



**Auditor of State
Betty Montgomery**

**ROSS-PIKE EDUCATIONAL SERVICE DISTRICT
ROSS COUNTY**

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Auditor of State Betty Montgomery

INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT

Ross-Pike Educational Service District
Ross County
475 Western Avenue, Suite B
Chillicothe, Ohio 45601

To the Board of Education:

We have audited the accompanying general purpose financial statements of the Ross-Pike Education Service District, Ross County, Ohio (the District) as of and for the year ended June 30, 2003, as listed in the table of contents. These general purpose financial statements are the responsibility of the District's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these general purpose financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the general purpose financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Ross-Pike Educational Service District, Ross County, as of June 30, 2003, and the results of its operations and the cash flows of its proprietary fund type for the year then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated November 19, 2003 on our consideration of the District's internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grants. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* and should be read in conjunction with this report in considering the results of our audit.

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The accompanying schedule of federal awards receipts and expenditures is presented for additional analysis as required by U.S. Office of Management and Budget Circular A-133, *Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations*, and is not a required part of the general purpose financial statements. We subjected this information to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the general purpose financial statements. In our opinion, it is fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the general purpose financial statements taken as a whole.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Betty Montgomery". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Betty Montgomery
Auditor of State

November 19, 2003

ROSS-PIKE EDUCATIONAL SERVICE DISTRICT
ROSS COUNTY

COMBINED BALANCE SHEET
ALL FUND TYPES AND ACCOUNT GROUPS
JUNE 30, 2003

	Governmental Fund Types		Proprietary Fund Type	Fiduciary Fund Type	Account Groups		Total (Memorial Only)
	General	Special Revenue	Internal Service	Agency	General Fixed Assets	General Long-Term Obligations	
<u>Assets and Other Debits:</u>							
<u>Assets:</u>							
Equity in Pooled Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$2,519,383	\$125,629	\$42,112	\$10,549	\$0	\$0	\$2,
Cash and Cash Equivalents With Fiscal Agents	0	0	174,177	0	0	0	
Receivables:							
Intergovernmental	491,165	0	188,910	0	0	0	
Interfund Receivable	11,612	0	0	0	0	0	
Prepaid Items	5,076	0	0	0	0	0	
Fixed Assets	0	0	0	0	445,195	0	
<u>Other Debits:</u>							
Amount to be Provided from General Government Resources	0	0	0	0	0	104,803	
Total Assets	\$3,027,236	\$125,629	\$405,199	\$10,549	\$445,195	\$104,803	\$4,
<u>Liabilities Fund Equity and Other Credits:</u>							
<u>Liabilities:</u>							
Accounts Payable	\$3,349	\$105	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	
Accrued Wages and Benefits	424,658	9,493	0	0	0	0	
Compensated Absences Payable	12,014	0	0	0	0	76,455	
Interfund Payable	0	11,612	0	0	0	0	
Intergovernmental Payable	9,146	452	0	0	0	28,348	
Claims Payable	0	0	49,909	0	0	0	
Deferred Revenue	377,456	0	0	0	0	0	
Undistributed Monies	0	0	0	10,549	0	0	
Total Liabilities	826,623	21,662	49,909	10,549	0	104,803	1
<u>Fund Equity and Other Credits:</u>							
Investment in General Fixed Assets	0	0	0	0	445,195	0	
Retained Earnings:							
Unreserved	0	0	355,290	0	0	0	
Fund Balance:							
Reserved for Encumbrances	16,038	11,759	0	0	0	0	
Unreserved:							
Undesignated	2,184,575	92,208	0	0	0	0	2
Total Fund Equity and Other Credits	2,200,613	103,967	355,290	0	445,195	0	3
Total Liabilities, Fund Equity and Other Credits	\$3,027,236	\$125,629	\$405,199	\$10,549	\$445,195	\$104,803	\$4,

See accompanying notes to the general purpose financial statements.

**ROSS-PIKE EDUCATIONAL SERVICE DISTRICT
ROSS COUNTY**

**COMBINED STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES
AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES
ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2003**

	General	Special Revenue	Capital Projects	(Totals Memorandum Only)
<u>Revenues:</u>				
Intergovernmental	\$1,653,111	\$391,365	\$0	\$2,044,476
Interest	38,008	0	0	38,008
Tuition and Fees	2,969,319	49,769	0	3,019,088
Gifts and Donations	250	14,488	0	14,738
Customer Services	4,500	30,144	0	34,644
Miscellaneous	171,447	17,951	0	189,398
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total Revenues	4,836,635	503,717	0	5,340,352
<u>Expenditures:</u>				
Current:				
Instruction:				
Regular	84,749	0	0	84,749
Special	1,583,981	109,862	0	1,693,843
Other	6,528	8,126	0	14,654
Support Services:				
Pupils	1,501,665	45,606	0	1,547,271
Instructional Staff	1,172,507	351,880	6,595	1,530,982
Board of Education	49,383	0	0	49,383
Administration	260,255	21,511	0	281,766
Fiscal	108,452	20,346	0	128,798
Operation and Maintenance of Plant	17,409	0	0	17,409
Central	11,731	0	0	11,731
Non-Instructional Services	1,006	0	0	1,006
Extracurricular Activities	319	0	0	319
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total Expenditures	4,797,985	557,331	6,595	5,361,911
Excess of Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures	38,650	(53,614)	(6,595)	(21,559)
<u>Other Financing Sources (Uses):</u>				
Operating Transfers In	0	193	0	193
Operating Transfers Out	(62,193)	0	0	(62,193)
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	(62,193)	193	0	(62,000)
Excess of Revenues and Other Financing Sources Over (Under) Expenditures and Other Financing Uses	(23,543)	(53,421)	(6,595)	(83,559)
Fund Balances at Beginning of Year	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	2,224,156	157,388	6,595	2,388,139
Fund Balances at End of Year	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>
	\$2,200,613	\$103,967	\$0	\$2,304,580

See accompanying notes to the general purpose financial statement.

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ROSS-PIKE EDUCATIONAL SERVICE DISTRICT
ROSS COUNTY

COMBINED STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND
CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES - BUDGET AND ACTUAL (BUDGET BASIS)
ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2003

	General Fund		Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)
	Revised Budget	Actual	
<u>Revenues:</u>			
Intergovernmental	\$1,965,701	\$1,965,701	\$0
Interest	38,008	38,008	0
Tuition and Fees	2,969,319	2,969,319	0
Gifts and Donations	250	250	0
Customer Services	4,500	4,500	0
Miscellaneous	165,692	165,692	0
Total Revenues	<u>5,143,470</u>	<u>5,143,470</u>	<u>0</u>
<u>Expenditures:</u>			
Current:			
Instruction:			
Regular	95,333	84,405	10,928
Special	1,975,200	1,562,322	412,878
Other	13,125	6,688	6,437
Support Services:			
Pupils	1,742,799	1,512,739	230,060
Instructional Staff	1,290,079	1,180,563	109,516
Board of Education	76,389	52,131	24,258
Administration	443,366	262,544	180,822
Fiscal	136,820	108,859	27,961
Operation and Maintenance of Plant	31,471	17,706	13,765
Central	24,800	13,310	11,490
Non-Instructional Services	24,911	1,006	23,905
Extracurricular Activities	500	368	132
Total Expenditures	<u>5,854,793</u>	<u>4,802,641</u>	<u>1,052,152</u>
Excess of Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures	<u>(711,323)</u>	<u>340,829</u>	<u>1,052,152</u>
<u>Other Financing Sources (Uses):</u>			
Transfers In	0	0	0
Transfers Out	(62,193)	(62,193)	0
Refund of Prior Year Expenditures	5,755	5,755	0
Advances In	16,500	16,500	0
Advances Out	(18,112)	(18,112)	0
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	<u>(58,050)</u>	<u>(58,050)</u>	<u>0</u>
Excess of Revenues and Other Financing Sources Over (Under) Expenditures and Other Financing Uses	(769,373)	282,779	1,052,152
Fund Balances at Beginning of Year	2,219,992	2,219,992	0
Prior Year Encumbrances Appropriated	<u>577</u>	<u>577</u>	<u>0</u>
Fund Balances at End of Year	<u>\$1,451,196</u>	<u>\$2,503,348</u>	<u>\$1,052,152</u>

See accompanying notes to the general purpose financial statements.

