,847	
Total expense	\$ 280,304,848	\$ 240,265,013	239,153,585	199,447,306	
Less: Grants, subsidies and contributions not restricted			(16,803,823)	(15,213,167)	
Amount needed to be funded by					
other revenue sources			\$ 222,349,762	\$ 199,480,607	
Business-type activities					
Food services	\$ 4,778,388	\$ 4,374,769	\$ (70,215)	\$ (1,482,889)	

#### THE DISTRICT FUNDS

#### **General Fund**

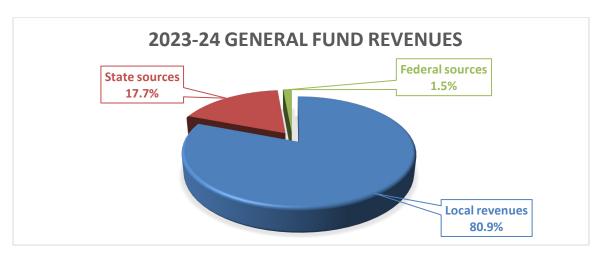
At June 30, 2024, the District reported a total fund balance of \$94,036,156 which was an increase of \$5,475,532 over the prior year. Of this amount, the District committed \$66,044,229 of the fund balance towards tax rate stabilization. These funds will be used to offset the 2024-25 budget gaps and eliminate the need for future tax increases. Due to the nature of self-insuring health insurance claims, the District experiences volatility in annual health insurance costs, to smooth these expenditures, the District established a health insurance rate stabilization fund and committed \$4,159,909 which is consistent with the prior year. The District assigned \$2,000,000 to fund fluctuations in alternative education cost and \$1,000,000 to help minimize the property assessment fluctuations, which both are consistent with the prior year. In 2024 the District assigned \$1,100,000 to fund future staffing needs. The remaining assigned fund balance of \$52,138 is assigned for athletic activities. There are nonspendable amounts of \$2,299,476 in fund balance for prepaid expenditures. The remaining fund balance of \$17,380,404 is classified as unassigned and represents 6.17% of total expenditures.

The School Board of West Chester Area School District manages the fund balance to respond to unforeseen contingencies and economic conditions. This philosophy was established during a healthy and growing economy within the District and accurate and timely forecasting allows the District to constantly monitor economic trends within our community. This philosophy conforms to the Board's belief that the tax burden should be aligned with the current funding needs of the District.

#### **REVENUE**

General Fund Revenues, excluding other financing sources, total \$295,873,775 which is an increase from the collections in the prior year. The table below reflects a comparison of current year revenues to prior year revenues:

	General Fund Revenue 2024		Increase/ (Decrease) from 2023	Variance Over/(Under) Final Budget
Local revenues	\$ 239,264,892	80.9%	\$ 5,956,126	\$ 23,045,759
State sources	52,257,112	17.7%	2,887,887	1,549,838
Federal sources	4,351,771	<u>1.4</u> %	(2,768,774)	771,875
Total	\$ 295,873,775	<u>100.00</u> %	\$ 6,075,239	\$ 25,367,472



Local revenues Increased by \$5,956,126. The Districts real estate tax revenue increased \$2,016,250, or 1.07% from the prior year due to overall property growth within the District. The District's investment revenues increased \$3,258,922, or 49.71% from the prior year. The District's earned income tax revenues increased \$1,651,613, or 5.98% from the prior year. Additionally, real estate transfer tax revenue and delinquent tax collection revenue decreased by \$641,203 or 10.39% and \$314,273 or 10.76%, respectively, from the prior year.

The increase in State revenues is due to increases in basic education funding, retirement subsidy revenue and social security and Medicare subsidy revenue. Basic education funding increased by \$1,699,525. State pension retirement and social security and Medicare subsidies increased by \$867,458 and \$237,519, respectively. The state reimburses the District for 50% of the District's pension and social security and Medicare costs.

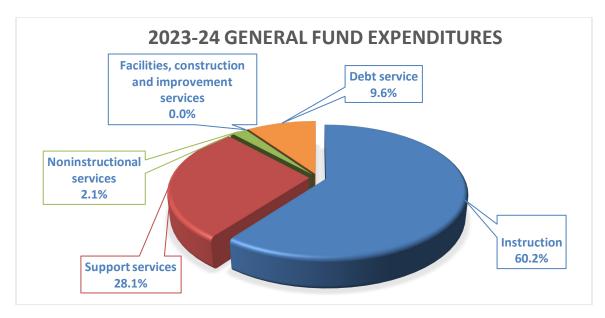
Federal revenues decreased by 38.88%, which is the result of the decrease in Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security ("CARES") and American Rescue Plan ("ARP") funding totaling \$3,769,147. The decreases were offset by increases in IDEA funding of \$621,829, Title I funding of \$395,922, Title II funding of \$1,688 and Title III funding of \$10,673.

#### **EXPENDITURES**

General Fund expenditures, excluding transfers to other governmental funds, totaled \$281,770,970. This was an increase of \$9,376,456 or 3.44% over the prior year, and it was \$11,885,448 under the approved budget. The expenditures were segregated into various programs depending on the functions of the activity. These programs and the costs associated with each, as well as comparison to the costs incurred in the prior year and the final 2023-24 budget, are as follows:

	General Fund Revenue Percentage 2024 of Total		Increase/ (Decrease) from 2023	Variance Over/(Under) Final Budget	
Instruction	\$ 169,466,011	60.2%	\$ 7,793,787	\$ (5,387,813)	
Support services	79,257,033	28.1%	4,609,247	(5,964,230)	
Noninstructional services	5,896,493	2.1%	86,355	(323,260)	
Facilities acquisition, construction					
and improvement services	-	0.0%	(2,382,380)	-	
Debt service	27,151,433	<u>9.6</u> %	(730,553)	(210,145)	
Total	\$ 281,770,970	<u>100.0</u> %	\$ 9,376,456	\$ (11,885,448)	

The driving factors for the 2023-24 increases in instructional and support services were contracted salary increases, retirement expense and student transportation costs. The decrease in 2023-24 facilities acquisition, construction and improvement services was the result of one-time construction costs funded through a federal grant in the prior year.



#### **Capital Projects Fund**

Fiscal 2023-24 represented the fourteenth year of the District's elementary school master plan renovations. By the completion of this plan, all ten existing elementary schools will have been renovated. In 2019 the District identified the need for an eleventh elementary school due to the student growth within the District. As of June 30, 2024, the District had a capital projects fund balance of \$7,087,644. This was a decrease of \$10,763,701 from the prior year. The District also reported expenditures of \$15,423,744 in 2023-24. These expenditures were primarily related to the design and renovation of the elementary schools.

#### **Capital Reserve Fund**

The Capital Reserve Fund had a fund balance of \$33,101,201 at June 30, 2024. This was a \$962,801 increase from the prior year. The Capital Reserve Fund is funded by transfers from the General Fund. In 2023-24, the capital outflows from the Capital Reserve Fund were spent on maintenance projects. The Capital Reserve Fund received a transfer in of \$3,980,986 from the General Fund. This transfer represented general fund maintenance projects and debt service savings achieved through refinancing an existing bond issue.

#### **GENERAL FUND BUDGET**

During the fiscal year, the Board of School Directors authorizes revisions to the original budget to accommodate differences from the original budget to the actual expenditures of the District. All adjustments are confirmed again at the time the annual audit is accepted. This is done after the end of the fiscal year in accordance with state law. A schedule showing the District's original and final budget amounts compared with amounts actually paid and received is provided in the financial statements.

Due to legislative restrictions, the District must adopt a preliminary budget six months before the start of the fiscal year. Subsequent to the start of the fiscal year, the District's projections indicated that future budget years would experience a budgetary shortfall due to rising pension rates and limited local revenue increases. In reaction to this anticipated gap, the District has been conservative with spending. This is evident when reviewing the District's actual expenditures versus the approved budget. Total revenues were collected above budgeted amounts at \$25,367,472 over budget or 9.38%. Total expenditures were under the amended budget by \$11,885,448 or 4.05%.

#### **CAPITAL ASSETS**

At June 30, 2024, the District had \$326,442,637 invested in a broad range of governmental capital assets, including land, buildings, furniture and equipment. This amount represents a net decrease (including additions, deletions and depreciation) of \$1,324,845 or .004% from the prior year. Additionally, the District's construction in progress balance decreased by \$16,577,774 from the prior year.

The following schedule depicts the capital assets for the period July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024. More detailed information about Capital assets is included in the notes to the financial statements.

	Governmental <u>Activities</u>	Business-Type Activities	Total Assets	
Capital assets				
Land	\$ 28,289,916	\$ -	\$ 28,289,916	
Land improvements	18,032,787	-	18,032,787	
Buildings	501,902,105	-	501,902,105	
Construction-in-progress	30,445,829	-	30,445,829	
Furniture and equipment	58,874,995	1,852,398	60,727,393	
Right-to-use leased equipment	1,063,021		1,063,021	
Total capital assets	638,608,653	1,852,398	640,461,051	
Total accumulated depreciation	313,070,148	948,266	314,018,414	
Capital assets, net	\$ 325,538,505	\$ 904,132	\$ 326,442,637	

#### **DEBT ADMINISTRATION**

As of June 30, 2024, the District had total outstanding bonds and related charges of \$242,267,739, a decrease of \$20,124,178 from the prior year. Based upon a projection of future debt margins, the retirement of principal on current issues and estimated future borrowing, the District is certain that it will not exceed its debt limit.

	Principal Outstanding June 30, 2023	Maturities/ Refinancing	Additions	Principal Outstanding June 30, 2024
General obligation bonds and notes	\$ 242,135,000	\$ 29,975,000	\$ 11,300,000	\$ 223,460,000
Deferred amounts  Net Issuance premium	20,256,917	2,450,780	1,001,602	18,807,739
Long-term debt	\$ 283,168,168	\$ 32,425,780	\$ 12,301,602	\$ 242,267,739

#### OTHER LONG-TERM LIABILITIES

Other obligations include accrued vacation pay and severance for specific employees of the District and lease liability on buildings and equipment. More detailed information about long-term liabilities is included in the notes to the financial statements.

#### THE DISTRICT'S FUTURE

West Chester Area School District forecasts budgetary impacts on a rolling five-year cycle. Looking forward, the District is expecting revenues to fall short of anticipated expenditures, creating a budgetary gap. Local revenue is the Districts largest budgetary stream has shown signs of growth over the past year. Earned income tax and growth in real estate tax base both follow local economic trends. The District has seen a large increase in investment earning over the past year which is in line with the current market trend, however the District does recognize the volatility in market return and will continue to be conservative in budgeting in this area. While State funding has increased recently, with increases in basic education funding, pension and social security subsidies. Pension and social security subsidy increases are mirrored by the cost and do not assist in addressing budgetary gaps.

Expense growth in the future will continue to be driven by staffing, pension and employee benefit costs. The District's employer pension contribution rate decreased from 35.26% in 2022-2023 to 34.00% in 2023-2024 and is projected to increase moving forward. The District also projects an annual increase of 7.57% per year in health benefits. The District uses fund balance management techniques to reserve funds for future staffing needs, potential health care costs, alternative education costs and reduce millage impact. The District has changed health care plans for all its labor groups in an attempt to limit health care expenses. While currently, the District is showing a deficit, the District School Board and staff are working hard to develop methods to address the District's long-term financial needs.

During the past few years, the District has continued to see a large number of residential development projects approved within the School District's boundaries. In anticipation of the influx of new students, the District has adjusted its long-term elementary school master plan that included an 11th elementary school. The District will continue the renovations and/or additions to each of its existing 10 elementary schools. The District has completed seven building renovations and is in progress with the eighth and ninth renovations. The remaining elementary school renovations are estimated to be completed through 2029. As for the financing of the remaining renovations plan, the District has always exercised caution in a conservative approach to borrowing, including waiting until long-term bonds (20-year notes) were capable of being sold at advantageous, fixed rates of interest.

#### **FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT**

Our financial report is designed to provide our citizens, taxpayers, parents, students, investors and creditors with a general overview of the District's finances and to show the Board's accountability for the money it receives. If you have questions about this report or wish to request additional financial information, please contact Mr. John Scully, Director of Business Affairs at The West Chester Area School District, 782 Springdale Drive, Exton, PA 19341, (484) 266-1020.

## West Chester Area School District Government-Wide - Statement of Net Position (Deficit) June 30, 2024

	Primary Government				
	Governmental	Business-type	Tatal		
	Activities	Activities	Total		
Assets and Deferred Outflows of Resources					
Assets					
Current assets					
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 22,005,377	\$ 519,698	\$ 22,525,075		
Investments	126,013,698	2,621,892	128,635,590		
Internal balances	170,303	(170,303)	-		
Due from other governments	9,354,913	55,988	9,410,901		
Other receivables	2,120,986	27,784	2,148,770		
Taxes receivables	3,694,763	-	3,694,763		
Prepaid expenses	2,448,273	-	2,448,273		
Inventories		9,442	9,442		
Total current assets	165,808,313	3,064,501	168,872,814		
Noncurrent assets					
Capital assets					
Land	28,289,916	-	28,289,916		
Construction-in-progress	30,445,829	-	30,445,829		
Land improvements	18,032,787	-	18,032,787		
Buildings	501,902,105	-	501,902,105		
Furniture and equipment	58,874,995	1,852,398	60,727,393		
Leased right to use building and equipment	1,063,021	-	1,063,021		
Less: Accumulated depreciation	(313,070,148)	(948,266)	(314,018,414)		
Total noncurrent assets	325,538,505	904,132	326,442,637		
Total assets	491,346,818	3,968,633	495,315,451		
Deferred Outflow of Resources					
Deferred amount on refunding	1,937,657	-	1,937,657		
Deferred outflows relating to OPEB	4,476,721	-	4,476,721		
Deferred outflows relating to pension	59,198,129		59,198,129		
Total deferred outflow of resources	65,612,507		65,612,507		
Total assets and deferred					
outflows of resources	\$ 556,959,325	\$ 3,968,633	\$ 560,927,958		

## West Chester Area School District Government-Wide - Statement of Net Position (Deficit) June 30, 2024

	Primary Government				
	Governmental Activities	Business-type Activities	Total		
Liabilities and Net Position (Deficit)					
Liabilities					
Current liabilities					
Accounts payable and other current liabilities	\$ 29,757,830	\$ 331,265	\$ 30,089,095		
Accrued interest	1,288,382	-	1,288,382		
Unearned revenues	59,744	523,002	582,746		
Bonds and notes payable, net	20,854,392	-	20,854,392		
Lease liability	215,286		215,286		
Total current liabilities	52,175,634	854,267	53,029,901		
Noncurrent liabilities					
Bonds and notes payable, net	221,413,347	-	221,413,347		
Accrued severance and compensated absences	6,061,021	-	6,061,021		
Net OPEB liability	23,333,388	-	23,333,388		
Net pension liability	324,751,000	-	324,751,000		
Lease liability	134,948	-	134,948		
Total noncurrent liabilities	575,693,704	-	575,693,704		
Total liabilities	627,869,338	854,267	628,723,605		
Deferred inflow of resources					
Deferred inflow relating to OPEB	8,656,405	-	8,656,405		
Deferred inflow relating to pension	4,446,000	-	4,446,000		
Total deferred inflow of resources	13,102,405	<u> </u>	13,102,405		
Net position					
Net investment in capital assets	90,657,451	904,132	91,561,583		
Restricted for capital projects	33,101,201	-	33,101,201		
Unrestricted (deficit)	(207,771,070)	2,210,234	(205,560,836)		
Total net position (deficit)	(84,012,418)	3,114,366	(80,898,052)		
Total liabilities, deferred inflow of resources					
and net position (deficit)	\$ 556,959,325	\$ 3,968,633	\$ 560,927,958		

## West Chester Area School District Government-Wide - Statement of Activities Year Ended June 30, 2024

Primary Government	Expenses	Charges for Service	Operating Grants	Capital Grants	Governmental Activities	Business-type Activities	Totals
Governmental activities							
Instruction	\$ 178,747,627	\$ 137,116	\$ 26,538,402	\$ -	\$ (152,072,109)	\$ -	\$ (152,072,109)
Instructional student support	22,945,048	-	3,978,606	_	(18,966,442)	-	(18,966,442)
Administrative and financial support services	26,333,243	-	2,399,792	-	(23,933,451)	-	(23,933,451)
Operation and maintenance of plant services	23,867,995	709,676	3,246,320	-	(19,911,999)	-	(19,911,999)
Pupil transportation	15,202,250	-	2,946,133	-	(12,256,117)	-	(12,256,117)
Student activities	6,221,829	499,411	695,741	-	(5,026,677)	-	(5,026,677)
Community services	20,533	-	66	-	(20,467)	-	(20,467)
Interest on long-term debt	6,966,323				(6,966,323)		(6,966,323)
Total governmental activities	280,304,848	1,346,203	39,805,060		(239,153,585)		(239,153,585)
Business-type activities							
Food service	4,778,388	2,906,819	1,941,784			70,215	70,215
Total primary government	\$ 285,083,236	\$ 4,253,022	\$ 41,746,844	\$ -	(239,153,585)	70,215	(239,083,370)
		General revenues					
		Property taxes, le	evied for general pur	pose	192,916,118	-	192,916,118
		Taxes levied for	specific purposes		35,001,582	-	35,001,582
		Grants, entitleme	ents and contributions	S			
		not restricted to	specific programs		16,803,823	-	16,803,823
		Investment earni	ngs		11,595,815	168,844	11,764,659
		Other			191,940	3,900	195,840
		Total general	revenues		256,509,278	172,744	256,682,022
		Change in net posi	tion		17,355,693	242,959	17,598,652
		Net position (defici	t), beginning of year		(101,368,111)	2,871,407	(98,496,704)
		Net position (defici	t), current year		\$ (84,012,418)	\$ 3,114,366	\$ (80,898,052)

The Notes to Financial Statements are an integral part of this statement.

## West Chester Area School District Balance Sheet – Governmental Funds June 30, 2024

	General Fund	Capital Projects Fund	Capital Reserve Fund	Other Governmental Fund	Totals
Assets					
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 15,811,691	\$ 1,355,306	\$ 4,838,380	\$ -	\$ 22,005,377
Investments	89,334,123	8,057,609	28,621,966	-	126,013,698
Taxes receivable	3,694,763	-	-	-	3,694,763
Due from other funds	170,303	-	-	-	170,303
Due from other governments	9,354,913	-	-	-	9,354,913
Other receivables	2,120,986	-	-	-	2,120,986
Prepaid expenditures	2,299,476	148,797			2,448,273
Total assets	\$ 122,786,255	\$ 9,561,712	\$ 33,460,346	\$ -	\$ 165,808,313
Liabilities, Deferred Inflows of Resources and Fund Balances (Deficit)	5				
Liabilities					
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 5,885,246	\$ 2,474,068	\$ 359,145	\$ -	\$ 8,718,459
Unearned revenue	59,744	-	-	-	59,744
Payroll accruals and withholdings	21,039,371				21,039,371
Total liabilities	26,984,361	2,474,068	359,145		29,817,574
Deferred inflows of resources					
Unavailable revenue - property taxes	1,765,738				1,765,738
Total deferred inflows of resources	1,765,738				1,765,738
Fund balances (deficit)					
Nonspendable	2,299,476	148,797	-	-	2,448,273
Restricted	-	6,938,847	33,101,201	-	40,040,048
Committed	70,204,138	-	-	-	70,204,138
Assigned	4,152,138	-	-	-	4,152,138
Unassigned	17,380,404				17,380,404
Total fund balances (deficit)	94,036,156	7,087,644	33,101,201		134,225,001
Total liabilities, deferred inflows of					
resources and fund balance (deficit)	\$ 122,786,255	\$ 9,561,712	\$ 33,460,346	\$ -	\$ 165,808,313

## West Chester Area School District Reconciliation of Governmental Funds Balance Sheet to Statement of Net Position (Deficit) June 30, 2024

Total Fund Balances for Governmental Funds		\$ 134,225,001
Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of net position are different because:		
Capital assets used in governmental activities are not financial resources and, therefore, are not reported as assets in the governmental funds. The cost of assets was \$638,608,653 accumulated depreciation and amortization was \$313,070,148.		325,538,505
Some of the District's revenues will be collected after year end but are not available soon enough to pay the current year's expenditures and, therefore, are reported as unavailable revenue - property taxes in the governmental funds.		1,765,738
Governmental funds report deferred amounts on bond refundings as other financing sources. However, these amounts are reported on the statement of net position as deferred outflows of resources and amortized over the life of the refunding debt.		1,937,657
Long-term liabilities applicable to the governmental activities are not due and payable in the current period and, therefore, are not reported in the governmental funds.  Accrued interest Bonds and notes payable in future years, net Accumulated compensated absences Net pension liability Net OPEB liability Lease liability	\$ (1,288,382) (242,267,739) (6,061,021) (324,751,000) (23,333,388) (350,234)	(598,051,764)
Deferred inflows and outflows related to the District's net pension liability are based on the differences between actuarially determined expected and actual investment returns, changes in the actuarially determined proportion of the District's amount of the total pension liability, differences between actual and expected experience, and pension contributions made after the measurement date of the net pension liability. These amounts will be amortized over the estimated remaining average service life of the employees.  Deferred outflows of resources		
Deferred outflows - OPEB	4,476,721	
Deferred outflows - pension	59,198,129	
Deferred inflows of resources		
Deferred inflows - OPEB	(8,656,405)	
Deferred inflows - pension	(4,446,000)	50,572,445
Total net position of governmental activities		<u>\$ (84,012,418)</u>

The Notes to Financial Statements are an integral part of this statement.

