



Randolph County Board of Education

Randolph County, Alabama

October 1, 2024 through September 30, 2025

Filed: May 22, 2026

ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF
EXAMINERS of Public Accounts

Rachel Laurie Riddle, *Chief Examiner* | 334-777-0500 | www.alexaminers.gov



Rachel Laurie Riddle
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Honorable Rachel Laurie Riddle
Chief Examiner of Public Accounts
Montgomery, Alabama 36130

Dear Madam:

An audit was conducted on the Randolph County Board of Education, Randolph County, Alabama, for the period October 1, 2024 through September 30, 2025, by Examiners Danielle S. Parris, Tori Langley and JaCorey Carter. I, Danielle S. Parris, served as Examiner-in-Charge on the engagement, and under the authority of the *Code of Alabama 1975*, Section 41-5A-19, I hereby swear to and submit this report to you on the results of the audit.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Danielle S. Parris". The signature is written in a cursive style and is placed over a light yellow rectangular background.

Danielle S. Parris
Examiner of Public Accounts

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Department of
Examiners of Public Accounts

SUMMARY

**Randolph County Board of Education
October 1, 2024 through September 30, 2025**

The Randolph County Board of Education (the “Board”) is governed by a seven-member body elected by the citizens of Randolph County. The members and administrative personnel in charge of governance of the Board are listed in Exhibit 13. The Board is the governmental agency that provides general administration and supervision for Randolph County Public Schools, preschool through high school, with the exception of schools administered by the Roanoke City Board of Education.

This report presents the results of an audit the objectives of which were to determine whether the financial statements present fairly the financial position and results of financial operations and whether the Board complied with applicable laws and regulations. The audit was conducted 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, as well as the requirements of the Department of Examiners of Public Accounts under the authority of the *Code of Alabama 1975*, Section 41-5A-12.

An unmodified opinion was issued on the financial statements, which means that the Board’s financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, its financial position and the results of its operations for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2025.

AUDIT FINDINGS

Problems were found with the Board’s internal controls over financial reporting (Exhibit 14), and they are summarized below:

- ◆ 2025-001: Woodland High School failed to ensure receipt and deposit duties were adequately segregated, and cash received from snack and concession sales and ticketed events were accounted for properly at the school.
- ◆ 2025-002: Woodland High School failed to ensure that all purchases were made in accordance with established policies and procedures of the Board.
- ◆ 2025-003: Woodland High School failed to follow established policies and procedures related to fundraisers.

EXIT CONFERENCE

Board members and administrative personnel, as reflected on Exhibit 13, were invited to discuss the results of this report at an exit conference. Individuals in attendance were Superintendent John Jacobs; Chief School Financial Officer Bethany Waters; and Board Member Margie Murphy. Also in attendance were the following representatives from the Department of Examiners of Public Accounts: BriAnna Upchurch, Audit Manager; Danielle Parris, Examiner; Tori Langley, Examiner; and JaCorey Carter, Examiner.

Independent Auditor's Report

Independent Auditor's Report

Members of the Randolph County Board of Education,
Superintendent and Chief School Financial Officer
Wedowee, Alabama

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Opinions

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Randolph County Board of Education, as of and for the year ended September 30, 2025, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Randolph County Board of Education's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents as Exhibits 1 through 6.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Randolph County Board of Education, as of September 30, 2025, and the respective changes in financial position thereof for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

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 (***Government Auditing Standards***). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of the Randolph County Board of Education 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, and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Randolph County Board of Education'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 the Randolph County Board of Education's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.

- ◆ evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- ◆ conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Randolph County Board of Education'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.

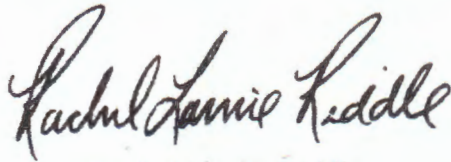
Required Supplementary Information

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the Schedule of the Employer's Proportionate Share of the Collective Net Pension Liability, the Schedule of the Employer's Proportionate Share of the Collective Net Other Postemployment Benefits (OPEB) Liability, the Schedules of the Employer's Contributions and the Schedules of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances – Budget and Actual (Exhibits 7 through 12), 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.

Management has omitted the Management's Discussion and Analysis (MD&A) that accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require to be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such missing information, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. Our opinions on the basic financial statements are not affected by this missing information.

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with ***Government Auditing Standards***, we have also issued our report dated May 6, 2026, on our consideration of the Randolph County Board of Education's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the Randolph County Board of Education'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 the Randolph County Board of Education's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.



Rachel Laurie Riddle
Chief Examiner
Department of Examiners of Public Accounts

Montgomery, Alabama

May 6, 2026

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Basic Financial Statements

Statement of Net Position
September 30, 2025

	Governmental Activities
<u>Assets</u>	
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 15,720,257.92
Investments	17,942.99
Ad Valorem Property Taxes Receivable	2,530,000.00
Receivables (Note 4)	1,676,681.28
Inventories	76,626.45
Capital Assets (Note 5):	
Nondepreciable	429,750.37
Depreciable, Net	24,738,419.13
Total Assets	<u>45,189,678.14</u>
<u>Deferred Outflows of Resources</u>	
Employer Pension Contribution	2,121,390.07
Proportionate Share of Collective Deferred Outflows Related to Net Pension Liability	2,631,000.00
Employer Other Postemployment Benefits (OPEB) Contribution	669,462.00
Proportionate Share of Collective Deferred Outflows Related to Net Other	
Postemployment Benefits (OPEB) Liability	15,002,409.00
Total Deferred Outflows of Resources	<u>20,424,261.07</u>
<u>Liabilities</u>	
Accounts Payable	9,971.93
Unearned Revenue	17,332.49
Salaries and Benefits Payable	2,142,182.82
Long-Term Liabilities (Note 9):	
Portion Due or Payable Within One Year	3,463,356.05
Portion Due or Payable After One Year	41,969,636.62
Total Liabilities	<u>47,602,479.91</u>
<u>Deferred Inflows of Resources</u>	
Unavailable Revenue - Property Taxes	2,530,000.00
Proportionate Share of Collective Deferred Inflows Related to Net Pension Liability	4,307,000.00
Proportionate Share of Collective Deferred Inflows Related to Net Other	
Postemployment Benefits (OPEB) Liability	8,913,139.00
Total Deferred Inflows of Resources	<u>\$ 15,750,139.00</u>

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

	Governmental Activities
<hr/>	
<u>Net Position</u>	
Net Investment in Capital Assets	\$ 20,008,231.16
Restricted for:	
Debt Service	2,948,662.35
Capital Projects	803,104.51
Other Purposes	3,636,416.50
Unrestricted	<u>(25,135,094.22)</u>
Total Net Position	<u><u>\$ 2,261,320.30</u></u>

Statement of Activities
For the Year Ended September 30, 2025

Functions/Programs	Expenses	Program Revenues		Net (Expenses) Revenues and Changes in Net Position	
		Charges for Services	Operating Grants and Contributions		Capital Grants and Contributions
Governmental Activities					
Instruction	\$ 17,069,363.66	\$ 403,046.29	\$ 14,338,834.62	\$ 789,968.66	\$ (1,537,514.09)
Instructional Support	5,254,578.24	268,147.08	3,972,177.97		(1,014,253.19)
Operation and Maintenance	2,637,275.48	162,346.49	1,234,793.64	44,662.00	(1,195,473.35)
Auxiliary Services:					
Student Transportation	2,268,569.36	37,240.11	2,067,284.15		(164,045.10)
Food Service	1,815,153.94	1,629,799.06	79,633.03		(105,721.85)
General Administrative and Central Support	1,515,719.64	81,475.49	751,059.97		(683,184.18)
Interest and Fiscal Charges	100,181.70				(100,181.70)
Other Expenses	907,256.45	145,266.10	588,407.45		(173,582.90)
Total Governmental Activities	<u>\$ 31,568,098.47</u>	<u>\$ 2,727,320.62</u>	<u>\$ 23,032,190.83</u>	<u>\$ 834,630.66</u>	<u>(4,973,956.36)</u>
General Revenues:					
Taxes:					
Property Taxes for General Purposes					3,717,317.19
Property Taxes for Specific Purposes					126,588.00
Sales Tax					2,079,129.95
Other Taxes					6,539.70
Grants and Contributions Not Restricted for Specific Programs					360.00
Investment Earnings					504,763.81
Miscellaneous					822,492.17
Total General Revenues					<u>7,257,190.82</u>
Changes in Net Position					2,283,234.46
Net Position - Beginning of Year					<u>(21,914.16)</u>
Net Position - End of Year					<u>\$ 2,261,320.30</u>

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

Balance Sheet
Governmental Funds
September 30, 2025

	General Fund	Special Revenue Fund	Debt Service Fund	Other Governmental Fund	Total Governmental Funds
Assets					
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 10,705,050.96	\$ 1,115,107.13	\$ 2,948,662.35	\$ 951,437.48	\$ 15,720,257.92
Investments		17,942.99			17,942.99
Ad Valorem Property Taxes Receivable	2,530,000.00				2,530,000.00
Receivables, Net (Note 4)	866,524.68	810,156.60			1,676,681.28
Due from Other Funds	457,496.37	1,718.81			459,215.18
Inventories		76,626.45			76,626.45
Total Assets	<u>14,559,072.01</u>	<u>2,021,551.98</u>	<u>2,948,662.35</u>	<u>951,437.48</u>	<u>20,480,723.82</u>
Liabilities, Deferred Inflows of Resources and Fund Balances					
Liabilities					
Accounts Payable	4,433.88	5,538.05			9,971.93
Due to Other Funds	1,718.81	457,496.37			459,215.18
Unearned Revenues		17,332.49			17,332.49
Salaries and Benefits Payable	2,050,784.95	91,397.87			2,142,182.82
Total Liabilities	<u>2,056,937.64</u>	<u>571,764.78</u>			<u>2,628,702.42</u>
Deferred Inflows of Resources					
Unavailable Revenue - Property Taxes	2,530,000.00				2,530,000.00
Total Deferred Inflows of Resources	<u>2,530,000.00</u>				<u>2,530,000.00</u>
Fund Balances					
Nonspendable:					
Inventories		76,626.45			76,626.45
Restricted for:					
Debt Service			2,948,662.35		2,948,662.35
Capital Projects				803,104.51	803,104.51
Child Nutrition		276,758.02			276,758.02
Fleet Renewal				148,332.97	148,332.97
Other Purposes	3,134,699.06				3,134,699.06
Assigned to:					
Local Schools		1,096,402.73			1,096,402.73
Unassigned	6,837,435.31				6,837,435.31
Total Fund Balances	<u>9,972,134.37</u>	<u>1,449,787.20</u>	<u>2,948,662.35</u>	<u>951,437.48</u>	<u>15,322,021.40</u>
Total Liabilities, Deferred Inflows of Resources and Fund Balances	<u>\$ 14,559,072.01</u>	<u>\$ 2,021,551.98</u>	<u>\$ 2,948,662.35</u>	<u>\$ 951,437.48</u>	<u>\$ 20,480,723.82</u>

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

***Reconciliation of the Balance Sheet of Governmental Funds to the
Statement of Net Position
September 30, 2025***

Total Fund Balances - Governmental Funds (Exhibit 3) \$ 15,322,021.40

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

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

The Cost of Capital Assets is	\$ 42,960,096.28	
Accumulated Depreciation is	<u>(17,791,926.78)</u>	
		25,168,169.50

Deferred outflows and inflows of resources related to pensions are applicable to future periods and, therefore, are not reported in the governmental funds.		445,390.07
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Deferred outflows and inflows of resources related to Other Postemployment Benefits (OPEB) obligations are applicable to future periods and, therefore, are not reported in the governmental funds.		6,758,732.00
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Long-term liabilities, including bond/warrants, notes, and pension and OPEB
obligations, are not due and payable in the current period and, therefore,
are not reported as liabilities in the funds.

Current Portion of Long-Term Debt	\$ 3,463,356.05	
Noncurrent Portion of Long-Term Debt	<u>41,969,636.62</u>	
		<u>(45,432,992.67)</u>

Total Net Position - Governmental Activities (Exhibit 1)		<u>\$ 2,261,320.30</u>
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The accompanying Notes to the Financial Statements are an integral part of this statement.

Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances
Governmental Funds
For the Year Ended September 30, 2025

	General Fund	Special Revenue Fund	Debt Service Fund	Other Governmental Fund	Total Governmental Funds
Revenues					
State	\$ 21,045,121.19	\$	\$ 297,167.63	\$ 535,984.03	\$ 21,878,272.85
Federal	105,213.37	3,392,222.41			3,497,435.78
Local	6,677,819.89	1,488,979.55	101,089.46	126,588.00	8,394,476.90
Other	67,362.30	13,785.10			81,147.40
Total Revenues	27,895,516.75	4,894,987.06	398,257.09	662,572.03	33,851,332.93
Expenditures					
Current:					
Instruction	14,266,004.72	1,560,744.07			15,826,748.79
Instructional Support	4,347,924.91	824,289.84			5,172,214.75
Operation and Maintenance	2,395,618.79	180,322.95		44,662.00	2,620,603.74
Auxiliary Services:					
Student Transportation	1,964,842.26	56,224.82			2,021,067.08
Food Service		1,804,403.32			1,804,403.32
General Administrative and Central Support	1,249,147.16	227,700.43			1,476,847.59
Other	560,719.55	340,423.49			901,143.04
Capital Outlay	2,257,319.73			717,885.16	2,975,204.89
Debt Service:					
Principal Retirement			96,057.69	247,343.10	343,400.79
Interest and Fiscal Charges			39,365.56	60,816.14	100,181.70
Total Expenditures	27,041,577.12	4,994,108.92	135,423.25	1,070,706.40	33,241,815.69
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over Expenditures	853,939.63	(99,121.86)	262,833.84	(408,134.37)	609,517.24
Other Financing Sources (Uses)					
Indirect Cost	21,650.64				21,650.64
Transfers In	35,680.92	276,715.99		769,231.00	1,081,627.91
Transfers Out	(1,045,946.99)	(35,680.92)			(1,081,627.91)
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	(988,615.43)	241,035.07		769,231.00	21,650.64
Net Changes in Fund Balances	(134,675.80)	141,913.21	262,833.84	361,096.63	631,167.88
Fund Balances - Beginning of Year	10,106,810.17	1,307,873.99	2,685,828.51	590,340.85	14,690,853.52
Fund Balances - End of Year	\$ 9,972,134.37	\$ 1,449,787.20	\$ 2,948,662.35	\$ 951,437.48	\$ 15,322,021.40

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

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Reconciliation of the Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances of Governmental Funds to the Statement of Activities For the Year Ended September 30, 2025

Net Changes in Fund Balances - Total Governmental Funds (Exhibit 5) \$ 631,167.88

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

Capital outlays to purchase or build capital assets are reported in governmental funds as expenditures. However, in the Statement of Activities, the cost of those assets is allocated over their estimated useful lives as depreciation expense. This is the amount by which capital outlays exceed depreciation expense in the period.

Capital Outlays	\$ 2,975,204.89	
Depreciation Expense	<u>(1,348,313.12)</u>	1,626,891.77

Repayment of debt principal is an expenditure in the governmental funds, but it reduces long-term liabilities in the Statement of Net Position and does not affect the Statement of Activities. 343,400.79

In the Statement of Activities, only the gain or loss on the sale of capital assets is reported, whereas in the governmental funds, the proceeds from the sale increase financial resources. The change in net position differs from the change in fund balances by this amount.

Loss on Disposition of Capital Assets	\$ <u>(29,828.99)</u>	(29,828.99)
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Some expenses reported in the Statement of Activities do not require the use of current financial resources and, therefore, are not reported as expenditures in governmental funds.

Compensated Absences, Current Year (Increase)/Decrease in Noncurrent Portion	\$ (1,502.56)	
Pension Expense, Current Year (Increase)/Decrease	(708,098.43)	
Other Postemployment Benefits (OPEB) Expense, Current Year (Increase)/Decrease	<u>421,204.00</u>	<u>(288,396.99)</u>

Change in Net Position of Governmental Activities \$ 2,283,234.46

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

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended September 30, 2025

Note 1 – Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

The financial statements of the Randolph County Board of Education (the “Board”) 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 more significant of the government’s accounting policies are described below.

A. Reporting Entity

The Board is governed by a separately elected board composed of seven members elected by the qualified electors of the County. The Board is responsible for the general administration and supervision of the public schools for the educational interests of the County (with the exception of cities having a city board of education).

Generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) require that the financial reporting entity consist of the primary government and its component units. Accordingly, the accompanying financial statements present the Board (a primary government).

Component units are legally separate organizations for which the elected officials of the primary government are financially accountable and other organizations for which the nature and significance of their relationship with the primary government are such that exclusion would cause the reporting entity’s financial statements to be misleading or incomplete. Based on the application of these criteria, there are no component units which should be included as part of the financial reporting entity of the Board.

B. Government-Wide and Fund Financial Statements

Government-Wide Financial Statements

The Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities display information about the Board. These statements include the financial activities of the overall government. Eliminations have been made to minimize the double counting of internal activities. Governmental activities generally are financed through taxes, intergovernmental revenues, and other nonexchange transactions.

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended September 30, 2025

The Statement of Activities presents a comparison between direct expenses and program revenues for each function of the Board's governmental activities. Direct expenses are those that are specifically associated with a program or function and, therefore, are clearly identifiable to a particular function. The Board does not allocate indirect expenses to the various functions. Program revenues include (a) charges to customers or applicants who purchase, use or directly benefit from goods, services, or privileges provided by a given function or program and (b) grants and contributions that are restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular program. Revenues that are not classified as program revenues, including all taxes, are presented as general revenues.

Fund Financial Statements

The fund financial statements provide information about the Board's funds. The emphasis of fund financial statements is on major governmental funds, each displayed in a separate column. The remaining governmental fund is reported as a nonmajor fund in the Other Governmental Fund column.

The Board reports the following major governmental funds:

- ◆ **General Fund** – The General Fund is the primary operating fund of the Board. It is used to account for all financial resources except those required to be accounted for in another fund. The Board primarily receives revenues from the Education Trust Fund (ETF) and local taxes. Amounts appropriated from the ETF were allocated to the school board on a formula basis.
- ◆ **Special Revenue Fund** – This fund is used to account for and report the proceeds of specific revenue sources that are restricted or committed to expenditure for specified purposes other than debt service or capital projects. Various federal and local funding sources are included in this fund. Some of the significant federal funding sources include the federal funds that are received for Special Education, Title I, and the Child Nutrition Program in addition to various smaller grants, which are required to be spent for the purposes of the applicable federal grants. Also included in this fund are the public and non-public funds received by the local schools which are generally not considered restricted or committed.
- ◆ **Debt Service Fund** – This fund is used to account for and report financial resources that are restricted, committed, or assigned to expenditure for principal and interest and the accumulation of resources for principal and interest payments maturing in future years.

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended September 30, 2025

The Board reports the following fund type in the Other Governmental Fund column:

Governmental Fund Type

- ◆ **Capital Projects Fund** – This fund is used to account for and report financial resources that are restricted, committed, or assigned to expenditure for capital outlay, including the acquisition or construction of capital facilities and other capital assets. Also included in this fund are Alabama Department of Education appropriations which are restricted to their use.

C. Measurement Focus, Basis of Accounting and Financial Statement Presentation

The government-wide financial statements are reported using the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recorded when earned and expenses are recorded at the time liabilities are incurred, regardless of the timing of related cash flows. Nonexchange transactions, in which the Board gives (or receives) value without directly receiving (or giving) equal value in exchange, include property taxes, grants, entitlements, and donations. On an accrual basis, revenue from grants, entitlements, and donations is recognized in the fiscal year in which all eligibility requirements have been satisfied. Revenue from property taxes is recognized in the fiscal year for which the taxes are levied.

As a general rule, the effect of interfund activity has been eliminated from the government-wide financial statements.

Governmental fund financial statements are reported using the current financial resources measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recognized as soon as they are both measurable and available. Revenues are considered to be available when they are collectible within the current period or soon enough thereafter to pay liabilities of the current period. For this purpose, the Board considers revenues to be available when they are collected within sixty (60) days of the end of the current fiscal year. Expenditures are recorded when the related fund liability is incurred, except for principal and interest on general long-term debt, claims and judgments, and compensated absences, which are recognized as expenditures to the extent they have matured. General capital asset acquisitions are reported as expenditures in governmental funds. General long-term debt issued is reported as other financing sources.

Under the terms of grant agreements, the Board funds certain programs by a combination of specific cost-reimbursement grants, categorical block grants, and general revenues. Thus, when program expenses are incurred, there is both restricted and unrestricted net position available to finance the program. It is the Board's policy to first apply cost-reimbursement grant resources to such programs, followed by categorical block grants and then by general revenues.

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended September 30, 2025

D. Assets, Deferred Outflows of Resources, Liabilities, Deferred Inflows of Resources and Net Position/Fund Balances

1. Deposits and Investments

Cash and cash equivalents include cash on hand and in demand deposits. Investments, which only consist of certificates of deposit, are stated at cost.

2. Receivables

Sales tax receivables are based on the amounts collected within 60 days after year-end.

Millage rates for property taxes are levied at the first regular meeting of the County Commission in February of the initial year of the levy. Property is assessed for taxation as of October 1 of the preceding year based on the millage rates established by the County Commission. Property taxes are due and payable the following October 1 and are delinquent after December 31. Amounts receivable, net of estimated refunds and estimated uncollectible amounts, are recorded for the property taxes levied in the current year. However, since the amounts are not available to fund current year operations, the revenue is deferred and recognized in the subsequent fiscal year when the taxes are both due and collectible and available to fund operations.

Receivables due from other governments include amounts due from grantors for grants issued for specific programs and capital projects.

3. Inventories

Inventories are valued at cost, which approximates market, using the first-in/first-out (FIFO) method. Inventories of governmental funds are recorded as expenditures when consumed rather than when purchased.

4. Restricted Assets

Certain funds received from the State Department of Education for capital projects and improvements, as well as certain resources set aside for repayment of debt, included in cash and cash equivalents on the financial statements, are considered restricted assets because they are maintained separately, and their use is limited. The Public School Capital Projects, Fleet Renewal, Bond Issue Payments, and Bonds and Warrants proceeds are restricted for use in various construction projects and the purchase of school buses. The Debt Service Fund is used to report resources set aside to pay the principal and interest on debt as it becomes due.

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended September 30, 2025

5. Capital Assets

Capital assets, which include property and equipment, are reported in the government-wide financial statements. Such assets are valued at cost where historical records are available and at an estimated historical cost where no historical records exist. Donated fixed assets are valued at their estimated fair market value on the date received. Additions, improvements and other capital outlays that significantly extend the useful life of an asset are capitalized. Other costs incurred for repairs and maintenance are expensed as incurred. Major outlays of capital assets and improvements are capitalized as projects are constructed.

Depreciation on all assets is provided on the straight-line basis over the assets estimated useful life. Capitalization thresholds (the dollar values above which asset acquisitions are added to the capital asset accounts) and estimated useful lives of capital assets reported in the government-wide statements are as follows:

	Capitalization Threshold	Estimated Useful Life
Land Improvements	\$50,000	20 years
Buildings	\$50,000	25 – 50 years
Building Improvements	\$50,000	5 – 20 years
Equipment and Furniture	\$ 5,000	5 – 20 years

6. Deferred Outflows of Resources

Deferred outflows of resources are reported in the Statement of Net Position. Deferred outflows of resources are defined as a consumption of net position by the government that is applicable to a future reporting period. Deferred outflows of resources increase net position, similar to assets.

7. Long-Term Obligations

In the government-wide financial statements, long-term debt and other long-term obligations are reported as liabilities in the applicable governmental activities Statement of Net Position. Bond/Warrant premiums and discounts are deferred and amortized over the life of the bonds. Bonds/Warrants payable are reported gross, with the applicable premium or discount reported on separate lines. Issuance costs are reported as an expense in the period incurred.

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended September 30, 2025

In the fund financial statements, governmental fund types recognize bond premiums and discounts, as well as 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 expenditures.

8. Deferred Inflows of Resources

Deferred inflows of resources are reported in the government-wide and fund financial statements. Deferred inflows of resources are defined as an acquisition of net position/fund balances by the government that is applicable to a future reporting period. Deferred inflows of resources decrease net position/fund balances, similar to liabilities.

9. Net Position/Fund Balances

Net position is reported on the government-wide financial statements and is required to be classified for accounting and reporting purposes into the following categories:

- ◆ **Net Investment in Capital Assets** – Capital assets and intangible right-to-use assets minus accumulated depreciation and outstanding principal balances of debt attributable to the acquisition, construction or improvement of those assets plus or minus any deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources that are attributable to those assets or related debt. Any significant unspent related debt proceeds and any deferred outflows or inflows at year-end related to capital assets are not included in this calculation.
- ◆ **Restricted** – Constraints imposed on net position by external creditors, grantors, contributors, laws or regulations of other governments, or law through constitutional provision or enabling legislation.
- ◆ **Unrestricted** – The net amount of assets, deferred outflows of resources, liabilities, and deferred inflows of resources that are not included in the determination of net investment in capital assets or the restricted portion of net position. Assignments and commitments of unrestricted net position should not be reported on the face of the Statement of Net Position.