Special Revenue Funds			Capital Project Funds			Memorandum Total		
Revised Budget	Actual	Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)	Revised Budget	Actual	Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)	Revised Budget	Actual	Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)
\$391,365	\$391,365	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$2,357,066	\$2,357,066	\$0
0	0	0	0	0	0	38,008	38,008	0
49,769	49,769	0	0	0	0	3,019,088	3,019,088	0
14,488	14,488	0	0	0	0	14,738	14,738	0
30,144	30,144	0	0	0	0	34,644	34,644	0
15,351	15,351	0	0	0	0	181,043	181,043	0
501,117	501,117	0	0	0	0	5,644,587	5,644,587	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	\$95,333	\$84,405	\$10,928
116,261	109,779	6,482	0	0	0	2,091,461	1,672,101	419,360
8,126	8,126	0	0	0	0	21,251	14,814	6,437
						0	0	
45,665	45,665	0	0	0	0	1,788,464	1,558,404	230,060
412,701	363,525	49,176	6,595	6,595	0	1,709,375	1,550,683	158,692
127	0	127	0	0	0	76,516	52,131	24,385
41,194	21,522	19,672	0	0	0	484,560	284,066	200,494
20,345	20,345	0	0	0	0	157,165	129,204	27,961
0	0	0	0	0	0	31,471	17,706	13,765
0	0	0	0	0	0	24,800	13,310	11,490
0	0	0	0	0	0	24,911	1,006	23,905
0	0	0	0	0	0	500	368	132
644,419	568,962	75,457	6,595	6,595	0	6,505,807	5,378,198	1,127,609
(143,302)	(67,845)	75,457	(6,595)	(6,595)	0	(861,220)	266,389	1,127,609
193	193	0	0	0	0	193	193	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	(62,193)	(62,193)	0
2,600	2,600	0	0	0	0	8,355	8,355	0
18,112	18,112	0	0	0	0	34,612	34,612	0
(16,500)	(16,500)	0	0	0	0	(34,612)	(34,612)	0
4,405	4,405	0	0	0	0	(53,645)	(53,645)	0
(138,897)	(63,440)	75,457	(6,595)	(6,595)	0	(914,865)	212,744	1,127,609
139,402	139,402	0	6,595	6,595	0	2,365,989	2,365,989	0
37,909	37,909	0	0	0	0	38,486	38,486	0
\$38,414	\$113,871	\$75,457	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,489,610	\$2,617,219	\$1,127,609

ROSS-PIKE EDUCATIONAL SERVICE DISTRICT
ROSS COUNTY

COMBINED STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENSES
AND CHANGES IN RETAINED EARNINGS
PROPRIETARY FUND TYPE
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2003

	Internal Service
<u>Operating Revenues:</u>	
Charges for Services	\$616,621
Tuition	12,000
	628,621
<u>Operating Expenses:</u>	
Purchased Services	120,259
Other	51,622
Claims	428,814
	600,695
Total Operating Revenues	628,621
Total Operating Expenses	600,695
Operating Income	27,926
<u>Non-Operating Revenues:</u>	
Transfer In	62,000
	62,000
Net Income	89,926
Retained Earnings at Beginning of Year	265,364
	265,364
Retained Earnings at End of Year	\$355,290

See accompanying notes to the general purpose financial statements.

**ROSS-PIKE EDUCATIONAL SERVICE DISTRICT
ROSS COUNTY**

**COMBINED STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENSES AND CHANGES IN
FUND EQUITY - BUDGET AND ACTUAL (BUDGET BASIS)
PROPRIETARY FUND TYPE
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2003**

	Internal Service		Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)
	Revised Budget	Actual	
<u>Revenues:</u>			
Charges for Services	\$46,759	\$46,759	\$0
Tuition	12,000	12,000	0
<i>Total Revenues</i>	<u>58,759</u>	<u>58,759</u>	<u>0</u>
<u>Expenses:</u>			
Purchased Services	67,800	47,078	20,722
Other	100,000	51,622	48,378
<i>Total Expenses</i>	<u>167,800</u>	<u>98,700</u>	<u>69,100</u>
Excess of Revenues Over Expenses	(109,041)	(39,941)	69,100
<u>Other Financing Sources:</u>			
Transfers-In	62,000	62,000	0
Total Other Financing Sources	<u>62,000</u>	<u>62,000</u>	<u>0</u>
Excess of Revenues Under Expenses and Transfers	(47,041)	22,059	69,100
Fund Equity at Beginning of Year	<u>20,053</u>	<u>20,053</u>	<u>0</u>
Fund Equity at End of Year	<u><u>(\$26,988)</u></u>	<u><u>\$42,112</u></u>	<u><u>\$69,100</u></u>

See accompanying notes to the general purpose financial statements.

**ROSS-PIKE EDUCATIONAL SERVICE DISTRICT
ROSS COUNTY**

**COMBINED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
PROPRIETARY FUND TYPE**

<u>Increase (Decrease) in Cash and Cash Equivalents:</u>	Internal Service
<u>Cash Flows from Operating Activities:</u>	
Cash Received from Quasi-External Transactions With Other Funds	\$616,620
Cash Received from Tuition Payments	12,000
Cash Payments to Suppliers for Goods and Services	(120,259)
Cash Payments for Other Operating Expenses	(51,622)
Cash Payments for Claims	(459,928)
Net Cash Paid for Operating Activities	(3,189)
<u>Cash Flows from Noncapital Financing Activities:</u>	
Transfers In	62,000
Short-Term Loans from Other Funds	96,270
Net Cash Provided by Noncapital Financing Activities	158,270
Net Increase in Cash and Cash Equivalents	155,081
Cash and Cash Equivalents at Beginning of Year	61,208
Cash and Cash Equivalents at End of Year	\$216,289
<u>Reconciliation of Operating Income to Net Cash Received from Operating Activities:</u>	
Operating Income	\$27,926
<u>Adjustments to Reconcile Operating Income to Net Cash Received from Operating Activities</u>	
Decrease in Claims Payable	(31,114)
Total Adjustments	(31,114)
Net Cash Paid for Operating Activities	(\$3,188)

See accompanying notes to the general purpose financial statements.

**ROSS-PIKE COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE DISTRICT
ROSS COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE GENERAL PURPOSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2003**

NOTE 1 - DESCRIPTION OF THE EDUCATIONAL SERVICE DISTRICT AND REPORTING ENTITY

The Ross-Pike County Educational Service District (the "Educational Service District") is located in Chillicothe, Ohio, the county seat. The Educational Service District is a government resulting from a consolidation of the former Ross County Educational Service Center and the former Pike County Educational Service Center. The Educational Service District began operations on July 1, 1999. The Educational Service District supplies supervisory, special education, administrative, and other services to the Union-Scioto, Adena, Zane Trace, Scioto Valley (Ross), Huntington, Western, Eastern, Scioto Valley (Pike), and Paint Valley Local School Districts, the Chillicothe City School District, the Waverly City School District, the Pike County Joint Vocational School and the Pickaway-Ross County Joint Vocational School. The Educational Service District furnishes leadership and consulting services designed to strengthen the school districts in areas they are unable to finance or staff independently.

The Ross-Pike County Educational Service District operates under a locally-elected Board form of government consisting of five members from Ross County, plus four board members from the Pike County Joint Vocational School, who are elected for staggered four year terms, and two members that are appointed by the nine elected board members. The Educational Service District has 70 support staff employees and 60 certified teaching personnel that provide services to the local and city school districts and the joint vocational schools.

Reporting Entity:

A reporting entity is composed of the primary government, component units, and other organizations that are included to insure that the financial statements are not misleading. The primary government of the Educational Service District consists of all funds, departments, boards, and agencies that are not legally separate from the Educational Service District. For the Ross-Pike County Educational Service District, this includes general operations and student related activities.

Component units are legally separate organizations for which the Educational Service District is financially accountable. The Educational Service District is financially accountable for an organization if the Educational Service District appoints a voting majority of the organization's governing board and (1) the Educational Service District is able to significantly influence the programs or services performed or provided by the organization; or (2) the Educational Service District is legally entitled to or can otherwise access the organization's resources; the Educational Service District is legally obligated or has otherwise assumed the responsibility to finance the deficits of, or provide financial support to, the organization; or the Educational Service District is obligated for the debt of the organization. Component units may also include organizations that are fiscally dependent on the Educational Service District in that the Educational Service District approves the budget, the issuance of debt, or the levying of taxes. The Educational Service District currently has no component units for which it is financially accountable.