## West Chester Area School District Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances – Governmental Funds

Year E	∃nded	June	30.	2024
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	General Fund	Capital Projects Fund	Capital Reserve Fund	Other Governmental Fund	Totals
Revenues					
Local sources	\$ 239,264,892	\$ -	\$ 1,780,484	\$ -	\$ 241,045,376
State sources	52,257,112	-	-	-	52,257,112
Federal sources	4,351,771				4,351,771
Total revenues	295,873,775		1,780,484		297,654,259
Expenditures					
Current					
Instruction	169,466,011	-	-	-	169,466,011
Support services	79,257,033	3,727,418	-	-	82,984,451
Operation of noninstructional services	5,896,493	-	-	-	5,896,493
Debt service					
Principal	17,975,000	-	-	-	17,975,000
Interest	9,176,433	-	-	-	9,176,433
Bond Issuance costs	-	2,452	-	151,763	154,215
Capital outlays		11,693,874	4,798,669		16,492,543
Total expenditures	281,770,970	15,423,744	4,798,669	151,763	302,145,146
Excess (Deficiency) of revenues					
over (under) expenditures	14,102,805	(15,423,744)	(3,018,185)	(151,763)	(4,490,887)
Other financing sources (uses)					
Refund of prior year expenditures	11,304	-	-	-	11,304
Bonds issued for refunding	-	-	-	11,300,000	11,300,000
Payment to refund bonds	-	-	-	(12,147,387)	(12,147,387)
Premium on bonds issued	-	-	-	1,001,602	1,001,602
Transfers in	-	4,660,043	3,980,986	-	8,641,029
Transfers out	(8,638,577)			(2,452)	(8,641,029)
Total other financing sources (uses)	(8,627,273)	4,660,043	3,980,986	151,763	165,519
Net change in fund balances	5,475,532	(10,763,701)	962,801	-	(4,325,368)
Fund balances (deficit), beginning of year	88,560,624	17,851,345	32,138,400	<u> </u>	138,550,369
Fund balances (deficit), end of year	\$ 94,036,156	\$ 7,087,644	\$ 33,101,201	\$ -	\$ 134,225,001

## West Chester Area School District Reconciliation of Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances – Governmental Funds to Statement of Activities

Year Ended June 30, 2024

Net Change in Fund Balances - Total Governmental Funds	\$ (4,325,368)
Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of activities are different because:	
Capital outlays are reported in governmental funds as expenditures, either as district-wide (capital outlay) or function-specific (i.e. instruction, pupil services). However, in the statement of activities, the cost of those assets is allocated over their useful lives as depreciation expense. This is the amount by which depreciation expense exceedd \$19,278,926 exceeded capital outlay \$17,832,438 in the period.	(1,446,488)
Because some amounts will not be collected for several months after the District's fiscal year ends, they are not considered as "available" revenues in the governmental funds. Unavailable revenue decreased by this amount during the year.	(5,022)
Ine issuance or long-term debt (e.g. bonds, leases) provides current financial resources to governmental funds, while the repayment of the principal of long-term debt consumes the current financial resources of governmental funds. Neither transaction, however, has any effect on net position. Also, governmental funds report the effect of premiums, discounts, and similar items when debt is first issued, whereas these amounts are deferred and are deferred and amortized in the statement of activities. This amount is the net effect of these differences in the treatment of long-term debt and related items. Repayment of note principal is an expenditure in the governmental funds, but the repayment reduces long-term liabilities in the statement of net position.	20,391,641
Governmental funds report deferred amounts on bond refundings as other financing sources. However, these amounts are reported on the statement of net position as deferred outflows of resources and amortized over the life of the refunding debt.	(134,338)
In the statement of activities, certain operating expenses – compensated absences (vacations and sick leave) and special termination benefits (early retirement) – are measured by the amounts earned during the year. In the governmental funds, however, expenditures for these items are measured by the amount of financial resources used (essentially, the amounts actually paid). This is the amount by which current period amounts paid exceeded current period compensated absences earned.	(554,033)
OPEB expenses in the statement of activities differs from the amount reported in the governmental funds because OPEB expenses are recognized in the statement of activities based on the District's proportionate share of the expenses of the cost-sharing OPEB plan and expenses of the single employer, whereas OPEB expenditures are recognized in the governmental funds when a requirement to remit contributions to the plan exists.	287,719
Interest on long-term debt in the statement of activities differs from the amount reported in the governmental funds because interest is recognized as an expenditure in the funds when it is due and, thus, requires the use of current financial resources. In the statement of activities, however, interest expense is recognized as the interest accrues, regardless of when it is due.	195,270
Pension expense in the statement of activities differs from the amount reported in the governmental funds because pension expense is recognized in the statement of activities based on the organization's proportionate share of the expenses of the cost-sharing pension plan, whereas pension expenditures are recognized in the governmental funds when a requirement to remit contributions to the plan exists.	 2,946,312
Change in net position of governmental activities	\$ 17,355,693

## West Chester Area School District Budgetary Comparison Statement – General Fund Year Ended June 30, 2024

				Variance With Final Budget	
	Budgeted Amounts			Positive	
	Original	<u>Final</u>	Actual	(Negative)	
Revenues					
Local sources	\$ 216,219,133	\$ 216,219,133	\$ 239,264,892	\$ 23,045,759	
State sources	50,707,274	50,707,274	52,257,112	1,549,838	
Federal sources	3,579,896	3,579,896	4,351,771	771,875	
Total revenues	270,506,303	270,506,303	295,873,775	25,367,472	
Expenditures					
Instruction					
Regular programs, elementary/secondary	114,859,977	116,403,127	114,362,631	2,040,496	
Special programs, elementary/secondary	48,456,670	49,809,556	46,994,109	2,815,447	
Vocational education programs	7,212,728	7,273,495	7,011,410	262,085	
Other instructional programs	1,144,553	1,211,486	941,701	269,785	
Nonpublic school programs	72,130	156,160	156,160		
Total instruction	171,746,058	174,853,824	169,466,011	5,387,813	
Support services					
Pupil personnel	12,191,614	12,353,784	11,549,870	803,914	
Instructional staff	8,300,701	8,394,165	7,403,116	991,049	
Administration	14,761,627	14,906,547	13,908,372	998,175	
Pupil health	3,241,583	3,287,924	3,252,228	35,696	
Business	2,175,317	2,204,652	2,020,794	183,858	
Operational and maintenance of plant services	23,118,764	23,457,711	21,515,261	1,942,450	
Student transportation services	15,003,994	14,922,134	14,210,531	711,603	
Central	5,155,763	5,417,624	5,120,139	297,485	
Other support services	230,316	276,722	276,722		
Total support services	84,179,679	85,221,263	79,257,033	5,964,230	
Operation of noninstructional services					
Student activities	5,974,703	6,199,182	5,877,297	321,885	
Community services	7,823	20,571	19,196	1,375	
Total operation of noninstructional services	5,982,526	6,219,753	5,896,493	323,260	
Facilities acquisition, construction and improvement services					
Debt service					
Principal, interest and fiscal agent fees	27,291,578	27,361,578	27,151,433	210,145	
Total expenditures	289,199,841	293,656,418	281,770,970	11,885,448	
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over (under) expenditures	(18,693,538)	(23,150,115)	14,102,805	37,252,920	
Other financing sources					
Refunds of prior year expenditures	-	-	11,304	11,304	
Budgetary reserve	(4,599,980)	-	-	-	
Interfund transfer out	(8,495,174)	(8,638,577)	(8,638,577)		
Total other financing sources	(13,095,154)	(8,638,577)	(8,627,273)	11,304	
Net change in fund balance	(31,788,692)	(31,788,692)	5,475,532	37,264,224	
Fund balance, beginning of year	88,560,624	88,560,624	88,560,624		
Fund balance, end of year	\$ 56,771,932	\$ 56,771,932	\$ 94,036,156	\$ 37,264,224	

The Notes to Financial Statements are an integral part of this statement.

## West Chester Area School District Statement of Fund Net Position – Proprietary Fund June 30, 2024

	Food Service Fund
Assets	
Current assets	
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 519,698
Investments	2,621,892
Due from other governments	55,988
Other receivables	27,784
Inventory, donated commodities	9,442
Total current assets	3,234,804
Capital assets	
Furniture and equipment, net	904,132
Total assets	\$ 4,138,936
Liabilities and Net Position	
Current liabilities	
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 331,265
Due to other funds	170,303
Unearned revenue	523,002
Total liabilities	1,024,570
Net position	
Investment in capital assets	904,132
Unrestricted	2,210,234
Total net position	3,114,366
Total liabilities and net position	<u>\$ 4,138,936</u>

## West Chester Area School District Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Position – Proprietary Fund Year Ended June 30, 2024

	Food Service Fund
Operating revenues	
Food service revenue	\$ 2,906,819
Total operating revenues	2,906,819
Operating expenses	
Professional and contract services	4,623,130
Depreciation	155,258
Other operating costs	
Total operating expenses	4,778,388
Operating loss	(1,871,569)
Nonoperating revenues	
State sources	348,421
Federal sources	1,593,363
Local sources	-
Interest income	168,844
Gain on sale of assets	3,900
Total nonoperating revenues	2,114,528
Change in net position	242,959
Net position, beginning of year	2,871,407
Net position, end of year	\$ 3,114,366

## West Chester Area School District Statement of Cash Flows – Proprietary Fund Year Ended June 30, 2024

	Se	Food ervice Fund
Operating activities		
Receipts from customers	\$	2,923,518
Payments to suppliers	_	(4,190,670)
Net cash used by operating activities	_	(1,267,152)
Noncapital financing activities		
State sources		347,624
Federal sources		1,263,217
Net cash provided by noncapital financing activities	_	1,610,841
Capital and related financing activities		
Gain on sale of capital assets		3,900
Purchase of capital assets		(276,900)
Net cash used by capital and related financing activities	_	(273,000)
Investing activities		
Sale of investment securities and deposits to investment pools		238,593
Interest income		168,844
Net cash used by investing activities	_	407,437
Net change in cash and cash equivalents		478,126
Cash and cash equivalents		
Beginning of year	_	41,572
End of year	\$	519,698
Reconciliation of operating loss to net cash used by operating activities		
Operating loss	\$	(1,871,569)
Adjustments to reconcile operating loss to net cash used by		
operating activities		455.050
Depreciation		155,258
Commodities Usage		334,734
Changes in assets and liabilities Increase in other receivables		910
		819 (8.800)
Increase in inventory  Decrease in accounts payable and accrued liabilities		(8,800) 81,021
Decrease in due to other funds		25,505
Decrease in unearned revenue		25,505 15,880
	_	
Net cash used by operating activities	<u>\$</u>	(1,267,152)
Supplemental disclosure		
Noncash noncapital financing activity		
USDA donated commodities	\$	334,734

The Notes to Financial Statements are an integral part of this statement.

## West Chester Area School District Statement of Net Position – Fiduciary Funds June 30, 2024

	Custodia	al Funds		
	Student Activity Funds	Other Custodial Funds	Total Custodial Funds	Private- Purpose Trust
Assets				
Cash and cash equivalents Investments	\$ 471,780 	\$ 129,411 	\$ 601,191 	\$ 592,795 808,214
Total assets	\$ 471,780	\$ 129,411	\$ 601,191	\$ 1,401,009
Liabilities and Net Position				
Liabilities				
Other current liabilities	\$ 14,356	\$ -	<u>\$ 14,356</u>	\$ 2,973
Total liabilities	14,356	-	14,356	2,973
Net position				
Restricted	457,424	129,411	586,835	1,398,036
Total net position	457,424	129,411	586,835	1,398,036
Total liabilities and net position	\$ 471,780	\$ 129,411	\$ 601,191	\$ 1,401,009

## West Chester Area School District Statement of Changes in Net Position – Fiduciary Funds Year Ended June 30, 2024

	Student Activity Funds	Other Custodial Funds	Total Custodial Funds	Private- Purpose Trust
Additions				
Gifts and contributions	\$ 873,227	\$ 340,092	<u>\$ 1,213,319</u>	<u>\$ 1,364,875</u>
Total additions	873,227	340,092	1,213,319	1,364,875
Deductions				
Activity expense	893,296	324,418	1,217,714	508,499
Total deductions	893,296	324,418	1,217,714	508,499
Change in net position	(20,069)	15,674	(4,395)	856,376
Net position				
Beginning of year	477,493	113,737	591,230	541,660
End of year	<u>\$ 457,424</u>	<u>\$ 129,411</u>	\$ 586,835	\$ 1,398,036

#### 1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The West Chester Area School District's ("the District") financial statements are prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles ("GAAP"). The Governmental Accounting Standards Board ("GASB") is responsible for establishing GAAP for state and local governments through its pronouncements (Statements and Interpretations). The more significant accounting policies established in GAAP and used by the District are discussed below.

#### Reporting Entity

The District is governed by an elected Board of Directors. Generally accepted accounting principles require that the financial statements present the District and its component units, entities for which the District is considered to be financially accountable. Blended component units, although legally separate entities, are, in substance, part of the District's operations and, therefore, data from these units are required to be combined with data of the primary school district. Each discretely presented component unit, on the other hand, is required to be reported in a separate column in the entity-wide financial statements to emphasize it is legally separate from the District. Based on the application of these principles, there are no component units presented in the District's financial statements.

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

The entity-wide financial statements (i.e., the statement of net position and the statement of activities) report information on all of the nonfiduciary activities of the District and its component units. For the most part, the effect of interfund activity has been removed from these statements. 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 services.

The statement of activities demonstrates the degree to which the direct expenses of a given function or segment is offset by program revenues. Direct expenses are those that are clearly identifiable with a specific function or segment. Program revenues include 1) charges to customers or applicants 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. Taxes and other items not properly included among program revenues are reported instead as general revenues.

Separate financial statements are provided for governmental funds, proprietary funds, and fiduciary funds even though the latter are excluded from the entity-wide financial statements. Major individual governmental funds and major individual enterprise funds are reported as separate columns in the fund financial statements.

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

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

Governmental fund financial statements are reported using the current financial resources measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recognized as soon as they are both measurable and available. Revenues are considered to be available when they are collectible within the current period or soon enough thereafter to pay liabilities of the current period. For this purpose, the District considers revenues to be available if they are collected within 60 days of the end of the current fiscal period. Expenditures generally are recorded when a liability is incurred, as under accrual accounting. However, debt service expenditures, as well as expenditures related to compensated absences and claims and judgments, are recorded only when payment is due.

Property taxes, franchise taxes, licenses, and interest associated with the current fiscal period are all considered to be susceptible to accrual and, therefore, have been recognized as revenues of the current fiscal period. Only a portion of special assessment receivables due within the current fiscal period is considered to be susceptible to accrual as revenue of the current period. All other revenue items are considered to be measurable and available only when cash is received by the District.

The District reports the following major government funds:

**General Fund** – The General Fund is the District's primary operating fund. It accounts for all financial resources, except those required to be accounted for in another fund.

**Capital Projects Fund** – The Capital Projects Fund is used to account for financial resources to be used for the acquisition or construction of major capital assets other than those financed by enterprise operations.

**Capital Reserve Fund** – The Capital Reserve Fund is used for funds set aside that are legally restricted to expenditures for specific purposes.

The District reports one nonmajor fund (debt service) which is used to record certain debt activity.

The District reports the following major proprietary fund:

**Food Service Fund** – The Food Service Fund (an enterprise fund) is used to account for the operations of the District's school cafeterias that are financed and operated in a manner similar to a private business enterprise wherein the intent of the governing body is that the cost of providing goods or services to the school population on a continuing basis will be recovered or financed primarily through user charges.

These funds distinguish operating revenues and expenses from nonoperating items. Operating revenues and expenses generally result from providing services and producing and delivering goods in connection with the proprietary funds' principal ongoing operations. The principal operating revenue of the District's enterprise fund is food service charges. Operating expenses for the District's enterprise fund includes food production costs, supplies, and administrative costs. All revenues or expenses not meeting this definition are reported as nonoperating revenues and expenses.

For purposes of the statement of cash flows of proprietary funds, cash equivalents include all highly liquid debt instruments with original maturities of three months or less.

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

Additionally, the District reports the following fund types:

**Fiduciary Funds** - Fiduciary Funds are used to account for assets held by the District in a trustee capacity or as an agent for individuals, private organizations or other governments. These include private-purpose trust funds and custodial funds. Private-purpose trust funds account for resources, including both principal and earnings, which must be expended in accordance with a trust agreement and are accounted for in essentially the same manner as proprietary funds. Custodial funds are purely custodial and thus do not involve measurement of the results of operations.

#### Assets, Liabilities and Net Position or Equity

Deposits and Investments

Under Section 440-1 of the Public School code of 1949, as amended, the District is permitted to invest funds consistent with sound business practices in the following types of investments:

- Obligations of (a) the United States of America or any of its agencies or instrumentalities backed by
  the full faith and credit of the United States of America; (b) the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania or any
  of its agencies or instrumentalities backed by the full faith and credit of the Commonwealth; or (c) any
  political subdivision of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania or any of its agencies or instrumentalities
  backed by the full faith and credit of the political subdivision.
- Deposits in savings accounts or time deposits or share accounts of institutions insured by the Federal
  Deposit Insurance Corporation ("FDIC") or the Federal Savings and Loan Insurance Corporation
  ("FSLIC") to the extent that such accounts are so insured and, for any amounts above the insured
  maximum, provided that approved collateral as provided by law therefore shall be pledged by the
  depository.

In 2016, permitted investments were expanded to include highly rated commercial paper, bankers' acceptances, and negotiable certificates of deposit.

Investments are reported at fair value, except for repurchase agreements and nonnegotiable certificates of deposit which are reported at cost. In establishing the fair value of investments, the District uses the following hierarchy. The lowest available level of valuation available is used for all investments.

Level 1 – Valuations based on quoted market prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities that the entity has the ability to access.

Level 2 – Valuations based on quoted prices of similar products in active markets or identical products in markets that are not active or for which all significant inputs are observable, directly or indirectly.

Level 3 – Valuations based on inputs that are unobservable and significant to the overall fair value measurement.

#### **Receivables and Payables**

Activity between funds that are representative of lending/borrowing arrangements outstanding at the end of the fiscal year is referred to as either "due to/from other funds" (i.e., the current portion of interfund loans) or "advances to/from other funds" (i.e., the noncurrent portion of interfund loans). Any residual balances outstanding between the governmental activities and business-type activities are reported in the entity-wide financial statements as "internal balances."

All trade and property tax receivables are shown net of any allowance for uncollectibles. There are no allowances at June 30, 2024.

Property taxes are levied on July 1 and payable in the following periods:

Discount Period - July 1 to August 31 - 2% of gross levy

Flat Period - September 1 to October 31

Penalty Period - November 1 to collection - 10% of gross levy

Lien Date - January 15

#### **Prepaid items**

Certain payments to vendors reflect costs applicable to future accounting periods and are reported as prepaid items in both entity-wide and fund financial statements.

#### Inventory

All inventories are valued at the lower of cost (first-in, first-out method) or market. Inventories reported in the governmental funds consist of expendable materials and supplies, which are recorded as expenditures when purchased. Inventories in the proprietary fund consist of food and related supplies, and are recorded as expenses when consumed.

#### **Capital Assets**

Capital assets, which include property, plant and equipment, are reported in the applicable governmental or business-type activities columns in the entity-wide financial statements. Capital assets are defined by the District as assets with an initial, individual cost of more than \$5,000 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. The costs of normal maintenance and repairs that do not add to the value of the assets or materially extend assets' lives are not capitalized. Donated capital assets, donated works of art, historical treasures and similar assets, and capital assets that are received in a service concession arrangement will be measured at acquisition value.

Major outlays for capital assets and improvements are capitalized as projects are constructed. Interest incurred during construction is not capitalized.

Property, plant and equipment is depreciated using the straight-line method over the following estimated useful lives:

<u>Description</u>	Useful <u>Life (Years)</u>
Buildings	20–40
Land improvements	20
Furniture and equipment	3–10

#### **Compensated Absences**

It is the District's policy to permit employees to accumulate earned but unused vacation and sick pay benefits. The liability for unpaid accumulated sick leave is accounted for in the accrued severance pay. This time is paid out only through severance pay calculations.

District employees who are required to work on a 12-month schedule are credited with vacation at rates which vary with length of service or job classification. Vacation must be taken in the year subsequent to when it was earned. If separation of service occurs in the year subsequent to earning, then the unused balance of the amount earned in the prior year is paid at separation. The liability at June 30 represents vacation earned at the date.

#### **Accrued Severance Pay**

Administrative personnel who have completed at least 12 years of credited District service and retire under normal PSERS guidelines receive severance pay in the form of compensation. Instructional, secretarial and support personnel who have completed at least 15 years of credited District service and retire under the normal PSERS guidelines, receive severance pay in the form of compensation. Administrative personnel receive \$45 - \$80 per day for every day of accumulated sick and personal days at retirement. Instructional personnel receive \$45 -\$80 per day. Secretarial and support personnel receive \$65 per day for every day of accumulated sick and personal days at retirement to a maximum \$10,000 of compensation. Severance pay generally is liquidated by the General Fund.

#### **Long-term Obligations**

In the entity-wide financial statements and proprietary fund financial statements, long-term debt and other long-term obligations are reported as liabilities in the applicable governmental activities, business-type activities, or proprietary fund type statement of net position. Bond premiums and discounts are netted against outstanding principal balances and amortized over the life of the bonds. Bond issuance costs are expensed when incurred. Deferred amounts on refunding are recorded as deferred inflows or outflows of resources and amortized over the life of the old debt or the life of the new debt, whichever is shorter. All amortized amounts are amortized using the straight-line method which approximates the effective interest method.

In the fund financial statements, governmental fund types recognize bond premiums and discounts, as well as bond issuance costs, during the current period. 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 on debt issuances are reported as other financing uses. Issuance costs, whether or not withheld from the actual debt proceeds received, are reported as debt service expenditures.

#### **Deferred Inflows and Deferred Outflows of Resources**

In addition to assets and liabilities, the statement of net position includes separate sections for deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources. These separate financial statement elements represent an addition to or consumption of net position that applies to future periods and so will not be recognized as an outflow of resources (expense) or inflow of resources (revenue) until then. The District has various items that are reported in these categories.

The first deferred outflow is the deferred charge on refunding reported in the government-wide statement of net position. A deferred charge on refunding results from the difference in the carrying value of refunded debt and its reacquisition price. This amount is deferred and amortized over the shorter of the life of the refunded or refunding debt.

The second deferred outflow of resources relates to certain changes to the net pension and OPEB liabilities which are required to be amortized over a period of years; the unamortized portions of these changes are reflected as deferred outflows of resources in the statement of net position. In the statement of net position, a deferred inflow of resources is recorded for differences related to changes in the net pension and OPEB liabilities which will be amortized over future periods. See Notes 13 and 16 for further analysis of deferred outflows and inflows of resources related to the net pension and OPEB liabilities.

Governmental funds report deferred inflows of resources in connection with receivables for revenues that are not considered to be available to liquidate liabilities of the current period. Governmental funds also defer revenue recognition with resources that have been received, but not yet earned. At the end of the current fiscal year, deferred inflows of resources reported in the general fund resulted from delinquent property taxes receivable.

#### **Fund Equity**

Fund balance will be displayed in the following classification (if applicable) depicting the relative strength of the spending constraints placed on the purposes for which resources can be used:

*Nonspendable* – that portion of the fund balance that cannot be spent because it is either in a nonspendable form or legally or contractually required to be maintained intact.

Restricted – that portion of the fund balance that is constrained to be used for a specific purpose as per an external party or law.

Committed – that portion of the balance that is to be used for a specific purpose as per School Board motion. These constraints can be removed or changed by equal level action. Action to constrain resources should occur prior to the fiscal year end. Direction from the School Board can commit specific dollar amounts, percentages or funds related to a specific activity.

Assigned – that portion of the fund balance that is intended to be used for specific purposes. The Property and Finance Committee, the Superintendent, or the Director of Business Affairs may assign amounts for specific purposes.

Unassigned – that portion of the fund balance that represents expendable available financial resources. It is the residual after the nonspendable, restricted, committed, and assigned portions are deducted from the total fund balance. A negative unassigned fund balance may be reported in the other governmental funds (not general fund) if expenditures incurred for specific purposes exceeded the amounts restricted, committed, or assigned to those purposes.

When an expenditure is incurred for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted fund balances are available, the District considers restricted funds to have been spent first. When an expenditure is incurred for which committed, assigned, or unassigned fund balances are available, the District considers amounts to have been spent first out of committed funds, then assigned funds and, finally, unassigned funds, as needed, unless the School Board, the Property and Finance Committee, the Superintendent, or the Director of Business Affairs has provided otherwise in its commitment or assignment actions.

The District is committed to maintaining a prudent level of financial resources to protect against the needs to reduce service levels because of temporary revenue shortfalls or unpredicted expenditures. The District's minimum fund balance policy requires that the unassigned fund balance equal or exceed 5% of the subsequent year's general fund operating expenditures.

