AUDIT REPORT

NEW TOWN PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 1
New Town, North Dakota

For the Year Ended June 30, 2024

RATH & MEHRER, P.C.
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

NEW TOWN PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 1
New Town, North Dakota

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NEW TOWN PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 1
New Town, North Dakota

SCHOOL DISTRICT OFFICIALS
June 30, 2024

Peter Young Bird	Board President
Marietta Heart	Board Vice President
Bryon Brady, Jr.	Board Member
Douglas Bratvold	Board Member
Delvin Driver, Jr.	Board Member
Marc Bluestone	Superintendent
Nancy Reimer	Business Manager

Rath & Mehrer, P.C.
Certified Public Accountants

Jayson Rath, CPA
Bryce Fischer, CPA
Todd Goehring, CPA

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Governing Board
New Town Public School District No. 1
New Town, North Dakota

Report on the Audit of Financial Statements

Opinions

We have audited the financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund and the aggregate remaining fund information of the New Town Public School District No. 1, as of and for the year ended June 30, 2024, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the school district's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

In our opinion, the accompanying 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 school district, as of June 30, 2024, and the respective changes in financial position for the year then ended in accordance with the accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Basis for Opinions

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS) and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of the school district, 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 the financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the school district'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 GAAS 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 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 judgement made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS and *Government Auditing Standards*, we:

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

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

Required Supplementary Information

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the budgeting comparison information and the schedules of employer's share of net pension liability 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 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 opinion on the basic financial statements is not affected by this missing information.

Supplementary Information

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the school district's basic financial statements. The combining nonmajor fund financial statements, the schedule of fund activity arising from client transactions, and the schedule of expenditures of federal awards as required by Title 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations Part 200, Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the basic financial statements.

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

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards,* we have also issued our report dated November 29, 2024 on our consideration of the school district's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the school district's internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the school district's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Rath and Mehrer

Rath and Mehrer, P.C.

Bismarck, North Dakota

November 29, 2024

NEW TOWN PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 1
New Town, North Dakota

Statement of Net Position
June 30, 2024

	Governmental Activities
ASSETS:	
Cash and Investments	67,485,275.96
Taxes Receivable	95,808.02
Due from County Treasurer	2,979.14
Intergovernmental Receivables	3,728,467.42
Capital Assets (net of accumulated depreciation):	
Land	2,427,575.00
Buildings	77,331,794.00
Vehicles	998,476.00
Equipment	33,055.00
Total Capital Assets	80,790,900.00
Total Assets	152,103,430.54
DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES:	
Changes in Resources Related to Pensions	5,978,164.00
LIABILITIES:	
Payroll Benefits Payable	267,617.91
Net Pension Liability	15,353,094.00
Total Liabilities	15,620,711.91
DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES:	
Changes in Resources Related to Pensions	4,833,927.00
NET POSITION:	
Net Investment in Capital Assets	80,790,900.00
Restricted for:	
Special Projects	198,625.88
Food Services	714,135.82
Student Activities	368,330.13
Employee Housing	1,180,174.31
Capital Projects	24,666,183.31
Unrestricted	29,708,606.18
Total Net Position	137,626,955.63

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

NEW TOWN PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 1
New Town, North Dakota

Statement of Activities
For the Year Ended June 30, 2024

	Expenses	Program Revenues: Charges for Services	Program Revenues: Operating Grants and Contributions	Net (Expense) Revenue and Changes in Net Position: Governmental Activities
Governmental Activities:				
Regular Instruction	6,580,446.19	6,997.24	207,956.43	(6,365,492.52)
Federal Programs	4,934,301.79		5,637,862.16	703,560.37
Special Education	2,202,369.36		150,760.64	(2,051,608.72)
Vocational Education	744,986.32		123,259.41	(621,726.91)
District Wide Services	1,090,040.36			(1,090,040.36)
Administration	1,012,885.67			(1,012,885.67)
Operations and Maintenance	6,184,422.96	770,336.47	632,560.62	(4,781,525.87)
Student Transportation	728,352.81		119,628.00	(608,724.81)
Student Activities	625,898.93	215,677.20		(410,221.73)
Community Services	6,853.36			(6,853.36)
Food Services	830,093.28	11,880.00	598,637.08	(219,576.20)
Rental	649,126.89			(649,126.89)
Unallocated Depreciation	1,561,217.00			(1,561,217.00)
Total Governmental Activities	27,150,994.92	1,004,890.91	7,470,664.34	(18,675,439.67)

General Revenues:	
Taxes:	
Property taxes; levied for general purposes	3,002,845.59
Property taxes; levied for building purposes	681,527.80
Telecommunication taxes	10,684.29
Oil and gas production taxes	1,846,787.13
Federal aid - not restricted to specific program	4,911,013.12
Flood control - not restricted to specific program	18,612,671.84
Earnings on investments and other revenue	860,361.24
Gain on trade-in of capital assets	16,500.00
Total General Revenues	29,942,391.01
Change in Net Position	11,266,951.34
Net Position - July 1	126,360,004.29
Net Position - June 30	137,626,955.63

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

NEW TOWN PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 1
New Town, North Dakota