The Educational Service District is associated with five organizations. The South Central Ohio Computer Association, the Pickaway-Ross Career Technology Center, and the Vern Riffe Career Technology Center are defined as jointly governed organizations. The Ohio School Boards Association Workers' Compensation Group Rating Plan is defined as an insurance purchasing pool. The Ross County School Employees Insurance Consortium is defined as a claims servicing pool. Information about these organizations are presented in Notes 13 and 14 to the combined financial statements.

**ROSS-PIKE COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE DISTRICT
ROSS COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE GENERAL PURPOSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2003
(Continued)**

NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The financial statements of the Educational Service District have been prepared in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) as applied to governmental units. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) is the accepted standard-setting body for establishing governmental accounting and financial reporting principles. The Service District also applies Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) statements and interpretations issued on or before November 30, 1989, to its proprietary activities provided they do not conflict with or contradict GASB pronouncements. The more significant of the Educational Service District's accounting policies are described below.

A. Basis Of Presentation - Fund Accounting

The Educational Service District uses funds and account groups to report on its financial position and the results of its operations. Fund accounting is designed to demonstrate legal compliance and to aid financial management by segregating transactions related to certain Educational Service District functions or activities.

A fund is defined as a fiscal and accounting entity with a self-balancing set of accounts recording cash and other financial resources, together with all related liabilities and residual equities or balances, and changes therein, which are segregated for the purpose of carrying on specific activities or attaining certain objectives in accordance with special restrictions or limitations. An account group is a financial reporting device designed to provide accountability for certain assets and liabilities not recorded in the funds because they do not directly affect net expendable available resources.

For financial statement presentation purposes, the various funds of the Educational Service District are grouped into the following generic fund types under the broad fund categories of governmental, proprietary, and fiduciary.

Governmental Fund Types:

Governmental funds are those through which most governmental functions of the Educational Service District are financed. The acquisition, use, and balances of the Educational Service District's expendable financial resources and the related current liabilities (except for those accounted for in proprietary funds) are accounted for through governmental funds. The following are the Educational Service District's governmental fund types:

General Fund - The general fund is the operating fund of the Educational Service District and is used to account for all financial resources except those required to be accounted for in another fund. The general fund balance is available to the Educational Service District for any purpose provided it is expended or transferred according to the general laws of Ohio.

Special Revenue Funds - Special revenue funds are used to account for the proceeds of specific revenue sources (other than expendable trust or major capital projects) that are legally restricted to expenditure for specified purposes.

Capital Projects Funds - The capital project funds are used to account for financial resources to be used for the acquisition or construction of major capital facilities (other than those financed by proprietary or trust funds).

Proprietary Fund Type:

Proprietary funds are used to account for the Educational Service District's ongoing activities which are similar to those found in the private sector. The following is the Educational Service District's proprietary fund type:

Internal Service Funds - The internal service funds account for the financing of services provided by one department or agency to other departments or agencies of the Educational Service District on a cost reimbursement basis.

**ROSS-PIKE COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE DISTRICT
ROSS COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE GENERAL PURPOSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2003
(Continued)**

NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

Fiduciary Fund Type:

Fiduciary funds are used to account for assets held by the Educational Service District in a trustee capacity or as an agent for individuals, private organizations, other governmental units, and/or other funds. The Educational Service District's only fiduciary funds are agency funds which are custodial in nature (assets equal liabilities) and do not involve measurement of results of operations.

Account Groups:

To make a clear distinction between fixed assets related to specific funds and those of general government, and between long-term liabilities related to specific funds and those of a general nature, the following account groups are used:

General Fixed Assets Account Group - This account group is established to account for all fixed assets of the Educational Service District.

General Long-Term Obligations Account Group - This account group is established to account for all long-term obligations of the Educational Service District (except those accounted for in the proprietary fund).

B. Measurement Focus and Basis of Accounting

The accounting and financial reporting treatment applied to a fund is determined by its measurement focus. All governmental fund types are accounted for using a flow of current financial resources measurement focus. With this measurement focus, only current assets and current liabilities are generally included on the balance sheet. Operating statements of these funds present increases (i.e., revenues and other financing sources) and decreases (i.e., expenditures and other financing uses) in net current assets.

All proprietary funds are accounted for on a flow of economic resources measurement focus. With this measurement focus, all assets and all liabilities associated with the operation of these funds are included on the balance sheet. Fund equity (i.e., net total assets) is segregated into retained earnings components. Proprietary fund operating statements present increases (i.e., revenues) and decreases (i.e., expenses) in net total assets.

Basis of accounting refers to when revenues and expenditures or expenses are recognized in the accounts and reported in the financial statements. Basis of accounting relates to the timing of the measurements made.

The modified accrual basis of accounting is followed for the governmental and agency funds. The full accrual basis of accounting is followed for the proprietary funds.

Revenue resulting from exchange transactions, in which each party gives and receives essentially equal value, is recorded on the accrual basis when the exchange takes place. On a modified accrual basis, revenue is recorded in the fiscal year in which the resources are measurable and become available. Available means that the resources will be collected within the current fiscal year or are expected to be collected soon enough thereafter to be used to pay liabilities of the current fiscal year. For the Educational Service District, available means expected to be received within sixty days of year-end.

**ROSS-PIKE COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE DISTRICT
ROSS COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE GENERAL PURPOSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2003
(Continued)**

NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

Non-exchange transactions, in which the Educational Service District receives value without directly giving equal value in return, include grants, entitlements and donations. Revenue from grants, entitlements and donations is recognized in the fiscal year in which all eligibility requirements have been satisfied. Eligibility requirements include timing requirements, which specify the year when the resources are required to be used or the fiscal year when use is first permitted, matching requirements, in which the Educational Service District must provide local resources to be used for a specified purpose, and expenditure requirements, in which the resources are provided to the Educational Service District on a reimbursement basis. On a modified accrual basis, revenue from non-exchange transactions must also be available before it can be recognized.

Under the modified accrual basis, the following revenue sources are considered to be both measurable and available at fiscal year-end: grants and interest.

Deferred revenue arises when assets are recognized before revenue recognition criteria have been satisfied. Grants and entitlements received before eligibility requirements are met are also recorded as deferred revenue. On governmental fund financial statements, receivables that will not be collected within the available period have also been reported as deferred revenue.

The measurement focus of governmental fund accounting is on decreases in net financial resources (expenditures) rather than expenses. Expenditures are generally recognized in the accounting period in which the related fund liability is incurred, if measurable. Allocations of cost, such as depreciation and amortization, are not recognized in governmental funds.

On the accrual basis of accounting, expenses are recognized at the time they are incurred.

C. Budgetary Process

The budgetary process is prescribed by provisions of section 3317.11 of the Ohio Revised Code and entails preparation of budgetary documents within an established timetable.

The Educational Service District legally adopts its budget on or before the start of the new fiscal year. Included in the budget are the estimated resources and expenditures for each fund. Upon review by the Educational Service District's Board, the annual appropriation resolution is adopted. After the start of the fiscal year, the estimated resources are revised and accepted by the Board to include any unencumbered cash balances from the preceding year. Both the estimated resources and appropriations may be amended or supplemented throughout the year as circumstances warrant.

In the first quarter of each fiscal year, the Educational Service District summarizes and certifies its budget on forms furnished by the State Department of Education, together with such other information as the State Department of Education may require. The summarized budget document consists of three parts. Part (A) includes entitlement funding from the State for the cost of salaries, employer's retirement contributions, and travel expenses of supervisory teachers approved by the State Department of Education. Part (B) includes the cost of all other lawful expenditures of the Educational Service District. Part (A) includes the adopted appropriation resolution of the Educational Service District. The State Board of Education reviews the budget and certifies to each local board of education under the supervision of the Educational Service District the amount from part (B) that is to be apportioned to their Educational Service District. The activity of the Self-Insurance Internal Service Fund includes activity handled through a fiscal agent.