#### **Net Position**

The entity-wide financial statements report net position in one of three components. Net investment in capital assets consists of capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation, and reduced by the outstanding balances of borrowings attributable to acquiring, constructing, or improving those assets. Net position is reported as restricted when constraints placed on net position use are either externally imposed by creditors (such as through debt covenants), grantors, contributors, or laws or regulations of other governments or imposed by law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation. Those restrictions affect net position arising from the capital projects fund. Unrestricted net position consists of net position that does not meet the definition of "net investment in capital assets" or "restricted."

#### Use of Estimates in the Preparation of Financial Statements

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

#### West Chester Area School District Notes to Financial Statements June 30, 2024

#### Implementation of New Accounting Pronouncements

Effective July 1, 2023, the District adopted the provisions of GASB Statement No. 100. " Accounting Changes and Error Corrections"

The objective of GASB Statement No. 100 is to enhance accounting and financial reporting requirements for accounting changes and error corrections to provide more understandable, reliable, relevant, consistent, and comparable information for making decisions or assessing accountability. The implementation of GASB Statement No. 100 had no impact on the financial statements of the District for the year ended June 30, 2024.

#### **New Accounting Pronouncements**

GASB Statement No. 101, Compensated Absences will be effective for the District for the year ended June 30, 2025. GASB Statement No. 101 will update the recognition and measurement guidance for compensated absences by aligning the recognition and measurement guidance under a unified model and by amending certain previously required disclosures. GASB Statement No. 101 will require that liabilities for compensated absences be recognized for (1) leave that has not been used and (2) leave that has been used but not yet paid in cash or settled through noncash means. A liability should be recognized for leave that has not been used if (a) the leave is attributable to services already rendered, (b) the leave accumulates, and (c) the leave is more likely than not to be used for time off or otherwise paid in cash or settled through noncash means.

GASB Statement No. 102, *Certain Risk Disclosures*. The requirements of this Statement are effective for fiscal years beginning after June 15, 2024. The objective of GASB Statement No. 102 is to improve financial reporting by providing users of financial statements with essential information that currently is not often provided. The disclosures will provide users with timely information regarding certain concentrations or constraints and related events that have occurred or have begun to occur that make a government vulnerable to substantial impact. As a result, users will have better information with which to understand and anticipate certain risks to a government's financial condition.

GASB Statement No. 103, *Financial Reporting Model Improvements*. The requirements of this Statement are effective for fiscal years beginning after June 15, 2025. The objective of GASB Statement No. 103 is to improve key components of the financial reporting model to enhance its effectiveness in providing information that is essential for decision making and assessing a government's accountability.

GASB Statement No. 104, *Disclosure of Capital Assets*. The requirements of this Statement are effective for fiscal years beginning after June 15, 2025. The objective of GASB Statement No. 104 is to improve financial reporting by providing users of financial statements with essential information about certain types of capital assets in order to make informed decisions and assess accountability. Additionally, the disclosure requirements will improve consistency and comparability between governments.

#### 2. BUDGETARY INFORMATION

Budgets are adopted on a basis consistent with generally accepted accounting principles. An annual appropriated budget is adopted for the general fund. All annual appropriations lapse at fiscal year-end. Project-length financial plans are adopted for all capital projects funds.

The District follows these procedures in establishing the budgetary data reflected in the financial statements:

- 1. The Director of Business Affairs submits to the School Board a proposed operating budget for the fiscal year commencing the following July 1. The operating budget includes proposed expenditures and the means of financing them.
- 2. Public hearings are conducted at the District offices to obtain taxpayer comments.
- 3. Prior to July 1, the budget is legally enacted through passage of an ordinance.
- 4. Formal budgetary integration is employed as a management control device during the year for the general fund.
- 5. Budgeted amounts are as originally adopted, or as amended by the School Board.

#### West Chester Area School District Notes to Financial Statements June 30, 2024

#### 3. **DEPOSITS**

#### **Custodial Credit Risk**

Custodial credit risk is the risk that in the event of a bank failure, the government's deposits may not be returned. The District does not have a policy for custodial credit risk but operates under the provisions of Commonwealth laws (Act 72). At June 30, 2024, the carrying amount of the District's deposits was \$23,719,061 and the bank balance was \$25,914,755. Of the bank balance, \$250,000 was covered by federal depository insurance. The remaining balance was fully collateralized. This collateral was held by the depository's agent on a pooled basis not in the District's name and, therefore, subject to custodial credit risk.

#### 4. INVESTMENTS

The District purchases money market holdings, certificates of deposit ("CDs") and government agency securities through Fulton Financial Advisors. The money market is a federal money market fund and maintains a stable net asset value of \$1 per share, is rated by a nationally recognized statistical rating organization, and is subject to an independent annual audit. As of June 30, 2024, it was rated AAA by a nationally recognized statistical rating agency. Fulton Financial Advisors is a registered member of the Securities and Exchange Commission and subject to the Commission's oversight. These investments are held by a third party. Investments are in short-term securities in accordance with the District's investment policy and school district code. All agency securities purchased are highly rated by a nationally recognized rating agency. All CDs are purchased at values to stay within the FDIC insurance limits.

The District also invests in the Pennsylvania Local Government Investment Trust ("PLGIT"), the Pennsylvania School District Liquid Asset Fund ("PSDLAF") and the Pennsylvania Treasurer's Investment Program for Local Governments ("PTIP"). Although not registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission and not subject to regulatory oversight, PLGIT, PSDLAF, and PTIP act like money market mutual funds in that their objective is to maintain a stable net asset value of \$1 per share, are rated by a nationally recognized statistical rating organization, and are subject to an independent annual audit. These external investment pools are considered 2a7-like pools and are recorded at amortized cost. The amortized cost, which approximates fair value of the pool, is determined by the pool's share price. As of June 30, 2024, PLGIT, PSDLAF, and PTIP were rated as AAAm by a nationally recognized statistical rating organization. As of June 30, 2024, the District had \$68,063,088 invested in PLGIT, PSDLAF, and PTIP (\$55,620,448 in the General Fund, \$8,057,609 in the Capital Projects Fund, \$1,763,139 in the Capital Reserve Fund, and \$2,621,892 in the Food Service Fund.)

The District categorizes its fair value measurements within the fair value hierarchy established by generally accepted accounting principles. The District has the following recurring fair value measurements as of June 30, 2024:

	F	air Value	 Level 1		Level 2	Maturity in Less Than One Year	Gre	aturity in eater than ne Year
General fund								
CRIMS - Money market	\$	4,057,657	\$ 4,057,657	\$	-	\$ 4,057,657	\$	-
CRIMS - US treasuries		29,656,018	 		29,656,018	 29,656,018		
Total general fund		33,713,675	 4,057,657	_	29,656,018	 33,713,675		
Capital reserve fund account								
CRIMS - Agencies		8,939,913	-		8,939,913	8,939,913		-
CRIMS - Certificates of deposit		2,193,101	-		2,193,101	2,193,101		-
CRIMS - Commercial paper		4,442,193	-		4,442,193	4,442,193		-
CRIMS - Money market		1,136,805	1,136,805		-	1,136,805		-
CRIMS - US treasuries		10,146,815	 	_	10,146,815	 10,146,815		
Total capital reserve fund account	_	26,858,827	 1,136,805	_	25,722,022	 26,858,827		-
Private Purpose Trust account								
CRIMS - US treasuries		801,563	 	_	801,563	 801,563		
Private Purpose Trust account		801,563	 		801,563	 801,563		
	\$	61,374,065	\$ 5,194,462	\$	56,179,603	\$ 61,374,065	\$	-

#### **Concentration Risk**

Investments shall be diversified by avoiding concentration in obligations of a specific issuer (excluding U.S. Treasury securities) and continuously investing a portion of the portfolio in readily available funds such as local government investment pools, money market mutual funds, or bank accounts subject to immediate withdrawal.

#### **Interest Rate Risk**

Investment maturities shall be based on a review of cash flow forecasts. Maturities will be scheduled so as to permit the district to meet all projected obligations. For operating funds, the maximum weighted average maturity will be no more than six months at any point in time and the maximum maturity of any individual investment will be 397 days from purchase date to maturity date. For reserve funds, the maximum weighted average maturity will be no more than two and a half years from at any point in time and the maximum maturity of any individual investment will be five years from purchase date to maturity date. Scholarship and other similarly designated funds shall be invested such that the final maturity will be suitable to the expected life of the designated fund.

#### 5. TAXES RECEIVABLE

Taxes receivable as of year-end for the District, in the aggregate, are as follows:

	Gene Fun	-
Real estate taxes	\$ 1,90	3,193
Transfer taxes	64	7,433
Earned income taxes	1,14	4,137
Total taxes receivable	\$ 3,69	94,763

The District's evaluation of taxes resulted in no allowance for uncollectible accounts.

Governmental funds report unavailable revenue in connection with receivables for revenues that are not considered to be available to liquidate liabilities of the current period. At the end of the current fiscal year, unavailable revenue of \$1,765,738 reported in the governmental funds resulted from delinquent property taxes receivable which was not collected within 60 days of fiscal year end.

#### 6. CAPITAL ASSETS

Capital asset activity for the year ended June 30, 2024 was as follows:

	Beginning Balance	Increases	Decreases	Transfers	Ending Balance
Governmental Activities					
Capital assets not being depreciated					
Land	\$ 28,289,916	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 28,289,916
Construction in progress	47,023,603	15,845,569		(32,423,343)	30,445,829
Total capital assets not being depreciated	75,313,519	15,845,569		(32,423,343)	58,735,745
Capital assets being depreciated					
Land improvements	17,333,220	-	-	699,567	18,032,787
Buildings	470,640,314	-	-	31,261,791	501,902,105
Furniture and equipment	56,426,141	1,986,869	-	461,985	58,874,995
Right-to-use leased equipment	1,063,021				1,063,021
Total capital assets being depreciated	545,462,696	1,986,869		32,423,343	579,872,908
Less: Accumulated depreciation/amortization for					
Land improvements	11,428,652	2,028,697	-	-	13,457,349
Buildings	234,419,264	12,926,938	-	-	247,346,202
Furniture and equipment	47,478,608	4,060,221	-	-	51,538,829
Right-to-use-leased equipment	464,698	263,070			727,768
Total accumulated depreciation	293,791,222	19,278,926			313,070,148
Total capital assets being depreciated, net	251,671,474	(17,292,057)		32,423,343	266,802,760
Governmental activities assets, net	\$ 326,984,993	<u>\$ (1,446,488)</u>	<u> -                                     </u>	\$ -	\$ 325,538,505
Business-Type Activities					
Capital assets being depreciated					
Furniture and equipment	\$ 2,155,098	\$ 276,901	\$ 579,601	\$ -	\$ 1,852,398
Less: Accumulated depreciation	1,372,609	155,258	579,601		948,266
Business-type capital assets, net	\$ 782,489	\$ 121,643	\$ -	<u> </u>	\$ 904,132

Depreciation expense was charged to functions/programs of the District as follows:

Governmental activities		
Instruction	\$	11,887,384
Instructional student support		1,557,609
Administrative and financial support services		1,757,403
Operation and maintenance of plant services		2,666,100
Pupil transportation		996,814
Student activities		412,270
Community services	_	1,346
Total depreciation expense - governmental activities	<u>\$</u>	19,278,926
Business-type activities - food service	\$	155,258

#### 7. INTERNAL RECEIVABLES, PAYABLES, AND TRANSFERS

The composition of interfund balances as of and for the year ended June 30, 2024 is as follows:

		Payable	
Receivable	 Amount	From	 Amount
General Fund	\$ 170,303	Food Service Fund	\$ 170,303

Interfund receivables and payables exist as a result of a time lag between dates when goods and services were provided and payments between funds were made. All will be paid within one year.

Transfers Out	 Amount	Transfers In	 Amount
General Fund	\$ 3,980,986	Capital Reserve Fund	\$ 3,980,986
General Fund	4,657,591	Capital Projects Fund	4,657,591
Debt Service Fund	 2,452	Capital Projects Fund	 2,452
	\$ 8,641,029		\$ 8,641,029

The general fund transferred funds to the capital reserve fund and capital projects fund for the year ended June 30, 2024 to fund future planned capital expenditures.

#### 8. LONG-TERM DEBT

The following summarizes the changes in the long-term liabilities of governmental activities for the year ended June 30, 2024:

	Beginning Balance	Repayments	Additions	Ending Balance	Due Within One Year
General obligation note, Series of 2009	\$ 8,130,000	\$ 645,000	\$ -	\$ 7,485,000	\$ 675,000
General obligation bonds, Series of 2014	12,000,000	12,000,000	-	-	=
General obligation bonds, Series A of 2014	8,745,000	8,745,000	-	-	=
General obligation bonds, Series AA of 2014	55,255,000	325,000	-	54,930,000	5,700,000
General obligation bonds, Series of 2016	2,235,000	2,235,000	-	-	-
General obligation bonds, Series A of 2016	31,995,000	5,875,000	-	26,120,000	12,270,000
General obligation bonds, Series A of 2017	9,725,000	5,000	-	9,720,000	5,000
General obligation bonds, Series of 2018	9,970,000	5,000	-	9,965,000	5,000
General obligation bonds, Series of 2019	34,735,000	5,000	-	34,730,000	5,000
General obligation bonds, Series of 2020	9,995,000	55,000	-	9,940,000	55,000
General obligation bonds, Series of 2021	29,240,000	5,000	-	29,235,000	5,000
General obligation bonds, Series of 2022	30,110,000	5,000	-	30,105,000	5,000
General obligation bonds, Series of 2024		70,000	11,300,000	11,230,000	5,000
	242,135,000	29,975,000	11,300,000	223,460,000	18,730,000
Deferred amounts					
Issuance premium	20,256,917	2,450,780	1,001,602	18,807,739	2,124,392
Long-term debt	\$ 262,391,917	\$ 32,425,780	\$ 12,301,602	\$ 242,267,739	\$ 20,854,392

#### West Chester Area School District Notes to Financial Statements June 30, 2024

General Obligation Bonds Refunding Series AA of 2014, original principal amount of \$57,635,000, maturing May 15, 2016 through May 15, 2030, bearing interest ranging from 2.00% to 5.00%, interest payable semi-annually on May 15 and November 15.	\$ 54,930,000
Refunding Series A of 2016, original principal amount of \$32,030,000, maturing February 15, 2017 through February 15, 2027, bearing interest ranging from 1.35% to 5.00%, interest payable semi-annually on February 15 and August 15.	26,120,000
Series A of 2017, original principal amount of \$9,750,000, maturing May 15, 2019 through May 15, 2032, bearing interest ranging from 1.75% to 2.50%, interest payable semi-annually on May 15 and November 15.	9,720,000
Series of 2018, original principal amount of \$9,990,000, maturing May 15, 2020 through May 15, 2039, bearing interest of 4.00%, interest payable semiannually on May 15 and November 15.	9,965,000
Series of 2019, original principal amount of \$34,750,000, maturing May 15, 2021 through May 15, 2040, bearing interest ranging from 1.25% to 3.50%, interest payable semi-annually on May 15 and November 15.	34,730,000
Series of 2020, original principal amount of \$16,750,000, maturing March 15, 2021 through March 15, 2032, bearing interest ranging from 2.00% to 5.00%, interest payable semi-annually on March 15 and September 15. The refunding resulted in a cash flow savings of \$1,493,033.	9,940,000
Series of 2021, original principal amount of \$29,250,000, maturing May 1, 2022 through May 1, 2041, bearing interest ranging from 1.50% to 4.00%, interest payable semi-annually on May 1 and November 1.	29,235,000
Series of 2022, original principal amount of \$30,115,000, maturing May 15, 2022 through May 15, 2032, bearing interest ranging from 3.00% to 5.00%, interest payable semi-annually on May 15 and November 15.	30,105,000
Series of 2024, original principal amount of \$11,300,000, maturing May 15, 2024 through May 15, 2032, bearing interest of 4.00%, interest payable semiannually on May 15 and November 15. The refunding resulted in a cash flow savings of \$1,156,353.	11,230,000 215,975,000
General Obligation Notes	<u> </u>
Series of 2009, original principal amount of \$10,000,000, maturing October 1, 2010 through October 1, 2027, bearing interest at a rate not to exceed 25%. Interest to be paid monthly.	7,485,000
·	
	7,485,000
	\$ 223,460,000

Payments of long-term debt are expected to be funded by the General Fund. Presented below is a summary of the bonds and notes debt service requirements to maturity by year:

Year Ending June 30	Principal  Maturities	Interest Maturities	Total <u>Maturities</u>
2025	\$ 18,730,000	\$ 8,408,478	\$ 27,138,478
2026	19,760,000	7,478,673	27,238,673
2027	20,275,000	6,945,670	27,220,670
2028	21,650,000	5,831,415	27,481,415
2029	21,230,000	5,190,378	26,420,378
2030-2034	68,875,000	16,318,859	85,193,859
2035-2039	41,555,000	7,301,750	48,856,750
2040-2041	11,385,000	583,600	11,968,600
	\$ 223,460,000	\$ 58,058,823	\$ 281,518,823

#### 9. CHANGES IN OTHER LONG-TERM LIABILITIES

The following summarizes the changes in other long-term liabilities for the year ended June 30, 2024:

	Balance July 1, 2023	Increases	Decrease	Balance June 30, 2024	Due in One Year
Accrued compensated absences Accrued severance	\$ 2,096,872 3,410,115	\$ 1,062,346 1,054,492	\$ 752,802 810,002	\$ 2,406,416 3,654,605	\$ - 
Subtotal	5,506,987	2,116,838	1,562,804	6,061,021	-
Right-to-use lease payable	617,697	-	267,463	350,234	215,286
Net OPEB liability	23,053,277	280,111	-	23,333,388	-
Net pension liability	322,770,000	1,981,000	-	324,751,000	-
Bonds and notes payable, net	262,391,917	12,301,602	32,425,780	242,267,739	20,854,392
Total long-term liabilities	\$ 614,339,878	\$ 16,679,551	\$ 34,256,047	\$ 596,763,382	\$ 21,069,678

#### 10. CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

Amounts received or receivable from grantor agencies are subject to audit and adjustment by grantor agencies, principally, the federal government. Any disallowed claims, including amounts already collected, may constitute a liability of the applicable funds. The amount, if any, of expenditures which may be disallowed by the grantor cannot be determined at this time although the District expects such amounts, if any, to be immaterial.

#### Litigation

The District is a defendant in various matters of litigation and claims. These matters result from the normal course of business. The District has accrued for a settlement agreement executed subsequent to yearend. It is not presently possible to determine the ultimate outcome or settlement cost, if any, for the remaining matters.

#### 11. CONSTRUCTION COMMITMENTS

As of June 30, 2024, the District had construction projects yet to be completed. The commitments and amounts completed to date are as follows:

		Completed			
	Contract Amount	as of June 30, 2024	Commitments		
Renovations	\$ 59,392,907	\$ 29,977,193	\$ 29,415,714		

In addition, the District has incurred costs totaling \$468,634 for project costs that were not under a formal contract as of June 30, 2024.

#### 12. RISK MANAGEMENT

The District self-insures worker's compensation through its Insurance Consortium. The District's Insurance Consortium is an association consisting of school districts, intermediate units and vocational-technical schools of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. The District obtained a self-insurance exemption from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Department of Labor and Industry, Bureau of Worker's Compensation, which allows the District to self-insure workers' compensation.

Each year the District is required to deposit funds into the central fund. The District then is billed monthly for actual claims for the current year paid during the previous month up to the level of retention. After the level of retention is reached, claim payments are made from the central fund. At the end of each fiscal year, reserves are established or adjusted on all outstanding claims. Funds in the central fund at the end of the fiscal year are not refunded. Total claims paid for the year ended June 30, 2024 were \$386,190.

Additionally, the District self-insures group medical, dental, vision and prescription coverage. The District has accrued a three-month value for potential claims under medical, dental, vision and prescription coverage. Total claims paid for the year ended June 30, 2024 were \$27,179,043.

The School District is exposed to various risks of loss related to theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets, errors and omissions, and natural disasters. The School District has purchased various insurance policies to safeguard its assets from risk of loss. There was no change in the level of the School District's insurance coverage and no settlements exceeding insurance coverage during the year ended June 30, 2024, and the three previous fiscal years.

#### **Change in Aggregate Claim Liabilities**

Insurance claim liabilities reported at June 30 are historically paid within one year. Changes in the School District's claims liability amount in fiscal years 2024 and 2023 were:

	Year Ended June 30, 2024	Year Ended June 30, 2023
Claims liability at July 1	\$ 4,134,799	\$ 4,367,740
Current year claims and changes in estimates	28,007,279	23,517,786
Claim payments	(27,179,043)	(23,750,727)
Claims liability at June 30	\$ 4,963,035	\$ 4,134,799

#### 13. PENSION PLAN

For purposes of measuring the net pension liability, deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions, and pension expense, information about the fiduciary net position of the Public School Employees Retirement System ("PSERS") and additions to/deductions from PSERS's fiduciary net position have been determined on the same basis as they are reported by PSERS. For this purpose, benefit payments (including refunds of employee contributions) are recognized when due and payable in accordance with the benefit terms. Investments are reported at fair value.

#### **Plan Description**

The District contributes to the Public School Employees' Retirement System ("PSERS"), a governmental cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan that provides retirement benefits to public school employees of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. The members eligible to participate in the system include all full-time public school employees, part-time hourly public school employees who render at least 500 hours of service in the school year, and part-time per diem public school employees who render at least 80 days of service in the school year in any of the reporting entities in Pennsylvania. The PSERS issues a publicly available comprehensive annual financial report that includes the financial statements and required supplementary information for the plan. A copy of this report may be obtained by visiting the PSERS website at www.psers.pa.gov.

#### **Benefits Provided**

The PSERS provides retirement, disability, and death benefits. Members are eligible for monthly retirement benefits upon reaching (a) age 62 with at least one year of credited service, (b) age 60 with 30 or more years of credited service, or (c) 35 or more years of service regardless of age. Act 120 of 2010 ("Act 120") preserves the benefits of existing members and introduced benefit reductions for individuals who became new members on or after July 1, 2011. Act 120 created two new membership classes, Membership Class T-E ("Class T-E"), and Membership Class T-F ("Class T-F"). To qualify for normal retirement, Class T-E and Class T-F members must work until age 65 with a minimum of three years of service, or attain a total combination and age and service that is equal to or greater than 92, with a minimum of 35 years of service.

Act 5 of 2017 ("Act 5") introduced a hybrid benefit with two membership classes and a separate defined contribution plan for individuals who become new members on or after July 1, 2019. Act 5 created two new hybrid membership classes, Membership Class T-G ("Class T-G") and Membership Class T-H ("Class T-H") and the separate defined contribution membership class, Membership Class DC ("Class DC"). To qualify for normal retirement, Class T-G and Class T-H members must work until age 67 with a minimum of 3 years of credited service. Class T-G may also qualify for normal retirement by attaining a total combination of age and service that is equal to or greater than 97 with a minimum of 35 years of credited service.

Benefits are generally between 1% to 2.5%, depending upon membership class, of the member's final average salary (as defined in the Code) multiplied by the number of years of credited service. For members whose membership started prior to July 1, 2011, after completion of five years of service, a member's right to the defined benefits is vested and early retirement benefits may be elected. For Class T-E and Class T-F members, the right to benefits is vested after ten years of service.

Participants are eligible for disability retirement benefits after completion of five years of credited service. Such benefits are generally equal to 2% or 2½%, depending upon the membership class, of the member's final average salary as defined in the Code, multiplied by the number of years of credited service, but not less than one-third of such salary nor greater than the benefit the member would have had at normal retirement age. Members over normal retirement age may apply for disability benefits.