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended September 30, 2025

Fund balance is reported in governmental funds in the fund financial statements under the following five categories:

- a) Nonspendable fund balances include amounts that cannot be spent because they are either (a) not in spendable form or (b) legally or contractually required to be maintained intact. Examples of nonspendable fund balance reserves for which fund balance shall not be available for financing general operating expenditures include inventories, prepaid items, and long-term receivables.
- b) Restricted fund balances consist of amounts that are subject to externally enforceable legal restrictions imposed by creditors, grantors, contributors, or laws and regulations of other governments; or through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation.
- c) Committed fund balances consist of amounts that are subject to a purpose constraint imposed by formal action or resolution of the Board, which is the highest level of decision-making authority, before the end of the fiscal year and that require the same level of formal action to remove or modify the constraint.
- d) Assigned fund balances consist of amounts that are intended to be used by the Board for specific purposes. The Board authorized the Superintendent or Chief School Financial Officer to make a determination of the assigned amounts of fund balance. Such assignments may not exceed the available (spendable, unrestricted, uncommitted) fund balance in any particular fund. Assigned fund balances require the same level of authority to remove the constraint.
- e) Unassigned fund balances include all spendable amounts not contained in the other classifications. This portion of the total fund balance in the General Fund is available to finance operating expenditures.

When an expenditure is incurred for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted (committed, assigned, or unassigned) amounts are available, it shall be the policy of the Board to consider restricted amounts to have been reduced first. When an expenditure is incurred for the purposes for which amounts in any of the unrestricted fund balance classifications could be used, it shall be the policy of the Board that committed amounts would be reduced first, followed by assigned amounts and then unassigned amounts.

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended September 30, 2025

10. Minimum Fund Balance Policy

The Board recognizes that the establishment and maintenance of adequate fund reserves is necessary to avoid disruption in the educational programs in the schools. The Superintendent or the Chief School Financial Officer will inform the Board, before the Board votes on a budget or budget amendment, if the approval of the budget or budget amendment will prevent the establishment or maintenance of a one-month's operating balance. A one-month's operating balance shall be determined by dividing the General Fund expenditures and fund transfers out by 12. In determining the General Fund expenditures and transfers out, the proposed budget or budget amendment shall be used.

E. Pensions

For purposes of measuring the net pension liability, deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions, and pension expense, the Teachers' Retirement System of Alabama (the "Plan") financial statements are prepared using the economic resources measurement focus and accrual basis of accounting. Contributions are recognized as revenues when earned, pursuant to Plan requirements. Benefits and refunds are recognized as revenues when due and payable in accordance with the terms of the Plan. Expenses are recognized when the corresponding liability is incurred, regardless of when the payment is made. Investments are reported at fair value. Financial statements are prepared in accordance with requirements of the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB). Under these requirements, the Plan is considered a component unit of the State of Alabama and is included in the State's Annual Comprehensive Financial Report.

F. Postemployment Benefits Other Than Pensions (OPEB)

The Alabama Retired Education Employees' Health Care Trust (the "Trust") financial statements are prepared by using the economic resources measurement focus and accrual basis of accounting. This includes for purposes of measuring the net OPEB liability, deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB, and OPEB expense, information about the Fiduciary Net Position of the Trust and additions to/deductions from the Trust's Fiduciary Net Position. Plan member contributions are recognized in the period in which the contributions are due. Employer contributions are recognized when due pursuant to plan requirements. Benefits are recognized when due and payable in accordance with the terms of the plan. Subsequent events were evaluated by management through the date the financial statements were issued.

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended September 30, 2025

Note 2 – Stewardship, Compliance, and Accountability

Budgets

Budgets are adopted on a basis of accounting consistent with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP) for the General Fund and Special Revenue Fund, with the exception of salaries and benefits, which are budgeted only to the extent expected to be paid rather than on the modified accrual basis of accounting. The Capital Projects Fund adopts project length budgets. All other governmental funds adopt budgets on the modified accrual basis of accounting. All appropriations lapse at fiscal year-end.

On or before October 1 of each year, each county board of education shall prepare and submit to the State Superintendent of Education the annual budget to be adopted by the County Board of Education. The Superintendent or County Board of Education shall not approve any budget for operations of the school for any fiscal year which shall show expenditures in excess of income estimated to be available plus any balances on hand.

Note 3 – Deposits and Investments

Deposits

The custodial credit risk for deposits is the risk that, in the event of a bank failure, the Board will not be able to cover deposits or will not be able to recover collateral securities that are in the possession of an outside party. The Board's deposits at year-end were entirely covered by federal depository insurance or by the Security for Alabama Funds Enhancement Program (SAFE Program). The SAFE Program was established by the Alabama Legislature and is governed by the provisions contained in the *Code of Alabama 1975*, Sections 41-14A-1 through 41-14A-14. Under the SAFE Program, all public funds are protected through a collateral pool administered by the Alabama State Treasurer's Office. Under this program, financial institutions holding deposits of public funds must pledge securities as collateral against those deposits. In the event of failure of a financial institution, securities pledged by that financial institution would be liquidated by the State Treasurer to replace the public deposits not covered by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC). If the securities pledged fail to produce adequate funds, every institution participating in the pool would share the liability for the remaining balance.

All of the Board's investments were in certificates of deposit. These certificates of deposit are classified as "Deposits" in order to determine insurance and collateralization. However, they are classified as "Investments" on the financial statements.

The Board has \$2,948,662.35 in the Debt Service Fund, which is included in Cash and Cash equivalents, that is held by the State of Alabama for future debt service payments.

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended September 30, 2025

Note 4 – Receivables

On September 30, 2025, receivables for the Board’s individual major funds are as follows:

	General Fund	Special Revenue Fund	Total
Receivables:			
Intergovernmental	\$866,524.68	\$810,156.60	\$1,676,681.28
Total Receivables	\$866,524.68	\$810,156.60	\$1,676,681.28

Note 5 – Capital Assets

Capital asset activity for the year ended September 30, 2025, was as follows:

	Balance 10/01/2024	Additions/ Reclassifications (*)	Retirements/ Reclassifications (*)	Balance 09/30/2025
Governmental Activities:				
Capital Assets, Not Being Depreciated:				
Land and Land Improvements	\$ 210,324.35	\$	\$	\$ 210,324.35
Construction in Progress	1,985,555.04	203,929.37	(1,970,058.39)	219,426.02
Total Capital Assets, Not Being Depreciated	2,195,879.39	203,929.37	(1,970,058.39)	429,750.37
Capital Assets, Being Depreciated:				
Land Improvements, Exhaustible	257,704.70			257,704.70
Buildings and Improvements	33,176,746.79	3,984,708.48		37,161,455.27
Equipment and Furniture	5,100,285.44	756,625.43	(745,724.93)	5,111,185.94
Total Capital Assets, Being Depreciated	38,534,736.93	4,741,333.91	(745,724.93)	42,530,345.91
Less Accumulated Depreciation for:				
Land Improvements, Exhaustible	(245,008.63)	(11,454.78)		(256,463.41)
Buildings and Improvements	(13,394,313.76)	(1,019,296.07)		(14,413,609.83)
Equipment and Furniture	(3,520,187.21)	(317,562.27)	715,895.94	(3,121,853.54)
Total Accumulated Depreciation	(17,159,509.60)	(1,348,313.12)	715,895.94	(17,791,926.78)
Total Capital Assets, Being Depreciated, Net	21,375,227.33	3,393,020.79	(29,828.99)	24,738,419.13
Governmental Activities Capital Assets, Net	\$ 23,571,106.72	\$ 3,596,950.16	\$(1,999,887.38)	\$ 25,168,169.50

(*) The additions and retirements column above include reclassifications for a total of \$1,970,058.39 from Construction in Progress to Buildings and Improvements.

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended September 30, 2025

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

	Current Year Depreciation Expense
<u>Governmental Activities:</u>	
Instruction	\$1,004,106.19
Instructional Support	31,622.72
Operation and Maintenance	16,194.83
<u>Auxiliary Services:</u>	
Food Service	12,126.96
Student Transportation	265,056.09
General Administrative and Central Support	13,335.30
Other	5,871.03
Total Depreciation Expense – Governmental Activities	<u>\$1,348,313.12</u>

Note 6 – Defined Benefit Pension Plan

A. Plan Description

The Teachers’ Retirement System of Alabama (TRS), a cost-sharing multiple-employer public employee retirement plan (the “Plan”), was established as of September 15, 1939, pursuant to the ***Code of Alabama 1975***, Section 16-25-1 through Section 16-25-34 (Act Number 419, Acts of Alabama 1939), for the purpose of providing retirement allowances and other specified benefits for qualified persons employed by State-supported educational institutions. The responsibility for the general administration and operation of the TRS is vested in its Board of Control which consists of 15 trustees. The Plan is administered by the Retirement Systems of Alabama (RSA). The ***Code of Alabama 1975***, Section 16-25-2, grants the authority to establish and amend the benefit terms to the TRS Board of Control. The Plan issues a publicly available financial report that can be obtained at www.rsa-al.gov.

B. Benefits Provided

State law establishes retirement benefits as well as death and disability benefits and any ad hoc increase in postretirement benefits for the TRS. Benefits for TRS members vest after 10 years of creditable service. TRS members who retire after age 60 with 10 years or more of creditable service or with 25 years of service (regardless of age) are entitled to an annual retirement benefit, payable monthly for life. Service and disability retirement benefits are based on a guaranteed minimum or a formula method, with the member receiving payment under the method that yields the highest monthly benefit. Under the formula method, members of the TRS are allowed 2.0125% of their average final compensation (highest 3 of the last 10 years) for each year of service.

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended September 30, 2025

Act Number 2012-377, Acts of Alabama, established a new tier of benefits (Tier 2) for members hired on or after January 1, 2013. Tier 2 TRS members are eligible for retirement after age 62 with 10 years or more of creditable service and are entitled to an annual retirement benefit, payable monthly for life. Service and disability retirement benefits are based on a formula method. Under the formula method, Tier 2 members of the TRS are allowed 1.65% of their average final compensation (highest 5 of the last 10 years) for each year of service up to 80% of their average final compensation.

Act Number 2022-222, Acts of Alabama, provides that any Tier 2 member who withdraws from service after the completion of at least 30 years of creditable service is entitled to an annual retirement benefit.

Act Number 2019-316, Acts of Alabama, established the Partial Lump Sum Option Plan (PLOP) in addition to the annual service retirement benefit payable for life for Tier 1 and Tier 2 members of the TRS. A member can elect to receive a one-time lump sum distribution at the time that they receive their first monthly retirement benefit payment. The member's annual retirement benefit is then actuarially reduced based on the amount of the PLOP distribution which is not to exceed the sum of 24 months of the maximum monthly retirement benefit that the member could receive. Members are eligible to receive a PLOP distribution if they are eligible for a service retirement benefit as defined above from the TRS on or after October 1, 2019. A TRS member who receives an annual disability retirement benefit or who has participated in the Deferred Retirement Option Plan (DROP) is not eligible to receive a PLOP distribution.

Members are eligible for disability retirement if they have 10 years of creditable service, are currently in-service, and determined by the RSA Medical Board to be permanently incapacitated from further performance of duty. Preretirement death benefits, equal to the annual earnable compensation of the member as reported to the Plan for the preceding year ending June 30th, are paid to a qualified beneficiary.

C. Contributions

Covered Tier 1 members of the TRS contributed 5% of earnable compensation to the TRS as required by statute until September 30, 2011. From October 1, 2011 to September 30, 2012, covered members of the TRS were required by statute to contribute 7.25% of earnable compensation. Effective October 1, 2012, covered members of the TRS are required by statute to contribute 7.50% of earnable compensation. Certified law enforcement, correctional officers, and firefighters of the TRS contributed 6% of earnable compensation as required by statute until September 30, 2011. From October 1, 2011 to September 30, 2012, certified law enforcement, correctional officers, and firefighters of the TRS were required by statute to contribute 8.25% of earnable compensation. Effective October 1, 2012, certified law enforcement, correctional officers, and firefighters of the TRS are required by statute to contribute 8.50% of earnable compensation.

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended September 30, 2025

Effective October 1, 2021, the covered Tier 2 members contribution rate increased from 6% to 6.2% of earnable compensation to the TRS as required by statute. Effective October 1, 2021, the covered Tier 2 certified law enforcement, correctional officers, and firefighters' contribution rate increased from 7% to 7.2% of earnable compensation to the TRS as required by statute. These Tier 2 members contribution rate increases were a result of Act Number 2021-537, Acts of Alabama, which allows sick leave conversion for Tier 2 members.