**ROSS-PIKE COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE DISTRICT
ROSS COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE GENERAL PURPOSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2003
(Continued)**

NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

Appropriations:

The annual appropriation resolution is legally enacted by the Educational Service District at the fund and function level of expenditures, which are the legal levels of budgetary control. Prior to the passage of the annual appropriation measure, the Educational Service District may pass a temporary appropriation measure to meet the ordinary expenses of the Educational Service District. The appropriation resolution, by fund, must be within the estimated resources, and the total of expenditures and encumbrances may not exceed the appropriation totals at any level of control. Any revisions that alter the total of any fund appropriation, or alter total function appropriations within a fund, must be approved by the Educational Service District.

The Educational Service District may pass supplemental fund appropriations so long as the total appropriations by fund do not exceed the amounts set forth in the budget approved by the State Department of Education. The budget figures which appear in the statements of budgetary comparisons represent the final appropriation amounts, including all supplemental appropriations. Formal budgetary integration is employed as a management control device during the year for all funds consistent with statutory provisions.

Encumbrances:

As part of formal budgetary control, purchase orders, contracts, and other commitments for the expenditure of monies are recorded as the equivalent of expenditures on the non-GAAP budgetary basis in order to reserve that portion of the applicable appropriation and to determine and maintain legal compliance. On the GAAP basis, encumbrances outstanding at fiscal year end are reported as a reservation of fund balance for subsequent-year expenditures for governmental funds and reported in the notes to the financial statements for proprietary funds.

Lapsing of Appropriations:

At the close of each fiscal year, the unencumbered balance of each appropriation reverts to the respective fund from which it was appropriated and becomes subject to future appropriation. Encumbered appropriations are carried forward to the succeeding fiscal year and are not reappropriated.

D. Cash and Cash Equivalents

To improve cash management, all cash received by the Educational Service District is pooled. Monies for all funds, including proprietary funds, are maintained in this pool. Individual fund integrity is maintained through the Educational Service District's records. Each fund's interest in the pool is presented as "Equity in Pooled Cash and Cash Equivalents" on the combined balance sheet.

The Educational Service District participates in a claims servicing pool that pays employee health insurance claims on the Educational Service District's behalf. The balance of the Educational Service District's funds held by the claims administrator and the fiscal agent at June 30, 2003 is presented as "Cash and Cash Equivalents with Fiscal Agents" on the balance sheet.

During fiscal year 2003, the Educational Service District investments were limited to repurchase agreements and funds invested in the State Treasury Asset Reserve of Ohio (STAROhio). STAROhio is an investment pool managed by the State Treasurer's Office which allows governments within the State to pool their funds for investment purposes. STAROhio is not registered with the SEC as an investment company, but does operate in a manner consistent with Rule 2a7 of the Investment Company Act of 1940. Investments in STAROhio are valued at STAROhio's share price which is the price the investment could be sold for on June 30, 2003.

**ROSS-PIKE COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE DISTRICT
ROSS COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE GENERAL PURPOSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2003
(Continued)**

NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

Following Ohio statutes, the Educational Service District has, by resolution, specified the funds to receive an allocation of interest earnings. Interest revenue credited to the general fund during fiscal year 2003 amounted to \$38,008.

For purposes of the statement of cash flows and for presentation on the combined balance sheet, investments of the cash management pool and investments with original maturities of three months or less at the time they are purchased by the Educational Service District are considered to be cash equivalents.

E. Prepaid Items

Payments made to vendors for services that will benefit periods beyond June 30, 2003, are recorded as prepaid items using the consumption method. A current asset for the prepaid amount is recorded at the time of the purchase and an expenditure/expense is reported in the year in which services are consumed.

F. Fixed Assets and Depreciation

General fixed assets are not capitalized in the funds used to acquire or construct them. Instead, capital acquisition and construction costs are reflected as expenditures in governmental funds, and the related assets are reported in the general fixed assets account group. All fixed assets are capitalized at cost (or estimated historical cost) and updated for additions and retirements during the year. Donated fixed assets are recorded at their fair market values as of the date received. The Educational Service District maintains a capitalization threshold of five hundred dollars.

The costs of normal maintenance and repairs that do not add to the value of the asset or materially extend an asset's life are not capitalized. Improvements are capitalized.

Assets in the general fixed assets account group are not depreciated. The Educational Service District does not have any infrastructure.

G. Compensated Absences

Vacation benefits are accrued as a liability as the benefits are earned if the employees' rights to receive compensation are attributable to services already rendered and it is probable that the Educational Service District will compensate the employees for the benefits through paid time off or some other means. Sick leave benefits are accrued as a liability using the vesting method. The liability includes the employees who are currently eligible to receive termination benefits and those the Educational Service District has identified as probable of receiving payment in the future. The amount is based on accumulated sick leave and employees' wage rates at fiscal year end, taking into consideration any limits specified in the Educational Service District's termination policy.

The Educational Service District records a liability for accumulated unused vacation time when earned for all employees with more than one year of service. The Educational Service District records a liability for accumulated sick leave for all employees after 15 years of current service with the Educational Service District. For governmental funds, the current portion of unpaid compensated absences is the amount expected to be paid using available expendable resources. These amounts are recorded in the account "compensated absences payable" in the fund from which the employees who have accumulated unpaid leave are paid. The remainder is reported in the general long-term obligations account group.

**ROSS-PIKE COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE DISTRICT
ROSS COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE GENERAL PURPOSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2003
(Continued)**

NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

H. Accrued Liabilities and Long-Term Obligations

In general, governmental fund payables and accrued liabilities are reported as obligations of the funds regardless of whether they will be liquidated with current resources. However, compensated absences and contractually required pension contributions that will be paid from governmental funds are reported as a liability in the general long-term obligations account group to the extent that they will not be paid with current available expendable financial resources. Payments made more than sixty days after year-end are considered not to have been paid using current available financial resources.

Long-term debt and other obligations financed by proprietary funds are reported as liabilities in the appropriate proprietary funds.

I. Interfund Transactions

Quasi-external transactions are accounted for as revenues and expenditures or expenses. Transactions that constitute reimbursements to a fund for expenditures/expenses initially made from it that are properly applicable to another fund are recorded as expenditures/expenses in the reimbursing fund and as reductions of expenditures/expenses in the fund that is reimbursed.

Nonrecurring or nonroutine permanent transfers of equity are reported as residual equity transfers. All other interfund transfers are reported as operating transfers.

J. Fund Balance Reserves

The Educational Service District reserves those portions of fund equity which are legally segregated for specific future use or which do not represent available expendable resources and therefore are not available for appropriation or expenditure. Unreserved fund balance indicates that portion of fund equity which is available for appropriation in future periods. Fund equity reserves have been established for encumbrances.

K. Estimates

The preparation of 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.

L. Total Columns on General Purpose Financial Statements

Total columns on the general purpose financial statements are captioned "Totals - (Memorandum Only)" to indicate that they are presented only to facilitate financial analysis. Data in these columns do not present financial position or results of operations in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles. Neither is such data comparable to a consolidation. Interfund eliminations have not been made in the aggregation of this data.

**ROSS-PIKE COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE DISTRICT
ROSS COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE GENERAL PURPOSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2003
(Continued)**

NOTE 3 - BUDGETARY BASIS OF ACCOUNTING

While the Educational Service District is reporting financial position, results of operations, and changes in fund balances/retained earnings on the basis of generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP), the budgetary basis as provided by law is based upon accounting for certain transactions on a basis of cash receipts, disbursements, and encumbrances. The Combined Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances - Budget and Actual (Budget Basis) - All Governmental Fund Types and the Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Fund Equity- Budget and Actual (Budget Basis) - Internal Service Fund are presented on the budgetary basis to provide a meaningful comparison of actual results with the budget. The major differences between the budget basis and GAAP basis are that:

1. Revenues are recorded when received in cash (budget basis) as opposed to when susceptible to accrual (GAAP basis).
2. Expenditures/expenses are recorded when paid in cash (budget basis) as opposed to when the liability is incurred (GAAP basis).
3. Encumbrances are treated as expenditures/expenses for all funds (budget basis) rather than as a reservation of fund balance for governmental fund types.
4. The Educational Service District does not budget for the activities of the fiscal agent who collects and holds assets for the payment of medical claims. However, the activities of the fiscal agent are included in the internal service fund for GAAP reporting purposes.

The following table summarizes the adjustments necessary to reconcile the GAAP and budgetary basis statements by fund type.