Balance Sheet
Governmental Funds
June 30, 2024

	Major Funds			
	General	Building	Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
ASSETS:				
Cash and Investments	40,370,587.98	24,647,493.18	2,467,194.80	67,485,275.96
Taxes Receivable	77,747.47	18,060.55		95,808.02
Due from County Treasurer	2,349.56	629.58		2,979.14
Intergovernmental Receivables	3,703,438.06		25,029.36	3,728,467.42
Total Assets	44,154,123.07	24,666,183.31	2,492,224.16	71,312,530.54
LIABILITIES, DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES AND FUND BALANCES				
Liabilities:				
Payroll Benefits Payable	236,659.89		30,958.02	267,617.91
Deferred Inflows of Resources:				
Unavailable Revenue	77,747.47	18,060.55		95,808.02
Total Liabilities and Deferred Inflows of Resources	314,407.36	18,060.55	30,958.02	363,425.93
Fund Balances:				
Restricted for:				
Special Projects			198,625.88	198,625.88
Food Services			714,135.82	714,135.82
Student Activities			368,330.13	368,330.13
Employee Housing			1,180,174.31	1,180,174.31
Capital Projects		24,648,122.76		24,648,122.76
Unassigned	43,839,715.71			43,839,715.71
Total Fund Balances	43,839,715.71	24,648,122.76	2,461,266.14	70,949,104.61
Total Liabilities, Deferred Inflows of Resources and Fund Balances	44,154,123.07	24,666,183.31	2,492,224.16	71,312,530.54

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

NEW TOWN PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 1
New Town, North Dakota

Reconciliation of Governmental Funds Balance Sheet
to the Statement of Net Position
June 30, 2024

Total Fund Balances for Governmental Funds		70,949,104.61
Total net position reported for governmental activities in the statement of net position is different because:		
Capital assets used in governmental activities are not financial resources and are not reported in the governmental funds.		
Cost of Capital Assets	98,511,741.00	
Less Accumulated Depreciation	(17,720,841.00)	
Net Capital Assets		80,790,900.00
Property taxes will be collected after year-end, but are not available soon enough to pay for the current period's expenditures and therefore are reported as unavailable revenue in the funds.		95,808.02
The deferred outflows and inflows of resources reported on the statement of net position are the result of changes in resources related to pensions and do not affect current financial resources.		
Total Deferred Outflows of Resources	5,978,164.00	
Total Deferred Inflows of Resources	(4,833,927.00)	
Net Deferred Outflows/Inflows of Resources		1,144,237.00
Long-term liabilities applicable to the school district's governmental activities are not due and payable in the current period and accordingly are not reported as fund liabilities. All liabilities -both current and long-term- reported in the statement of net position. Balances at June 30, 2024 are:		
Net Pension Liability		(15,353,094.00)
Total Net Position of Governmental Activities		137,626,955.63

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

NEW TOWN PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 1
New Town, North Dakota

Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes
in Fund Balances - Governmental Funds
For the Year Ended June 30, 2024

	Major Funds			
	General	Building	Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
Revenues:				
Local Sources	4,252,062.49	683,147.69	227,564.96	5,162,775.14
Charges for Services			770,336.47	770,336.47
County Sources	20,459,458.97			20,459,458.97
State Sources	157,928.48		5,718.20	163,646.68
Federal Sources	10,792,551.28		592,918.88	11,385,470.16
Other Sources		458,838.15	44.01	458,882.16
Total Revenues	35,662,001.22	1,141,985.84	1,596,582.52	38,400,569.58
Expenditures:				
Current:				
Regular Instruction	6,085,968.19			6,085,968.19
Federal Programs	4,934,301.79			4,934,301.79
Special Education	2,202,369.36			2,202,369.36
Vocational Education	542,669.32			542,669.32
District Wide Services	1,090,040.36			1,090,040.36
Administration	1,012,885.67			1,012,885.67
Operations and Maintenance	1,525,799.81	4,636,160.15		6,161,959.96
Student Transportation	526,492.81			526,492.81
Student Activities	286,776.71		292,259.22	579,035.93
Community Services	6,853.36			6,853.36
Food Services			830,093.28	830,093.28
Rental			649,126.89	649,126.89
Capital Outlay	391,053.00			391,053.00
Total Expenditures	18,605,210.38	4,636,160.15	1,771,479.39	25,012,849.92
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures	17,056,790.84	(3,494,174.31)	(174,896.87)	13,387,719.66
Other Financing Sources (Uses):				
Transfers In		75,721.10		75,721.10
Transfers Out			(75,721.10)	(75,721.10)
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	-	75,721.10	(75,721.10)	-
Net Change in Fund Balances	17,056,790.84	(3,418,453.21)	(250,617.97)	13,387,719.66
Fund Balance - July 1	26,782,924.87	28,066,575.97	2,711,884.11	57,561,384.95
Fund Balance - June 30	43,839,715.71	24,648,122.76	2,461,266.14	70,949,104.61

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

NEW TOWN PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 1
New Town, North Dakota

Reconciliation of Governmental Funds Statement of Revenues, Expenditures
and Changes in Fund Balances to the Statement of Activities
For the Year Ended June 30, 2024