Participating employers' contractually required contribution rate for the year ended September 30, 2025, was 13.57% of annual pay for Tier 1 members and 12.60% of annual pay for Tier 2 members. These required contribution rates are a percent of annual payroll, actuarially determined as an amount that, when combined with member contributions, is expected to finance the costs of benefits earned by members during the year, with an additional amount to finance any unfunded accrued liability. Total employer contributions to the pension plan from the Board were \$2,121,390.07 for the year ended September 30, 2025.

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

At September 30, 2025, the Board reported a liability of \$22,679,000 for its proportionate share of the collective net pension liability. The collective net pension liability was measured as of September 30, 2024, and the total pension liability used to calculate the net pension liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of September 30, 2023. The Board's proportion of the collective net pension liability was based on the employers' shares of contributions to the pension plan relative to the total employer contributions of all participating TRS employers. At September 30, 2024, the Board's proportion was 0.174346%, which was a decrease of (0.000918%) from its proportion measured as of September 30, 2023.

For the year ended September 30, 2025, the Board recognized pension expense of \$2,829,000. At September 30, 2025, the Board reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions from the following sources:

	Deferred Outflows of Resources	Deferred Inflows of Resources
Differences between Expected and Actual Experience	\$2,255,000.00	\$ 163,000.00
Changes of Assumptions	348,000.00	
Net Difference between Projected and Actual Earnings on Pension Plan Investments		3,719,000.00
Changes in Proportion and Differences between Employer Contributions and Proportionate Share of Contributions	28,000.00	425,000.00
Employer Contributions Subsequent to the Measurement Date	2,121,390.07	
Total	\$4,752,390.07	\$4,307,000.00

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended September 30, 2025

The \$2,121,390.07 reported as deferred outflows of resources related to pensions resulting from Board contributions subsequent to the measurement date will be recognized as a reduction of the net pension liability in the year ended September 30, 2026. Other amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions will be recognized in pension expense as follows:

Year Ending:	
September 30, 2026	\$ (154,000)
2027	\$ 948,000
2028	\$(1,292,000)
2029	\$(1,178,000)
2030	\$ 0
Thereafter	\$ 0

E. Actuarial Assumptions

The total pension liability as of September 30, 2024 was determined by an actuarial valuation as of September 30, 2023, using the following actuarial assumptions, applied to all periods included in the measurement:

Inflation	2.50%
Investment Rate of Return (*)	7.45%
Projected Salary Increases	3.25% - 5.00%
(*) Net of pension plan investment expense	

The actuarial assumptions used in the actuarial valuation as of September 30, 2023, were based on the results of an investigation of the economic and demographic experience for the TRS based upon participant data as of September 30, 2020. The Board of Control accepted and approved these changes in September 2021, which became effective at the beginning of fiscal year 2021.

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended September 30, 2025

Mortality rates were based on the Pub-2010 Teacher tables with the following adjustments, projected generationally using scale MP-2020 adjusted by 66-2/3% beginning with the year 2019:

Group	Membership Table	Set Forward (+)/ Setback (-)	Adjustment to Rates
Service Retirees	Teacher Retiree – Below Median	Male: +2, Female: +2	Male: 108% ages<63, 96% ages>67; Phasing down 63-67 Female: 112% ages <69 98%> age 74 Phasing down 69-74
Beneficiaries	Contingent Survivor Below Median	Male: +2, Female: None	None
Disabled Retirees	Teacher Disability	Male: +8, Female: +3	None

The long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments was determined using a log-normal distribution analysis in which best-estimate ranges of expected future real rates of return (expected returns, net of pension plan investment expense and inflation) are developed for each major asset class. These ranges are combined to produce the long-term expected rate of return by weighting the expected future real rates of return by the target asset allocation percentage and by adding expected inflation. The target asset allocation and best estimates of geometric real rates of return for each major asset class are as follows:

Asset Class	Target Allocation	Long-Term Expected Rate of Return (*)
Fixed Income	15.00%	2.80%
U. S. Large Stocks	32.00%	8.00%
U. S. Mid Stocks	9.00%	10.00%
U. S. Small Stocks	4.00%	11.00%
International Developed Market Stocks	12.00%	9.50%
International Emerging Market Stocks	3.00%	11.00%
Alternatives	10.00%	9.00%
Real Estate	10.00%	6.50%
Cash Equivalents	5.00%	1.50%
Total	<u>100.00%</u>	

(*) Includes assumed rate of inflation of 2.00%

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended September 30, 2025

F. Discount Rate

The discount rate used to measure the total pension liability was 7.45%. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed that plan member contributions will be made at the current contribution rate and that the employer contributions will be made at rates equal to the difference between actuarially determined contribution rates and the member rate. Based on those assumptions, components of the pension plan's fiduciary net position were 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.

G. Sensitivity of the Board's Proportionate Share of the Collective Net Pension Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate

The following table presents the Board's proportionate share of the collective net pension liability calculated using the discount rate of 7.45%, as well as what the Board's proportionate share of the collective net pension liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1-percentage point lower (6.45%) or 1-percentage point higher (8.45%) than the current rate:

	1% Decrease (6.45%)	Current Discount Rate (7.45%)	1% Increase (8.45%)
Board's Proportionate Share of Collective Net Pension Liability	\$31,534,000	\$22,679,000	\$15,226,000

H. Pension Plan Fiduciary Net Position

Detailed information about the pension plan's fiduciary net position is available in the separately issued RSA Annual Comprehensive Financial Report for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2024. The supporting actuarial information is included in the GASB Statement Number 67 Report for the TRS prepared as of September 30, 2024. The auditor's report on the Schedule of Employer Allocations and Pension Amounts by Employer and accompanying notes detail by employer and in aggregate information needed to comply with GASB Statement Number 68 as of September 30, 2024, along with supporting schedules is also available. The additional financial and actuarial information is available at <http://www.rsa-al.gov/index.php/employers/financial-reports/gasb-68-reports/>.

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended September 30, 2025

Note 7 – Other Postemployment Benefits (OPEB)

A. Plan Description

The Alabama Retired Education Employees' Health Care Trust (the "Trust") is a cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit postemployment healthcare plan that administers healthcare benefits to the retirees of participating state and local educational institutions. The Trust was established under the Alabama Retiree Health Care Funding Act of 2007 which authorized and directed the Public Education Employees' Health Insurance Board (PEEHIB) to create an irrevocable trust to fund postemployment healthcare benefits to retirees participating in the Public Education Employees' Health Insurance Plan (PEEHIP). Active and retiree health insurance benefits are paid through PEEHIP. In accordance with GASB, the Trust is considered a component unit of the State of Alabama (the "State") and is included in the State's Annual Comprehensive Financial Report.

The PEEHIP was established in 1983 pursuant to the provisions of the *Code of Alabama 1975*, Section 16-25A-4, (Act Number 83-455, Acts of Alabama) to provide a uniform plan of health insurance for active and retired employees of state and local educational institutions which provide instruction at any combination of grades K-14 (collectively, eligible employees), and to provide a method for funding the benefits related to the plan. The four-year universities participate in the plan with respect to their retired employees and are eligible and may elect to participate in the plan with respect to their active employees. Responsibility for the establishment of the health insurance plan and its general administration and operations is vested in the PEEHIB. The PEEHIB is a corporate body for purposes of management of the health insurance plan. The *Code of Alabama 1975*, Section 16-25A-4, provides the PEEHIB with the authority to amend the benefit provisions in order to provide reasonable assurance of stability in future years for the plan. All assets of the Alabama Retired Education Employees' Health Care Trust are held in trust for the payment of health insurance benefits. The Teachers' Retirement System of Alabama (TRS) has been appointed as the administrator of the PEEHIP and, consequently, serves as the administrator of the Trust.

B. Benefits Provided

PEEHIP offers a basic hospital medical plan to active members and non-Medicare eligible retirees. Benefits include inpatient hospitalization for a maximum of 365 days without a dollar limit, inpatient rehabilitation, outpatient care, physician services, and prescription drugs.

Active employees and non-Medicare eligible retirees who do not have Medicare eligible dependents can enroll in a health maintenance organization (HMO) in lieu of the basic hospital medical plan. The HMO includes hospital medical benefits, dental benefits, vision benefits, and an extensive formulary. However, participants in the HMO are required to receive care from a participating physician in the HMO plan.

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended September 30, 2025

The PEEHIP offers four optional plans (Hospital Indemnity, Cancer, Dental, and Vision) that may be selected in addition to or in lieu of the basic hospital medical plan or HMO. The Hospital Indemnity Plan provides a per-day benefit for hospital confinement, maternity, intensive care, cancer, and convalescent care. The Cancer Plan covers cancer disease only and benefits are provided regardless of other insurance. Coverage includes a per-day benefit for each hospital confinement related to cancer. The Dental Plan covers diagnostic and preventative services, as well as basic and major dental services. Diagnostic and preventative services include oral examinations, teeth cleaning, x-rays, and emergency office visits. Basic and major services include fillings, general aesthetics, oral surgery not covered under a Group Medical Program, periodontics, endodontics, dentures, bridgework, and crowns. Dental services are subject to a maximum of \$1,250 per year for individual coverage and \$1,000 per person per year for family coverage. The Vision Plan covers annual eye examinations, eyeglasses, and contact lens prescriptions.

PEEHIP members may opt to elect the PEEHIP Supplemental Plan as their hospital medical coverage in lieu of the PEEHIP Hospital Medical Plan. The PEEHIP Supplemental Plan provides secondary benefits to the member's primary plan provided by another employer. Only active and non-Medicare retired members and covered dependents are eligible to enroll in the PEEHIP Supplemental Medical Plan. There is no premium required for this plan, and the plan covers most out-of-pocket expenses not covered by the primary plan. Members who are enrolled in the PEEHIP Hospital Medical Plan (Group 14000), VIVA Health Plan (offered through the Public Education Employee's Health Insurance Fund (PEEHIF)), Marketplace (Exchange) Plans, Alabama State Employees Insurance Board (SEIB), Local Government Health Insurance Board (LGB), Medicaid, ALL Kids, Tricare, or Champus as their primary coverage, or are enrolled in a Health Savings Account (HSA) or Health Reimbursement Arrangement (HRA), are not eligible to enroll in the PEEHIP Supplemental Plan. The plan cannot be used as a supplement to Medicare. Retired members who become eligible for Medicare are eligible to enroll in the PEEHIP Group Medicare Advantage (PPO) Plan or the Optional Coverage Plans.

Effective January 1, 2023, United Health Care (UHC) Group replaced the Humana contract for Medicare eligible retirees and Medicare eligible dependents of retirees. The Medicare Advantage and Prescription Drug Plan (MAPDP) is fully insured by UHC, and members are able to have all of their Medicare Part A (hospital insurance), Part B (medical insurance), and Part D (prescription drug coverage) in one convenient plan. With the UHC plan for PEEHIP, retirees can continue to see their same providers with no interruption and see any doctor who accepts Medicare on a national basis. Retirees have the same benefits in and out-of-network and there is no additional retiree cost share if a retiree uses an out-of-network provider and no balance billing from the provider.

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended September 30, 2025

C. Contributions

The *Code of Alabama 1975*, Section 16-25A-8, and the *Code of Alabama 1975*, Section 16-25A-8.1, provide the PEEHIB with the authority to set the contribution requirements for plan members and the authority to set the employer contribution requirements for each required class, respectively. Additionally, the PEEHIB is required to certify to the Governor and the Legislature, the amount, as a monthly premium per active employee, necessary to fund the coverage of active and retired member benefits for the following fiscal year. The Legislature then sets the premium rate in the annual appropriation bill.

For employees who retired after September 30, 2005, but before January 1, 2012, the employer contribution of the health insurance premium set forth by the PEEHIB for each retiree class is reduced by 2% for each year of service less than 25 and increased by 2% for each year of service over 25, subject to adjustment by the PEEHIB for changes in Medicare premium costs required to be paid by a retiree. In no case does the employer contribution of the health insurance premium exceed 100% of the total health insurance premium cost for the retiree.

For employees who retired after December 31, 2011, the employer contribution to the health insurance premium set forth by the PEEHIB for each retiree class is reduced by 4% for each year of service less than 25 and increased by 2% for each year over 25, subject to adjustment by the PEEHIB for changes in Medicare premium costs required to be paid by a retiree. In no case does the employer contribution of the health insurance premium exceed 100% of the total health insurance premium cost for the retiree. For employees who retired after December 31, 2011, who are not covered by Medicare, regardless of years of service, the employer contribution to the health insurance premium set forth by the PEEHIB for each retiree class is reduced by a percentage equal to 1% multiplied by the difference between the Medicare entitlement age and the age of the employee at the time of retirement as determined by the PEEHIB. This reduction in the employer contribution ceases upon notification to the PEEHIB of the attainment of Medicare coverage.