Excess of Revenues and Other Financing Sources
Over (Under) Expenditures and Other Financing Uses
All Governmental Fund Types

	General	Special Revenue
GAAP Basis	(\$23,543)	(\$53,421)
Revenue Accruals	329,090	18,112
Expenditure Accruals	(6,730)	(16,372)
Encumbrances	(16,038)	(11,759)
Budget Basis	\$282,779	(\$63,440)

No adjustments were required for the Capital Project Fund as the budget basis and the GAAP basis were the same.

Net Income/Excess of Revenues Over Expenses
Proprietary Fund Type

	Internal Service
GAAP Basis	\$89,926
Revenue Accruals	(568,227)
Expense Accruals	500,360
Budget Basis	\$22,059

**ROSS-PIKE COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE DISTRICT
ROSS COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE GENERAL PURPOSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2003
(Continued)**

NOTE 4 - DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS

State statutes classify monies held by the Educational Service District into three categories.

Active deposits are public deposits necessary to meet current demands on the treasury. Such monies must be maintained either as cash in the Educational Service District treasury, in commercial accounts payable or withdrawable on demand, including negotiable order of withdrawal (NOW) accounts, or in money market deposit accounts.

Inactive deposits are public deposits that the Educational Service District has identified as not required for use within the current two year period of designation of depositories. Inactive deposits must either be evidenced by certificates of deposit maturing not later than the end of the current period of designation of depositories, or by savings or deposit accounts including, but not limited to, passbook accounts.

Interim deposits are deposits of interim monies. Interim monies are those monies which are not needed for immediate use but which will be needed before the end of the current period of designation of depositories. Interim deposits must be evidenced by time certificates of deposit maturing not more than one year from the date of deposit, or by savings accounts, including passbook accounts.

Protection of the Educational Service District's deposits is provided by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC), by eligible securities pledged by the financial institution as security for repayment, by surety company bonds deposited with the Treasurer by the financial institution, or by a single collateral pool established by the financial institution to secure the repayment of all public monies deposited with the institution.

Interim monies may be deposited or invested in the following securities:

1. United States Treasury Notes, Bills, Bonds, or any other obligation or security issued by the United States Treasury or any other obligation guaranteed as to principal and interest by the United States;
2. Bonds, notes, debentures, or any other obligations or securities issued by any federal government agency or instrumentality, including but not limited to, the Federal National Mortgage Association, Federal Home Loan Bank, Federal Farm Credit Bank, Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation, Government National Mortgage Association, and Student Loan Marketing Association. All federal agency securities shall be direct issuances of federal government agencies or instrumentalities;
3. Written repurchase agreements in the securities listed above provided that the market value of the securities subject to the repurchase agreement must exceed the principal value of the agreement by at least two percent and be marked to market daily, and that the term of the agreement must not exceed thirty days;
4. Bonds and other obligations of the State of Ohio;
5. No-load money market mutual funds consisting exclusively of obligations described in division (1) or (2) and repurchase agreements secured by such obligations, provided that investments in securities described in this division are made only through eligible institutions;
6. The State Treasurer's investment pool (STAROhio);

**ROSS-PIKE COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE DISTRICT
ROSS COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE GENERAL PURPOSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2003
(Continued)**

NOTE 4 - DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS (Continued)

7. Certain bankers' acceptances and commercial paper notes for a period not to exceed one hundred eighty days from the date of purchase in an amount not to exceed twenty-five percent of the interim monies available for investment at any one time; and
8. Under limited circumstances, corporate debt interests rated in either of the two highest rating classifications by at least two nationally recognized rating agencies.

Investments in stripped principal or interest obligations reverse repurchase agreements and derivatives are prohibited. The issuance of taxable notes for the purpose of arbitrage, the use of leverage and short selling are also prohibited. An investment must mature within five years from the date of purchase unless matched to a specific obligation or debt of the Educational Service District, and must be purchased with the expectation that it will be held to maturity.

Investments may only be made through specified dealers and institutions. Payment for investments may be made only upon delivery of the securities representing the investments to the Treasurer or qualified trustee or, if the securities are not represented by a certificate, upon receipt of confirmation of transfer from the custodian.

At fiscal year end, the Educational Service District had \$25 in undeposited cash on hand which is included on the balance sheet of the Educational Service District as part of "Equity in Pooled Cash and Cash Equivalents".

The following information classifies deposits and investments by categories of risk as defined in *GASB Statement No. 3, Deposits With Financial Institutions, Investments (including Repurchase Agreements), and Reverse Repurchase Agreements*.

Deposits At fiscal year end, the carrying amount of the Educational Service District's deposits was \$223,352 and the bank balance was \$401,759. Of the bank balance \$134,547 was covered by federal depository insurance and \$267,212 was uninsured and uncollateralized. Although the securities serving as collateral were held by the pledging financial institution's trust department in the Educational Service District's name and all State statutory requirements for the deposit of money had been followed, non-compliance with federal requirements could potentially subject the District to a successful claim by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation.

Investments The Educational Service District's investments are required to be categorized to give an indication of the level of risk assumed by the Educational Service District at fiscal year end. Category 1 includes investments that are insured or registered or for which the securities are held by the Educational Service District or its agent in the Educational Service District's name. Category 2 includes uninsured and unregistered investments which are held by the counterparty's trust department or agent in the Educational Service District's name. Category 3 includes uninsured and unregistered investments for which the securities are held by the counterparty, or by its trust department or agent but not in the Educational Service District's name. Investments in STAR Ohio are unclassified investments since they are not evidenced by securities that exist in physical or book entry form.

	Category 3	Unclassified	Fair / Carrying Value
Repurchase Agreement	\$2,308,006	\$0	\$2,308,006
STAR Ohio	0	340,467	340,467
Totals	\$2,308,006	\$340,467	\$2,648,473

**ROSS-PIKE COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE DISTRICT
ROSS COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE GENERAL PURPOSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2003
(Continued)**

NOTE 4 - DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS (Continued)

The classification of cash and cash equivalents, and investments on the combined financial statements is based on criteria set forth in *GASB Statement No. 9, Reporting Cash Flows of Proprietary and Non-Expendable Trust Funds and Governmental Entities That Use Proprietary Fund Accounting*.

A reconciliation between the classifications of cash and cash equivalents and investments on the combined financial statements and the classifications of deposits and investments presented above per *GASB Statement No. 3* is as follows:

	Cash and Cash Equivalents/Deposits	Investments
<i>GASB Statement No. 9</i>	\$2,871,850	\$0
Cash on Hand	(25)	0
Investments:		
Repurchase Agreement	(2,308,006)	2,308,006
STAR Ohio	(340,467)	340,467
<i>GASB Statement No. 3</i>	\$223,352	\$2,648,473

NOTE 5 - STATE FUNDING

The Educational Service District is funded by the State Department of Education for the cost of Part (A) of their budget. This funding is provided from State resources.

Part (B) of the budget is provided by the school districts to which the Educational Service District provides services and by the State Department of Education. Each school district's portion is determined by multiplying the average daily membership of the school district (the total number of students enrolled) by \$6.50. This amount is deducted by the State Department of Education from that school district's resources provided under the State's Foundation Program. The Department of Education's portion is determined by multiplying the sum of the average daily memberships of all of the school districts served by the Educational Service District by \$37. This amount is provided from State resources.

If additional funding is needed for the Educational Service District, and if a majority of the Boards of Education of the school districts served by the Educational Service District approve, the cost of Part (B) of the budget can be increased. The portion that is in excess of the original funding calculation is shared by all of the school districts served by the Educational Service District through additional reductions in their resources provided through the State Foundation Program. The State Board of Education initiates and supervises the procedure under which the school district's approve or disapprove the additional apportionment.

**ROSS-PIKE COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE DISTRICT
ROSS COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE GENERAL PURPOSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2003
(Continued)**

NOTE 6 - RECEIVABLES

Receivables at June 30, 2003, consisted of intergovernmental monies. All receivables are considered collectible in full due to the stable condition of State programs, and the current fiscal year guarantee of federal funds.