Death benefits are payable upon the death of an active member who has reached age 62 with at least one year of credited service (age 65 with at least three years of credited service for Class T-E and Class T-F members, or who has at least five years of credited service for Class T-E and Class T-F members). Such benefits are actuarially equivalent to the benefit that would have been effective if the member had retired on the day before death.

#### **Member Contributions**

	Member Contribution Rates					
Membership	Continuous Employment	Defined Benefit (DB)	DC Contribution	Total Contribution		
Class	Since	Contribution Rate	Rate	Rate		
				5.25%		
T-C	Prior to July 22, 1983	5.25%	N/A	6.25%		
T-C	On or after July 22, 1983	6.25%	N/A	6.25%		
T-D	Prior to July 22, 1983	6.50%	N/A	6.50%		
T-D	On or after July 22, 1983	7.50%	N/A	7.50%		
		7.50% base rate with shared		Prior to 7/1/21: 7.50%		
T-E	On or after July 1, 2011	risk provision	N/A	After 7/1/21: 8.00%		
		10.30% base rate with shared		Prior to 7/1/21: 10.30%		
T-F	On or after July 1, 2011	risk provision	N/A	After 7/1/21: 10.8%		
		5.50% base rate with shared		Prior to 7/1/21: 8.25%		
T-G	On or after July 1, 2019	risk provision	2.75%	After 7/1/21: 9.00%		
		4.50% base rate with shared		Prior to 7/1/21: 7.50%		
T-H	On or after July 1, 2019	risk provision	3.00%	After 7/1/21: 8.25%		
DC	On or after July 1, 2019	N/A	7.50%	7.50%		

	Shared Risk Program Summary				
Membership Defined Benefit (DB)					
Class	Base Rate	Shared Risk Increment	Minimum	Maximum	
T-E	7.50%	+/-0.50%	5.50%	9.50%	
T-F	10.30%	+/-0.50%	8.30%	12.30%	
T-G	5.50%	+/-0.75%	2.50%	8.50%	
T-H	4.50%	+/-0.75%	1.50%	7.50%	

#### **Employer Contributions**

The District's contractually required contribution rate for fiscal year ended June 30, 2024 was 33.09% of covered payroll, actuarially determined as an amount that, when combined with employee contributions, is expected to finance the costs of benefits earned by employees during the year, with an additional amount to finance any unfunded accrued liability. Contributions to the pension plan from the District were \$38,435,620 for the year ended June 30, 2024.

# Pension Liability and Expense, and Deferred Outflows and Inflows of Resources related to Pensions At June 30, 2024, the District reported a liability of \$324,751,000 for its proportionate share of the net pension liability. The net pension liability was measured as of June 30, 2023, and the total pension liability used to calculate the net pension liability was determined by rolling forward the system's total pension liability as of June 30, 2022 to June 30, 2023. The District's proportion of the net pension liability was calculated utilizing the employer's one-year reported covered payroll as it relates to the total one-year reported covered payroll. At June 30, 2024, the District's proportion was 0.7300%, which was an increase of 0.0040% from its proportion measured as of June 30, 2023.

For the year ended June 30, 2024, the District recognized pension expense of \$35,680,000. At June 30, 2024, the District 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	
Net difference between projected and					
actual investment earnings	\$	9,189,000	\$	-	
Changes in assumptions		4,846,000		-	
Changes in proportions		6,998,000		-	
Difference between employer contributions and					
proportionate share of total contributions		(344,491)		-	
Contributions subsequent to the date of measurement		38,435,620		-	
Difference between expected and actual experience		74,000		4,446,000	
	\$	59,198,129	\$	4,446,000	

Deferred outflows of resources in the amount of \$38,435,620 resulted from the District's contributions subsequent to the measurement date, which will be recognized as a reduction of the net pension liability in the year ended June 30, 2024. Other amounts will be reported as deferred outflows and resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions and will be recognized in pension expense as follows:

#### Year Ended June 30

2025	\$	7,334,741
2026		(4,166,731)
2027		10,114,301
2028	<u> </u>	3,034,198
	\$	16,316,509

#### **Actuarial Assumptions**

The total pension liability at June 30, 2023 was determined by rolling forward the System's total pension liability at June 30, 2022 to June 30, 2023 using the following actuarial assumptions, applied to all periods included in the measurement:

- Valuation Date June 30, 2022
- Actuarial cost method Entry age normal, level percentage of pay.
- Investment return 7.00%, including inflation of 2.50%.
- Salary growth Effective average of 4.50%, which reflects an allowance for inflation of 2.50%, and 2.00% for real wage growth and for merit or seniority increases.
- Mortality rates were based on a blend of 50% PubT-2010 and PubG-2010 Retiree tables for males and females, adjusted to reflect PSERS' experience and projected using a modified version of the MP-2020 improvement scale.
- Discount rate used to measure the Total Pension Liability was 7.00% as of June 30, 2022 and as of June 30, 2023.

#### West Chester Area School District Notes to Financial Statements June 30, 2024

- Demographic and economic assumptions approved by the Board for use effective with the June 30, 2021 actuarial valuation:
  - Salary growth rate decreased from 5.00% to 4.50%
  - Real wage growth and merit or seniority increases (components for salary growth) decreased from 2.75% and 2.25% to 2.50% and 2.00%, respectively.
  - Mortality rates Previously based on the RP-2014 mortality tables for male and female, adjusted to reflect PSERS' experience and projected using a modified version of the MP-2015 mortality improvement scale. Effective with the June 30, 2021 actuarial valuation mortality rates were based on a blend of 50% PubT-2010 and PubG-2010 Retiree tables for males and females, adjusted to reflect PSERS' experience and projected using a modified version of the MP-2020 improvement scale.

The actuarial assumptions used in the June 30, 2023 valuation were based on the results of an actuarial experience study that was performed for five year the period ending June 30, 2020.

The long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments was determined using the building-block method in which best estimate ranges of expected future real rates of return (expected returns, net of pension plan investment expense and inflation) are developed for each major asset class. These ranges are combined to produce the long-term expected rate of return by weighting the expected future real rates of return by the target asset allocation percentage and by adding expected inflation.

The pension plan's policy in regard to the allocation of invested plan assets is established and may be amended by the PSERS Board of Directors. Plan assets are managed with a long-term objective of achieving and maintaining a fully funded status for the benefits provided through the pension.

Asset Class	Target Allocation	Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return
Global public equity	30.0%	5.2%
Private equity	12.0%	7.9%
Fixed income	33.0%	3.2%
Commodities	7.50%	2.7%
Infrastructure/MLPs	10.0%	5.4%
Real estate	11.0%	5.7%
Absolute return	4.0%	4.1%
Cash	3.0%	1.2%
Leverage	<u>(10.5%)</u>	1.2%
	<u>100.0%</u>	

The above was the PSERS Board's adopted asset allocation policy and best estimates of geometric real rates of return for each major asset class as of June 30, 2023.

#### **Discount Rate**

The discount used to measure the total pension` liability was 7.00%. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed that contributions from plan members will be made at the current contribution rate and that contributions from employers will be made at contractually required rates which are actuarially determined. Based on those assumptions, the pension plan's fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments of current plan members. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments was applied to all periods of projected benefit payments to determine the total pension liability.

# Sensitivity of the District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate

The following presents the net pension liability, calculated using the discount rate of 7.00%, as well as what the net pension liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is one percentage point lower (6.00%) or one percentage point higher (8.00%) than the current rate.

	1%	<b>Current Rate</b>	1%
	Decrease 6.00%	Discount Rate 7.00%	Increase 8.00%
District's proportionate share of			
the net pension liability	\$ 420,966,000	\$ 324,751,000	\$ 243,573,000

#### **Pension Plan Fiduciary Net Position**

Detailed information about the PSERS' fiduciary net position is available in the PSERS Comprehensive Annual Financial Report, which can be found on the system's website at www.psers.state.pa.us.

#### 14. POSTEMPLOYMENT HEALTHCARE PLAN

#### Plan Description

The District administers a single employer defined benefit healthcare plan to eligible retirees and their spouses. The District has three bargaining units which participate in this plan: the West Chester Education Support Professionals, the West Chester Service Support Professionals, and the West Chester Area Education Association (teachers). In addition, the administrators and the non-bargaining staff members participate in the plan. Members of the Education Support Professionals and the Service Support Professionals who were at least 50 years old as of July 1, 2012 and had 20 years of service upon retirement are eligible to receive a health reimbursement account ("HRA") of \$2,000 per year towards PSERS health Options Program for a maximum of four years.

Teachers that reached age 50 as of July 1, 2014 and had 20 years of service in the District upon retirement are eligible to receive a HRA of \$20,000 and cannot elect coverage under a medical plan provide by West Chester Area School District. Teachers that are not eligible for the HRA or elect not to receive the HRA may continue the medical benefits by paying the full COBRA premium.

Administrators that reach age 50 with 12 years of service and 5 years as an administrator, receive benefits for administrator and spouse for 10 years or until Medicare eligible. Administrators receiving this benefit are required to cost-share for administrator coverage at a rate equal to the higher of the maximum reimbursement provided by PSERS (currently \$100 per month) or active employee contribution and up to 50% of the cost of the spousal coverage cost.

Non-bargaining employees that reach age 50 with 15 years of service receive single coverage benefits until Medicare eligible. Non-bargaining staff receiving this benefit are required to cost-share for Non-Bargaining employee coverage at a rate equal to the higher of the maximum reimbursement provided by PSERS (currently \$100 per month) or active employee contribution. The employee must retire from service to receive the post-employee benefits and not work for another school district.

The health insurance plan is a single employer, defined-benefit OPEB plan. The medical, prescription drug, dental, and vision benefits are self-insured. Only the PC-65 product is fully insured. The medical benefits are administered through Blue Cross and the prescription drug benefits through Caremark. Separate financial statements are not issued for the plan.

#### **Participants**

As of June 30, 2024, the Plan had 1,467 participants, consisting of 1,410 active participants, zero vested former participants, and 57 retired participants. Participant data is based on census information as of July 2022.

#### **Funding Policy**

The contribution requirements of plan members are established and may be amended by the Board of School Directors. The District has no assets accumulated in a trust or equivalent arrangement for the purpose of administering the OPEB plan. The required contribution is based on projected pay-as-you-go financing requirements, with any additional amount to prefund as determined annually by the Board of School Directors. For fiscal year 2024, the District paid \$596,098 to plan members eligible for receiving benefits.

#### **Actuarial Assumptions and Other Inputs**

The total OPEB liability was measured as of July 1, 2022, which was the same date of the most recent actuarial valuation.

#### **Discount Rate**

The discount rate was 4.13% based on the S&P Municipal Bond 20-year High Grade Rate Index at July 1, 2023. The rate changed from 4.06% to 4.13%.

#### Withdrawal

Rates of withdrawal vary by age, gender, and years of service. Sample rates for employees with more than 10 years of service are shown below. Rates for new employees start at 25.93% for men and 27.46% for women and decrease with age and service.

	Male	Female		Male	Female
Age	Rate	Rate	Age	Rate	Rate
25	4.5500%	3.9000%	45	1.4100%	1.6000%
30	4.5500%	3.9000%	50	1.8900%	2.0800%
35	1.6800%	2.8300%	55	3.6300%	3.6600%
40	1.4200%	1.6700%	60	5.4900%	5.9400%

#### **Mortality**

PubT-2010 headcount-weighted mortality table including rates for contingent survivors for teachers. PubG-2010 headcount-weighted mortality table including rates for contingent survivors for all other employees.

Incorporated into the table are rates projected generationally using scale MP-2021 to reflect mortality improvement.

#### Disability

No disability was assumed.

#### Retirement

Assumed retirement rates are based on PSERS plan experience and vary by age, service, and gender.

#### Salary

An assumption for salary increases is used only for spreading contributions over future pay under the entry age normal cost method. For this purpose, salary increases are composed of 2.5% cost of living adjustment, 1.5% real wage growth, and for teachers and administrators, a merit increase which varies by age from 2.75% to 0.00%.

#### Percent of Eligible Retirees Electing Coverage in Plan

100% of employees eligible for a HRA account are assumed to elect it. 90% of employees eligible for subsidized coverage, 50% of teachers and 25% of all other employees only eligible for self-paid coverage are assumed to elect coverage.

#### **Percent Married at Retirement**

90% of administrators and 15% of all other employees are assumed to be married and have a spouse covered by the plan at retirement. Non-spouse dependents are deemed to be immaterial.

#### **Per Capita Claims Cost**

The per capita claims cost for medical and prescription drug is based on the expected portion of the group's overall cost attributed to individuals in the specified age and gender brackets.

Dental and vision costs are assumed to not vary with age or gender. The resulting costs are as follows:

	Med	Medical		Prescription Drug				
Age	· <u></u>	Male	F	emale		Male	F	emale
45-49	\$	6,543	\$	9,450	\$	760	\$	1,098
50-54	\$	8,665	\$	10,680	\$	1,007	\$	1,241
55-59	\$	10,554	\$	11,175	\$	1,226	\$	1,299
60-64	\$	13,773	\$	12,837	\$	1,600	\$	1,492
65+	\$	11,268	\$	11,268	N/	A – Included	d with N	∕ledical

#### Life Insurance

For those receiving a universal life insurance policy, claims are assumed to equal the annual premium. For those under the group life insurance policy, it is assumed that the annual cost to provide life insurance varies by age and gender. The assumed cost is equal to the amount of coverage times the applicable mortality factor contained in the valuation mortality table. Participant contribution is not required.

#### **Retiree Contributions**

Retiree contributions are assumed to increase at the same rate as the healthcare cost trend rate.

#### **Healthcare Cost Trend Rate**

The healthcare cost trend rate was 7.0% in 2023, 6.5% in 2024 and 6.0% in 2025-2026. Rates gradually decrease from 5.4% in 2027 to 4.1% in 2075 and later based on the Society of Actuaries Long-Run Medical Cost Trend Model.

#### **Actuarial Value of Assets**

The actuarial value of assets is equal to the market value of assets.

#### **Actuarial Cost Method - Entry Age Normal**

Under the entry age normal cost method, the normal cost is the present value of benefits allocated to the year following the valuation date. Benefits are allocated on a level basis over the earnings of an individual between the date of hire and the assumed retirement age. The accrued liability as of the valuation date is the excess of the present value of future benefits over the present value of future normal cost. The unfunded accrued liability is the excess of the accrued liability over the actuarial value of assets. Actuarial gains and losses serve to reduce or increase the unfunded accrued liability.

#### **Sensitivity Analysis**

The following presents the net OPEB liability, calculated using the valuation discount rate, as well as what the net OPEB liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is one percentage point lower or one percentage point higher than the current rate.

	1%	<b>Current Rate</b>	1%	
	Decrease Discount Rate 4.13%		Increase 5.13%	
Total OPEB liability	<u>\$ 10,875,431</u>	\$ 10,144,388	\$ 9,451,798	

The following presents the net OPEB liability, calculated using the valuation healthcare cost trend rate, as well as what the net OPEB liability would be if it were calculated using a trend rate that is one percentage point lower each year or one percentage point higher each year than the current rate.

	1% Healthcare Co  Decrease Trend Rate		1% Increase
Total OPEB liability	\$ 9,033,602	\$ 10,144,388	\$ 11,449,681
Changes in total OPEB liability			
Total OPEB liability as of July 1, 2022 Service cost		\$ 9,698,277 515,414	
Interest on OPEB obligation		401,188	
Effect of assumption changes or inputs		142,788	
Benefit payments		(613,279)	
Total OPEB liability as of July 1, 2023		<u>\$ 10,144,388</u>	

For the year ended June 30, 2024, The District recognized OPEB expense of \$515,015. At June 30, 2024, the District reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB from the following sources:

	Deferred Outflows of Resources			Deferred Inflows of Resources	
Net difference between expected and actual experience	\$	-	\$	3,075,976	
Change in assumptions		1,300,896		2,942,429	
Benefit payment subsequent to measurement date		596,098			
	\$	1,896,994	\$	6,018,405	

\$596,098 is reported as deferred outflows of resources resulted to OPEB resulting from the District payments subsequent to the measurement date will be recognized as a reduction of the net OPEB liability in the year ended June 30, 2024. The amount reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions will be recognized in OPEB expense as follows:

#### Year Ended June 30

2025	\$ (401,587)
2026	(401,587)
2027	(401,587)
2028	(401,590)
2029	(449,283)
Thereafter	 (2,661,875)
	\$ (4,717,509)

#### 15. PUBLIC SCHOOL EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM OTHER POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS

#### **Cost Sharing Multiple-Employer Defined Benefit OPEB Plan**

PSERS provides health insurance premium assistance which is a governmental cost sharing, multiple-employer OPEB plan for all eligible retirees who qualify and elect to participate. Employer contribution rates for health insurance premium assistance are established to provide reserves in the health insurance account that are sufficient for the payment of health insurance premium assistance benefits for each succeeding year. Effective January 1, 2002, under the provisions of Act 9 of 2001, participating eligible retirees are entitled to receive premium assistance payments equal to the lesser of \$100 per month or their out-of-pocket monthly health insurance premium. To receive premium assistance, eligible retirees must obtain their health insurance through either their school employer or the PSERS' health options program. As of June 30, 2023, there were no assumed future benefit increases to participating eligible retirees.

Retirees of PSERS can participate in the health insurance premium assistance program if they satisfy the following criteria:

- Have 24 ½ or more years of service, or
- · Are a disability retiree, or
- Have 15 or more years of service and retired after reaching superannuation age

#### West Chester Area School District Notes to Financial Statements June 30, 2024

For Class DC members to become eligible for health insurance premium assistance, they must satisfy the following criteria:

- Attain Medicare eligibility with 24 ½ or more eligibility points, or
- Have 15 or more eligibility points and terminated after age 67, and
- Have received all or part of their distributions.

#### **Pension Plan Description**

PSERS is a governmental cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan that provides retirement benefits to public school employees of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. The members eligible to participate in the System include all full-time public school employees, part-time hourly public school employees who render at least 500 hours of service in the school year, and part-time per diem public school employees who render at least 80 days of service in the school year in any of the reporting entities in Pennsylvania. PSERS issues a publicly available financial report that can be obtained at www.psers.pa.gov.

#### **Benefits Provided**

Participating eligible retirees are entitled to receive Premium Assistance payments equal to the lesser of \$100 per month or their out-of-pocket monthly health insurance premium. To receive Premium Assistance, eligible retirees must obtain their health insurance through either their school employer or the PSERS' Health Options Program.

#### **Employer Contributions**

The Districts' contractually required contribution rate for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024 was 0.75% of covered payroll, actuarially determined as an amount that, when combined with employee contributions, is expected to finance the costs of benefits earned by employees during the year, with an additional amount to finance any unfunded accrued liability. Contributions to the OPEB plan from the District were \$743,391 for the year ended June 30, 2024.

The contribution policy is governed by the applicable provisions of the Retirement Code.

OPEB Liabilities, OPEB Expense, Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources At June 30, 2024, the District reported a liability of \$13,189,000 for its proportionate share of the net OPEB liability. The net OPEB liability was measured as of June 30, 2023, and the total OPEB liability used to calculate the net OPEB liability was determined by rolling forward the system's total OPEB liability as of June 30, 2022 to June 30, 2023. The District's proportion of the net OPEB liability was calculated utilizing the employer's one-year reported covered payroll as it relates to the total one-year reported covered payroll. At June 30, 2024, the District's proportion was 0.7290%, which was an increase of 0.0035% from its proportion measured as of June 30, 2023.

For the year ended June 30, 2024, the District recognized OPEB expense of \$540,000. At June 30, 2024, the District reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources relating to OPEB from the following sources:

	0	Deferred utflows of esources	Deferred Inflows of Resources		
Difference between expected and actual experience	\$	86,000	\$	131,000	
Net difference between projected and actual investment earnings		30,000		-	
Change in proportionate share of the net pension liability		584,000		11,000	
Change in assumptions		1,140,000		2,496,000	
Difference between employer contributions and					
proportionate share of total contributions		(3,664)		-	
Contributions subsequent to the date of measurement		743,391		-	
	\$	2,579,727	\$	2,638,000	

An amount of \$743,391 is reported as deferred outflows of resources resulting from the District's contributions subsequent to the measurement date and will be recognized as a reduction of the net OPEB liability in the year ended June 30, 2024. Other amounts will be reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources relating to OPEB and will be recognized in OPEB expense as follows:

#### Year Ended June 30

2025	\$	(93,754)
2026		(171,856)
2027		(224,937)
2028		(296,802)
2029	_	(14,315)
	\$	(801,664)

#### **Actuarial Assumptions**

The total OPEB liability as of June 30, 2023 was determined by rolling forward the system's total OPEB liability as of June 30, 2022 to June 30, 2023 using the following actuarial assumptions, applied to all periods included in the measurement:

- Actuarial cost method Entry Age Normal level percent of pay
- Investment return 4.13% S&P 20-year Municipal Bond Rate
- Salary growth Effective average of 4.50%, comprised of inflation of 2.50% and 2.00% for real wage growth and for merit or seniority increases
- Premium Assistance reimbursement is capped at \$1,200 per year.
- Assumed healthcare cost trends were applied to retirees with less than \$1,200 in Premium Assistance per year.

#### West Chester Area School District Notes to Financial Statements June 30, 2024

- Mortality rates were based on a blend of 50% PubT-2010 and PubG-2010 Retiree tables for males and females, adjusted to reflect PSERS' experience and projected using a modified version of the MP-2020 improvement scale.
- Participation rate:
  - Eligible retirees will elect to participate pre-age 65 at 50%
  - Eligible retirees will elect to participate post-age 65 at 70%

The actuarial assumptions used in the June 30, 2022 valuation were based on the results of an actuarial experience study that was performed for the five-year period ending June 30, 2020.

The following assumptions were used to determine the contribution rate:

- The results of the actuarial valuation as of June 30, 2021 determined the employer contribution rate for fiscal year 2023.
- Cost Method: Amount necessary to assure solvency of Premium Assistance through the third fiscal year after the valuation date
- Asset valuation method: Market value
- Participation rate: Participation rate: The actual data for retirees benefiting under the Plan as of June 30,
   2021 was used in lieu of the 63% utilization assumption for eligible retirees.
- Mortality tables for males and females, adjusted to reflect PSERS' experience and projected using a modified version of the MP-2015 mortality improvement scale.

Investments consist primarily of short-term assets designed to protect the principal of the plan assets. The expected rate of return on OPEB plan investments was determined using the OPEB asset allocation policy and best estimates of geometric real rates of return for each asset class.

The OPEB plan's policy in regard to the allocation of invested plan assets is established and may be amended by the Board. Under the program, as defined in the retirement code, employer contribution rates for Premium Assistance are established to provide reserves in the health insurance account that are sufficient for the payment of Premium Assistance benefits for each succeeding year.

Asset Class	Target _Allocation	Expected Real Rate of Return
Cash	100.0%	1.2%

The above was the Board's adopted asset allocation policy and best estimates of geometric real rates of return for each major asset class as of June 30, 2023.

#### **Discount Rate**

The discount rate used to measure the total OPEB liability was 4.13%. Under the plan's funding policy, contributions are structured for short-term funding of Premium Assistance. The funding policy sets contribution rates necessary to assure solvency of Premium Assistance through the third fiscal year after the actuarial valuation date. The Premium Assistance account is funded to establish reserves that are sufficient for the payment of Premium Assistance benefits for each succeeding year. Due to the short-term funding policy, the OPEB plan's fiduciary net position was not projected to be sufficient to meet projected future benefit payments; therefore, the plan is considered a "pay-as-you-go" plan. A discount rate of 4.13%, which represents the S&P 20-year Municipal Bond Rate at June 30, 2023, was applied to all projected benefit payments to measure the total OPEB liability.