Net Change in Fund Balances - Total Governmental Funds		13,387,719.66
The change in net position reported for governmental activities in the statement of activities is different because:		
Governmental funds report capital outlays as expenditures. However, in the statement of activities, the cost of those assets is allocated over their estimated useful lives and reported as depreciation expense. This is the amount by which depreciation exceeded capital outlay in the current year.		
Current Year Capital Outlay	391,053.00	
Current Year Depreciation Expense	(2,034,720.00)	(1,643,667.00)
Some expenses reported in the statement of activities do not require the the use of current financial resources and are not reported as expenditures in governmental funds.		
Net Increase to Pension Expense		(494,478.00)
Some revenues reported on the statement of activities are not reported as revenues in the governmental funds since they do not represent available resources to pay current expenditures		
Net Increase in Taxes Receivable		876.68
In the statement of activities, the gain on the trade-in/disposal of capital assets is reported, whereas in the governmental funds, the result of this transaction has no effect on financial resources. Thus, the net effect of the transactions (i.e., sales, trade-ins) is to increase net position.		16,500.00
Change in Net Position of Governmental Activities		11,266,951.34

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

Note 1 SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The financial statements of the New Town Public School District No. 1 have been prepared in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP) as applied to government units. The Government 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. Financial Reporting Entity

The accompanying financial statements present the activities of the school district. The school district has considered all potential component units for which the school district is financially accountable and other organizations for which the nature and significance of their relationships with the school district are such that exclusion would cause the school district's financial statements to be misleading or incomplete. The Government Accounting Standards Board has set forth criteria to be considered in determining financial accountability. These criteria include appointing a voting majority of an organization's governing body and (1) the ability of the school district to impose its will on that organization or (2) the potential for the organization to provide specific financial benefits to, or impose specific financial burdens on the school district.

Based on these criteria, there are no component units to be included within the New Town Public School District No. 1 as a reporting entity.

B. Basis of Presentation

Government-wide Financial Statements: The statement of net position and the statement of activities display information about the primary government, New Town Public School District No. 1. 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.

The statement of activities presents a comparison between direct expenses and program revenues for each function of the school district'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. Program revenues include (a) fees and charges paid by the recipients of goods or services offered by the programs 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 school district's funds. The emphasis of fund financial statements is on major governmental funds, each displayed in a separate column. All remaining governmental funds are aggregated and reported as nonmajor funds.

The school district reports the following major governmental funds:

General Fund. This is the school district's primary operating fund. It accounts for all financial resources of the general government, except those required to be accounted for in another fund.

Building Fund. This fund accounts for financial resources dedicated to the construction of new school buildings, additions to old school buildings, the making of major repairs to existing buildings, or to make annual debt service payments on outstanding debt issues related to the building fund.

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

Government-wide Financial Statements: The government-wide financial statements are reported using the economic resources measurement focus. These financial statements are reported using the accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recorded when earned and expenses are recorded at the time liabilities are incurred, regardless of when the related cash flows take place. Nonexchange transactions, in which the school district 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 property taxes is recognized in the fiscal year for which the taxes are levied. Revenue from grants, entitlements and donations is recognized in the fiscal year in which all eligibility requirements have been satisfied.

Governmental Fund Financial Statements: Governmental funds are reported using the current financial resources measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting. Under this method, revenues are recognized when measurable and available. The school district considers all revenues reported in the governmental funds to be available if the revenues are collected within sixty days after year-end. All revenues are considered to be susceptible to accrual. Expenditures are recorded when the related fund liability is incurred, except for principal and interest on general long-term debt, claims and judgments and compensated absences, which are recognized as expenditures to the extent they have matured. General capital asset acquisitions are reported as expenditures in governmental funds. Proceeds of general long-term debt are reported as other financing sources.

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

D. Cash and Investments

Cash includes amounts in demand deposits and money market accounts.

Investments consist of certificates of deposit stated at cost.

E. Capital Assets

Capital assets include plant and equipment. Assets are reported in the governmental activities column in the government-wide financial statements. Capital assets are defined by the school district as assets with an initial individual cost of $5,000 or more. Such assets are recorded at cost or estimated historical cost if purchased or constructed. Donated capital assets are recorded at estimated fair market value at the date of donation. The costs of normal maintenance and repairs that do not add to the value of the asset or materially extend assets lives are not capitalized. Major outlays for capital assets and improvements are capitalized as projects are constructed. Interest incurred during the construction phase of capital assets is not capitalized.

Capital assets are depreciated using the straight-line method over the following estimated useful lives:

Buildings	40 to 75 years
Vehicles	6 to 10 years
Equipment	10 years

F. Compensated Absences

No liability is recorded for nonvesting accumulating rights to receive sick pay benefits.

Vested or accumulated vacation leave is not reported in the government-wide statement of net position as it is considered immaterial.

G. Long-Term Obligations

In the government-wide financial statements, long-term debt and other long-term obligations are reported as liabilities in the governmental activities statement of net position. Bond premiums, discounts and issuance costs are recognized in the current period since the amounts are not material.

In the fund financial statements, governmental fund types recognize bond premiums, discounts and issuance costs in the current period. The face amount of the debt 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 are reported as debt service expenditures.