A summary of the principal items of intergovernmental receivables follows:

	Amounts
General Fund:	
School District Unit Costs	\$238,243
Asbestos Reimbursements	3,650
OSHA Reimbursements	1,542
Workshops, Training, and Physical Reimbursements	30,606
School District Excess Costs	217,124
Total General Fund	491,165
Internal Service Fund:	
Premium in excess of claims	188,910
Total Intergovernmental Receivables	\$680,075

NOTE 7 - FIXED ASSETS

A summary of the changes in general fixed assets during fiscal year 2003 follows:

Asset Category	Balance at 6/30/02	Additions	Deletions	Balance at 6/30/03
Building and Improvements	\$3,790	\$0	\$0	\$3,790
Furniture, Fixtures and Equipment	357,019	105,227	21,702	440,544
Textbooks	861	0	0	861
Total Fixed Assets	\$361,670	\$105,227	\$21,702	\$445,195

NOTE 8 - RISK MANAGEMENT

A. Property and Liability

The Educational Service District is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; injuries to employees; and natural disasters. During fiscal year 2003, the Educational Service District contracted with Cincinnati Insurance Company for property insurance and with Nationwide Insurance for liability insurance. Coverages are as follows:

Building and Contents-replacement cost (\$250 deductible)	\$202,250
General Liability	
Per occurrence	1,000,000
Total per year	1,000,000

Settled claims have not exceeded this commercial coverage in any of the past three years. There has been no significant change in coverage from last year.

**ROSS-PIKE COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE DISTRICT
ROSS COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE GENERAL PURPOSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2003
(Continued)**

NOTE 8 - RISK MANAGEMENT (Continued)

B. Workers' Compensation

For fiscal year 2003, the Educational Service District participated in the Ohio School Boards Association Workers' Compensation Group Rating Plan (GRP), an insurance purchasing pool (Note 14). The intent of the GRP is to achieve the benefit of a reduced premium for the Educational Service District by virtue of its grouping and representation with other participants in the GRP. The workers' compensation experience of the participating school districts is calculated as one experience and a common premium rate is applied to all school districts in the GRP. Each participant pays its workers' compensation premium to the State based on the rate for the GRP rather than its individual rate. Total savings are then calculated and each participant's individual performance is compared to the overall savings percentage of the GRP. A participant will then either receive money from or be required to contribute to the "Equity Pooling Fund". This "equity pooling" arrangement insures that each participant shares equally in the overall performance of the GRP. Participation in the GRP is limited to school districts that can meet the GRP's selection criteria. The firm of Gates McDonald & Company provides administrative, cost control and actuarial services to the GRP.

C. Employee Medical/Dental/Vision Benefits

Medical/surgical, dental and vision insurance is offered to employees through a self-insurance internal service fund. The Educational Service District is a member of a claims servicing pool, consisting of eighteen school districts within Ross County and its surrounding area, in which monthly premiums are paid to the fiscal agent who in turn pays the claims on the Educational Service District's behalf. The claims liability of \$49,909 reported in the internal service fund at June 30, 2003 is based on an estimate provided by the third party administrator and the requirements of *GASB Statement No. 10 Accounting and Financial Reporting for Risk Financing and Related Insurance Issues*, which requires that a liability for unpaid claim costs, including estimates of costs relating to incurred but not reported claims, be reported. The estimate was not affected by incremental claim adjustment expenses and does not include other allocated or unallocated claim adjustment expenses.

Changes in claims activity for the past two fiscal years are as follows:

	Balance at Beginning of Year	Current Year Claims	Claims Payments	Balance at End of Year
2002	\$79,266	\$368,027	\$366,270	\$81,023
2003	81,023	428,814	459,928	49,909

NOTE 9 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS

A. School Employees Retirement System

The Educational Service District contributes to the School Employees Retirement System of Ohio (SERS), a cost-sharing multiple employer defined benefit pension plan. SERS provides retirement and disability benefits, annual cost-of-living adjustments, and death benefits to plan members and beneficiaries. Authority to establish and amend benefits is provided by State statute per Chapter 3309 of the Ohio Revised Code. SERS issues a publicly available, stand-alone financial report that includes financial statements and required supplementary information. That report may be obtained by writing to the School Employees Retirement System, 300 East Broad Street, Suite 100, Columbus, Ohio 43215-3746, or by calling (614)222-5853.

**ROSS-PIKE COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE DISTRICT
ROSS COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE GENERAL PURPOSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2003
(Continued)**

NOTE 9 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS (Continued)

Plan members are required to contribute 9 percent of their annual covered salary and the Educational Service District is required to contribute at an actuarially determined rate. The current rate is 14 percent of annual covered payroll. A portion of the Educational Service District's contribution is used to fund pension obligations with the remainder being used to fund health care benefits; for fiscal year 2003, 8.17 percent of annual covered salary was the portion used to fund pension obligations. For Fiscal year 2002, 5.46 percent of annual covered salary was the portion used to fund pension obligations. The contribution requirements of plan members and employers are established and may be amended, up to a statutory maximum amount, by the SERS' Retirement Board. The Educational Service District's required contributions for pension obligations to SERS for the fiscal years ended June 30, 2003, 2002, and 2001 were \$112,346, \$43,489, and \$54,256, respectively; 85 percent has been contributed for the fiscal year 2003 and 100 percent for fiscal years 2002 and 2001.

B. State Teachers Retirement System

The Educational Service Center contributes to the State Teachers Retirement System of Ohio (STRS Ohio), a cost-sharing multiple employer public employee retirement system. STRS Ohio provides retirement and disability benefits to members and death and survivor benefits to beneficiaries. STRS Ohio issues a publicly available, stand-alone financial report that may be obtained by writing to the State Teachers Retirement System of Ohio, 275 East Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215-3371, or by calling (614)227-4090.

New members have a choice of three retirement plans, a Defined Benefits (DB) Plan, a Defined Contribution (DC) Plan and a Combined Plan. The DB plan offers an annual retirement allowance based on final average salary times a percentage that varies based on years of service, or an allowance based on member contributions and earned interest matched by STRS Ohio funds times an actuarially determined annuity factor. The DC Plan allows members to place all their member contributions and employer contributions equal to 10.5% of earned compensation into an investment account. Investment decisions are made by the member. A member is eligible to receive a retirement benefit at age 50 and termination of employment. The Combined Plan offers features of both the DC Plan and the DB Plan. In the Combined Plan, member contributions are invested by the member, and employer contributions are used to fund the defined benefit payment at a reduced level from the regular DB Plan. DC and Combined Plan members will transfer to the Defined Benefit Plan during their fifth year of membership unless they permanently select the DC or Combined Plan. Existing members with less than five years of service credit as of June 30, 2001, were given the option of making a one time irrevocable decision to transfer their account balances from the existing DB Plan into the DC Plan or the Combined Plan. This option expired on December 31, 2001. Benefits are established by Chapter 3307 of the Ohio Revised Code.

A DB or Combined Plan member with five or more years of credited service who becomes disabled may qualify for a disability benefit. Eligible spouses and dependents of these active members who die before retirement may qualify for survivor benefits. Members in the DC Plan who become disabled are entitled only to their account balance. If a member dies before retirement benefits begin, the member's designated beneficiary is entitled to receive the member's account balance.

For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2003, plan members were required to contribute 9.3 percent of their annual covered salaries. The Educational Service District was required to contribute 14 percent; 13 percent was the portion used to fund pension obligations. For fiscal year 2002, the portion used to fund pension obligations was 9.5 percent. Contribution rates are established by STRS, upon recommendations of its consulting actuary, not to exceed statutory maximum rates of 10 percent for members and 14 percent for employers. Chapter 3307 of the Ohio Revised Code provides statutory authority for member and employer contributions. The Educational Service District's required contributions for pension obligations to STRS for the fiscal years ended June 30, 2003, 2002, and 2001 were \$248,217, \$238,823, and \$221,134, respectively; 85 percent has been contributed for fiscal year 2003 and 100 percent for fiscal years 2002 and 2001.

**ROSS-PIKE COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE DISTRICT
ROSS COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE GENERAL PURPOSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2003
(Continued)**

NOTE 9 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS (Continued)

C. Social Security System

Effective July 1, 1991, all employees not otherwise covered by the School Employees Retirement System or the State Teachers Retirement System have an option to choose Social Security or the School Employees Retirement System/State Teachers Retirement System. As of June 30, 2003, one member of the Board of Education has elected Social Security. The Board's liability is 6.2 percent of wages paid.

NOTE 10 - POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS

The Educational Service District provides comprehensive health care benefits to retired teachers and their dependents through the State Teachers Retirement System (STRS), and to retired non-certified employees and their dependents through the School Employees Retirement System (SERS). Benefits include hospitalization, physicians' fees, prescription drugs and reimbursement of monthly Medicare premiums. Benefit provisions and the obligations to contribute are established by the Systems based on authority granted by State statute. Both systems are on a pay-as-you-go basis.