D. OPEB Liabilities, OPEB Expense, and Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to OPEB

At September 30, 2025, the Board reported a liability of \$17,485,072 for its proportionate share of the collective net OPEB liability. The collective net OPEB liability was measured as of September 30, 2024, and the total OPEB liability used to calculate the net OPEB liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of September 30, 2023. The Board's proportion of the collective net OPEB liability was based on the Board's share of contributions to the OPEB plan relative to the total employer contributions of all participating PEEHIP employers. At September 30, 2024, the Board's proportion was 0.19019002%, which was a decrease of (0.00490402)% from its proportion measured as of September 30, 2023.

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended September 30, 2025

For the year ended September 30, 2025, the Board recognized OPEB expense of \$247,850 with no special funding situations. At September 30, 2025, the Board reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB from the following sources:

	Deferred Outflows of Resources	Deferred Inflows of Resources
Differences between expected and actual experience	\$ 8,154,323	\$3,773,759
Changes of assumptions	6,021,732	2,473,855
Net difference between projected and actual earnings on OPEB plan investments		431,386
Changes in proportion and differences between employer contributions and proportionate share of contributions	826,354	2,234,139
Employer contributions subsequent to the measurement date	669,462	
Total	\$15,671,871	\$8,913,139

The \$669,462 reported as deferred outflows of resources related to OPEB resulting from the Board's contributions subsequent to the measurement date will be recognized as a reduction of the Net OPEB liability in the year ended September 30, 2026.

Other amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB will be recognized in OPEB expense as follows:

Year Ending:	
September 30, 2026	\$ 692,725
2027	\$ 816,050
2028	\$ 587,086
2029	\$1,128,180
2030	\$2,154,185
Thereafter	\$ 711,044

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended September 30, 2025

E. Actuarial Assumptions

The total OPEB liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of September 30, 2023, using the following actuarial assumptions, applied to all periods included in the measurement:

Inflation	2.50%
Projected Salary Increases (¹)	3.25% - 5.00%
Long-Term Investment Rate of Return (²)	7.00%
Municipal Bond Index Rate at the Measurement Date	3.89%
Municipal Bond Index Rate at the Prior Measurement Date	4.53%
Year Fiduciary Net Position (FNP) is Projected to be Depleted	2040
Single Equivalent Interest Rate at Measurement Date	4.32%
Single Equivalent Interest Rate at Prior Measurement Date	7.00%
Healthcare Cost Trend Rate:	
Initial Trend Rate:	
Pre-Medicare Eligible	6.75%
Medicare Eligible	(**)
Ultimate Trend Rate:	
Pre-Medicare Eligible	4.50% in 2033 FYE
Medicare Eligible	4.50% in 2033 FYE

(¹) Includes 2.75% wage inflation.
(²) Compounded annually, net of investment expense, and including inflation.
(**) Initial Medicare claims are set based on renewal premium rates through calendar year 2025 with an assumed 0% increase for the upcoming 2026-2028 negotiation period.

The rates of mortality are based on the Pub-2010 Public Mortality Plans Mortality Tables, adjusted generationally based on scale MP-2020, with an adjustment of 66-2/3% to the table beginning with the year 2019. The mortality rates are adjusted forward and/or back depending on the plan and group covered, as shown in the table below:

Group	Membership Table	Set Forward (+)/ Set Back (-)	Adjustment to Rates
Active Members	Teacher Employee – Below Median	None	65%
Service Retirees	Teacher – Below Median	Male: +2, Female: +2	Male: 108% ages<63, 96% ages>67; Phasing down 63-67; Female: 112% ages <69; 98%> age 74; Phasing down 69-74
Disabled Retirees	Teacher Disability	Male: +8, Female: +3	None
Beneficiaries	Teacher Contingent Survivor Below Median	Male: +2, Female: None	None

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended September 30, 2025

The decremental assumptions used in the valuation were selected based on the actuarial experience study prepared as of September 30, 2020, submitted to and adopted by the Teachers' Retirement System of Alabama Board on September 13, 2021.

The remaining actuarial assumptions (e.g., initial per capita costs, health care cost trends, rate of plan participation, rates of plan election, etc.) were based on the September 30, 2023 valuation.

The long-term expected return on plan assets is to be reviewed as part of regular experience studies prepared every five years, in conjunction with similar analysis for the Teachers' Retirement System of Alabama. Several factors should be considered in evaluating the long-term rate of return assumption, including long-term historical data, estimates inherent in current market data, and a log-normal distribution analysis in which best-estimate ranges of expected future real rates of return (expected return, net of investment expense and inflation), as developed for each major asset class. These ranges should be combined to produce the long-term expected rate of return by weighting the expected future real rates of return by the target asset allocation percentage and then adding expected inflation. The assumption is intended to be a long-term assumption and is not expected to change absent a significant change in the asset allocation, a change in the inflation assumption, or a fundamental change in the market that alters expected returns in future years.

The long-term expected rate of return on the OPEB plan investments is determined based on the allocation of assets by asset class and by the mean and variance of real returns.

The target asset allocation and best estimates of expected geometric real rates of return for each major asset class is summarized below:

Asset Class	Target Allocation	Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return (*)
Fixed Income	30.00%	4.40%
U. S. Large Stocks	38.00%	8.00%
U. S. Mid Stocks	8.00%	10.00%
U. S. Small Stocks	4.00%	11.00%
International Developed Market Stocks	15.00%	9.50%
Cash	5.00%	1.50%
Total	100.00%	
(*) Geometric mean, includes 2.5% inflation		

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended September 30, 2025

F. Discount Rate

The discount rate, also known as the Single Equivalent Interest Rate (SEIR), as described by GASB Statement Number 74, used to measure the total OPEB liability at September 30, 2024, was 4.32%. Premiums paid to the Public Education Employees' Health Insurance Board for active employees shall include an amount to partially fund the cost of coverage for retired employees. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed that plan contributions will be made at the current contribution rates. Each year, the State specifies the monthly employer rate that participating school systems must contribute for each active employee. Currently, the monthly employer rate is \$800 per non-university active member. Approximately, 9.751% of the employer contributions were used to assist in funding retiree benefit payments in 2024, and it is assumed that the 9.751% will increase or decrease at the same rate as expected benefit payments for the closed group with a cap of 20.00%. It is assumed the \$800 rate will remain flat until, based on budget projections, it increases to \$904 in fiscal year 2026, \$1,114 in fiscal year 2027, and then will increase with inflation at 2.50% starting in 2028. Retiree benefit payments for University members are paid by the Universities and are not included in the cash flow projections. The discount rate determination will use a municipal bond rate to the extent the trust is projected to run out of money before all benefits are paid. Therefore, the projected future benefit payments for all current plan members are projected through 2122.

G. Sensitivity of the Board's Proportionate Share of the Collective Net OPEB Liability to Changes in the Healthcare Cost Trend Rates and in the Discount Rates

The following table presents the Board's proportionate share of the collective net OPEB liability of the Trust calculated using the current healthcare trend rate, as well as what the collective net OPEB liability would be if calculated using one percentage point lower or one percentage point higher than the current rate:

	1% Decrease (5.75% Decreasing to 3.50% for Pre-Medicare, Known Decreasing to 3.50% for Medicare Eligible)	Current Healthcare Trend Rate (6.75% Decreasing to 4.50% for Pre-Medicare, Known Decreasing to 4.50% for Medicare Eligible)	1% Increase (7.75% Decreasing to 5.50% for Pre-Medicare, Known Decreasing to 5.50% for Medicare Eligible)
Board's proportionate share of the collective Net OPEB liability	\$14,065,262	\$17,485,072	\$21,894,922

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended September 30, 2025

The following table presents the Board’s proportionate share of the collective net OPEB liability of the Trust calculated using the discount rate of 4.32%, as well as what the collective net OPEB liability would be if calculated using one percentage point lower or one percentage point higher than the current rate:

	1% Decrease (3.32%)	Current Discount Rate (4.32%)	1% Increase (5.32%)
Board’s proportionate share of the collective Net OPEB liability	\$21,240,327	\$17,485,072	\$14,484,213

H. OPEB Plan Fiduciary Net Position

Detailed information about the OPEB plan’s Fiduciary Net Position is in the Trust’s financial statements for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2024. The supporting actuarial information is included in the GASB Statement Number 74 Report for PEEHIP prepared as of September 30, 2024. Additional financial and actuarial information is available at www.rsa-al.gov.

Note 8 – Construction and Other Significant Commitments

As of September 30, 2025, the Board was obligated under the following significant construction contract:

	Contract Amount	Remaining Balance
Technology and Textbook Facility	\$338,906.06	\$250,362.26

Note 9 – Long-Term Debt

Long-Term Liabilities

On April 16, 2021, the Board entered into a note from direct borrowing to acquire 5 buses in the amount of \$307,888.88. The note is secured by the buses and will pay off in 2031.

On July 1, 2020, the Board entered into a note from direct borrowing to acquire 14 buses in the amount of \$874,839.92. The note is secured by the buses and will pay off in 2031.

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended September 30, 2025

During the fiscal years 2014, 2015, and 2016 the Board issued long-term notes from direct borrowing to finance the acquisition of school buses. The notes are secured by the buses and will pay off in 2025, 2030, and 2026. The 2014 note from direct borrowing was paid off in 2025.

On May 5, 2015, the Alabama Public School and College Authority (PSCA) issued Capital Improvement Pool Bonds, Series 2015-C, with various Boards of Education in the State. The Board's share of the \$52,816,293.25 gross proceeds is \$1,734,787.09 or 3.28%. The Board is required to make payments on June 1 and December 1 each year beginning December 1, 2015. The principal and interest payments are secured by a pledge of the Board's allocable share of the Public School Capital Outlay Funds.

On June 2, 2011, the Alabama Public School and College Authority issued Capital Improvement Pool QZAB Bonds, Series 2011-A, on behalf of various Boards of Education in the State. The Board's participation in the bonds resulted in the Board's share of principal, issuance costs and net proceeds of \$1,150,000, \$4,300, and \$1,145,700 respectively. The Board is required to make sinking fund deposits of \$57,609.96 on May 1 in each year for fifteen years so that such deposits and any interest earned thereon shall be used to pay the principal of the bonds upon maturity and are pledged to pay the debt service requirements of the bonds. The sinking fund deposits and interest payments are payable from and secured by a pledge of the Board's allocable share of Public School Capital Outlay Funds. In the event of default, the Authority shall (1) withhold all amounts of PSF Capital Purchase Funds to which the Board may be entitled until the Board is in full compliance with the terms of this Agreement and with Warrant; (2) file suit to compel performance of the obligations of the Board under this Agreement and the Warrant; and (3) enforce any other right of the Authority.

On December 16, 2009, the Alabama Public School and College Authority issued Capital Improvement Pool Qualified School Construction Bonds, Series 2009-D (Tax Credit Bonds) with a tax credit rate of 5.76% and interest rate of 1.865% on behalf of various Board of Education in the State. The Board had a 1.147% participation in the bonds resulting in the Board's share of principal, issuance costs, and net proceeds of \$2,001,000, \$17,614, and \$1,983,386 respectively. The Board is required to make sinking fund deposits of \$104,134.42 on December 15 in each year for fifteen years so that such deposits and any interest earned thereon shall be used to pay the principal of the bonds upon maturity and are pledged to pay the debt service requirements of the bonds. The sinking fund deposits and interest payments are payable from and secured by a pledge of the Board's allocable share of Public School Capital Outlay Funds. In the event of default of the terms and conditions of the warrant resolution, remedies are limited in the fact that these warrants are special or limited obligations of the Board and may be subject to (1) the provisions of the United States Bankruptcy code and (2) the provisions of other laws hereafter enacted by the Congress of the United States or the State of Alabama legislature.

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended September 30, 2025

During fiscal year 2021, the Board, as part of a pooled bond issuance with other school systems within the State of Alabama, issued Taxable Capital Improvement Pool Refunding Bonds, Series 2020-C for the purpose of partially refunding the Series 2015-C Capital Improvement Pool Bonds. The Board's share of the \$147,280,000.00 gross proceeds is \$709,862.64 or 3.7088%. The Board is required to make payments on June 1 and December 1 each year beginning June 1, 2021. The principal and interest payments are secured by a pledge of the Board's allocable share of the Public School Capital Outlay Funds.