#### Sensitivity of the System's Net OPEB Liability to Change in Healthcare Cost Trend Rates

Healthcare cost trends were applied to retirees receiving less than \$1,200 in annual Premium Assistance. As of June 30, 2023, retirees' Premium Assistance benefits are not subject to future healthcare cost increases. The annual Premium Assistance reimbursement for qualifying retirees is capped at a maximum of \$1,200. As of June 30, 2023, 92,677 retirees were receiving the maximum amount allowed of \$1,200 per year. As of June 30, 2023, 522 members were receiving less than the maximum amount allowed of \$1,200 per year. The actual number of retirees receiving less than the \$1,200 per year cap is a small percentage of the total population and has a minimal impact on healthcare cost trends as depicted below.

The following presents the system's net OPEB liability for June 30, 2023, calculated using current healthcare cost trends, as well as what the system's net OPEB liability would be if its healthcare cost trends were one percentage point lower or one percentage point higher than the current rate:

	1%	Current	1%
	Decrease	Trend Rate	Increase
District's proportionate share of			
the net OPEB liability	<u>\$ 13,189,000</u>	\$ 13,189,000	\$ 13,190,000

# Sensitivity of the District's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate

The following presents the net OPEB liability for June 30, 2023, calculated using the discount rate of 4.13%, as well as what the net OPEB liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is one percentage point lower (3.13%) or one percentage-point higher (5.13%) than the current rate.

	1%	Current	1%
	Decrease	<b>Discount Rate</b>	Increase
	3.13%	4.13%	5.13%
District's proportionate share of			
the net OPEB liability	\$ 14,912,000	\$ 13,189,000	\$ 11,747,000

#### **OPEB Plan Fiduciary Net Position**

Detailed information about the PSERS' fiduciary net position is available in the PSERS Comprehensive Annual Financial Report, which can be found on the system's website at <a href="https://www.psers.pa.gov">www.psers.pa.gov</a>.

#### 16. NET OPEB LIABILITY AND DEFERRED INFLOWS AND OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES

The District's aggregate net OPEB liability and deferred inflows and outflows of resources are as follows:

	Net OPEB Liability	Deferred Outflows of Resources	Deferred Inflows of Resources	
District plan (See Note 14)	\$ 10,144,388	\$ 1,896,994	\$ 6,018,405	
PSERS plan (See Note 15)	13,189,000	2,579,727	2,638,000	
	\$ 23,333,388	\$ 4,476,721	\$ 8,656,405	

#### 17. FUND BALANCES

As of June 30, 2024, fund balances are composed of the following:

	_	General Fund		Capital Projects Fund	_	Capital Reserve Fund	Total Governmental Funds	
Non-spendable	\$	2,299,476	\$	148,797	\$	-	\$	2,448,273
Restricted								
Capital projects		-		6,938,847		33,101,201		40,040,048
Committed								
Healthcare		4,159,909		-		-		4,159,909
Tax stabilization		66,044,229				-		66,044,229
Assigned								
Alternative education		2,000,000		-	-			2,000,000
Property assessment								
fluctuations		1,000,000		-	-			1,000,000
Future staffing needs		1,100,000		-		-		1,100,000
Gate receipts		52,138		-	-			52,138
Unassigned		17,380,404			-			17,380,404
	<u>\$</u>	94,036,156	\$	7,087,644	\$	\$ 33,101,201		134,225,001

#### 18. ON-BEHALF PAYMENTS FOR FRINGE BENEFITS

The District recognizes as revenue and expenses contributions made by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to be used for District employees' social security and pension contributions. On-behalf payments to the District totaled \$4,248,459 and \$20,249,204 for social security and retirement contributions, respectively. These contributions are recorded in the General Fund as revenue and expenditures.

#### 19. NET INVESTMENT IN CAPITAL ASSETS

Net position (deficit) of the governmental activities net investment in capital assets, at June 30, 2024, are as follows:

Capital assets	\$	638,308,538
Deferred outflows of resources		1,937,657
Unspent debt proceeds		7,611,656
Accumulated depreciation	_	(313,070,147)
		334,787,704
Lease liabilities		(350,234)
Accrued interest payable		(1,288,382)
Bonds and notes payable, net	_	(242,267,739)
Net investment in capital assets	\$	90,881,349

Components of the net position of the business-type activities net investment in capital assets at June 30, 2024 are as follows:

Capital assets	\$ 1,850,260
Accumulated depreciation	 (946,128)
Net investment in capital assets	\$ 904,132

#### 20. DEFICIT NET POSITION

For governmental activities, the unrestricted net deficit amount of \$207,771,070 includes the effect of deferring the recognition of pension and OPEB contributions made subsequent to the measurement date of the net pension and OPEB liabilities, the unamortized portion of contributions made in excess of the District's share of its proportionate contributions to its pension and OPEB plans, the differences between projected and actual investment earnings, and the deferred outflows resulting from the change in the District's share of the net pension and OPEB liabilities. This is offset by the District's actuarially determined net pension and OPEB liabilities and the deferred inflow resulting from the difference between actual and expected experience.

#### 21. RIGHT-TO-USE LEASES PAYABLE

The District has entered into long-term lease agreements as lessee for the use of premises and equipment. Initial lease liabilities were recorded in the amount of \$1,063,021. As of June 30, 2024, the carrying value of the lease liabilities is \$350,234. The leases have discount rates ranging from 0.31% to 4.00%. The premises and equipment's estimated useful lives were 4 to 5 years as of their contract commencements. The value of the intangible right-to-use assets as of June 30, 2024 is \$335,253, net of accumulated amortization of \$727,768, and is included with noncurrent assets on the statement of net position.

#### West Chester Area School District Notes to Financial Statements June 30, 2024

Future minimum lease payments under these leases are as follows:

#### Year Ended June 30

2025	\$ 224,560
2026	86,766
2027	48,868
Less: Amount representing interest	 (9,960)
Present value of minimum lease payments	\$ 350,234

#### 22. SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

On November 7, 2024, the District issued \$9,995,000 of General Obligation Bonds, Series A of 2024 for the purpose of funding new capital projects.

The District has evaluated all subsequent events through February 7, 2025, the date the financial statements were available to be issued.

# WEST CHESTER AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

# REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION



#### West Chester Area School District Schedule of the District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability – PSERS June 30, 2024

	Measurement Date									
	June 30, 2023	June 30, 2022	June 30, 2021	June 30, 2020	June 30, 2019	June 30, 2018	June 30, 2017	June 30, 2016	June 30, 2015	June 30, 2014
District's proportion of the net pension liability	0.7300%	0.7260%	0.7097%	0.6938%	0.6849%	0.6868%	0.6802%	0.6812%	0.6766%	0.6629%
District's proportionate share of the net pension liability	\$ 324,751,000	\$ 322,770,000	\$ 291,380,000	\$ 341,620,000	\$ 320,414,000	\$ 329,698,000	\$ 335,940,000	\$ 337,581,000	\$ 293,071,000	\$ 262,381,000
District's covered payroll	\$ 111,686,155	\$ 106,674,773	\$ 100,469,803	\$ 97,013,811	\$ 94,461,534	\$ 92,486,543	\$ 90,557,920	\$ 88,217,090	\$ 87,061,277	\$ 83,621,635
District's proportionate share of the net pension liability as a percentage of its covered payroll	290.77%	302.57%	290.02%	352.14%	339.20%	356.48%	370.97%	382.67%	336.63%	313.77%
Plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of the total pension liability	61.85%	61.34%	63.67%	54.32%	55.66%	54.00%	51.84%	50.14%	54.36%	57.24%

#### West Chester Area School District Schedule of the District's Pension Plan Contributions – PSERS Year Ended June 30, 2024

	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
Contractually required contribution	\$ 38,435,620	\$ 38,066,484	\$ 35,926,508	\$ 33,643,257	\$ 32,290,025	\$ 30,811,370	\$ 29,303,512	\$ 26,330,342	\$ 22,053,155	\$ 17,854,136
Contributions in relation to the contractually required contribution	38,435,620	38,066,484	35,926,508	33,643,257	32,290,025	30,811,370	29,303,512	26,330,342	22,053,155	17,854,136
Contribution excess	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	<u> -                                   </u>	\$ -	<u> -                                   </u>
District's covered employee payroll	\$ 113,045,941	\$ 111,686,155	\$ 106,674,773	\$ 100,469,803	\$ 97,013,811	\$ 94,461,534	\$ 92,486,543	\$ 90,557,920	\$ 88,217,090	\$ 87,061,277
Contributions as a percentage of covered-employee payroll	34.00%	34.08%	33.68%	33.49%	33.28%	32.62%	31.68%	29.08%	25.00%	20.51%

#### West Chester Area School District Schedule of the District's Proportionate Share of the OPEB Liability – PSERS June 30, 2024

	Measurement Date									
	June 30, 2023	June 30, 2022	June 30, 2021	June 30, 2020	June 30, 2019	June 30, 2018	June 30, 2017			
District's proportion of the net OPEB liability	0.7290%	0.7255%	0.7087%	0.6912%	0.6849%	0.6868%	0.6802%			
District's proportion of the net OPEB liability - dollar value	\$ 9,698,277	\$ 13,355,000	\$ 16,797,000	\$ 14,935,000	\$ 14,567,000	\$ 14,319,000	\$ 13,858,000			
District's covered employee payroll	\$ 111,686,155	\$ 106,674,773	\$ 100,469,803	\$ 97,013,811	\$ 94,513,405	\$ 92,486,543	\$ 90,557,920			
District's proportionate share of the OPEB liability as a percentage of its covered employee payroll	8.68%	12.52%	16.72%	15.39%	15.41%	15.48%	15.30%			
Plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of the total OPEB liability	7.22%	6.86%	5.30%	5.69%	5.56%	5.56%	5.73%			

#### Notes of Schedule

In accordance with GASB Statement No. 75, this schedule has been prepared prospectively as the above information for the preceding years is not readily available. This schedule will accumulate each year until sufficient information to present a ten-year trend is available.

#### West Chester Area School District Schedule of the District's OPEB Plan Contributions – PSERS June 30, 2024

	June 30, 2024	June 30, 2023	June 30, 2022	June 30, 2021	June 30, 2020	June 30, 2019	June 30, 2018
Contractually required contribution	\$ 743,391	\$ 832,115	\$ 845,578	\$ 823,261	\$ 813,058	\$ 784,461	\$ 766,286
Contributions in relation to the contractually required contribution	743,391	832,115	845,578	823,261	813,058	784,461	766,286
Contribution excess	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
District's covered employee payroll	\$ 111,686,155	\$ 110,305,662	\$ 106,674,773	\$ 100,469,803	\$ 97,013,811	\$ 94,461,534	\$ 92,486,543
Contributions as a percentage of covered-employee payroll	0.67%	0.75%	0.79%	0.82%	0.84%	0.83%	0.83%

#### **Notes of Schedule**

In accordance with GASB Statement No. 75, this schedule has been prepared prospectively as the above information for the preceding years is not readily available. This schedule will accumulate each year until sufficient information to present a ten-year trend is available.

#### West Chester Area School District Schedule of Changes in OPEB Liability – Single Employer Plan June 30, 2024

	Measurement Date									
	June 30, 2023	June 30, 2022	June 30, 2021	June 30, 2020	June 30, 2019	June 30, 2018	June 30, 2017			
Total OPEB liability										
Service cost Interest on total OPEB liability	\$ 515,414 401,188	\$ 1,005,303 335,487	\$ 1,015,500 273,209	\$ 735,880 479,114	\$ 739,219 444,034	\$ 878,395 507,610	\$ 836,027 399,221			
Changes of benefit terms Differences between expected and actual experience	-	- (2,080,850)	-	(336,349) (1,006,275)	-	104,435 (1,065,299)	-			
Effect of assumption changes or inputs Benefit payments	142,788 (613,279)	(2,859,313) (897,638)	(379,061) (845,522)	1,343,955 (1,327,997)	(314,852) (1,716,834)	32,607 (1,539,717)	524,653 (1,709,852)			
Net change in total OPEB liability	446,111	(4,497,011)	64,126	(111,672)	(848,433)	(1,081,969)	50,049			
Total OPEB liability, beginning of year	9,698,277	14,195,288	14,131,162	14,242,834	15,091,267	16,173,236	16,123,187			
Total OPEB liability, end of year	\$ 10,144,388	\$ 9,698,277	<u>\$ 14,195,288</u>	<u>\$ 14,131,162</u>	<u>\$ 14,242,834</u>	\$ 15,091,267	\$ 16,173,236			
Covered employee payroll	\$ 97,057,148	\$ 97,057,148	\$ 92,399,865	\$ 92,399,865	\$ 91,742,174	\$ 91,742,174	\$ 86,476,720			
District's net OPEB liability as a percentage of covered payroll	10.45%	9.99%	15.36%	15.29%	15.52%	16.45%	18.70%			

#### **Notes of Schedule**

No assets are accumulated in a trust to pay benefits related to this plan.

The trend assumption was updated. Assumptions for salary, mortality, withdrawal and retirement were updated based on new PSERS assumption.

This schedule is to present the requirement to show information for ten (10) years. However, until a full ten-year trend is completed, information for only those years for which information is available is shown.

# WEST CHESTER AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

# STATISTICAL SECTION



#### West Chester Area School District Statistical Section June 30, 2024

The Statistical Section of the West Chester Area School District's Annual Comprehensive Financial Report ("ACFR") presents other detailed information to allow the reader a better understanding of the Government's overall financial health in conjunction with the information in the financial statements, note disclosures and required supplementary information.

<u>Contents</u>	Pages
Financial Trends	70-77
Revenue Capacity	78-84
These schedules contain information useful in assessing the District's ability to raise own-source revenue.	
Debt Capacity	85-88
These schedules contain information useful in assessing the District's ability to afford the existing debt as well as the District's ability to issue new debt.	
Demographic and Economic Information	. 89-91
These schedules contain information about the socio-economic environment within which the District's financial activities take place.	
Operating Information	92-97
These schedules contain information about the size of the District's workforce, the services it provides in relation to other service providers in the area and District's facilities.	

# WEST CHESTER AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

# FINANCIAL TRENDS



#### West Chester Area School District Net Position by Component Unit Year Ended June 30

Fiscal Year Ending June 30,	2015 *	2016 *	2017 *	2018 *	2019 *	2020 *	2021 *	2022 *	2023 *	2024*
Governmental activities										
Net investment in capital assets	\$ 20,989,220	\$ 11,063,839	\$ 23,124,893	\$ 29,976,250	\$ 43,699,285	\$ 49,714,318	\$ 63,045,948	\$ 73,083,096	\$ 82,415,067	\$ 90,657,451
Restricted: Capital projects	22,203,300	27,440,218	22,444,089	22,461,479	20,557,393	21,345,455	23,571,239	23,443,492	32,138,400	33,101,201
Unrestricted	(234,457,232)	(235,432,024)	(246,710,005)	(278,924,988)	(283,616,991)	(268,378,626)	(262,155,231)	(232,168,608)	(215,921,578)	(207,771,070)
Net position governmental activities	(191,264,712)	(196,927,967)	(201,141,023)	(226,487,259)	(219,360,313)	(197,318,853)	(175,538,044)	(135,642,020)	(101,368,111)	(84,012,418)
Business-type activities										
Net investment in capital assets	297,638	402,386	590,353	682,070	702,071	657,609	651,983	614,850	782,489	904,132
Unrestricted	1,110,539	1,042,569	877,036	849,539	937,095	720,258	677,290	2,201,075	2,088,918	2,210,234
Net position business type activities	1,408,177	1,444,955	1,467,389	1,531,609	1,639,166	1,377,867	1,329,273	2,815,925	2,871,407	3,114,366
Total primary government										
Net investment in capital assets	21,286,858	11,466,225	23,715,246	30,658,320	44,401,356	50,371,927	63,697,931	73,697,946	83,197,556	91,561,583
Restricted: Capital projects	22,203,300	27,440,218	22,444,089	22,461,479	20,557,393	21,345,455	23,571,239	23,443,492	32,138,400	33,101,201
Unrestricted	(233,346,693)	(234,389,455)	(245,832,969)	(278,075,449)	(282,679,896)	(267,658,368)	(261,477,941)	(229,967,533)	(213,832,660)	(205,560,836)
Net position primary government	\$ (189,856,535)	\$ (195,483,012)	\$ (199,673,634)	\$ (224,955,650)	\$ (217,721,147)	\$ (195,940,986)	\$ (174,208,771)	\$ (132,826,095)	\$ (98,496,704)	\$ (80,898,052)

<sup>\*</sup> Note: Starting in 2014-15, the District booked their share of the PSERS multiple employer pension plan liability to comply with GASB 67/68.

Source: District Audited Financial Statements

<sup>\*</sup> Note: Starting in 2017-18, the District booked their net OPEB liabilities to comply with GASB 75. 2017 data was restated.

#### West Chester Area School District Changes in Net Position Year Ended June 30

Fiscal Year Ending June 30,	2015 *	2016 *	2017 *	2018 *	2019 *	2020 *	2021 *	2022 *	2023 *	2024*
Expenses										
Governmental activities										
Instruction	\$ 133,218,154	\$ 144,772,158	\$ 155,262,037	\$ 156,086,694	\$ 153,646,716	\$ 148,865,697	\$ 151,333,413	\$ 151,301,302	\$ 163,696,662	\$ 178,747,627
Instructional student support	16,718,808	17,710,876	18,519,607	18,314,954	18,205,681	18,695,408	19,348,969	19,179,424	20,769,504	22,945,048
Administrative and financial support services	17,552,768	18,127,334	19,342,370	19,943,338	24,435,957	20,927,142	22,950,358	22,328,558	23,733,426	26,333,243
Operation and maintenance of plant services	17,447,190	17,439,654	18,039,504	17,457,046	18,774,548	18,228,580	19,623,304	21,953,333	21,275,695	23,867,995
Pupil transportation	13,850,307	14,042,517	14,429,271	14,133,742	14,219,229	13,120,151	12,724,832	13,038,802	14,310,797	15,202,250
Student Activities	4,855,516	5,132,865	5,214,620	5,367,392	5,444,746	5,117,896	5,186,177	5,383,162	5,699,023	6,221,829
Community services	140,742	142,350	171,227	151,336	148,357	110,805	97,214	172,562	187,223	20,533
Interest on long-term debt	8,566,732	8,945,807	8,679,619	8,454,782	8,246,501	8,818,963	8,183,477	6,907,870	7,675,847	6,966,323
Total governmental activities	212,350,217	226,313,561	239,658,255	239,909,284	243,121,735	233,884,642	239,447,744	240,265,013	257,348,177	280,304,848
Business type activities										
Food service	3,182,033	3,229,852	3,294,375	3,465,882	3,482,919	2,946,728	2,766,857	4,265,529	4,374,769	4,778,388
Total primary government activities	215,532,250	229,543,413	242,952,630	243,375,166	246,604,654	236,831,370	242,214,601	244,530,542	261,722,946	285,083,236
Program revenue										
Governmental activities										
Charges for service										
Instruction	362,760	542,986	280,006	205,288	128,167	120,608	96,563	91,069	132,837	137,116
Operation and maintenance of plant services	347,233	402,308	509,869	481,072	444,124	270,577	212,546	319,729	702,634	709,676
Student activities	423,407	430,050	437,573	515,614	516,532	464,513	1,575	449,845	546,349	499,411
Operating grants and contributions	26,309,774	27,743,196	32,894,525	34,373,891	34,458,080	35,297,106	38,013,762	39,957,064	41,272,583	39,805,060
Total governmental program revenue	27,443,174	29,118,540	34,121,973	35,575,865	35,546,903	36,152,804	38,324,446	40,817,707	42,654,403	41,151,263
Business type activities										
Charges for services	2,335,418	2,293,122	2,493,463	2,605,888	2,627,303	1,883,936	74,148	378,935	2,381,987	2,906,819
Operating grants and contributions	940,701	973,508	823,346	908,238	921,644	779,635	2,643,238	5,369,483	1,928,693	1,941,784
Total business type program revenues	3,276,119	3,266,630	3,316,809	3,514,126	3,548,947	2,663,571	2,717,386	5,748,418	4,310,680	4,848,603
Total primary government revenues	30,719,293	32,385,170	37,438,782	39,089,991	39,095,850	38,816,375	41,041,832	46,566,125	46,965,083	45,999,866
Net revenues (expenses)										
Net revenues (expenses) Governmental activities	(184.907.043)	(197.195.021)	(205.536.282)	(204.333.419)	(207.574.832)	(197.731.838)	(201.123.298)	(199.447.306)	(214.693.774)	(239.153.585)
Net revenues (expenses) Governmental activities Business type activities	(184,907,043) 94,086	(197,195,021) 36,778	(205,536,282) 22,434	(204,333,419) 48,244	(207,574,832) 66,028	(197,731,838) (283,157)	(201,123,298) (49,471)	(199,447,306) 1,482,889	(214,693,774) (64,089)	(239,153,585) 70,215

See Independent Auditor's Report.

#### West Chester Area School District Changes in Net Position Year Ended June 30

Comment and an arrangement										
General revenues	454.040.300	455 740 000			.=0 .01 =00	.== ==	470 500 540			
Property taxes, levied for general purpose	151,649,702	155,710,300	161,164,936	166,944,204	173,161,730	177,781,018	179,522,546	187,631,357	191,214,141	192,916,118
Taxes levied for specific purpose	23,565,368	24,321,396	27,524,533	26,082,351	26,230,460	26,466,353	30,598,582	35,572,300	34,213,757	35,001,582
Grants, entitlements, and contributions										
Not restricted to specific programs	10,859,971	10,928,639	11,552,814	11,745,770	11,889,779	12,408,464	12,380,541	13,171,900	15,213,167	16,803,823
Investment earnings	258,288	392,047	889,980	1,685,449	3,309,319	2,970,687	263,711	34,513	8,284,273	11,764,659
Gain on sale of asset	70,058	-	9,572	(4,313)	-	-	-	2,750,000	-	-
Other	132,287	179,384	181,391	218,346	152,019	168,635	139,604	187,023	161,916	195,840
Total general revenues	186,535,674	191,531,766	201,323,226	206,671,807	214,743,307	219,795,157	222,904,984	239,347,093	249,087,254	256,682,022
Change in net position	\$ 1,722,717	\$ (5,626,477)	\$ (4,190,622)	\$ 2,386,632	\$ 7,234,503	\$ 21,780,162	\$ 21,732,215	\$ 41,382,676	\$ 34,329,391	\$ 17,598,652

<sup>\*</sup> Note: Beginning in 2014-15, the District booked their share of the PSERS multiple employer pension plan liability to comply with GASB 67/68.

Source: District Audited Financial Statements

<sup>\*</sup> Note: Starting in 2017-18, the District booked their net OPEB liabilities to comply with GASB 75. 2017 data was restated.