All STRS benefit recipients and sponsored dependents are eligible for health care coverage. The STRS Board has statutory authority over how much, if any, of the health care costs will be absorbed by STRS. Most benefit recipients pay a portion of the health care cost in the form of a monthly premium. By law, the cost of coverage paid from STRS funds is included in the employer contribution rate, currently 14 percent of covered payroll. For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2002, the STRS Board allocated employer contributions equal to 4.5 percent of covered payroll to the Health Care Reserve Fund. Effective July 1, 2002, 1 percent of covered payroll will be allocated to the fund. For the School District, this amount equaled \$117,576 for fiscal year 2003.

STRS pays health care benefits from the Health Care Reserve Fund. At June 30, 2002, (the latest information available) the balance in the Fund was \$3.011 billion. For the year ended June 30, 2002, net health care costs paid by STRS were \$354,697,000 and STRS had 105,300 eligible benefit recipients.

For SERS, coverage is made available to service retirees with ten or more fiscal years of qualifying service credit, and to disability and survivor benefit recipients. Members retiring on or after August 1, 1989, with less than twenty-five years of service credit must pay a portion of their premium for health care. The portion is based on years of service up to a maximum of 75 percent of the premium.

After the allocation for basic benefits, the remainder of the employer's 14 percent contribution is allocated to providing health care benefits. For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2003, employer contributions to fund health care benefits were 8.54 percent of covered payroll. In addition, SERS levies a surcharge to fund health care benefits equal to 14 percent of the difference between a minimum pay and the member's pay, pro-rated for partial service credit. For fiscal year 2002, the minimum pay was established at \$12,400. For the Educational Service District, the amount contributed to fund health care benefits, including the surcharge, during the 2003 fiscal year equaled \$133,681.

The surcharge, added to the unallocated portion of the 14 percent employer contribution rate, provides for maintenance of the asset target level for the health care fund. The target level for the health care reserve is 150 percent of the annual health care expenses. Expenses for health care for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2002 (the latest information available), were \$182,946,777 and the target level was \$274.4 million. At June 30, 2002, SERS had net assets available for payment of health care benefits of \$335.2 million. SERS has approximately 50,000 participants currently receiving health care benefits.

**ROSS-PIKE COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE DISTRICT
ROSS COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE GENERAL PURPOSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2003
(Continued)**

NOTE 11 - EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

A. Compensated Absences

The criteria for determining vacation and sick leave components are derived from board policy and State laws. Twelve month employees earn ten to twenty days of vacation per fiscal year, depending upon length of service. Accumulated, unused vacation time (up to twenty days) is paid to classified employees and administrators upon termination of employment.

Full-time teachers, administrators, and classified employees earn sick leave at the rate of one and one-fourth days per month. Sick leave may be accumulated up to a maximum of 240 days for all personnel. Upon retirement, payment is made for one-fourth of accrued, but unused sick leave credit to a maximum of 45 days for all employees.

B. Life Insurance

The Educational Service District provides life insurance to full-time employees through Professional Risk Management.

C. Deferred Compensation

Educational Service District employees may participate in the Ohio Public Employees Deferred Compensation Plan. This plan was created in accordance with Internal Revenue Code Section 457. Participation is on a voluntary payroll deduction basis. The plan permits deferral of compensation until future years. According to the plan, the deferred compensation is not available until termination, retirement, death or an unforeseeable emergency.

NOTE 12 - LONG-TERM OBLIGATIONS

The changes in the Educational Service District's long-term obligations during fiscal year 2003 were as follows:

	Principal Outstanding 6/30/02	Additions	Deductions	Principal Outstanding 6/30/03
Compensated Absences	\$109,923	\$0	\$33,468	\$76,455
Intergovernmental Payable	12,735	28,348	12,735	28,348
Total General Long-Term Obligations	\$122,658	\$28,348	\$46,203	\$104,803

Compensated absences and the intergovernmental payable will be paid from the funds from which the employees' salaries are paid. The intergovernmental payable represents contractually required pension contributions.

NOTE 13 - JOINTLY GOVERNED ORGANIZATIONS

South Central Ohio Computer Association - The Educational Service District is a participant in the South Central Ohio Computer Association (SCOCA) which is a computer consortium. SCOCA is an association of public school districts within the boundaries of Highland, Adams, Brown, Pike, Scioto, Ross, Jackson, Vinton, and Lawrence Counties. The organization was formed for the purpose of applying modern technology with the aid of computers and other electronic equipment to administrative and instructional functions among member school districts. The governing board of SCOCA consists of two representatives from each county in the SCOCA service region designated by the Ohio Department of Education, two representatives of the school treasurers, and one representative from the fiscal agent. Financial information can be obtained from their fiscal agent, the Pike County Joint Vocational School District, Tonya Cooper, who serves as Treasurer, at P. O. Box 577, 175 Beavercreek Rd., Piketon, Ohio 45661.

**ROSS-PIKE COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE DISTRICT
ROSS COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE GENERAL PURPOSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2003
(Continued)**

NOTE 13 - JOINTLY GOVERNED ORGANIZATIONS (Continued)

Pickaway-Ross Career Technology Center - The Pickaway-Ross Career Technology Center is a distinct political subdivision of the State of Ohio operated under the direction of a Board consisting of eleven representatives from the various City and County Boards within Pickaway and Ross Counties, and the Educational Service District, each of which possesses its own budgeting and taxing authority. During fiscal year 2002, the Educational Service District made no contributions to the Pickaway-Ross Career Technology Center. To obtain financial information write to the Pickaway-Ross Career Technology Center, Ben Van Horn, who serves as Treasurer, at 895 Crouse Chapel Road, Chillicothe, Ohio 45601.

Vern Riffe Career Technology Center - The Verne Riffe Career Technology Center is a distinct political subdivision of the State of Ohio operated under the direction of a Board consisting of the Pike County Board of Education and two representatives from the Waverly City School's Board of Education, which possesses its own budgeting and taxing authority. To obtain financial information write to the Vern Riffe Career Technology Center, Tonya Cooper, who serves as Treasurer, at P.O. Box 577, 175 Beaver Creek Road, Piketon, Ohio 45661.

NOTE 14 - INSURANCE PURCHASING POOL AND CLAIMS SERVICING POOL

Ohio School Boards Association Workers' Compensation Group Rating Plan - The Educational Service District participates in the Ohio School Boards Association Workers' Compensation Group Rating Plan (GRP), an insurance purchasing pool. The GRP's business and affairs are conducted by a three member Board of directors consisting of the President, the President-Elect and the Immediate Past President of the OSBA. The Executive Director of the OSBA, or his designee, serves as coordinator of the program. Each year, the participating school districts pay an enrollment fee to the GRP to cover the costs of administering the program.

Ross County School Employees Insurance Consortium - The Educational Service District is a member of the Ross County School Employees Insurance Consortium (the "Consortium"), a claims servicing pool for medical/surgical insurance. The consortium consists of fourteen school districts within Ross County and its surrounding area. The Educational Service District participates in the Medical/surgical insurance which is administered through a third party administrator, Klais and Company. The Consortium's business and affairs are managed by a Council consisting of one representative for each participating school. The participating school districts pay an administrative fee to the fiscal agent to cover the costs of administering the Consortium. To obtain financial information, write to the Westfall Local School District, 19463 Pherson Pike, Williamsport, Ohio 43164-9745.

NOTE 15 - CONTINGENCIES

A. Grants

The Educational Service District received financial assistance from federal and state agencies in the form of grants. The expenditure of funds received under these programs generally requires compliance with terms and conditions specified in the grant agreements and is subject to audit by the grantor agencies. Any disallowed claims resulting from such audits could become a liability of the general fund or other applicable funds. However, in the opinion of management, any such disallowed claims will not have a material adverse effect on the overall financial position of the Educational Service District at June 30, 2003.

B. Litigation

The Educational Service District is not currently party to legal proceedings.