The following is a summary of long-term obligations for the Board for the year ended September 30, 2025:

	Debt Outstanding 10/01/2024	Issued/ Increased	Repaid/ Decreased	Debt Outstanding 09/30/2025	Amounts Due Within One Year
Governmental Activities:					
Bonds:					
Qualified School Construction Bonds, Series 2009-D	\$ 2,001,000.00	\$	\$	\$ 2,001,000.00	\$2,001,000.00
Qualified Zone Academy Bonds, Series 2011-A	1,150,000.00			1,150,000.00	1,150,000.00
Taxable Capital Improvement Pool Refunding Bonds 2020C	654,045.33		(12,609.89)	641,435.44	12,795.33
Capital Improvement Pool Bonds, Series 2015-C	561,881.86		(83,447.80)	478,434.06	87,712.91
Total Bonds	4,366,927.19		(96,057.69)	4,270,869.50	3,251,508.24
Other Liabilities:					
Notes from Direct Borrowing	1,136,411.94		(247,343.10)	889,068.84	211,847.81
Net Pension Liability	27,968,000.00		(5,289,000.00)	22,679,000.00	
Compensated Absences	107,479.77	1,502.56		108,982.33	
Net OPEB Liability	3,750,001.00	13,735,071.00		17,485,072.00	
Total Other Liabilities	32,961,892.71	13,736,573.56	(5,536,343.10)	41,162,123.17	211,847.81
Governmental Activities	\$37,328,819.90	\$13,736,573.56	\$(5,632,400.79)	\$45,432,992.67	\$3,463,356.05
Total Long-Term Liabilities					

The compensated absences liability will be liquidated by the General Fund or the fund for which the employee worked. In the past, most have been paid by the General Fund and the remainder by the Special Revenue Fund.

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended September 30, 2025

The following is a schedule of debt service requirements to maturity:

Fiscal Year Ending	Notes from Direct Borrowing		QSCB and QZAB Bonds Payable	
	Principal	Interest	Principal	Interest
September 30, 2026	\$211,847.81	\$21,778.07	\$3,151,000.00	\$62,229.66
2027	181,899.91	16,241.77		
2028	186,215.82	11,585.49		
2029	117,977.19	6,815.77		
2030	120,386.35	4,058.78		
2031-2035	70,741.76	1,244.82		
Total	<u>\$889,068.84</u>	<u>\$61,724.70</u>	<u>\$3,151,000.00</u>	<u>\$62,229.66</u>

Pledged Revenues

The Board issued Capital Improvement Pool Qualified School Construction Bonds, Series 2009-D and Capital Improvement Pool QZAB Series 2011-A as part of a pooled bond issuance with other school systems within the State of Alabama. The proceeds are to be used for construction of a new school and renovations to pre-existing schools. The Board has pledged their allocation of Public School Capital Outlay Funds to make interest payments and sinking fund deposits. Proceeds of the Public School Fund allocation in the amount of \$568,337.00 were received by the Board in the year ended September 30, 2025. Pledged funds in the amount of \$223,974.04 were used to make interest payments and sinking fund deposits during the fiscal year ended September 30, 2025. This represents 39% of the pledged funds received by the Board. The Capital Improvement Pool Qualified School Construction Bonds, Series 2009-D bonds and the Capital Improvement Pool QZAB bonds, Series 2011-A will mature in fiscal year 2026.

On May 5, 2015, the Alabama Public School and College Authority issued Capital Improvement Pool Bonds, Series 2015-C, which is pledged to be repaid from their allocation of public school funds received from the State of Alabama. The proceeds are to be used for the acquisition, construction and renovation of school facilities. Future revenues in the amount of \$528,685.62 are pledged to repay the principal and interest on the bonds at September 30, 2025. Pledged funds in the amount of \$105,695.22 were used to pay principal and interest on the bonds during the fiscal year ended September 30, 2025. This amount represents 18.60% of the pledged funds received by the Board. The Series 2015-C bonds will mature in fiscal year 2030.

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended September 30, 2025

Capital Improvement Pool Bonds 2015C		Taxable Capital Improvement Pool Refunding Bonds 2020C		Total Principal and Interest Requirements to Maturity
Principal	Interest	Principal	Interest	
\$ 87,712.91	\$18,075.02	\$ 12,795.33	\$ 13,986.72	\$3,579,425.52
91,978.02	13,689.38	12,795.33	13,838.92	330,443.33
96,614.01	9,090.48	12,980.77	13,665.56	330,152.13
99,581.04	6,192.06	13,351.65	13,445.66	257,363.37
102,548.08	3,204.62	13,537.09	13,206.12	256,941.04
		575,975.27	40,559.89	688,521.74
\$478,434.06	\$50,251.56	\$641,435.44	\$108,702.87	\$5,442,847.13

The Board issued Series 2020-C Taxable Capital Improvement Pool Refunding Bonds which are pledged to be repaid from its allocation of public school funds received from the State of Alabama. The proceeds are to be used for refunding a portion of the Series 2015-C Capital Improvements Pool Bonds and for the acquisition, construction, and renovation of school facilities. Future revenues in the amount of \$750,138.31 are pledged to repay the principal and interest on the bonds at September 30, 2025. Pledged funds in the amount of \$26,808.53 were used to pay principal and interest on the bonds during the fiscal year ended September 30, 2025. This amount represents 4.72% of the pledged funds received by the Board. The Series 2020-C bonds will mature in the fiscal year 2035.

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended September 30, 2025

Note 10 – Risk Management

The Board 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. The Board has insurance for its buildings and contents through the State Insurance Fund (SIF) part of the State of Alabama, Department of Finance, Division of Risk Management, which operates as a common risk management and insurance program for state owned properties and county boards of education. The Board pays an annual premium based on the amount of coverage requested. The SIF is self-insured up to \$3.5 million per occurrence and purchases commercial insurance for claims in excess of \$3.5 million. Automobile liability insurance and errors and omissions insurance is purchased from the Alabama Trust for Boards of Education (ATBE), a public entity risk pool. The ATBE collects the premiums and purchases excess insurance for any amount of coverage requested by pool participants in excess of the coverage provided by the pool. Employee health insurance is provided through the Public Education Employees' Health Insurance Fund (PEEHIF), administered by the Public Education Employees' Health Insurance Board (PEEHIB). The Fund was established to provide a uniform plan of health insurance for current and retired employees of state educational institutions and is self-sustaining. Monthly premiums for employee and dependent coverage are determined annually by the plan's actuary and are based on anticipated claims in the upcoming year, considering any remaining fund balance on hand available for claims. The Board contributes a specified amount monthly to the PEEHIF for each employee of state educational institutions. The Board's contribution is applied against the employees' premiums for the coverage selected and the employee pays any remaining premium.

Settled claims resulting from these risks have not exceeded the Board's coverage in any of the past three fiscal years.

Board employees who are injured while on the job are entitled to salary and fringe benefits of up to ninety working days in accordance with the *Code of Alabama 1975*, Section 16-1-18.1(d). Any unreimbursed medical expenses and costs which the employee incurs as a result of an on-the-job injury may be filed for reimbursement with the State Board of Adjustment.

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended September 30, 2025

Note 11 – Interfund Transactions

Interfund Receivables and Payables

The interfund receivables and payables at September 30, 2025, were as follows:

	Interfund Receivables		Totals
	General Fund	Special Revenue Fund	
<u>Interfund Payables:</u>			
General Fund	\$	\$1,718.81	\$ 1,718.81
Special Revenue Fund	457,496.37		457,496.37
Totals	\$457,496.37	\$1,718.81	\$459,215.18

The amounts of interfund transfers during the fiscal year ended September 30, 2025, were as follows:

	Transfers Out		Totals
	General Fund	Special Revenue Fund	
<u>Transfers In:</u>			
General Fund	\$	\$35,680.92	\$ 35,680.92
Special Revenue Fund	276,715.99		276,715.99
Other Governmental Fund	769,231.00		769,231.00
Totals	\$1,045,946.99	\$35,680.92	\$1,081,627.91

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Required Supplementary Information

***Schedule of the Employer's Proportionate Share of the Collective Net Pension Liability
For the Year Ended September 30, 2025***

	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016
Employer's proportion of the collective net pension liability	0.174346%	0.175264%	0.179664%	0.180411%	0.178905%	0.171277%	0.180282%	0.175446%	0.177895%	0.171801%
Employer's proportionate share of the collective net pension liability	\$22,679,000	\$27,968,000	\$27,921,000	\$16,995,000	\$22,130,000	\$18,938,000	\$17,925,000	\$17,244,000	\$19,259,000	\$17,980,000
Employer's covered payroll during the measurement period (*)	\$15,256,651	\$14,463,360	\$13,857,494	\$13,068,278	\$12,658,215	\$12,201,509	\$12,060,546	\$11,618,290	\$11,311,705	\$10,860,837
Employer's proportionate share of the collective net pension liability as a percentage of its covered payroll	148.65%	193.37%	201.49%	130.05%	174.83%	155.21%	148.63%	148.42%	170.26%	165.55%
Plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of the total collective pension liability	71.41%	63.57%	62.21%	76.44%	67.72%	69.85%	72.29%	71.50%	67.93%	67.51%

(*) Employer's covered payroll during the measurement period is the total covered payroll. (See GASB Statement Number 82.)
For fiscal year 2025, the measurement period is October 1, 2023 through September 30, 2024.

***Schedule of the Employer's Contributions - Pension
For the Year Ended September 30, 2025***

	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016
Contractually required contribution	\$ 2,121,390	\$ 1,859,489	\$ 1,767,549	\$ 1,677,104	\$ 1,578,378	\$ 1,542,881	\$ 1,488,721	\$ 1,447,221	\$ 1,373,352	\$ 1,337,374
Contributions in relation to the contractually required contribution	\$ 2,121,390	\$ 1,859,489	\$ 1,767,549	\$ 1,677,104	\$ 1,578,378	\$ 1,542,881	\$ 1,488,721	\$ 1,447,221	\$ 1,373,352	\$ 1,337,374
Contribution deficiency (excess)	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Board's covered payroll	\$ 16,101,695	\$ 15,256,651	\$ 14,463,360	\$ 13,857,494	\$ 13,068,278	\$ 12,658,215	\$ 12,201,509	\$ 12,060,546	\$ 11,618,290	\$ 11,311,705
Contributions as a percentage of covered payroll	13.17%	12.19%	12.22%	12.10%	12.08%	12.19%	12.20%	12.00%	11.82%	11.82%

Schedule of the Employer's Proportionate Share of the Collective Net Other Postemployment Benefits (OPEB) Liability
Alabama Retired Education Employees' Health Care Trust
For the Year Ended September 30, 2025

	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018
Employer's proportion of the collective net OPEB liability	0.190190%	0.195094%	0.227026%	0.207913%	0.208624%	0.244734%	0.218044%	0.227387%
Employer's proportionate share of the collective net OPEB liability	\$ 17,485,072	\$ 3,750,001	\$ 3,955,818	\$ 10,742,477	\$ 13,539,407	\$ 9,233,246	\$ 17,920,440	\$ 16,889,007
Employer's covered-employee payroll during the measurement period (*)	\$ 15,256,651	\$ 14,463,360	\$ 13,857,494	\$ 13,068,278	\$ 12,658,215	\$ 12,201,509	\$ 12,060,546	\$ 11,618,290
Employer's proportionate share of the collective net OPEB liability as a percentage of its covered-employee payroll	114.61%	25.93%	28.55%	82.20%	106.96%	75.67%	148.59%	145.37%
Plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of the total collective OPEB liability	20.41%	49.42%	48.39%	27.11%	19.80%	28.14%	14.81%	15.37%

(*) Employer's covered payroll during the measurement period is the total covered payroll.
For fiscal year 2025, the measurement period is October 1, 2023 through September 30, 2024.

This schedule is intended to show information for 10 years. Additional years will be displayed as they become available.

Schedule of the Employer's Contributions - Other Postemployment Benefits (OPEB)
Alabama Retired Education Employees' Health Care Trust
For the Year Ended September 30, 2025

	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018
Contractually required contribution	\$ 669,462	\$ 272,924	\$ 304,725	\$ 431,043	\$ 361,233	\$ 412,009	\$ 696,306	\$ 586,835
Contributions in relation to the contractually required contribution	\$ 669,462	\$ 272,924	\$ 304,725	\$ 431,043	\$ 361,233	\$ 412,009	\$ 696,306	\$ 586,835
Contribution deficiency (excess)	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Employer's covered-employee payroll	\$ 16,101,695	\$ 15,256,651	\$ 14,463,360	\$ 13,857,494	\$ 13,068,278	\$ 12,658,215	\$ 12,201,509	\$ 12,060,546
Contributions as a percentage of covered-employee payroll	4.16%	1.79%	2.11%	3.11%	2.76%	3.25%	5.71%	4.87%

This schedule is intended to show information for 10 years. Additional years will be displayed as they become available.

***Notes to Required Supplementary Information
for Other Postemployment Benefits (OPEB)
For the Year Ended September 30, 2025***

Changes in Actuarial Assumptions

In fiscal year 2024, assumptions regarding aging factors were adjusted to reflect actual and anticipated experience more closely. Additionally, future healthcare trend rates for the Medicare Advantage Plan were updated.