## West Chester Area School District Fund Balance - Governmental Funds Year Ended June 30, 2024

Fiscal Year Ending June 30,	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
General Fund										
*Non-spendable	\$ 4,128,770	\$ 2,066,625	\$ 2,688,371	\$ 2,649,038	\$ 2,748,654	\$ 2,912,426	\$ 2,818,432	\$ 2,232,155	\$ 1,908,064	\$ 2,299,476
*Committed										
Pension	2,117,000	2,117,000	1,117,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Healthcare	4,899,442	4,159,909	4,159,909	4,159,909	4,159,909	4,159,909	4,159,909	4,159,909	4,159,909	4,159,909
Tax stabilization	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	66,044,229
*Assigned										
Gate receipts	115,700	89,487	79,324	69,756	83,577	128,904	128,904	150,756	143,198	52,138
Alternative education	-	-	500,000	676,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	2,000,000	2,000,000	2,000,000	2,000,000
Enrollment growth	-	-	-	-	2,500,000	3,500,000	4,500,000	-	-	-
Property assessment fluctuations	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000
Technology/Distance learning	-	-	-	-	-	-	500,000	500,000	-	-
Elementary construction	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5,000,000	-	-
Future staffing needs	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,100,000	1,100,000
Tax stabilization	5,646,426	5,471,005	7,227,366	11,304,138	13,945,496	29,486,832	38,183,867	52,121,467	60,977,636	-
*Unassigned	14,758,221	14,856,952	13,008,223	13,047,547	14,431,188	14,267,415	15,861,417	16,447,723	17,271,817	17,380,404
Total General Fund fund balance	31,665,559	28,760,978	28,780,193	31,906,388	38,868,824	55,455,486	69,152,529	83,612,010	88,560,624	94,036,156
All other funds										
*Non-Spendable - Capital Projects Fund	-	-	-	3,500	-	3,500	-	-	50,500	148,797
*Non-Spendable - Capital Reserve Fund	-	-	-	304,850	632,750	583,400	425,050	197,500	-	-
*Restricted - Capital Projects Fund	-	4,038,838	4,354,841	4,841,678	-	24,354,297	37,703,387	29,943,488	17,800,845	6,938,847
*Restricted - Capital Reserve Fund	22,203,300	27,440,218	22,444,089	22,156,629	19,924,643	20,762,055	23,146,189	23,245,992	32,138,400	33,101,201
*Unassigned - Capital Projects Fund	(3,451,176)				(1,309,859)					
Total other funds	18,752,124	31,479,056	26,798,930	27,306,657	19,247,534	45,703,252	61,274,626	53,386,980	49,989,745	40,188,845
Total fund balance	\$ 50,417,683	\$ 60,240,034	\$ 55,579,123	\$ 59,213,045	\$ 58,116,358	\$ 101,158,738	<u>\$ 130,427,155</u>	\$ 136,998,990	\$ 138,550,369	<u>\$ 134,225,001</u>

Source: Districts Audited Financial Statements

## West Chester Area School District Changes in Fund Balance – Governmental Funds Year Ended June 30, 2024

	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
Governmental fund revenue										
Local source	\$ 176,877,190	\$ 182,144,526	\$ 191,077,358	\$ 196,281,802	\$ 203,793,322	\$ 208,166,967	\$ 210,851,588	\$ 224,534,100	\$ 234,917,059	\$ 241,045,376
State source	34,209,926	35,806,499	41,156,644	42,747,951	42,679,137	44,089,036	43,625,782	46,937,783	49,369,225	52,257,112
Federal source	2,959,820	2,865,335	3,290,697	3,371,711	3,668,721	3,616,532	6,768,519	6,191,179	7,120,545	4,351,771
Total governmental revenues	214,046,936	220,816,360	235,524,699	242,401,464	250,141,180	255,872,535	261,245,889	277,663,062	291,406,829	297,654,259
Communicated communities										
Governmental expenditures	404.050.400	100 100 000	400 055 404	440 400 700	440,000,040	400 450 057	444.050.004	454 440 507	101 050 500	100 100 011
Instruction	124,056,139	132,490,382	139,655,181	143,132,798	142,088,010	139,156,057	144,653,284	154,146,597	161,852,582	169,466,011
Support services	59,939,165	61,755,726	63,322,354	64,116,200	70,070,279	65,817,409	69,251,877	76,325,099	79,017,162	82,984,451
Noninstructional services	4,610,182	4,803,105	4,865,617	5,038,435	5,180,293	4,854,313	4,928,997	5,493,284	5,810,138	5,896,493
Facilities acquisition construction and improvement	13,509,139	8,309,294	16,627,237	11,251,782	18,141,710	16,472,182	22,756,543	10,838,983	15,483,247	16,492,543
Debt service principal	11,620,000	8,176,000	14,160,000	14,695,000	15,690,000	16,290,000	15,830,000	17,710,000	17,615,000	17,975,000
Debt service interest	9,543,869	10,174,433	9,925,387	10,160,902	9,881,842	10,251,652	9,582,925	9,827,215	10,266,986	9,176,433
Bond issuance costs	56,166	464,253	327,788	163,150	176,732	388,048	498,947	239,101		154,215
Total governmental expenditures	223,334,660	226,173,193	248,883,564	248,558,267	261,228,866	253,229,661	267,502,573	274,580,279	290,045,115	302,145,146
Excess (deficiency) of revenues										
over (under) expenditures	(9,287,724)	(5,356,833)	(13,358,865)	(6,156,803)	(11,087,686)	2,642,874	(6,256,684)	3,082,783	1,361,714	(4,490,887)
Governmental other financing sources										
Proceeds from long-term debt	65,485,000	61,900,000	15,995,000	9,750,000	9,990,000	34,750,000	46,050,000	30,115,000	_	11,300,000
Premium on bonds issued	-	-	-	-	-	5,643,840	7,283,242	4,880,892	_	1,001,602
Interfund transfers In	8,645,910	9,125,784	6,205,679	5,135,385	5,257,722	5,451,612	7,635,789	6,736,346	12,457,496	8,641,029
Other financing sources (uses)	5,861,632	8,300,311	97,083	-	0,201,122	-	-	0,730,040	12,407,400	0,041,023
Debt service refunded	(71,069,921)	(60,135,702)	(7,438,378)	_	_	_	(17,824,521)	(34,751,390)	-	(12,147,387)
Sale of assets	94,983	5,077,718	9,572	-	-	-	(17,024,321)	2,750,000		(12, 147, 307)
Leases right to use	94,900	5,077,710	9,572	-	-	-	- -	492,331	187,577	-
Refund of prior year revenues	(82,898)	-	-	-	-	-	(3,700)	492,331	(4,022)	-
Refund of prior year expenditures	16,391	36,857	34,677	40,726	999	5,666	20,080	- 2,219	6,110	11,304
Interfund transfers out	(8,645,910)	(9,125,784)	(6,205,679)	(5,135,385)	(5,257,722)	(5,451,612)	(7,635,789)	(6,736,346)	(12,457,496)	(8,641,029)
Total governmental other financing sources	305,187	15,179,184	8,697,954	9,790,726	9,990,999	40,399,506	35,525,101	3,489,052	189,665	165,519
Net change in governmental fund balance	(8,982,537)	9,822,351	(4,660,911)	3,633,923	(1,096,687)	43,042,380	29,268,417	6,571,835	1,551,379	(4,325,368)
Governmental fund balance, beginning of year	59,400,219	50,417,682	60,240,033	55,579,122	59,213,045	58,116,358	101,158,738	130,427,155	136,998,990	138,550,369
Prior period adjustment	<del>-</del>									
Governmental fund balance, end of year	\$ 50,417,682	\$ 60,240,033	\$ 55,579,122	\$ 59,213,045	\$ 58,116,358	\$ 101,158,738	\$ 130,427,155	\$ 136,998,990	\$ 138,550,369	\$ 134,225,001
Debt service as % of expenditures	9.5%	8.3%	9.8%	10.1%	9.9%	10.6%	9.7%	10.1%	9.6%	9.0%

Source: District's Audited Financial Statements

## West Chester Area School District General Fund Revenues by Source (In thousands) Year Ended June 30, 2024

	20	14-15	 2015-16	 2016-17		2017-18	 2018-19	 2019-20	:	2020-21		2021-22	 2022-23	2023-24
Local	\$	176,801	\$ 182,122	\$ 190,954	\$	196,055	\$ 203,174	\$ 207,403	\$	210,830	\$	227,332	\$ 233,315	\$ 239,276
Real estate		148,404	152,710	157,685		164,235	170,685	174,621		176,258		184,146	188,294	190,310
Current		147,448	151,929	156,990		163,170	169,593	173,637		174,261		180,092	186,360	188,959
Interim		956	781	695		1,066	1,092	984		1,998		4,054	1,934	1,351
Earned income		19,360	20,119	21,337		21,122	21,510	21,584		24,213		26,695	27,623	29,275
Real estate transfer		4,145	4,207	6,115		4,983	4,421	4,657		6,228		8,928	6,173	5,532
Other taxes PURTA		215	198	197		183	193	178		195		204	204	200
Delinquent taxes		3,246	3,000	3,480		2,709	2,477	3,160		3,264		3,486	2,921	2,606
Investment earnings		165	332	732		1,402	2,657	2,179		221		77	6,556	9,815
Gate receipts		136	153	161		151	163	162		-		172	206	196
Other		1,129	1,402	1,248		1,269	1,068	862		450		3,626	1,337	1,342
State	\$	34,210	\$ 35,807	\$ 41,157	\$	42,748	\$ 42,679	\$ 44,089	\$	43,626	\$	46,938	\$ 49,369	\$ 52,257
Student subsidies		21,729	21,235	24,126		24,332	23,436	23,988		22,674		24,463	25,977	27,759
Basic instruction		7,240	7,573	8,012		8,202	8,422	8,810		8,810		9,576	10,935	12,634
Special education		5,413	5,802	5,903		6,454	6,129	6,125		5,077		5,915	5,966	5,964
Tuition private home placement		112	179	236		191	231	174		96		104	89	47
Transportation		3,637	3,672	3,674		3,737	3,314	3,260		3,088		3,008	2,684	2,901
Medical, dental and nurse		222	254	256		250	255	253		254		250	252	257
Rent		1,182	-	2,104		1,555	1,164	1,121		1,052		1,597	986	1,150
Ready To Learn block grants / accountability grants		303	399	399		399	399	399		399		399	399	399
Property tax relief		3,620	3,355	3,541		3,543	3,468	3,598		3,570		3,596	4,283	4,170
Other		-	-	-		-	54	248		328		18	383	239
Teacher subsidies		12,481	14,572	17,031		18,416	19,243	20,101		20,952		22,475	23,393	24,498
Social security		3,164	3,194	3,451		3,337	3,415	3,498		3,587		3,818	4,011	4,248
Retirement		9,317	11,378	13,580		15,078	15,828	16,603		17,365		18,657	19,382	20,249
Federal	\$	2,960	\$ 2,865	\$ 3,291	\$	3,372	\$ 3,669	\$ 3,617	\$	6,769	\$	6,191	\$ 7,121	\$ 4,352
Title I		818	 829	 1,013	·	868	 704	 599		575	·	555	 522	918
Title II		294	374	384		247	208	268		313		259	172	173
IDEA		1,216	1,200	1,334		1,318	1,331	1,341		1,552		1,731	1,372	1,993
MA direct services/time study		516	306	467		803	1,251	1,022		1,030		1,157	1,095	1,052
Other		116	157	93		136	174	388		224		178	135	159
COVID related grants		-	-	-		-	-	-		3,075		2,311	3,826	57
Local taxes and subsidies	\$	213,971	\$ 220,793	\$ 235,401	\$	242,175	\$ 249,522	\$ 255,108	\$	261,224	\$	280,461	\$ 289,805	\$ 295,885

Source: District Budget Control Forecast Model

# West Chester Area School District General Fund Expenditures by Type (In thousands) Year Ended June 30, 2024

	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
Staff	\$ 134,8	76 \$ 141,124	\$ 145,153	\$ 149,825	\$ 153,662	\$ 153,377	\$ 160,539	\$ 171,701	\$ 179,434	\$ 189,135
Total salaries	87,8		91,157	93,555	95,606	98,130	102,003	107,476	112,798	117,453
Administration										
Regular salaries	7,6	45 8,027	8,030	8,235	8,541	9,042	9,227	9,853	10,404	10,697
Teachers	- , -		-,	-,	-,- :	-,- :-	-,	-,		,
Regular salaries	61,4	79 61,939	64,701	66,792	68,447	70,121	73,525	75,999	79,813	83,226
Extra duty payments	1,0	60 1,161	951	980	879	897	1,727	2,581	2,371	1,546
Sabbatical payments	1	25 304	210	182	256	295	530	462	312	348
Subject chair payments	3	66 365	364	356	367	358	380	622	625	638
Severance payments	2	09 142	80	353	206	220	192	195	195	225
Supplemental contracts	2,0		2,017	2,019	2,111	1,993	2,085	2,223	2,288	2,321
Total teachers	65,2	67 65,963	68,322	70,682	72,265	73,884	78,439	82,082	85,604	88,305
Technical										
Regular salaries	3,5	02 3,680	3,695	3,569	3,660	3,783	3,589	3,690	4,400	5,085
Office clerical										
Regular salaries	6,1	80 6,058	5,984	5,746	5,778	5,959	5,495	6,247	6,771	7,333
Crafts and trades										
Regular salaries	5,2	53 5,195	5,126	5,323	5,362	5,462	5,251	5,604	5,619	6,033
Benefits										
Medical	17,6	22 18,954	17,332	16,628	17,225	13,445	15,228	15,988	15,646	20,444
Dental	1,1	80 1,259	1,103	1,184	1,181	978	1,194	1,161	1,297	1,358
Vision	1	96 177	181	178	195	149	165	169	142	145
Prescription	5,5	94 5,041	4,694	4,476	4,076	3,460	3,438	5,176	5,059	3,952
Social security	6,3	88 6,451	6,609	6,734	6,892	7,057	7,314	7,757	8,140	8,530
Retirement	18,6		27,069	30,058	31,585	33,219	34,674	37,060	39,340	39,818
Tuition reimbursement	3	60 197	442	443	428	371	410	477	554	663
Life and disability		18 321	331	362	540	550	532	344	532	568
Wrkrs comp/unemply/other	8	23 1,462	1,307	1,345	1,079	966	1,115	1,151	1,383	1,289
Total benefits	51,1	84 56,588	59,068	61,408	63,200	60,194	64,070	69,283	72,093	76,765
Less: Cost sharing	(4,1	54) (4,388	(5,072)	(5,138)	(5,145)	(4,948)	(5,534)	(5,058)	(5,456)	(5,083)
Net benefits	47,0	30 52,200	53,996	56,270	58,055	55,247	58,536	64,225	66,636	71,683
Professional and technical services	14,0	64 16,812	18,965	18,184	17,678	15,768	14,079	19,979	19,479	20,546
Substitute service	1,3	66 1,926	1,934	2,034	2,219	1,953	1,709	2,732	3,970	3,953
Contracted therapeutic staff	1,2	99 1,572	1,736	1,850	1,669	1,328	1,502	1,792	2,130	2,064
Contracted aides- special ed	1,1	39 1,496	2,214	2,194	2,047	1,229	667	1,130	823	1,119
Contracted aides- other		-	127	392	316	137	117	194	170	132
CCIU - Special education programs	3,2	49 3,603	3,887	3,787	3,319	2,826	2,519	3,234	3,299	3,372
Occupation/Physical therapy	9	1,060	1,156	1,178	1,050	979	983	1,102	1,255	1,337
Due process hearings	4	96 949	1,344	823	645	915	810	1,081	1,092	1,206
Early intervention	2	76 366	349	243	267	231	357	158	144	212
Extended school year	5	02 736	669	695	774	606	412	616	511	759
Alternative ed - special ed	1,4	1,586	2,044	1,744	1,791	2,005	1,848	2,034	2,433	2,700
Alternative education - reg	7	728	797	830	1,121	1,093	516	-	-	-

## West Chester Area School District General Fund Expenditures by Type (In thousands) Year Ended June 30, 2024

Professional and technical services (continued)																				
Tax collection	\$ 6	646	\$	673	\$	725	\$	625	\$	594	\$	684	\$	732	\$	915	\$	902	\$	943
Legal		365	•	354	*	396	Ψ	312	Ψ	304	*	246	*	310	•	335	*	389	•	271
Other		585		1,764		1,586		1,474		1,564		1,537		1,598		4,656		2,362		2,478
	ŕ											,		,						
Purchased property services	3,2	_		3,448		4,002		3,675		3,559		3,600		3,096		3,644		3,898		4,107
Electricity	1,5	545		1,622		1,788		1,672		1,571		1,574		1,487		1,753		1,950		2,122
Water/Sewer	5	521		503		534		517		582		587		538		640		685		689
Trash removal		90		86		91		82		83		78		89		93		101		120
Office rental	1	134		138		164		185		187		268		266		129		137		145
Other	1,0	009		1,099		1,426		1,220		1,136		1,093		715		1,029		1,026		1,031
Other services	27,4	166	2	9,050		30,953		30,752		30,128		27,848		27,061		27,413		29,909		31,216
Charter schools	8,0	080		9,455		9,819		9,574		8,278		7,776		7,869		7,812		7,512		7,581
Tuition: Special ed	2,6			2,463		3,530		3,675		4,318		3,828		3,599		3,152		4,220		4,850
Tuition: CAT		262		2,597		2,722		2,756		2,739		2,558		2,490		2,680		2,798		2,748
Tuition: Other	,	153		131		96		172		294		144		152		156		387		266
Bussing: Public schools	4,6			1,905		4,898		4,700		5,071		4,826		4,815		5,511		6,021		5,944
Bussing: Non-public	4,3			1,424		4,422		4,409		4,117		3,728		3,860		3,011		3,291		3,188
Bussing: Special ed	3,6			3,496		3,848		3,856		3,867		3,503		3,062		3,391		3,814		4,668
Bussing: Extracurricular		326		316		327		318		297		216		93		264		344		342
Insurance		163		493		502		497		501		519		519		554		593		651
Telephone/Postage		501		489		492		517		375		496		509		639		576		502
Other		358		281		295		276		272		254		94		242		354		476
Supplies	5,0	166		1,718		4,798		5,394		5,889		5,210		8,614		7,251		8,352		8,206
·		377		620		605	_	647		756		568		805		894	_		_	961
Heating fuel								647 696		756 845		701				894 972		1,135 1,114		
Other operations/maint supplies		649		652 1,925		715 1,829		1,870				2,025		1,215		2,639		,		1,174 2,761
Educational	1,0	381		1,925 1,123		881		1,870		2,046 1,062		2,025 777		3,275 843		,		2,520 1,404		2,761 897
Curriculum proposals Educational/Admin software	,			394				1,123		,		1,115				700		,		
	4	110		394		681		,		1,083				2,421		1,927		2,142		2,379
Administration/Business		20		2		87		51		97		23		56		119		37		34
Other objects		534		367		411		774		404		337		337		1,057		425		441
Dues and fees - athletics	1	140		179		171		160		149		117				150		214	_	287
Property	4	156		543		650		295		261		272		754		540		2,805		681
Other equipment	4	156		543		650		295		261		272		754		540		2,805	_	681
Debt service	21,1	164	1	3,350		24,085		24,856		25,572		26,542		25,413	_	27,537		27,882	_	27,151
Bond payments	21,1	164	1	3,350		24,085		24,856		25,572		26,542		25,413		27,537		27,882	_	27,151
Total expense	\$ 207,0	066	\$ 21	1,591	\$	229,189	\$	233,913	\$	237,301	\$	233,070	\$	239,893	\$	259,272	\$	272,399	\$	281,771

Source: District Budget Control Forecast Model



# WEST CHESTER AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

# REVENUE CAPACITY



## West Chester Area School District Governmental Funds – Most Significant Own-Source Revenues Year Ended June 30, 2024

Fiscal Year	Chester County Mileage Rate	Delaware County Mileage Rate	Current Real Estate Taxes	Interim Real Estate Taxes	Delinquent Real Estate Taxes	Act 511 Taxes *	Other Local Revenues	Total Local Revenues	PURTA	Investments	IDEA	Rentals	Donations	Summer School	Receipts from Other LEAs	Other Tuition (Outdoor Ed)	Athletic Fund	Other
2014-15	19.21	13.65	\$ 147,447,717	\$ 955,973	\$ 3,246,013	\$ 23,505,223	\$ 1,629,472	\$ 176,784,398	\$ 214,682	\$ 165,496	\$ 1,215,754	\$ 347,233	\$ 5,000	\$ 30,24	2 \$ 213,468	\$ 119,050	\$ 136,281	\$ 398,020
2015-16	19.5779	13.9059	151,929,043	780,930	3,000,329	24,325,967	2,048,424	182,084,693	198,340	332,215	1,199,740	402,308	13,381	34,56	3 385,557	122,866	152,905	406,289
2016-17	20.0982	14.7113	156,989,628	695,464	3,479,843	27,451,544	2,302,843	190,919,322	196,738	731,944	1,333,558	509,869	17,602	47,97	118,233	113,795	160,577	406,107
2017-18	20.6841	15.2086	163,169,638	1,065,856	2,708,709	26,105,252	2,965,157	196,014,612	183,280	1,402,283	1,318,134	481,072	27,126	48,71	4 88,290	68,284	150,889	515,219
2018-19	21.2723	16.0761	169,592,595	1,091,954	2,477,181	25,931,136	4,079,916	203,172,782	192,821	2,656,955	1,331,370	444,124	18,271	53,97	4 55,400	18,793	162,767	476,811
2019-20	21.6622	16.2597	173,636,758	984,090	3,160,170	26,240,881	3,375,286	207,397,185	177,571	2,179,046	1,340,950	270,577	9,557	28,44	7 78,219	13,942	161,908	456,019
2020-21	21.6622	16.6626	174,260,525	1,997,620	3,264,401	30,440,986	846,107	210,809,638	195,012	220,923	1,551,639	212,546	-	13,60	4 82,959	-	-	121,062
2021-22**	22.0604	9.5164	180,091,669	4,054,176	3,485,512	35,622,969	1,325,796	224,580,123	203,574	76,773	1,730,783	319,729	5,357	50,97	4 40,095	-	172,020	457,276
2022-23	22.4364	9.9343	186,360,120	1,933,510	2,920,511	33,796,490	8,298,135	233,308,766	204,098	6,556,409	1,371,535	702,634	1,950	38,57	7 94,260	-	206,368	493,839
2023-24	22.4364	9.9424	188,958,992	1,350,888	2,606,238	34,806,900	11,541,874	239,264,892	199,704	9,815,331	1,993,365	709,676	7,027	30,06	2 107,054	-	195,732	477,288

<sup>\*</sup> Act 511 Taxes include Earned Income and Real Estate Transfer Taxes

Source: District Annual Financial Report (AFR)