**ROSS-PIKE COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE DISTRICT
ROSS COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE GENERAL PURPOSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2003
(Continued)**

NOTE 16 - SUPREME COURT CASE DECISION

On December 11, 2002, the Ohio Supreme Court issued its latest opinion regarding the State's school funding plan. The decision reaffirmed earlier decisions that Ohio's current school-funding plan is unconstitutional. The Supreme Court relinquished jurisdiction over the case and directed "the Ohio General Assembly to enact a school-funding scheme that is thorough and efficient".

The School District is currently unable to determine what effect, if any, this decision will have on its future State funding and its financial operations.

NOTE 17 - ACCOUNTABILITY

At June 30, 2003, the Alternative Education Challenge, Ross County Alternative School, and Preschool Special Revenue Funds had deficit fund balances of \$81, \$8,413, and \$587, which were created by the application of accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. The General Fund provides transfers to cover deficit balances; however, this is done when cash is needed rather than when accruals occur.

**ROSS-PIKE COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE DISTRICT
ROSS COUNTY
SCHEDULE OF FEDERAL AWARDS RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2003**

Federal Grantor/ Pass Through Grantor Program Title	Pass Through Entity Number	Federal CFDA Number	Receipts	Disbursements
<u>U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION</u>				
<i>Passed Through Ohio Department of Education:</i>				
Special Education Cluster:				
Special Education- Preschool Grant	PG-SC-2002	84.173	0	30,000
	PGS1-2003-P	84.173	66,997	66,997
	PGS1-2002-P	84.173	0	3,016
TOTAL U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION- SPECIAL EDUCATION CLUSTER			<u>66,997</u>	<u>100,013</u>
<u>U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES</u>				
<i>Passed Through Ohio Department of MRDD:</i>				
Medical Assistance Program	(N/A)	93.778	446,231	471,521
<i>Passed Through Ross County Job and Family Services:</i>				
Temporary Assistance to Needy Families	(N/A)	93.558	46,832	46,832
TOTAL U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES			<u>493,063</u>	<u>518,353</u>
TOTAL FEDERAL AWARDS			<u>\$560,060</u>	<u>\$618,366</u>

The accompanying notes to this schedule are an integral part of this schedule.

**ROSS-PIKE COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE DISTRICT
ROSS COUNTY**

**SCHEDULE OF FEDERAL AWARDS RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2003**

NOTE A- SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The accompanying Schedule of Federal Awards Receipts and Expenditures (the Schedule) summarizes activity of the District's federal award programs. The schedule has been prepared on the cash basis of accounting.



Auditor of State Betty Montgomery

INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT ON COMPLIANCE AND ON INTERNAL CONTROL REQUIRED BY *GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS*

Ross-Pike Educational Service District
Ross County
475 Western Avenue, Suite B
Chillicothe, Ohio 45601

To the Board of Education:

We have audited the general purpose financial statements of the Ross-Pike Educational Service District, Ross County, Ohio (the District) as of and for the year ended June 30, 2003, and have issued our report thereon dated November 19, 2003. 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.

Compliance

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

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit, we considered the District's internal control over financial reporting in order to determine our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements and not to provide assurance on the internal control over financial reporting. Our consideration of the internal control over financial reporting would not necessarily disclose all matters in the internal control over financial reporting that might be material weaknesses. A material weakness is a condition in which the design or operation of one or more of the internal control components does not reduce to a relatively low level the risk that misstatements in amounts that would be material in relation to the financial statements being audited may occur and not be detected within a timely period by employees in the normal course of performing their assigned functions. We noted no matters involving the internal control over financial reporting and its operation that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, we noted a matter involving the internal control over financial reporting that did not require inclusion in this report, that we have reported to management of the District in a separate letter dated November 19, 2003.

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Ross-Pike Educational Service District
Ross County
Independent Accountants' Report on Compliance and on
Internal Control Required by *Government Auditing Standards*
Page 2

This report is intended for the information and use of the audit committee, management, the Board of Education, federal awarding agencies and pass thru entities, and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Betty Montgomery". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Betty Montgomery
Auditor of State

November 19, 2003



Auditor of State Betty Montgomery

INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT ON COMPLIANCE WITH REQUIREMENTS APPLICABLE TO MAJOR FEDERAL PROGRAMS AND INTERNAL CONTROL OVER COMPLIANCE IN ACCORDANCE WITH OMB CIRCULAR A-133

Ross-Pike County Educational Service District
Ross County
475 Western Avenue, Suite B
Chillicothe, Ohio 45601

To the Board of Education:

Compliance

We have audited the compliance of the Ross-Pike Educational Service District, Ross County, Ohio (the District) with the types of compliance requirements described in the *U.S. Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Circular A-133, Compliance Supplement* that are applicable to its major federal program for the year ended June 30, 2003. The District's major federal program is identified in the summary of auditor's results section of the accompanying schedule of findings. Compliance with the requirements of laws, regulations, contracts and grants applicable to its major federal program is the responsibility of the District's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the District's compliance based on our audit.

We conducted our audit of compliance in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America; the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States; and OMB Circular A-133, *Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations*. Those standards and OMB Circular A-133 require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether noncompliance occurred with the types of compliance requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on the major federal program. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence about the District's compliance with those requirements and performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion. Our audit does not provide a legal determination on the District's compliance with those requirements.

In our opinion, the District complied, in all material respects, with the requirements referred to above that are applicable to its major federal program for the year ended June 30, 2003.

Internal Control Over Compliance

The management of the District is responsible for establishing and maintaining effective internal control over compliance with requirements of laws, regulations, contracts and grants applicable to federal programs. In planning and performing our audit, we considered the District's internal control over compliance with requirements that could have a direct and material effect on the major federal program in order to determine our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on compliance and to test and report on internal control over compliance in accordance with OMB Circular A-133.

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**Internal Control Over Compliance
(Continued)**

Our consideration of the internal control over compliance would not necessarily disclose all matters in the internal control that might be material weaknesses. A material weakness is a condition in which the design or operation of one or more of the internal control components does not reduce to a relatively low level the risk that noncompliance with applicable requirements of laws, regulations, contracts and grants that would be material in relation to the major federal program being audited may occur and not be detected within a timely period by employees in the normal course of performing their assigned functions. We noted no matters involving the internal control over compliance and its operation that we consider to be material weaknesses.

This report is intended for the information and use of the audit committee, management, Board of Education, and federal awarding agencies and pass-through entities, and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.



Betty Montgomery
Auditor of State

November 19, 2003

**ROSS-PIKE EDUCATIONAL SERVICE DISTRICT
ROSS COUNTY**

**SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS
OMB CIRCULAR A -133 §.505
JUNE 30, 2003**

1. SUMMARY OF AUDITOR'S RESULTS

<i>(d)(1)(i)</i>	Type of Financial Statement Opinion	Unqualified
<i>(d)(1)(ii)</i>	Were there any material control weakness conditions reported at the financial statement level (GAGAS)?	No
<i>(d)(1)(ii)</i>	Were there any other reportable control weakness conditions reported at the financial statement level (GAGAS)?	No
<i>(d)(1)(iii)</i>	Was there any reported material non-compliance at the financial statement level (GAGAS)?	No
<i>(d)(1)(iv)</i>	Were there any material internal control weakness conditions reported for major federal programs?	No
<i>(d)(1)(iv)</i>	Were there any other reportable internal control weakness conditions reported for major federal programs?	No
<i>(d)(1)(v)</i>	Type of Major Programs' Compliance Opinion	Unqualified
<i>(d)(1)(vi)</i>	Are there any reportable findings under § .510?	No
<i>(d)(1)(vii)</i>	Major Programs (list):	Medical Assistance Program (Medicaid: Title XIX) CFDA # 93.778
<i>(d)(1)(viii)</i>	Dollar Threshold: Type A\B Programs	Type A: > \$ 300,000 Type B: all others
<i>(d)(1)(ix)</i>	Low Risk Auditee?	Yes

**2. FINDINGS RELATED TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
REQUIRED TO BE REPORTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GAGAS**

None

3. FINDINGS FOR FEDERAL AWARDS

None



**Auditor of State
Betty Montgomery**

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ROSS-PIKE EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER

ROSS COUNTY

CLERK'S CERTIFICATION

This is a true and correct copy of the report which is required to be filed in the Office of the Auditor of State pursuant to Section 117.26, Revised Code, and which is filed in Columbus, Ohio.

Susan Babbitt

CLERK OF THE BUREAU

**CERTIFIED
JANUARY 15, 2004**