In fiscal year 2022, rates of plan participation and tobacco usage assumptions were adjusted to reflect actual experience more closely.

In 2021, rates of withdrawal, retirement, disability, and mortality were adjusted to reflect actual experience more closely. In 2021, economic assumptions and the assumed rates of salary increases were adjusted to reflect actual and anticipated experience more closely.

In fiscal year 2019, the anticipated rates of participation, spouse coverage, and tobacco use were adjusted to reflect actual experience more closely.

Recent Plan Changes

The September 30, 2022 valuation reflects the impact of Act Number 2022-222, Acts of Alabama.

Beginning in plan year 2021, the Medicare Advantage Plan with Prescription Drug Coverage (MAPD) plan premium rates exclude the Affordable Care Act (ACA) Health Insurer Fee which was repealed on December 20, 2019.

Effective January 1, 2017, Medicare eligible medical and prescription drug benefits are provided through the Medicare Advantage Plan with Prescription Drug Coverage (MAPD).

The Health Plan is changed each year to reflect the Affordable Care Act (ACA) maximum annual out-of-pocket amounts.

***Notes to Required Supplementary Information
for Other Postemployment Benefits (OPEB)
For the Year Ended September 30, 2025***

Method and Assumptions Used in Calculations of Actuarially Determined Contributions

The actuarially determined contribution rates in the Schedule of Employer’s Contributions – Other Postemployment Benefits (OPEB) were calculated as of September 30, three years prior to the end of the fiscal year in which contributions are reported. Therefore, the actuarially determined employer contribution for fiscal year ending September 30, 2024 is determined based on the actuarial valuation as of September 30, 2021. The following actuarial methods and assumptions were used to determine the most recent contribution rate reported in that schedule:

Actuarial Cost Method	Entry Age Normal
Amortization Method	Level percent of pay
Remaining Amortization Period	20 years, closed
Asset Valuation Method	Market Value of Assets
Inflation	2.50%
Healthcare Cost Trend Rate:	
Pre-Medicare Eligible	6.50%
Medicare Eligible	(*)
Ultimate Trend Rate:	
Pre-Medicare Eligible	4.50%
Medicare Eligible	4.50%
Year of Ultimate Trend Rate	2031 for Pre-Medicare Eligible 2027 for Medicare Eligible
Optional Plans Trend Rate	2.00%
Investment Rate of Return	5.00%, including inflation
(*) Initial Medicare claims are set based on scheduled increases through plan year 2025.	

Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances
Budget and Actual - General Fund
For the Year Ended September 30, 2025

	Budgeted Amounts		Actual Amounts Budgetary Basis	Budget to GAAP Differences	Actual Amounts GAAP Basis
	Original	Final			
Revenues					
State	\$ 17,553,838.38	\$ 18,260,553.78	\$ 21,045,121.19	\$	\$ 21,045,121.19
Federal	400.00	400.00	105,213.37		105,213.37
Local	5,791,098.00	5,956,432.00	6,677,819.89		6,677,819.89
Other	47,354.00	47,354.00	67,362.30		67,362.30
Total Revenues	23,392,690.38	24,264,739.78	27,895,516.75		27,895,516.75
Expenditures					
Current:					
Instruction	13,499,759.83	14,120,080.94	14,186,116.72	79,888.00	14,266,004.72
Instructional Support	3,731,591.76	3,875,025.05	4,306,026.43	41,898.48	4,347,924.91
Operation and Maintenance	2,152,411.72	2,271,849.12	2,389,061.72	6,557.07	2,395,618.79
Auxiliary Services:					
Student Transportation	1,674,296.92	1,674,296.92	1,961,257.82	3,584.44	1,964,842.26
General Administrative and Central Support	1,413,151.51	1,506,819.01	1,245,035.00	4,112.16	1,249,147.16
Other	498,379.37	498,379.37	555,522.99	5,196.56	560,719.55
Capital Outlay	1,554,273.00	2,898,742.60	2,257,319.73		2,257,319.73
Total Expenditures	24,523,864.11	26,845,193.01	26,900,340.41	141,236.71	27,041,577.12
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over Expenditures	(1,131,173.73)	(2,580,453.23)	995,176.34	(141,236.71)	853,939.63
Other Financing Sources (Uses)					
Indirect Cost	71,480.64	71,580.64	21,650.64		21,650.64
Transfers In	36,934.00	36,934.00	35,680.92		35,680.92
Transfers Out	(130,027.00)	(130,027.00)	(1,045,946.99)		(1,045,946.99)
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	(21,612.36)	(21,512.36)	(988,615.43)		(988,615.43)
Net Change in Fund Balances	(1,152,786.09)	(2,601,965.59)	6,560.91	(141,236.71)	(134,675.80)
Fund Balances - Beginning of Year	7,250,207.00	11,247,127.41	12,016,358.41	(1,909,548.24)	10,106,810.17
Fund Balances - End of Year	\$ 6,097,420.91	\$ 8,645,161.82	\$ 12,022,919.32	\$ (2,050,784.95)	\$ 9,972,134.37

Explanation of differences between Actual Amounts on Budgetary Basis and Actual Amounts GAAP Basis:

The Board budgets revenues and expenditures to the extent they are expected to be received or paid in the current fiscal period, rather than on the modified accrual basis.

\$ (141,236.71)

***Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances
Budget and Actual - Special Revenue Fund
For the Year Ended September 30, 2025***

	Budgeted Amounts		Actual Amounts Budgetary Basis	Budget to GAAP Differences	Actual Amounts GAAP Basis
	Original	Final			
Revenues					
Federal	\$ 3,170,270.74	\$ 3,829,975.49	\$ 3,392,222.41	\$	\$ 3,392,222.41
Local	1,460,305.04	1,460,305.04	1,488,979.55		1,488,979.55
Other	20,046.37	20,046.37	13,785.10		13,785.10
Total Revenues	4,650,622.15	5,310,326.90	4,894,987.06		4,894,987.06
Expenditures					
Current:					
Instruction	1,613,245.95	1,663,809.01	1,560,744.07		1,560,744.07
Instructional Support	735,755.96	921,977.31	824,289.84		824,289.84
Operation and Maintenance	168,777.67	168,777.67	180,322.95		180,322.95
Auxiliary Services:					
Student Transportation	62,510.09	62,510.09	56,224.82		56,224.82
Food Service	1,794,687.31	1,794,687.31	1,788,266.95	16,136.37	1,804,403.32
General Administrative and Central Support	232,997.34	249,919.92	227,700.43		227,700.43
Other	258,235.51	342,010.39	340,423.49		340,423.49
Capital Outlay	34,702.26	29,266.84			
Total Expenditures	4,900,912.09	5,232,958.54	4,977,972.55	16,136.37	4,994,108.92
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over Expenditures	(250,289.94)	77,368.36	(82,985.49)	(16,136.37)	(99,121.86)
Other Financing Sources (Uses)					
Transfers In	253,359.42	253,359.42	276,715.99		276,715.99
Transfers Out	(160,266.42)	(160,266.42)	(35,680.92)		(35,680.92)
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	93,093.00	93,093.00	241,035.07		241,035.07
Net Change in Fund Balances	(157,196.94)	170,461.36	158,049.58	(16,136.37)	141,913.21
Fund Balances - Beginning of Year	1,445,830.30	1,380,110.14	1,383,135.49	(75,261.50)	1,307,873.99
Fund Balances - End of Year	\$ 1,288,633.36	\$ 1,550,571.50	\$ 1,541,185.07	\$ (91,397.87)	\$ 1,449,787.20

Explanation of differences between Actual Amounts on Budgetary Basis and Actual Amounts GAAP Basis:

The Board budgets revenues and expenditures to the extent they are expected to be received or paid in the current fiscal period, rather than on the modified accrual basis.

\$ (16,136.37)

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Additional Information

Board Members and Administrative Personnel
October 1, 2024 through September 30, 2025

Board Members			Term Expires
Hon. Tamara Taylor	Chairperson	District 1	2030
Hon. Raymond Hare	Vice-Chairperson	District 4	2026
Hon. Cindy Head	Member	District 5	2028
Hon. Lance Daniel	Member	District 2	2030
Hon. John Hall	Member	District 3	2026
Hon. Tim Prince	Member	District 7	2028
Hon. Margie Murphy	Member	District 6	2030
Hon. Darrell Hardin	Member	District 2	2024
<u>Administrative Personnel</u>			
Hon. John Jacobs	Superintendent		2028
Bethany Waters	Chief School Financial Officer		Indefinite

***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***

Independent Auditor's Report

Randolph County Board of Education,
Superintendent and Chief School Financial Officer
Wedowee, Alabama

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 (***Government Auditing Standards***), the financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Randolph County Board of Education (the "Board"), as of and for the year ended September 30, 2025, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Board's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated May 6, 2026.

Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the Board'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 the Board's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Board'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.

***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***

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 and therefore, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that have not been identified. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. We identified certain deficiencies in internal control, described below as Finding 2025-001, Finding 2025-002 and Finding 2025-003, that we consider to be significant deficiencies.

Finding 2025-001

The Randolph County Board of Education’s (the “Board”) Accounting Procedures Manual prescribes local school and central office bookkeeping procedures. This manual requires at least two Board employees be involved in all cash collection, cash receipting, and cash disbursement functions. For concession and snack sales, an inventory of items purchased, items sold by sales price, and items unsold should be reconciled to the cash collected. A master receipt should be issued immediately after counting and verifying the amount of money received. The person presenting the funds for receipt should wait for a master receipt to be prepared, verify the information on the master receipt before leaving the office and ensure appropriate supporting documentation accompanies the funds collected. Additionally, deposits should be made intact and on a daily basis. At Woodland High School, the following issues were noted with snack sales, concessions and ticketed events:

- ◆ Duties were not adequately segregated for receipting, recording, and depositing cash received for snacks sales and ticketed events. In addition, for ticketed events, the former bookkeeper filled out receipt books for the teachers and issued master receipts for these events.
- ◆ There was no documentation provided to prove money collected using a personal Venmo and Square account was subsequently deposited into the School’s Official bank account.
- ◆ For the gate receipts and ticket sales tested, fifteen deposits were not made timely and intact. Several deposits were combined and deposited at later dates and were not always recorded correctly in the general ledger. We were unable to determine all amounts were properly deposited and recorded.
- ◆ The School failed to maintain inventory records for items sold as concessions or perform a reconciliation between items purchased, sold or unsold, and amounts collected.
- ◆ Snack sales were not always receipted in the master receipt book, posted to the general ledger and deposited timely.
- ◆ The master receipt book for the period of October 24, 2024 through March 27, 2025 was not available for review.
- ◆ Change cash for ticketed events was not always deposited at the end of each event with up to 27 days observed between the original event and the deposit of the change cash.

***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***

The Board did not ensure that receipt and deposit duties were adequately segregated, and cash received from snack and concession sales and ticketed events was accounted for properly. As a result, cash received was exposed to the risk of loss or theft, and we were unable to determine all cash collected was properly recorded and deposited.

Recommendation

The Board should ensure that duties are adequately segregated and cash received is accounted for properly.

Views of Responsible Officials

While the Board acknowledges the condition identified during the examination, we respectfully note that the supporting documentation and information related to this matter were voluntarily provided by the Board to the Examiners during the review process. The Board believes this demonstrates its commitment to transparency, cooperation, and compliance. Although we understand the basis for the observation, the Board respectfully disagrees with the characterization of the matter as a formal finding, as the issue was self-identified and openly disclosed during the examination. Nevertheless, the Board remains committed to addressing the matter and strengthening procedures where appropriate.

Auditor's Response

We appreciate the Board's response and have considered the reasons for the Board's disagreement; however it is the Board's responsibility to ensure compliance with established procedures related to the segregation of duties for receipts and deposits and accounting for cash receipts from snack and concession sales and ticketed events, therefore, we reaffirm our finding.

***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***

Finding 2025-002

The *Financial Procedures for Local Schools*, prescribed by the State of Alabama Department of Education, has established guidelines for local school expenditures. Additionally, the Randolph County Board of Education's (the "Board") Accounting Procedures Manual provides guidance on the types of disbursements that are allowable from public local school funds. Generally, funds are to be expended for the general operations of the school or a specific purpose for which the funds were collected. This manual also states that the use of school funds for the personal use of any member of the school staff is prohibited. Further, this manual prohibits school employees from using the school's sales tax exemption for personal purchases. Tests performed at Woodland High School revealed at least twenty-one expenditures did not include adequate documentation to demonstrate an allowable educational purpose. After additional inquiry, documentation was provided to demonstrate an allowable purpose of the disbursements except for purchases made by the former bookkeeper totaling \$527.39 that were personal in nature and were made through a vendor account set up exclusively for the local school which exempted the purchases from sales tax. The local school failed to ensure that all purchases were made in accordance with established policies and procedures of the Board. As a result, numerous purchases were not properly documented, which resulted in public money being spent for unallowable purposes. At the conclusion of the audit, the unallowable purchases totaling \$527.39 were repaid by the former bookkeeper.