H. Pensions

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

I. Fund Equity

Fund equity at the governmental fund financial reporting level is classified as "fund balance". Fund equity for all other reporting is classified as "net position".

Fund Balance – Generally, fund balance represents the difference between the current assets and current liabilities. In the fund financial statements, governmental funds report fund classifications that comprise a hierarchy based primarily on the extent to which the school district is bound to honor constraints on the specific purposes for which amounts in those funds can be spent. Fund balances are classified as follows:

Nonspendable – Fund balances are reported as nonspendable when amounts cannot be spent because they are either (a) not in spendable form (i.e., items that are not expected to be converted to cash such as inventories or prepaid expenses) or (b) legally or contractually required to be maintained intact (i.e., endowment funds).

Restricted – Fund balances are reported as restricted when there are limitations imposed on their use either through the enabling legislation adopted by the school district or through external restrictions imposed by creditors, grantors, contributors, or laws or regulations of other governments (i.e., funds restricted by state statute, unspent bond proceeds, grants earned but not spent, debt covenants or taxes raised for a specific purpose).

Committed – Fund balances are reported as committed when they can be used only for specific purposes pursuant to constraints imposed by formal action of the school board through the adoption of a resolution. The school board also may modify or rescind the commitment.

Assigned – Fund balances are reported as assigned when amounts are constrained by the school district's intent to be used for specific purposes, but are neither restricted nor committed.

Unassigned – Fund balances are reported as unassigned as the residual amount when the balances do not meet any of the above criterion. The school district reports positive unassigned fund balance only in the general fund. Negative fund balances may be reported in all funds.

Flow Assumptions – When both restricted and unrestricted amounts of fund balance are available for use for expenditures incurred, it is the school district's policy to use restricted amounts first and then unrestricted amounts as they are needed. For unrestricted amounts of fund balance, it is the school district's policy to use fund balance in the following order:

- Committed
- Assigned
- Unassigned

Net Position – Net position represents the difference between assets and liabilities. Net investment in capital assets consists of capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation, reduced by the outstanding balances of any borrowing used (i.e., the amount that the school district has not spent) for the acquisition, construction or improvement of those assets. Net position is reported as restricted as described in the fund balance section above. All other net position is reported as unrestricted.

J. Interfund Transactions

In the governmental fund statements, transactions that constitute reimbursements to a fund for expenditures initially made from it that are properly applicable to another fund, are recorded as expenditures in the reimbursing fund and as reductions of expenditures in the fund that is reimbursed.

All other interfund transactions, except reimbursements, are reported as transfers.

In the government-wide financial statements, interfund transactions have been eliminated.

K. Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect certain reported amounts and disclosures (such as estimated useful lives in determining depreciation expense); accordingly, actual results could differ from those estimates.

Note 2 DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS

In accordance with North Dakota Statutes, the school district maintains deposits at the depository banks designated by the governing board. All depositories are members of the Federal Reserve System.
Deposits must either be deposited with the Bank of North Dakota or in other financial institutions situated and doing business within the state. Deposits, other than with the Bank of North Dakota, must be fully insured or bonded. In lieu of a bond, a financial institution may provide a pledge of securities equal to 110% of the deposits not covered by insurance or bonds.

Authorized collateral includes bills, notes or bonds issued by the United States government, its agencies or instrumentalities, all bonds and notes guaranteed by the United States government, Federal Land Bank bonds,

bonds, notes, warrants, certificates of indebtedness, insured certificates of deposit, shares of investment companies registered under the Investment Companies Act of 1940, and all other forms of securities issued by the State of North Dakota, its boards, agencies or instrumentalities or by any county, city, township, school district, park district or any other political subdivision of the State of North Dakota, whether payable from special revenues or supported by the full faith and credit of the issuing body and bonds issued by another state of the United States or other securities approved by the banking board.

At June 30, 2024 the school district's carrying amount of deposits was $67,485,276 and the bank balance was $68,720,457 Of the bank balance, $500,000 was covered by Federal Depository Insurance. Of the remaining balance, $54,307,447 was collateralized with securities held by the pledging financial institution's agent in the government's name and $13,913,010 was held at the Bank of North Dakota which does not carry FDIC insurance and is not required to provide a pledge of securities.

Credit Risk

The school district may invest idle funds as authorized in North Dakota Statutes, as follows:

(1) Bonds, treasury bills and notes, or other securities that are a direct obligation insured or guaranteed by, the treasury of the United States, or its agencies, instrumentalities or organizations created by an act of Congress.

(2) Securities sold under agreements to repurchase written by a financial institution in which the underlying securities for the agreement to repurchase are of the type listed above.

(3) Certificates of deposit fully insured by the federal deposit insurance corporation.

(4) Obligations of the State.

At June 30, 2024, the school district held certificates of deposit in the amount of $20,000,000, which are all considered deposits.

Concentration of Credit Risk

The school district does not have a limit on the amount the school district may invest in any one issuer.

Note 3 TAXES RECEIVABLE

Taxes receivable represent the past three years of uncollected current and delinquent taxes. No allowance has been established for uncollectible taxes receivable.