<sup>\*\*</sup> Reassessment done in Delaware County

# West Chester Area School District Analysis of Assessed Value for Taxable Real Estate Year Ended June 30, 2024

Land Use Description	2014-15 # of Parcels	Assessment Total	2015-16 # of <u>Parcels</u>	Assessment Total	2016-17 # of Parcels	Assessment Total	2017-18 # of <u>Parcels</u>	Assessment Total	2018-19 # of <u>Parcels</u>	Assessment Total
Chester County										
Not identified	-		-		-		-		-	
Commercial properties	1,712	\$ 1,365,713,429	1,709	\$ 1,367,742,137	1,714	\$ 1,382,831,647	1,722	\$ 1,393,879,547	1,724	\$ 1,386,487,480
Farm properties	68	22,066,740	69	22,703,280	69	22,730,390	69	23,544,790	70	23,886,590
Industrial properties	88	145,936,270	87	145,405,235	87	145,188,555	87	145,353,765	86	145,152,395
Residential properties	30,250	6,063,262,560	30,365	6,115,048,985	30,410	6,132,798,573	30,433	6,213,361,838	30,490	6,239,593,971
Vacant land	1,163	49,319,210	1,090	47,541,320	1,068	45,006,370	1,039	47,346,930	1,089	46,914,600
Total Chester County	33,281	7,646,298,209	33,320	7,698,440,957	33,348	7,728,555,535	33,350	7,823,486,870	33,459	7,842,035,036
Delaware County										
Commercial/industrial	14	8,533,463	14	8,533,463	14	8,533,463	14	8,008,833	14	8,008,833
Residential/farms/vacant land	2,192	633,891,761	2,194	638,801,396	2,199	638,865,520	2,189	639,278,166	2,199	640,107,224
Total Delaware County	2,206	642,425,224	2,208	647,334,859	2,213	647,398,983	2,203	647,286,999	2,213	648,116,057
Grand total	35,487	\$ 8,288,723,433	35,528	\$ 8,345,775,816	35,561	\$ 8,375,954,518	35,553	\$ 8,470,773,869	35,672	\$ 8,490,151,093

## West Chester Area School District Analysis of Assessed Value for Taxable Real Estate Year Ended June 30, 2024

Land Use Description	2019-20 # of Parcels	Assessment Total	2020-21 # of Parcels	Assessment Total	2021-22 # of <u>Parcels</u>	Assessment Total	2022-23 # of Parcels	Assessment Total	2023-24 # of Parcels	Assessment Total
Chester County										
Not identified	-		-		-					
Commercial properties	1,730	\$ 1,419,240,638	1,732	\$ 1,409,206,133	1,749	\$ 1,373,439,443	1,755	\$ 1,366,384,239	1,763	\$ 1,346,936,767
Farm properties	67	22,327,250	68	22,616,460	67	22,549,430	66	22,550,430	66	23,405,150
Industrial properties	86	146,105,675	86	142,070,645	85	139,232,465	84	140,508,045	83	137,816,315
Residential properties	30,571	6,286,518,818	30,681	6,333,174,618	30,829	6,419,779,433	31,163	6,658,826,313	31,474	6,754,964,678
Vacant land	1,135	47,370,590	1,464	55,803,640	1,421	53,477,760	1,413	43,773,310	1,313	44,002,122
Total Chester County	33,589	7,921,562,971	34,031	7,962,871,496	34,151	8,008,478,531	34,481	8,232,042,337	34,699	8,307,125,032
Delaware County										
Commercial/industrial	14	8,008,833	16	9,157,733	14	26,710,280	13	26,433,670	13	26,433,670
Residential/farms/vacant land	2,210	640,087,346	2,227	643,408,747	2,229	1,113,758,696	2,227	1,119,984,656	2,227	1,123,976,566
Total Delaware County	2,224	648,096,179	2,243	652,566,480	2,243	1,140,468,976	2,240	1,146,418,326	2,240	1,150,410,236
Grand total	35,813	\$ 8,569,659,150	36,274	\$ 8,615,437,976	36,394	\$ 9,148,947,507	36,721	\$ 9,378,460,663	36,939	\$ 9,457,535,268

Source: County Land Use Code Report

## West Chester Area School District Market Value Versus Assessed Value of Taxable Real Estate Year Ended June 30, 2024

As of June 30th	Market Value Chester County (000)	Market Value Delaware County (000)	Total Market Value (000)	Assessed Value (000)	Ratio of Market Value to Assessed Value
2013	\$ 11,841,643	\$ 705,298	\$ 12,546,941	\$ 8,288,723	151%
2014	12,049,694	736,705	12,786,399	8,345,776	153%
2015	12,149,938	741,885	12,891,823	8,375,955	154%
2016	12,584,089	786,253	13,370,342	8,470,774	158%
2017	12,774,058	785,727	13,559,785	8,490,151	160%
2018	13,366,030	841,146	14,207,176	8,569,659	166%
2019	13,526,033	840,051	14,366,084	8,615,438	167%
2020	14,129,979	895,234	15,025,213	9,148,948	164%
2021	14,229,894	895,234	15,125,128	9,378,461	161%
2022	15,569,013	1,051,730	16,620,743	9,457,535	176%

Source: State Tax Equalization Board

#### West Chester Area School District Property Tax Rates – All Direct and Overlapping Governments Year Ended June 30, 2024

Chester County									
	West Chester		Township of				Township of		
Fiscal	Area School	Chester	East	Township of	Township of	Township of	West	Township of	Borough of
Year	District	County	Bradford	East Goshen	Thornbury	West Goshen	Whiteland	Westtown	West Chester
2014-15	19.21	4.163	0.34	1.25	0.995	2.00	0.719	3.50	6.96
2015-16	19.5779	4.163	1.00	1.25	0.995	2.00	0.719	3.50	6.96
2016-17	20.0982	4.163	1.00	1.25	0.995	2.00	0.719	3.50	6.96
2017-18	20.6841	4.369	1.00	1.25	0.995	2.00	0.719	3.50	6.96
2018-19	21.2723	4.369	1.00	1.25	0.995	2.00	0.719	3.50	6.96
2019-20	21.6622	4.369	1.00	1.25	0.995	2.00	0.719	3.50	6.96
2020-21	21.6622	4.369	1.50	1.25	0.995	2.00	0.714	3.50	6.96
2021-22	22.0604	4.551	1.50	1.25	0.995	2.00	0.714	3.50	7.40
2022-23	22.4364	4.551	1.75	1.25	0.995	2.00	0.714	3.50	7.70
2023-24	22.4364	4.551	1.75	1.75	0.995	2.00	0.714	3.71	7.70

Source: Chester County website

#### **Delaware County**

	West Chester		
Fiscal	Area School	Delaware	Township of
Year	District	County	Thornbury
2014-15	13.65	5.604	0.00
2015-16	13.9059	5.604	0.00
2016-17	14.7113	5.604	0.00
2017-18	15.2086	5.604	0.00
2018-19	16.0761	5.604	0.00
2019-20	16.2597	5.461	0.00
2020-21	16.6626	5.461	0.00
2021-22**	9.5164	2.999	0.00
2022-23	9.9343	2.999	0.00
2023-24	9.9424	2.999	0.00

Source: Delaware County website

Note: Effective June 30, 2007, Pennsylvania law has imposed restrictions on a school district's ability to increase tax rates. The State restricts increases to tax rates to no more than a pre-calculated index. A district may apply for exceptions with the State to increase the tax rate above the index.

<sup>\*\*</sup> Reassessment done in Delaware County

# West Chester Area School District Ten Largest Real Property Taxpayers Year Ended June 30, 2024

				2023-2	4		2014-1	5	
Name	Township	Type of Property	_	Taxable Assessed Value	Percent of District's Total Value	Rank	 Taxable Assessed Value	Percent of District's Total Value	Rank
Main Street At Exton LP	West Whiteland	Shopping Center	\$	76,575,590	0.81%	1	\$ 28,553,560	0.34%	3
NWHAN Exton PA Development	West Whiteland	Apartment Complex		37,116,670	0.39%	2			
Bre Rook Sh Bellingham LP	East Goshen	Senior Living Community		30,740,000	0.33%	3			
SPUS8 West Chester LP	West Goshen	Apartment Complex		27,976,000	0.30%	4			
ARHC WHCCHPA01 LLC	East Goshen	Senior Living Community		27,000,000	0.29%	5			
JAG/OAK Parkview Apartments	West Whiteland	Apartment Complex		25,037,760	0.26%	6			
Exton Square, Inc.	West Whiteland	Shopping Center		24,639,465	0.26%	7	78,683,200	0.95%	1
Keva Flats LP	West Whiteland	Apartment Complex		24,618,375	0.26%	8			
Westtown Apartments	Westtown	Apartment Complex		24,367,500	0.26%	9	16,636,690	0.20%	9
Pembrooke TOM VC LLC	West Whiteland	Business Complex		23,388,088	0.25%	10			
QVC	West Goshen	Indust Bldg/ TV Shopping					35,696,530	0.43%	2
TRC Valley Creek Assoc.	West Whiteland	Business Complex					28,500,000	0.34%	4
HCRI PA Properties Holding Co.	East Goshen	Senior Living Community					22,849,280	0.28%	5
Exton Crossing Apts	West Whiteland	Apartment Complex					21,023,480	0.25%	6
Whiteland Investors, LP	West Whiteland	Apartment Complex					19,320,000	0.23%	7
Hankin Family Ltd Partnership	East Goshen	Apartment Complex					17,328,750	0.21%	8
Fern Hill LLC	West Goshen	Apartment Complex					 16,617,370	0.20%	10
Total assessed value -ten largest taxpayers			\$	321,459,448			\$ 285,208,860		
Total district assessed value			\$ !	9,457,535,268			\$ 8,288,723,433		

Source: District Fact Books

#### West Chester Area School District Real Estate Tax Collection as a Ratio of Levy Year Ended June 30, 2024

Fiscal	Assessed			Adjusted		Current Col	lection
Year	Valuation	Mills (2)		Levy	Aı	mount (1), (3)	Percent
2014-15	\$ 8,288,723,433	19.21	\$	155,654,493	\$	151,068,019	97.1%
2015-16	8,345,775,816	19.5779	,	159,721,081	•	155,284,474	97.2%
2016-17	8,375,954,518	20.0982		164,854,136		160,530,248	97.4%
2017-18	8,470,773,869	20.6841		171,450,694		166,713,031	97.2%
2018-19	8,490,151,093	21.2723		177,237,300		173,060,736	97.6%
2019-20	8,569,659,150	21.6622		182,136,331		177,235,011	97.3%
2020-21	8,615,437,976	21.6622		183,366,769		177,830,871	97.0%
2021-22	9,148,947,507	22.0604		187,523,399		183,687,863	98.0%
2022-23	9,378,460,663	22.4364		196,086,258		190,642,621	97.2%
2023-24	9,457,535,268	22.4364		197,819,819		193,128,602	97.6%

Source: District Tax Records

<sup>(1)</sup> Includes revenue received from State designated for school district property tax reduction. Special Section Act 1 of 2006 was passed to ease the financial burden of home ownership by providing school districts the means to lower property taxes to homeowners via this funding to districts provided by gaming revenue.

<sup>(2)</sup> One mill of tax is equal to \$1.00 for every \$1,000 of assessed valuation of real estate property

<sup>(3)</sup> Does not include delinquent or interim taxes collected.

# WEST CHESTER AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

# **DEBT CAPACITY**



## West Chester Area School District Computation of Non-Electoral Debt Margin Year Ended June 30, 2024

	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
Total General Fund revenues*	\$ 213,970,535	\$ 220,793,385	\$ 235,401,340	\$ 242,175,000	\$ 249,521,639	\$ 255,108,419	\$ 261,224,019	\$ 277,711,304	\$ 289,804,646	\$ 295,885,079
Less: Required deductions if included in total Rental and Sinking Fund reimbursement	1,181,706	-	2,104,117	1,554,549	1,163,834	1,121,094	1,051,643	1,596,511	985,974	1,149,784
Sale of property and non-recurring revenue Fund transfer Net revenues	- - 212,788,829	- - 220,793,385	- - 233,297,223	- - 240,620,451	- - 248,357,805	- - 253,987,325	- - 260,172,376	- - 276,114,793	- - 288,818,672	- - 294,735,295
Annual arithmetic average (borrowing base)**	207,482,012	212,958,388	222,293,146	231,570,353	240,758,493	247,655,194	254,172,502	263,424,831	275,035,280	286,556,253
Multiplier	225%	225%	225%	225%	225%	225%	225%	225%	225%	225%
Total nonelectoral debt limit	466,834,527	479,156,373	500,159,579	521,033,294	541,706,609	557,224,187	571,888,130	592,705,870	618,829,380	644,751,569
Less: Amount debt applicable to debt limit Total debt margin	271,826,000 \$ 195,008,527	266,615,000 \$ 212,541,373	261,070,000 \$ 239,089,579	256,125,000 \$ 264,908,294	250,425,000 \$ 291,281,609	268,885,000 \$ 288,339,187	281,605,000 \$ 290,283,130	259,750,000 \$ 332,955,870	242,135,000 \$ 376,694,380	223,460,000 \$ 421,291,569
Ratio of debt limit to debt margin	42%	44%	48%	51%	54%	52%	51%	56%	61%	65%

Source: District Annual Financial Statements PDE 2057

<sup>\*</sup> Includes other financing sources

<sup>\*\*</sup> Borrowing base is average of net revenues for three year period

## West Chester Area School District Gross Principal Debt Outstanding Year Ended June 30, 2024

Fiscal Year	Emmaus Note 2009	_	Series AA 2014 GOR	s _	Series A 2016 GOR	Se	eries A 2017 GOB	_	Series 2018 GOB	S	eries 2019 GOB	S	eries 2020 GOB	s	eries 2021 GOB	S	eries 2022 GOB	S	eries 2024 GOB	_	Total
2024- 2025	\$ 675,000	\$	5,700,000	\$	12,270,000	\$	5,000	\$	5,000	\$	5,000	\$	55,000	\$	5,000	\$	5,000	\$	5,000	\$	18,730,000
2025- 2026	700,000		6,025,000		12,850,000		5,000		5,000		5,000		60,000		5,000		100,000		5,000		19,760,000
2026- 2027	485,000		18,505,000		1,000,000		5,000		5,000		5,000		60,000		5,000		200,000		5,000		20,275,000
2027- 2028	5,625,000		7,990,000		-		5,000		5,000		5,000		1,875,000		5,000		4,270,000		1,870,000		21,650,000
2028- 2029	-		8,230,000		-		2,340,000		5,000		5,000		1,915,000		5,000		6,530,000		2,200,000		21,230,000
2029- 2034	-		8,480,000		-		7,360,000		4,060,000		7,655,000		5,975,000		9,200,000		19,000,000		7,145,000		68,875,000
2034- 2039	-		-		-		-		5,880,000		21,950,000		-		13,725,000		-		-		41,555,000
2039- 2041		_		_		_			-		5,100,000				6,285,000		-			_	11,385,000
Total principal	\$ 7,485,000	\$	54,930,000	\$	26,120,000	\$	9,720,000	\$	9,965,000	\$	34,730,000	\$	9,940,000	\$	29,235,000	\$	30,105,000	\$	11,230,000	\$ 2	223,460,000

Source: District Debt Service Schedules

## West Chester Area School District Schedule of Direct and Overlapping Debt Year Ended June 30, 2024

		Percentage Applicable to this		
	Gross Debt Outstanding	Governmental <u>Unit</u>	Net Share of Debt	
Chester County				
Direct debt				
West Chester Area School District	\$ 215,975,000	100%	\$ 215,975,000	
Overlapping debt				
Township of East Bradford	9,072,000	100%	9,072,000	(1), (2)
Township of East Goshen	14,250,905	100%	14,250,905	(1), (2)
Township of Thornbury	-	100%	-	(1), (2)
Township of West Goshen	2,622,000	100%	2,622,000	(1), (2)
Township of West Whiteland	-	100%	-	(1), (2)
Township of Westtown	11,997,467	100%	11,997,467	(1), (2)
Borough of West Chester	-	100%	-	(1), (2)
Chester County	522,009,362	20%	101,999,359	(1), (2), (3)
Total direct and overlapping Chester County debt			\$ 355,916,731	
Delaware County				
Direct debt				
West Chester Area School District	\$ 215,975,000	100%	\$ 215,975,000	
Overlapping debt				
Township of Thornbury	-	100%	-	(1), (4)
Delaware County	306,302,776	1.2%	3,666,096	(1), (3), (4)
Total direct and overlapping Delaware County deb	t		\$ 219,641,096	

<sup>(1)</sup> As of December 31, 2023

<sup>(2)</sup> Source: County of Chester ACFR

<sup>(3)</sup> Percentage of County Debt was derived by taking WCASD population as a Percentage of County

<sup>(4)</sup> Source: County of Delaware ACFR

#### West Chester Area School District Ratio of Net General Debt to Assessed Value and Debt per Capita Year Ended June 30, 2024

Fiscal Year	Assessed Value (1)	Gross Bonded Debt (5)	Debt Service Monies Available	Net Bonded Debt	Ratio of Net Bonded Debt to Assessed	<u>Population</u>	Net Bonded Debt per Capita	Estimated Personal Income (4)	Percent of Personal Income
2014-15	\$ 8,288,723,433	\$ 260,605,000	\$ -	\$ 260,605,000	3.1%	108,441 (2	2,403	\$ 11,295,323,001	2.3%
2015-16	8,345,775,816	256,645,000	-	256,645,000	3.1%	108,441 (2	2,367	11,295,323,001	2.3%
2016-17	8,375,954,518	271,745,378	-	271,745,378	3.2%	108,441 (2	2,506	11,295,323,001	2.4%
2017-18	8,470,773,869	264,042,382	-	264,042,382	3.1%	108,441 (2	2,435	11,295,323,001	2.3%
2018-19	8,490,151,093	255,490,452	-	255,490,452	3.0%	108,441 (2	2,356	11,295,323,001	2.3%
2019-20	8,569,659,150	276,686,539	-	276,686,539	3.2%	108,441 (2	2,551	11,295,323,001	2.4%
2020-21	8,615,437,976	293,972,635	-	293,972,635	3.4%	111,327 (3	3) 2,641	11,595,931,647	2.5%
2021-22	9,148,947,507	274,518,168	-	274,518,168	3.0%	111,327 (3	3) 2,466	11,595,931,647	2.4%
2022-23	9,378,460,663	254,261,917	-	254,261,917	2.7%	111,327 (3	3) 2,284	11,595,931,647	2.2%
2023-24	9,457,535,268	234,782,739	-	234,782,739	2.5%	111,327 (3	3) 2,109	11,595,931,647	2.0%

(1) Source: District Fact Book(2) Source: 2010 Census(3) Source: 2020 Census

(4) Uses 2020 Household Median Income from Chester County Planning Commission

(5) Source: District Audit Report



# WEST CHESTER AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

# DEMOGRAPHIC AND ECONOMIC INFORMATION



## West Chester Area School District Trends in Population, Market Value, and Personal Income Year Ended June 30, 2024

	West Chester Area					
	<b>School District</b>	West Chester	Pennsylvania		<b>United States</b>	
	Population	(1) County Population (1)	Population	(1) _	Population	_ (1)
1970	Not Available	278,311	11,758,458		203,302,031	
1980	68,170	316,660	11,855,687		226,542,199	
1990	81,172	376,396	11,881,643		248,709,873	
2000	94,114	433,501	12,281,054		281,421,906	
2010	108,441	498,886	12,702,379		308,745,538	
2020	111,327	534,413	13,002,700		331,449,281	
2021 *	111,603	538,649	12,964,056		331,893,745	
2022 *	113,600	545,823	12,972,008		333,287,557	
2023 *	114,563	549,784	12,961,683		334,914,895	

<sup>\*</sup> As estimated by US Census Bureau

	West Chester Area School District Market Value			est Chester Area School District justed Personal Income	 Pennsylvania Market Value	<b>A</b>	(2)	
2014	\$	12,786,398,938	\$	4,980,850,893	\$ 801,633,782,130	\$	328,242,656,054	
2015	\$	12,891,822,543	\$	5,035,785,968	\$ 810,805,701,762	\$	342,030,707,410	
2016	\$	13,370,341,641	\$	5,106,608,693	\$ 839,594,528,100	\$	339,831,330,362	
2017	\$	13,559,785,462	\$	5,105,520,049	\$ 847,630,312,124	\$	352,789,390,440	
2018	\$	14,207,175,901	\$	5,558,936,430	\$ 877,385,372,915	\$	378,234,703,027	
2019	\$	14,366,083,784	\$	5,616,886,135	\$ 922,018,498,396	\$	395,548,185,123	
2020	\$	15,025,213,325	\$	5,524,523,899	\$ 966,037,072,558	\$	384,746,553,419	
2021	\$	15,125,128,108	\$	5,895,568,720	\$ 975,443,133,973	\$	396,109,249,773	
2022	\$	16,620,743,291	\$	6,739,683,429	\$ 1,057,970,532,347	\$	448,491,075,393	
2023	\$	16,790,636,517		Not Available	\$ 1,069,761,081,286		Not Available	

(1) Source: US Census

(2) Source: PA Dept of Education

#### West Chester Area School District Key Economic and Housing Indices Year Ended June 30, 2024

Household Income		Hous	1			
	Total households 2020	less than \$50,000	\$50,000 to \$100,000	\$100,000 or more	Median Household Income, 2020	(1)
Chester County	192,951	43,414	49,203	100,334	104,161	
West Chester Area (2)	40,850	9,935	10,011	20,904		

Labor Force and Emplo	<u>oyment</u>	Civilia	n Labor Force		_	
	Population 16 years and over, 2020	Total	Employed	Unemployed	Unemployment Rate, 2020	(1)
Pennsylvania					7.7%	
Chester County	417,628	284,955	273,256	11,699	2.8%	
West Chester Area (2)	82,718	55,901	53,569	2,332	N/A	

**Housing Value** Housing Value (3) **Total Owner** Less than Occupied \$150,000 to \$300,001 to \$400,001 to \$500,001 or \$400,000 Units, 2019 \$150,000 \$300,000 \$500,000 more (1) **Chester County** 143,192 9,260 44,599 31,059 22,809 35,465 West Chester Area (2) 26,934 812 5,964 6,551 5,661 7,946

- (1) Source: U S Census Bureau American Community Survey 2016-2020
- (2) West Chester Area is comprised of all Chester County West Chester Area municipalities
- (3) Updated information not available

#### West Chester Area School District Largest Employers within the School District Year Ended June 30, 2024

		2023-24		0/ <b>-</b> £	2014-15		0/ -4
Name	Product or Service	Approximate Employment	Rank	% of <u>Total</u>	Approximate Employment	Rank	% of <u>Total</u>
Penn Medicine Chester County Hospital	Health Care Services	2,829	1	5.3%			
West Chester University	Education	2,527	2	4.7%	2,554	2	5.0%
QVC Network, Inc.	Home Shopping Network	1,903	3	3.6%	2,820	1	5.5%
Chester County	County Government	1,781	4	3.3%	1,600	4	3.1%
QVC Japan Services	Home Shopping Network	1,747	5	3.3%			
West Chester Area School District	Education	1,673	6	3.1%	1,582	5	3.1%
United Parcel Services, Inc.	Delivery Services	1,139	7	2.1%	1,200	7	2.3%
Giant Food Stores LLC	Grocery	1,052	8	2.0%	924	8	1.8%
The Arc of Chester County	Advocacy Organization	986	9	1.8%			
Communications Test Design, Inc.	Communication Engineering	858	10	1.6%	680	10	1.3%
Johnson & Johnson Services, Inc.	Drug Research and Testing				1,392	6	2.7%
Chester County Hospital	Health Care Services				2,161	3	4.2%
Comcast Cable Communications	Telecommunication				898	9	1.8%
Total		16,495			15,811		

Note: 2023-24 % of Total Employment uses 2020 Total West Chester Community employed population of 53,569. 2014-15 % of Total Employment uses 2010 Total West Chester Community employed population of 51,129

Source: District EIT Collection records, District Fact Book Chester County Planning Commission

# WEST CHESTER AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

# **OPERATING INFORMATION**



## West Chester Area School District Staffing Ratios for Professional Staff Year Ended June 30, 2024

Fiscal Year	Number of School Staff *	Number of Students	Ratio Students/Staff
2014-15	971.60	11,624	12.0
2015-16	971.30	11,483	11.8
2016-17	973.30	11,589	11.9
2017-18	979.80	11,928	12.2
2018-19	992.80	11,963	12.0
2019-20	1,002.60	12,078	12.0
2020-21	1,032.35	11,968	11.6
2021-22	1,074.22	12,093	11.3
2022-23	1,081.23	12,146	11.2
2023-24	1,097.55	12,063	11.0

<sup>\*</sup> Includes: Teachers, librarians, guidance counselors, nurses, supervisors, school administrators and social workers.