Recommendation

The Board should ensure that all schools follow established policies and procedures related to expenditures.

Views of Responsible Officials

While the Board acknowledges the condition identified during the examination, we respectfully note that the supporting documentation and information related to this matter were voluntarily provided by the Board to the Examiners during the review process. The Board believes this demonstrates its commitment to transparency, cooperation, and compliance. Although we understand the basis for the observation, the Board respectfully disagrees with the characterization of the matter as a formal finding, as the issue was self-identified and openly disclosed during the examination. Nevertheless, the Board remains committed to addressing the matter and strengthening procedures where appropriate.

***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***

Auditor's Response

We appreciate the Board's response and have considered the reasons for the Board's disagreement; however it is the Board's responsibility to ensure compliance with established procedures related to the expenditure of public funds, therefore, we reaffirm our finding.

Finding 2025-003

The *Financial Procedures for Local Schools*, prescribed by the State of Alabama Department of Education provides procedures and requirements for fundraising activities. Further, the Randolph County Board of Education's Accounting Procedures Manual provides for the use of a fundraising activity authorization form which should be completed and approved by the principal prior to the start of the fundraiser and within a reasonable time after completion of the fundraising activity, a form should be submitted to the principal that documents the result of the fundraiser. Upon reviewing accounting records at Woodland High School, it was determined that receipts were coded to fundraisers, however, the local school was unable to provide any documentation to demonstrate fundraisers were approved prior to the start of the fundraiser or that a fundraising activity completion form was submitted to the principal to document the results of the fundraisers. The local school failed to follow established policies and procedures related to fundraisers. As a result, we are unable to determine if all fundraisers operated at a profit and that all money received from fundraisers was properly recorded and deposited.

Recommendation

The Board should ensure local schools follow established policies and procedures related to fundraisers.

Views of Responsible Officials

While the Board acknowledges the condition identified during the examination, we respectfully note that the supporting documentation and information related to this matter were voluntarily provided by the Board to the Examiners during the review process. The Board believes this demonstrates its commitment to transparency, cooperation, and compliance. Although we understand the basis for the observation, the Board respectfully disagrees with the characterization of the matter as a formal finding, as the issue was self-identified and openly disclosed during the examination. Nevertheless, the Board remains committed to addressing the matter and strengthening procedures where appropriate.

***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***

Auditor's Response

We appreciate the Board's response and have considered the reasons for the Board's disagreement; however it is the Board's responsibility to ensure compliance with established procedures related to fundraisers, therefore, we reaffirm our finding.

Report on Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Board'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***.

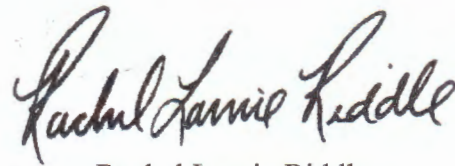
Randolph County Board of Education's Response to the Findings

Government Auditing Standards requires the auditor to perform limited procedures on the Board's response to the findings identified in our audit. The Board's response to the findings identified in our audit is described in the accompanying Auditee Response/Corrective Action Plan. The Randolph County Board of Education's response was not subjected to other auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and, accordingly, we express no opinion on the response.

***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***

Purpose of this Report

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



Rachel Laurie Riddle
Chief Examiner

Department of Examiners of Public Accounts

Montgomery, Alabama

May 6, 2026

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Auditee Response/Corrective Action Plan



Randolph County

Board of Education

182 Circle Drive
Wedowee, AL 36278

Auditee Response/Corrective Action Plan

For the Year Ended September 30, 2025

As required by the *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards*, 2 CFR 200.511(c), the Randolph County Board of Education has prepared and hereby submits the following Corrective Action Plan for the findings which are included in the Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs for the year ended September 30, 2025.

**Finding
Ref.
No.**

Corrective Action Plan Details

2025-001

Finding:

The Randolph County Board of Education's (the "Board's") Accounting Procedures Manual prescribes local school and central office bookkeeping procedures. This manual requires at least two Board employees be involved in all cash collection, cash receipting, and cash disbursement functions. For concession and snack sales, an inventory of items purchased, items sold by sales price, and items unsold should be reconciled to the cash collected. A master receipt should be issued immediately after counting and verifying the amount of money received. The person presenting the funds for receipt should wait for a master receipt to be prepared, verify the information on the master receipt before leaving the office and ensure appropriate supporting documentation accompanies the funds collected. Additionally, deposits should be made intact and on a daily basis. At Woodland High School, the following issues were noted with snack sales, concessions and ticketed events:

- Duties were not adequately segregated for receipting, recording, and depositing cash received for snacks sales and ticketed events. In addition, for ticketed events, the former bookkeeper completed receipt books for teachers and issued master receipts for these events.
- During the audit period, the Board determined a personal Venmo and Square account was utilized by a local school employee for snack sales. Our review of snack sales revealed there was no documentation provided to prove money collected using the personal Venmo and Square account was subsequently deposited into the School's official bank account.

- For the gate receipts and ticket sales tested, fifteen deposits were not made timely and intact. Several deposits were combined and deposited at later dates and were not always recorded correctly in the general ledger. We were unable to determine all amounts were properly deposited and recorded.
- The School failed to maintain inventory records for items sold as concessions or perform a reconciliation between items purchased, sold or unsold, and amounts collected.
- Snack sales were not always receipted in the master receipt book, posted to the general ledger and deposited timely.
- The master receipt book for the period of October 24, 2024 through March 27, 2025 was not available for review.
- Change cash for ticketed events was not always deposited at the end of each event with up to 27 days observed between the original event and the deposit of the change cash.

The Board did not ensure that receipt and deposit duties were adequately segregated, and cash received from snack and concession sales and ticketed events was accounted for properly. As a result, cash received was exposed to the risk of loss or theft, and we were unable to determine all cash collected was properly recorded and deposited.

Recommendation:

The Board should ensure that duties are adequately segregated and cash received is accounted for properly.

Response/Views:

While the Board acknowledges the condition identified during the examination, we respectfully note that the supporting documentation and information related to this matter were voluntarily provided by the Board to the Examiners during the review process. The Board believes this demonstrates its commitment to transparency, cooperation, and compliance.

Although we understand the basis for the observation, the Board respectfully disagrees with the characterization of the matter as a formal finding, as the issue was self-identified and openly disclosed during the examination. Nevertheless, the Board remains committed to addressing the matter and strengthening procedures where appropriate.

Corrective Action Planned: The employees responsible for the actions identified in this finding are no longer employed by the Randolph County Board of Education. The Chief School Financial Officer (CSFO) has met with all local school bookkeepers to review and reinforce the Board's Accounting Procedures Manual and cash-handling requirements. Additional emphasis has been placed on segregation of duties, timely receipting and deposits, inventory reconciliations, record retention, and the prohibition of personal electronic payment accounts for

school activities. The Board will continue to monitor compliance to help ensure these issues do not occur in the future.

Anticipated Completion Date: Corrective actions began immediately upon notification of the findings and will continue throughout the current fiscal year under the supervision of the Chief School Financial Officer and school administration.

Contact Person(s): John Jacobs, Superintendent and Bethany Waters, CSFO

2025-002

Finding:

The *Financial Procedures for Local Schools*, prescribed by the State of Alabama Department of Education, has established guidelines for local school expenditures. Additionally, the Randolph County Board of Education's (the "Board's") Accounting Procedures Manual provides guidance on the types of disbursements that are allowable from public local school funds. Generally, funds are to be expended for the general operations of the school or a specific purpose for which the funds were collected. This manual also states that the use of school funds for the personal use of any member of the school staff is prohibited. Further, this manual prohibits school employees from using the school's sales tax exemption for personal purchases. Tests performed at Woodland High School revealed at least twenty-one expenditures did not include adequate documentation to demonstrate an allowable educational purpose. After additional inquiry, documentation was provided to demonstrate an allowable purpose of the disbursements except for purchases made by the former bookkeeper totaling \$527.39 that were personal in nature and were made through a vendor account set up exclusively for the local school which exempted the purchases from sales tax. The local school failed to ensure that all purchases were made in accordance with established policies and procedures of the Board. As a result, numerous purchases were not properly documented, which resulted in public money being spent for unallowable purposes. At the conclusion of the audit, the unallowable purchases totaling \$527.39 were repaid by the former bookkeeper.

Recommendation:

The Board should ensure that all schools follow established policies and procedures related to expenditures.

Response/Views: While the Board acknowledges the condition identified during the examination, we respectfully note that the supporting documentation and information related to this matter were voluntarily provided by the Board to the Examiners during the review process. The Board believes this demonstrates its commitment to transparency, cooperation, and compliance.

Although we understand the basis for the observation, the Board respectfully disagrees with the characterization of the matter as a formal finding, as the issue was self-identified and openly disclosed during the examination. Nevertheless, the

Board remains committed to addressing the matter and strengthening procedures where appropriate.

Corrective Action Planned: The employees responsible for the actions identified in this finding are no longer employed by the Randolph County Board of Education. The Chief School Financial Officer (CSFO) has met with all local school bookkeepers to review and reinforce the Board's Accounting Procedures Manual and cash-handling requirements. Additional emphasis has been placed on segregation of duties, timely receipting and deposits, inventory reconciliations, record retention, and the prohibition of personal electronic payment accounts for school activities. The Board will continue to monitor compliance to help ensure these issues do not occur in the future.

Anticipated Completion Date: Corrective actions began immediately upon notification of the findings and will continue throughout the current fiscal year under the supervision of the Chief School Financial Officer and school administration.

Contact Person(s): John Jacobs, Superintendent and Bethany Waters, CSFO

2025-003

Finding:

The *Financial Procedures for Local Schools*, prescribed by the State of Alabama Department of Education provides procedures and requirements for fundraising activities. Further, the Randolph County Board of Education's Accounting Procedures Manual provides for the use of a fundraising activity authorization form which should be completed and approved by the principal prior to the start of the fundraiser and, within a reasonable time after completion of the fundraising activity, a form should be submitted to the principal that documents the result of the fundraiser. Upon reviewing accounting records at Woodland High School, it was determined that receipts were coded to fundraisers, however, the local school was unable to provide any documentation to demonstrate fundraisers were approved prior to the start of the fundraiser or that a fundraising activity completion form was submitted to the principal to document the results of the fundraisers. The local school failed to follow established policies and procedures related to fundraisers. As a result, we are unable to determine if all fundraisers operated at a profit and that all money received from fundraisers was properly recorded and deposited.

Recommendation:

The Board should ensure local schools follow established policies and procedures related to fundraisers.

Response/Views: While the Board acknowledges the condition identified during the examination, we respectfully note that the supporting documentation and information related to this matter were voluntarily provided by the Board to the

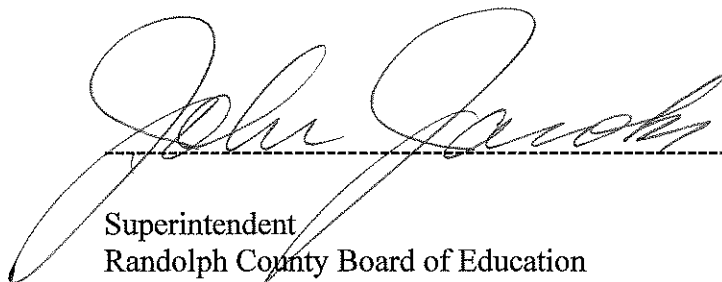
Examiners during the review process. The Board believes this demonstrates its commitment to transparency, cooperation, and compliance.

Although we understand the basis for the observation, the Board respectfully disagrees with the characterization of the matter as a formal finding, as the issue was self-identified and openly disclosed during the examination. Nevertheless, the Board remains committed to addressing the matter and strengthening procedures where appropriate.

Corrective Action Planned: The employees responsible for the actions identified in this finding are no longer employed by the Randolph County Board of Education. The Chief School Financial Officer (CSFO) has met with all local school bookkeepers to review and reinforce the Board's Accounting Procedures Manual and cash-handling requirements. Additional emphasis has been placed on segregation of duties, timely receipting and deposits, inventory reconciliations, record retention, and the prohibition of personal electronic payment accounts for school activities. The Board will continue to monitor compliance to help ensure these issues do not occur in the future.

Anticipated Completion Date: Corrective actions began immediately upon notification of the findings and will continue throughout the current fiscal year under the supervision of the Chief School Financial Officer and school administration.

Contact Person(s): John Jacobs, Superintendent and Bethany Waters, CSFO



Superintendent
Randolph County Board of Education