The county treasurer acts as an agent to collect property taxes levied in the county for all taxing authorities. Any material tax collections are distributed after the end of each month.

Property taxes are levied as of January 1. The property taxes attach as an enforceable lien on the property on January 1 and may be paid in two installments. The first installment includes one-half of the real estate taxes and all the special assessments and the second installment is the balance of the real estate taxes. The first installment is due by March 1 and the second installment is due by October 15. A 5% discount is allowed if all taxes and special assessments are paid by February 15. After the due dates, the bill becomes delinquent and penalties are assessed.

Most property owners choose to pay property taxes and special assessments in a single payment on or before February 15 and receive the discount on the property taxes.

Note 4 DUE FROM COUNTY TREASURER

The amount due from county treasurer consists of the cash on hand for taxes collected but not remitted to the school district at June 30.

Note 5 INTERGOVERNMENTAL RECEIVABLES

Intergovernmental receivables consist of reimbursements due for expenses in the operation of various school programs. This amount consists of a mix of state and federal dollars.

Note 6 CAPITAL ASSETS

The following is a summary of changes in capital assets for the year ended June 30, 2024:

	Balance July 1	Increases	Decreases	Balance June 30
Governmental Activities:				
Capital assets not being depreciated:				
Land	2,427,575			2,427,575
Capital assets being depreciated:				
Buildings	93,341,808			93,341,808
Vehicles	2,333,498	407,553	120,405	2,620,646
Equipment	121,712			121,712
Total	95,797,018	407,553	120,405	96,084,166
Less accumulated depreciation for:				
Buildings	14,218,280	1,791,734		16,010,014
Vehicles	1,508,997	233,578	120,405	1,622,170
Equipment	79,249	9,408		88,657
Total	15,806,526	2,034,720	120,405	17,720,841
Total capital assets being depreciated, net	79,990,492	(1,627,167)	-	78,363,325
Governmental Activities Capital Assets, Net	82,418,067	(1,627,167)	-	80,790,900

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

Vocational Education	202,317
Student Transportation	201,860
Operations and Maintenance	22,463
Student Activities	46,863
Unallocated Depreciation	1,561,217
Total Depreciation Expense	2,034,720

Note 7 PAYROLL BENEFITS PAYABLE

Payroll benefits payable consist of benefits owed to federal, state and private agencies for amounts withheld from teacher's salaries as of June 30 but not yet remitted.

Note 8 UNAVAILABLE REVENUE

Unavailable revenue on the fund financial statements consists of amounts for which asset recognition criteria have been met, but for which revenue recognition criteria have not been met. Under the modified accrual basis of accounting, such amounts are measurable but not available and include taxes receivable.

Note 9 TRANSFERS

The following is a reconciliation between transfers in and transfers out as reported in the basic financial statements for the year ended June 30, 2024:

Fund	Transfer In	Transfer Out
Building	75,721.10	
Food Service		75,721.10

To reimburse the Building Fund for the cost of a freezer purchased in May 2023.

Note 10 RISK MANAGEMENT

The New Town Public School District No. 1 is exposed to various risks of loss relating to torts; theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; injuries to employees; and natural disasters.

In 1986, state agencies and political subdivisions of the State of North Dakota joined together to form the North Dakota Insurance Reserve Fund (NDIRF), a public entity risk pool currently operating as a common risk management and insurance program for the state and over 2,000 political subdivisions. The school district pays an annual premium to NDIRF for its general liability and automobile insurance coverage. The coverage by NDIRF is limited to losses of $10,000,000 per occurrence for general liability and automobile; and $250,000 for public assets.

The school district also participates in the North Dakota Fire and Tornado Fund and the State Bonding Fund. The school district pays an annual premium to the Fire and Tornado Fund to cover property damage to buildings and personal property. Replacement cost coverage is provided by estimating replacement cost in consultation with the Fire and Tornado Fund. The Fire and Tornado Fund is reinsured by a third-party insurance carrier for losses in excess of $1,000,000 per occurrence during a 12 month period. The State Bonding Fund currently provides the school district with a blanket fidelity bond coverage in the amount of $2,000,000 for its employees. The State Bonding Fund does not currently charge any premium for this coverage.

The school district has worker's compensation with the Department of Workforce Safety and Insurance; and purchases commercial insurance for employee health and accident insurance.

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

Note 11 PENSION PLANS

1. North Dakota Teachers' Fund for Retirement

The following brief description of TFFR is provided for general information purposes only. Participants should refer to NDCC 15-39.1 for more complete information.

TFFR is a cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan covering all North Dakota public teachers and certain other teachers who meet various membership requirements. TFFR provides for pension, death and disability benefits. The cost to administer the TFFR plan is financed by investment income and contributions.

Responsibility for administration of the TFFR benefits program is assigned to a seven-member Board of Trustees (Board). The Board consists of the State Treasurer, the Superintendent of Public Instruction, and five members appointed by the Governor.

Pension Benefits

For purposes of determining pension benefits, members are classified within one of three categories. *Tier 1 grandfathered and Tier 1 non-grandfathered* members are those with service credit on file as of July 1, 2008. *Tier 2* members are those newly employed and returning refunded members on or after July 1, 2008.