Source: District Fact Book

## West Chester Area School District District Facilities Year Ended June 30, 2024

Building	Original Construction Date	Addition and/or Renovation Date	Grades	Site Area (Acres)	_	Building Sq. Ft.	Sept. 30 <sup>th</sup> 2023 Enrollment
B. Rustin High School	2003-06	-	9-12	123.20		283,000	1,189
East High School	1973	1976/92/93/04	9-12	62.60		314,453	1,248
East/Fugett Athletic Fields	2004	-	-	43.35		-	-
Henderson High School	1951	1956/64/76/94/98/04	9-12	30.56		287,351	1,469
Henderson-North Campus Athletics	2006	-	-	13.40	**	-	-
E. N. Peirce Middle School	1963	1998/01/03	6-8	26.70		136,250	1,006
G. A. Stetson Middle School	1959	1961/98/03/07	6-8	38.40		134,857	798
. R. Fugett Middle School	1969	2009	6-8	*		163,340	894
ast Bradford Elementary	1958	1966/70/89/13	K-5	18.20		58,367	455
East Goshen Elementary	1955	1960/64/67/95/01/20	K-5	20.80		77,465	515
Exton Elementary	1940	1953/57/91/92/93/00/19	K-5	13.10		80,702	474
ern Hill Elementary	1955	1960/89/16	K-5	20.00		64,555	410
Glen Acres Elementary	1966	1997	K-5	11.70		59,931	472
Greystone Elementary	2021	-	K-5	15.00	**	76,542	544
lillsdale Elementary	1976	2007	K-5	19.10		70,631	540
Mary C. Howse Elementary	1962	1965/97	K-5	15.24		59,993	475
Penn Wood Elementary	1966	1970/89/01/12	K-5	18.60		64,350	448
Sarah W. Starkweather Elementary	1991	1998	K-5	37.90		75,094	576
Vesttown-Thornbury Elementary	1954	1956/89/12/24	K-5	11.70		60,976	550
02 North Penn Street	1949***	-	-	0.06		1,348	-
facilities & Operations Center	1999	-	-	3.20		24,588	-
Spellman Education Center	1988	2017	Admin	3.32		42,000	
				546.13		2,135,793	12,063

<sup>\*</sup> Fugett acreage included in East HS site area

<sup>\*\*</sup> In 2021, Henderson-North Campus Athletics' square footage was reduced and Greystone Elementary's square footage was increased.

# West Chester Area School District School District Employees by Function Year Ended June 30, 2024

Functions	Elementary	Middle	<u>High</u>	Other	Total
1100 Regular	356.00	174.30	230.55	21.00	781.85
1200 Special	62.00	35.10	42.50	145.00	284.60
1300 Vocational	-	12.80	19.80	-	32.60
1400 Other instructional	-	-	4.20	-	4.20
2100 Support services- students	21.80	18.40	32.80	16.80	89.80
2200 Support services- instructional	16.50	4.00	7.30	16.95	44.75
2300 Support services- administration	33.00	15.00	21.00	12.00	81.00
2400 Support services- pupil health	11.20	7.00	7.00	6.00	31.20
2500 Support services- business office	-	-	-	13.00	13.00
2600 Operating and maintenance of plant services	39.00	18.50	31.00	56.50	145.00
2700 Student transportation services	-	-	-	3.50	3.50
2800 Support services - central	-	-	-	28.05	28.05
3000 Operation of non-instructional services			12.00		12.00
Total 2023-24 FTEs	539.50	285.10	408.15	318.80	1,551.55

Source: District Personnel Budget Documentation

West Chester Area School District Student Enrollment Summary Year Ended June 30, 2024

Schoo	ol Year	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
Kindergarten	At Sept. 30	584	525	599	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
(half-time)	End of Year	604	532	617	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
**Kindergarten	At Sept. 30	79	90	73	891	857	887	807	850	853	857
(full-time)	End of Year	51	86	81	893	859	902	806	862	861	860
Grades 1-5	At Sept. 30	4,363	4,328	4,355	4,449	4,495	4,501	4,418	4,549	4,613	4,602
	End of Year	4,339	4,324	4,376	4,458	4,498	4,513	4,430	4,564	4,644	4,619
Grades 6-8	At Sept. 30	2,790	2,782	2,809	2,824	2,766	2,824	2,843	2,819	2,771	2,698
	End of Year	2,767	2,780	2,825	2,822	2,769	2,817	2,840	2,812	2,755	2,692
Grades 9-12	At Sept. 30	3,808	3,758	3,753	3,764	3,845	3,866	3,900	3,875	3,909	3,906
	End of Year	3,764	3,753	3,740	3,749	3,807	3,860	3,891	3,878	3,875	3,905
Total - Septeml	ber 30	11,624	11,483	11,589	11,928	11,963	12,078	11,968	12,093	12,146	12,063
Total - End of y	ear/	11,525	11,475	11,639	11,922	11,933	12,092	11,967	12,116	12,135	12,076
Increase/Decre											
at September	30	(42)	(141)	106	339	35	115	(110)	125	53	(83)

# West Chester Area School District Student Market Share Analysis Year Ended June 30, 2024

	<u>2014-15</u>	<u>2015-16</u>	<u>2016-17</u>	<u>2017-18</u>	<u>2018-19</u>	<u>2019-20</u>	<u>2020-21</u>	<u>2021-22</u>	2022-23	2023-24
Total Out-of-District	4,030	4,160	3,975	3,719	3,483	3,347	3,503	3,316	3,176	3,126
% of Total	25.7%	26.6%	25.5%	23.8%	22.5%	21.7%	22.6%	21.5%	20.7%	20.6%
Total In-District	11,624	11,483	11,589	11,928	11,963	12,078	11,968	12,093	12,146	12,063
% of Total	74.3%	73.4%	74.5%	76.2%	77.5%	78.3%	77.4%	78.5%	79.3%	79.4%
Total Students	15,654	15,643	15,564	15,647	15,446	15,425	15,471	15,409	15,322	15,189
Share Change Year-to-Year	0.18%	-1.14%	1.44%	2.38%	1.60%	1.10%	-1.21%	1.45%	2.47%	-0.28%
Chare Change Tear-to-Tear	0.1070	-1.1-70	1.4470	2.50 /0	1.00 /0	1.1070	-1.21/0	1.43 /0	2.47 /0	-0.2070
WCASD	11,624	11,483	11,589	11,928	11,963	12,078	11,968	12,093	12,146	12,063
Elementary	5,026	4,943	5,027	5,340	5,352	5,388	5,225	5,399	5,466	5,459
% of Total Elementary	62.6%	61.5%	63.3%	66.7%	68.6%	69.4%	67.0%	68.7%	70.0%	70.4%
Secondary	6,598	6,540	6,562	6,588	6,611	6,690	6,743	6,694	6,680	6,604
% of Total Secondary	86.5%	86.0%	86.1%	86.2%	86.5%	87.3%	87.9%	88.7%	88.9%	88.9%
Out-Of-District	4,030	4,160	3,975	3,719	3,483	3,347	3,503	3,316	3,176	3,126
Elementary	3,003	3,099	2,915	2,667	2,454	2,372	2,576	2,464	2,342	2,299
Private	223	225	190	190	200	205	209	201	165	175
% of Total	1.4%	1.4%	1.2%	1.2%	1.3%	1.3%	1.4%	1.3%	1.1%	1.2%
Religious - Catholic	1,618	1,615	1,476	1,329	1,226	1,158	1,242	1,204	1,141	1,206
% of Total	10.3%	10.3%	9.5%	8.5%	7.9%	7.5%	8.0%	7.8%	7.4%	7.9%
Religious - Other	270	329	331	303	289	301	317	349	336	199
% of Total	1.7%	2.1%	2.1%	1.9%	1.9%	2.0%	2.0%	2.3%	2.2%	1.3%
Charter	706	717	678	615	510	482	473	434	403	400
% of Total	4.5%	4.6%	4.4%	3.9%	3.3%	3.1%	3.1%	2.8%	2.6%	2.6%
Special Education	36	50	67	62	63	60	48	34	48	55
% of Total	0.2%	0.3%	0.4%	0.4%	0.4%	0.4%	0.3%	0.2%	0.3%	0.4%
CCIU	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
% of Total	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Alternative	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
% of Total	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Home School	150	163	173	168	166	166	287	242	249	264
% of Total	1.0%	1.0%	1.1%	1.1%	1.1%	1.1%	1.9%	1.6%	1.6%	1.7%
Secondary	1,027	1,061	1,060	1,052	1,029	975	927	852	834	827
Private	40	38	36	40	44	48	48	45	39	41
% of Total	0.3%	0.2%	0.2%	0.3%	0.3%	0.3%	0.3%	0.3%	0.3%	0.3%
Religious - Catholic	725	812	784	768	727	700	663	616	595	660
% of Total	4.6%	5.2%	5.0%	4.9%	4.7%	4.5%	4.3%	4.0%	3.9%	4.3%
Religious - Other	93	82	75	77	73	76	72	79	80	10
% of Total	0.6%	0.5%	0.5%	0.5%	0.5%	0.5%	0.5%	0.5%	0.5%	0.1%
Charter	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
% of Total	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Special Education	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
% of Total	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
CCIU	106	94	107	136	146	129	131	99	120	113
% of Total	0.7%	0.6%	0.7%	0.9%	0.9%	0.8%	0.8%	0.6%	0.8%	0.7%
Alternative	63	35	58	31	39	22	13	13	-	3
% of Total	0.4%	0.2%	0.4%	0.2%	0.3%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%
Home School	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
% of Total	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%

## West Chester Area School District Student Market Share Analysis Year Ended June 30, 2024

	<u>2014-15</u>	<u>2015-16</u>	<u>2016-17</u>	<u>2017-18</u>	<u>2018-19</u>	<u>2019-20</u>	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
<b>p</b>										
TOTAL NO. STUDENTS	15,654	15,643	15,564	15,647	15,446	15,425	15,471	15,409	15,322	15,189
Elementary	8,029	8,042	7,942	8,007	7,806	7,760	7,801	7,863	7,808	7,758
Secondary	7,625	7,601	7,622	7,640	7,640	7,665	7,670	7,546	7,514	7,431
TOTAL NO OF BIRTUR (405 5)	4 477	4.005	4.040	4.004	4.000	000	4.005	005	4 000	000
TOTAL NO OF BIRTHS (AGE 5)	1,177	1,035	1,049	1,001	1,032	990	1,065	935	1,026	996
TOTAL NO. STUDENTS	15,654	15,643	15,564	15,647	15,446	15,425	15,471	15,409	15,322	15,189
Elementary	8,029	8,042	7,942	8,007	7,806	7,760	7,801	7,863	7,808	7,758
Secondary	7,625	7,601	7,622	7,640	7,640	7,665	7,670	7,546	7,514	7,431
<b>-</b>										
Facility Breakdown										
% Public	74.3%	73.4%	74.5%	76.2%	77.5%	78.3%	77.4%	78.5%	79.3%	79.4%
Schools Facilities Not WCASD										
% Private	1.7%	1.7%	1.5%	1.5%	1.6%	1.6%	1.7%	1.6%	1.3%	1.4%
% Religious	17.3%	18.1%	17.1%	15.8%	15.0%	14.5%	14.8%	14.6%	14.0%	12.3%
% Charter	4.5%	4.6%	4.4%	3.9%	3.3%	3.1%	3.1%	2.8%	2.6%	2.6%
% Special Education	0.2%	0.3%	0.4%	0.4%	0.4%	0.4%	0.3%	0.2%	0.3%	0.4%
% CCIU	0.7%	0.6%	0.7%	0.9%	0.9%	0.8%	0.8%	0.6%	0.8%	0.7%
% Alternative	0.4%	0.2%	0.4%	0.2%	0.3%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%
% Home School	1.0%	1.0%	1.1%	1.1%	1.1%	1.1%	1.9%	1.6%	1.6%	1.7%
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%



# WEST CHESTER AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

# SINGLE AUDIT



# West Chester Area School District Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards Year Ended June 30, 2024

Federal Grantor/Pass-Through Grantor/Program or Cluster Title	Source Code	Federal CFDA Number	Pass- Through Grantor's Number	Grant Period Beginning - Ending	Program or Award Amount	Total Received for Year	Accrued (Deferred) Revenue 07/1/23	Revenue Recognized	Expenditures	Accrued (Deferred) Revenue 06/30/24	Amount Passed Through to Sub-Recipients
U.S Department of Education											
Passed through PA Department of Education											
Title I Grant to Education Agencies Title I Grant to Education Agencies	 	84.010 84.010	013-230470 013-240470	07/01/22-09/30/23 07/01/23-09/30/25	\$ 547,689 1,313,858	\$ 36,500 613,048	\$ 10,813 	\$ 25,687 892,237	\$ 25,687 892,237	\$ - 279,189	\$ - -
Total CFDA #84.010						649,548	10,813	917,924	917,924	279,189	
Language Instruction for Limited English Proficient (LEP) Language Instruction for Limited English Proficient (LEP)	I I	84.365 84.365	010-230470 010-240470	07/01/22-09/30/24 07/01/23-09/30/24	97,986 100.717	- 100,717	646	4,930 100,055	4,930 100,055	5,576 (662)	<u>-</u>
Total CFDA #84.365	'	04.303	010-240470	07/01/23-09/30/24	100,717	100,717	646	104,985	104,985	4,914	
Improving Teacher Quality State Grant Improving Teacher Quality State Grant	1	84.367 84.367	020-230470 020-240470	07/01/22-09/30/23 07/01/23-09/30/25	233,671 252,598	32,025 100,459	(32,623)	64,648 108,629	64,648 108,629	- 8,170	-
Total CFDA #84.367	•				,	132,484	(32,623)	173,277	173,277	8,170	
Student Support and Academic Enrichment Grant Student Support and Academic Enrichment Grant	 	84.424 84.424	144-230470 144-240470	07/01/22-09/30/23 07/01/23-09/30/24	43,565 42,877	26,965 37,160	13,707	13,258 40,332	13,258 40,332	- 3,172	- -
Total CFDA #84.424						64,125	13,707	53,590	53,590	3,172	
COVID-19 ESSER III COVID-19 ARP ESSER Fund 7% Set Asides Consolidated		84.425U 84.425U	223-210470 225-210470	03/13/20-09/30/24	4,292,337 333,611	390,213 242,626	390,213 194,967	-	-	-	-
COVID-19 ARP ESSER Fund - Homeless Children and Yo		84.425W	181-212473	03/13/20-09/30/24 07/01/21-09/30/24	44,304	10,224	(729)	47,659 9,284	47,659 9,284	(1,669)	
Total CFDA #84.425						643,063	584,451	56,943	56,943	(1,669)	
Passed through Intermediate Unit 13 A ACHIEVE	I	84.027	C189-9035	07/01/18-09/30/21	2,000		(2,000)			(2,000)	
Passed through Chester County I.U.  IDEA Special Education-Grants to States	I	84.027	62-2300024	07/01/22-09/30/23	1,609,561	1,609,561	1,366,031	243,530	243,530	_	-
IDEA Special Education-Grants to States	1	84.027	62-2400024	07/01/23-09/30/24	1,741,457			1,741,457	1,741,457	1,741,457	
Total CFDA #84.027						1,609,561	1,366,031	1,984,987	1,984,987	1,741,457	
IDEA 619 funds IDEA 619 funds	 	84.173 84.173	131-220024B 131-230024B	07/01/22-06/30/23 07/01/23-06/30/24	5,504 8,378	5,504 -	5,504	- 8,378	- 8,378	- 8,378	-
Total CFDA #84.173						5,504	5,504	8,378	8,378	8,378	_

# West Chester Area School District Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards Year Ended June 30, 2024

Federal Grantor/Pass-Through Grantor/Program or Cluster Title	Source Code	Federal CFDA <u>Number</u>	Pass- Through Grantor's Number	Grant Period Beginning - Ending	Program or Award Amount	Total Received for Year	Accrued (Deferred) Revenue 07/1/23	Revenue Recognized	Expenditures	Accrued (Deferred) Revenue 06/30/24	Amount Passed Through to Sub-Recipients
Passed through PA Dept of Public Welfare Title XIX Medical Assistance Program Total U.S. Department of Health and Human Service	l s	93.778	N/A	07/01/23-06/30/24	31,136	31,136 31,136	<u> </u>	31,136 31,136	31,136 31,136		<u> </u>
Passed through PA Department of Agriculture National School Lunch Program National School Lunch Program Total CFDA #10.555	 	10.555 10.555	N/A N/A	07/01/22-06/30/23 07/01/23-06/30/24	N/A N/A	343,534 343,534	(642) (642)	642 334,092 334,734	642 334,092 334,734	(9,442) (9,442)	- - -
Passed through PA Department of Education National School Lunch Program National School Lunch Program National School Lunch Program Total CFDA #10.555	e)   	10.555 10.555 10.555	356 362 362	07/01/21-06/30/24 07/01/22-06/30/23 07/01/23-06/30/24	N/A N/A N/A	192,416 33,439 812,099 1,037,954	(321,696) 33,439  (288,257)	192,049 - 841,396 1,033,445	192,049 - 841,396 1,033,445	(322,063) - 29,297 (292,766)	- - -
National School Breakfast Program National School Breakfast Program Total CFDA #10.553 Total U. S. Department of Agriculture	1	10.553 10.553	365 365	07/01/22-06/30/23 07/01/23-06/30/24	N/A N/A	11,125 214,506 225,631 1,607,119	11,125 - 11,125 (277,774)	225,184 225,184 1,593,363	225,184 225,184 1,593,363	10,678 10,678 (291,530)	- - - -
Total Federal Awards						\$ 4,843,257	\$ 1,668,755	\$ 4,924,583	\$ 4,924,583	\$ 1,750,081	<u>\$ -</u>
Education Stabilization Fund (ALNs 84.425D, 84.425U, ar Special Education Cluster (IDEA) (ALNs 84.027 and 84.17		V)				\$ 643,063 \$ 1,615,065	\$ 584,451 \$ 1,369,535	\$ 56,943 \$ 1,993,365	\$ 56,943 \$ 1,993,365	\$ (1,669) \$ 1,747,835	\$ - \$ -
Child Nutrition Cluster (ALNs 10.553 and 10.555)						\$ 1,607,119	<u>\$ (277,774)</u>	\$ 1,593,363	\$ 1,593,363	\$ (291,530)	<u>\$ -</u>

#### West Chester Area School District Notes to Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards June 30, 2024

#### 1. BASIS OF PRESENTATION

The schedule of expenditures of federal awards reflects federal expenditures for all individual grants which were active during the fiscal year.

#### 2. BASIS OF ACCOUNTING

The District uses the modified accrual method of recording transactions except as noted for the accounting of donated commodities in Note 3. Revenues are recorded when measurable and available. Expenditures are recorded when incurred.

#### 3. NONMONETARY FEDERAL AWARDS - DONATED FOOD

The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania distributes federal surplus food to institutions (schools, hospitals, and prisons) and to the needy. Expenditures reported in the schedule of expenditures of federal awards under CFDA #10.555 includes surplus food consumed by the District during the 2023-2024 fiscal year. The District has food commodities totaling \$9,442 in inventory as of June 30, 2024.

#### 4. ACCESS PROGRAM

The ACCESS Program is a medical assistance program that reimburses local educational agencies for direct eligible health-related services provided to enrolled special needs students. Reimbursements are federal source revenues but are classified as fee-for- service and are not considered federal financial assistance. The amount of ACCESS funding recognized for the year ended June 30, 2024 was \$1,020,550.

#### 5. INDIRECT COSTS

The District has not elected to use the 10 percent de minimis indirect cost rate allowed under Uniform Guidance. For the year ended June 30, 2024, there were no indirect costs included in the schedule of expenditures of federal awards.

# West Chester Area School District Summary Schedule of Prior Audit Findings Year Ended June 30, 2024

There were no audit findings for the year ended June 30, 2023.



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

To the Board of School Directors of West Chester Area School District:

We have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of West Chester Area School District, Exton, Pennsylvania, as of and for the year ended June 30, 2024, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise West Chester Area School District's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated February 7, 2025.

#### **Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting**

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

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

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

#### **Report on Compliance and Other Matters**

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



#### **Purpose of this Report**

Withem Smith + Brown, PC

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

February 7, 2025



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

To the Board of School Directors of West Chester Area School District:

#### Report on Compliance for Each Major Federal Program

#### **Opinion on Each Major Federal Program**

We have audited West Chester Area School District's compliance with the types of compliance requirements identified as subject to audit in the OMB *Compliance Supplement* that could have a direct and material effect on each of West Chester Area School District's major federal programs for the year ended June 30, 2024. West Chester Area School District's major federal programs are identified in the summary of auditor's results section of the accompanying schedule of findings and questioned costs.

In our opinion, West Chester Area School District complied, in all material respects, with the types of compliance requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on each of its major federal programs for the year ended June 30, 2024.

#### **Basis for Opinion on Each Major Federal Program**

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

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

#### **Responsibilities of Management for Compliance**

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



#### **Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance**

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

In performing an audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, *Government Auditing Standards*, and the Uniform Guidance, we:

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

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

#### **Report on Internal Control over Compliance**

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



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

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

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

February 7, 2025

Withem Smith + Brown, PC

#### West Chester Area School District Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs Year Ended June 30, 2024

#### **Summary of Auditor's Results**

- 1. The auditor's report expresses an unmodified opinion on whether the financial statements of the West Chester Area School District were prepared in accordance with GAAP.
- No significant deficiencies or material weaknesses relating to the audit of the financial statements of the West Chester Area School District are reported in the independent auditor's report on internal control over financial reporting and on compliance and other matters based on an audit of financial statements performed in accordance with Government Auditing Standards.
- 3. No instances of noncompliance material to the financial statements of the West Chester Area School District, which would be required to be reported in accordance with Government Auditing Standards, were disclosed during the audit.
- 4. No significant deficiencies or material weaknesses in internal control over the major federal award programs are reported in the independent auditor's report on compliance for each major program and on internal control over compliance required by the Uniform Guidance.
- 5. The auditor's report on compliance for the major federal award programs for the West Chester Area School District expresses an unmodified opinion on all major federal programs.
- 6. There are no audit findings that are required to be reported in accordance with 2 CFR Section 200.516(a).
- 7. The programs tested as major programs were:

Title I Funds – Improving Basic Programs – Assistance Listing 84.010

#### Special Education Cluster (IDEA):

Special Education – Grants to States (IDEA, Part B) – ALN 84.027

Special Education – Preschool Grants (IDEA Preschool) – ALN 84.173

- 8. The threshold used for distinguishing between Type A and B programs was \$750,000.
- 9. The West Chester Area School District did qualify as a low-risk auditee.

#### Findings - Financial Statement Audit

None

Findings and Questioned Costs – Major Federal Award Programs Audit

None