A *Tier 1 grandfathered* member is entitled to receive unreduced benefits when three or more years of credited service as a teacher in North Dakota have accumulated, the member is no longer employed as a teacher and the member has reached age 65, or the sum of age and years of service credit equals or exceeds 85. TFFR permits early retirement from ages 55 to 64, with benefits actuarially reduced by 6% per year for every year the member's retirement age is less than 65 years or the date as of which age plus service equals 85. In either case, benefits may not exceed the maximum benefits specified in Section 415 of the Internal Revenue Code.

A *Tier 1 non-grandfathered* member is entitled to receive unreduced benefits when three or more years of credited service as a teacher in North Dakota have accumulated, the member is no longer employed as a teacher and the member has reached age 65, or has reached age 60 and the sum of age and years of service credit equals or exceeds 90. TFFR permits early retirement from ages 55 to 64, with benefits actuarially reduced by 8% per year from the earlier of age 60/Rule of 90 or age 65. In either case, benefits may not exceed the maximum benefits specified in Section 415 of the Internal Revenue Code.

A *Tier 2* member is entitled to receive unreduced benefits when five or more years of credited service as a teacher in North Dakota have accumulated, the member is no longer employed as a teacher and the member has reached age 65, or has reached age 60 and the sum of age and years of service credit equals or exceeds 90. TFFR permits early retirement from ages 55 to 64, with benefits actuarially reduced by 8% per year from the earlier of age 60/Rule of 90 or age 65. In either case, benefits may not exceed the maximum benefits specified in Section 415 of the Internal Revenue Code.

Pension benefits paid by TFFR for all three categories are determined by NDCC Section 15-39.1-10. Tier 1 Monthly benefits under TFFR are equal to the three highest annual salaries earned divided by 36 months and multiplied by 2.00% times the number of service credits earned. Tier 2 Monthly benefits under TFFR are equal to the five highest annual salaries earned divided by 60 months and multiplied by 2.00% times the number of service credits earned. Retirees may elect payment of benefits in the form of a single life annuity, 100% or 50% joint and survivor annuity, ten or twenty-year term certain annuity, partial lump-sum option or level income with Social Security benefits. Members may also qualify for benefits calculated under other formulas.

Death and Disability Benefits

Death benefits may be paid to a member's designated beneficiary. If a member's death occurs before retirement, the benefit options available are determined by the member's vesting status prior to death. If a member's death occurs after retirement, the death benefit received by the beneficiary (if any) is based on the retirement plan the member selected at retirement.

An active member is eligible to receive disability benefits when: (a) a total disability lasting 12 months or more does not allow the continuation of teaching, (b) the member has accumulated five years of credited service in North Dakota, and (c) the Board of Trustees of TFFR has determined eligibility based upon medical evidence. The amount of the disability benefit is computed by the retirement formula in NDCC Section 15-39.1-10 without consideration of age and uses the member's actual years of credited service. There is no actuarial reduction for reason of disability retirement.

Member and Employer Contributions

Member and employer contributions paid to TFFR are set by NDCC Section 15-39.1-09. Every eligible teacher in the State of North Dakota is required to be a member of TFFR and is assessed at a rate of 11.75% of salary as

defined by NDCC Section 15-39.1-04. Every governmental body employing a teacher must also pay into TFFR a sum equal to 12.75% of the teacher's salary. Member and employer contributions will be reduced to 7.75% each when the fund reaches 100% funded ratio on an actuarial basis.

A vested member who terminates covered employment may elect a refund of contributions paid plus 6% interest or defer payment until eligible for pension benefits. A non-vested member who terminates covered employment must claim a refund of contributions paid before age 70.5. Refunded members forfeit all service credits under TFFR. These service credits may be repurchased upon return to covered employment under certain circumstances, as defined by the NDCC.

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

At June 30, 2024, the New Town Public School District reported a liability of $11,467,068 for its proportionate share of the net pension liability. The net pension liability was measured as of June 30, 2023 and the total pension liability used to calculate the net pension liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of that date. The district's proportion of the net pension liability was based on the district's share of covered payroll in the pension plan relative to the covered payroll of all participating TFFR employers. At June 30, 2023 the school district's proportion was .817143 percent, which was a decrease of .078267 from its proportion measured as of June 30, 2022.

For the year ended June 30, 2024, the school district recognized pension expense of $1,253,330. At June 30, 2024 the school district reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions, from the following sources:

	Deferred Outflows of Resources	Deferred Inflows of Resources
Differences between expected and actual experience	42,728	608,671
Changes in assumptions	181,451	-
Net difference between projected and actual earnings on pension plan investments	699,880	-
Changes in proportion and differences between employer contributions and proportionate share of contributions	1,162,830	982,998
District contributions subsequent to the measurement date (see below)	922,228	-
Total	3,009,117	1,591,669

$922,228 reported as deferred outflows of resources related to pensions resulting from district contributions subsequent to the measurement date will be recognized as a reduction of the net pension liability in the year ended June 30, 2025.

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 ended June 30:	
2024	254,754
2025	29,918
2026	791,949
2027	(132,646)
2028	(131,598)
Thereafter	317,157

Actuarial assumptions. The total pension liability in the July 1, 2023 actuarial valuation was determined using the following actuarial assumptions, applied to all periods included in the measurement:

Inflation	2.30%
Salary increases	Composed of 3.80% wage inflations, plus step rate promotional increases for members with less than 30 years of service.
Investment rate of return	7.25%, net of investment expenses, including inflation.
Cost-of-living adjustments	None

For active and inactive members, mortality rates were based on the PubT-2010 Employee table, projected with generational improvement using Scale MP-2019. For healthy retirees, mortality rates were based on 104% of the PubT-2010 Retiree table for retirees and to 95% of the PubT-2010 Contingent Survivor table for beneficiaries, both projected with generational improvement using Scale MP-2019. For disability retirees, mortality rates were based on the PubNS-2010 Non-Safety Disabled Mortality table projected with generational improvement using Scale MP-2019.

The actuarial assumptions used were based on the results of an actuarial experience study dated March 19, 2020. They are the same as the assumptions used in the July 1, 2023 funding actuarial valuation for TFFR.

As a result of the March 19, 2020 actuarial experience study, the TFFR Board adopted several assumption changes, including the following:

* Investment return assumption lowered from 7.75% to 7.25%.
* Inflation assumption lowered from 2.75% to 2.30%.
* Individual salary increases were lowered.
* Rates of turnover, retirement and disability were changed to better reflect anticipated future experience.
* The post-retirement healthy mortality table was updated to 104% of the PubT-2010 Retiree table for retirees and to 95% of the PubT-2010 Contingent Survivor table for beneficiaries, both projected with generational improvement using Scale MP-2019.
* The disabled mortality was updated to the PubNS-2010 Non-Safety Disabled Mortality table projected with generational improvement using Scale MP-2019.
* The pre-retirement mortality table was updated to PubT-2010 Employee table projected with generation improvement using Scale MP-2019.

The TFFR Board is responsible for establishing investment policy for the fund assets under NDCC 15-39.1-05.2. Benefit payments are projected to occur over a long period of time. This allows TFFR to adopt a long-term investment horizon and asset allocation policy for the management of fund assets. Asset allocation policy is critical because it defines the basic risk and return characteristics of the investment portfolio. Asset allocation targets are established using an asset-liability analysis designed to assist the Board in determining an acceptable volatility target for the fund and an optimal asset allocation policy mix. This asset-liability analysis considers both sides of the plan balance sheet, utilizing both quantitative and qualitative inputs, in order to estimate the potential impact of various asset class mixes on key measures of total plan risk, including the resulting estimated impact of funded status and contribution rates.

The long-term expected rate of return on TFFR investments was determined using a building-block method in which best-estimate ranges of expected future real rates of return (expected returns, net 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. Best estimates of arithmetic real rates of return for each major asset class included in the pension plan's target asset allocation as of July 1, 2023 are summarized in the following table:

Asset Class	Target Allocation	Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return
Global Equities	55%	6.2%
Global Fixed Income	26%	3.0%
Global Real Assets	18%	4.4%
Cash Equivalents	1%	0.9%

Discount rate. The discount rate used to measure the total pension liability was 7.25 percent as of June 30, 2023. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumes that member and employee contributions will be made at rates equal to those based on the July 1, 2023 Actuarial Valuation Report. For this purpose, only employer contributions that are intended to fund benefits of current plan members and their beneficiaries are included. Projected employer contributions that are intended to fund the service costs of future plan members and their beneficiaries, as well as projected contributions from future plan members, are not included. Based on those assumptions, the pension plan's fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments for current plan members as of July 1, 2023. 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 as of June 30, 2023.

Sensitivity of the school district's proportionate share of the net pension liability to changes in the discount rate. The following presents the district's proportionate share of the net pension liability calculated using the discount rate of 7.25% as of June 30, 2023, as well as what the district's proportionate share of the net pension liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1-percentage-point lower (6.25 percent) or 1-percentage-point higher (8.25 percent) than the current rate:

	1% Decrease (6.25%)	Current Rate (7.25%)	1% Increase (8.25%)
The district's proportionate share of the net pension liability	15,965,385	11,467,068	7,734,204

Pension plan fiduciary net position. Detailed information about the pension plan's fiduciary net position is available in the separately issued TFFR financial report.

2. North Dakota Public Employees Retirement System (Main System)

The following brief description of NDPERS is provided for general information purposes only. Participants should refer to NDCC Chapter 54 – 52 for more complete information.

NDPERS is a cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan that covers substantially all employees of the State of North Dakota, its agencies and various participating political subdivisions. NDPERS provides for pension, death and disability benefits. The cost to administer the NDPERS plan is financed through the contributions and investment earnings of the plan.

Responsibility for administration of the NDPERS defined benefit program is assigned to a Board comprised of eleven members. The Governor is responsible for appointing three other members in addition to the Chairman of the Board. Four members are appointed by legislative management, and the remaining three Board members are elected from active employees currently contributing to PERS.

Pension Benefits

Benefits are set by statute. NDPERS has no provision or policies with respect to automatic and ad hoc post-retirement benefit increases. Members of the Main System are entitled to unreduced monthly pension benefits beginning when the sum of age and years of credited service equal or exceed 85 (Rule of 85), or at normal retirement age (65). For members hired on or after January 1, 2016 the Rule of 85 will be replaced with the Rule of 90 with a minimum age of 60. The monthly pension benefit is equal to 2.00% of their average monthly salary, using the highest 36 months out of the last 180 months of service, for each year of service. For members hired on or after January 1, 2020 the 2.00% multiplier was replaced with a 1.75% multiplier. The plan permits early retirement at ages 55 – 64 with three or more years of service.

Members may elect to receive the pension benefits in the form of a single life, joint and survivor, term-certain annuity, or partial lump sum with ongoing annuity. Members may elect to receive the value of their accumulated contributions, plus interest, as a lump sum distribution upon retirement or termination, or they may elect to receive their benefits in the form of an annuity. For each member electing an annuity, total payment will not be less than the members' accumulated contributions plus interest.

Death and Disability Benefits

Death and disability benefits are set by statute. If an active member dies with less than three years of service for the Main System, a death benefit equal to the value of the member's accumulated contributions, plus interest, is paid to the member's beneficiary. If the member has earned more than three years of credited service for the Main System, the surviving spouse will be entitled to a single payment refund, life-time monthly payments in an amount equal to 50% of the member's accrued normal retirement benefit, or monthly payments in an amount equal to the member's accrued 100% Joint and Survivor retirement benefit if the member had reached normal retirement age prior to date of death. If the surviving spouse dies before the member's accumulated pension benefits are paid, the balance will be payable to the surviving spouse's designated beneficiary.

Eligible members who become totally disabled after a minimum of 180 days of service, receive monthly disability benefits equal to 25% of their final average salary with a minimum benefit of $100. To qualify under this section, the member has to become disabled during the period of eligible employment and apply for benefits within one year of termination. The definition of disabled is set by the NDPERS in the North Dakota Administrative Code.

Refunds of Member Account Balance

Upon termination, if a member of the Main System is not vested (is not 65 or does not have three years of service), they will receive the accumulated member contributions and vested employer contributions, plus interest, or may elect to receive this amount at a later date. If the member has vested, they have the option of applying for a refund or can remain as a terminated vested participant. If a member terminated and withdrew their accumulated member contribution and is subsequently reemployed, they have the option of repurchasing their previous service.

Member and Employer Contributions

Member and employer contributions paid to NDPERS are set by statute and are established as a percent of salaries and wages. Member contribution rates are 7% and employer contribution rates are 7.12% of covered compensation. For members hired on or after January 1, 2020 member contribution rates are 7% and employer contribution rates are 8.26% of covered compensation.

The member's account balance includes the vested employer contributions equal to the member's contributions to an eligible deferred compensation plan. The minimum member contribution is $25 and the maximum may not exceed the following:

1 to 12 months of service -
Greater of one percent of monthly salary or $25

13 to 24 months of service -
Greater of two percent of monthly salary or $25

25 to 36 months of service -
Greater of three percent of monthly salary or $25

Longer than 36 months of service -
Greater of four percent of monthly salary or $25

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

At June 30, 2024, the New Town Public School District reported a liability of $3,886,026 for its proportionate share of the net pension liability. The net pension liability was measured as of June 30, 2023 and the total pension liability used to calculate the net pension liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of that date. The district's proportion of the net pension liability was based on the district's share of covered payroll in the Main System pension plan relative to the covered payroll of all participating Main System employers. At June 30, 2023 the district's proportion was .201531 percent, which was a decrease of .013452 from its proportion measured as of June 30, 2022.

For the year ended June 30, 2024, the district recognized pension expense of $379,589. At June 30, 2024 the district reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions, from the following sources:

	Deferred Outflows of Resources	Deferred Inflows of Resources
Differences between expected and actual experience	126,505	21,431
Changes in assumptions	2,142,800	2,949,593
Net difference between projected and actual earnings on pension plan investments	101,962	-
Changes in proportion and differences between employer contributions and proportionate share of contributions	382,360	271,234
District contributions subsequent to the measurement date (see below)	215,420	-
Total	2,969,047	3,242,258

$215,420 reported as deferred outflows of resources related to pensions resulting from district contributions subsequent to the measurement date will be recognized as a reduction of the net pension liability in the year ended June 30, 2025.

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 ended June 30:	
2024	87,057
2025	(361,971)
2026	41,363
2027	(255,080)
2028	-
Thereafter	-

Actuarial assumptions. The total pension liability in the July 1, 2023 actuarial valuation was determined using the following actuarial assumptions, applied to all periods included in the measurement:

Inflation	2.25%
Salary increases	3.50% to 17.75% including inflation
Investment rate of return	6.50%, net of investment expenses
Cost-of-living adjustments	None

For active members, inactive members and healthy retirees, mortality rates were based on the Sex-distinct Pub-2010 table for General Employees, with scaling based on actual experience. Respective corresponding tables were used for healthy retirees, disabled retirees, and active members. Mortality rates are projected from 2010 using the MP-2019 scale.

The long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments was determined using a building-block method in which best-estimate ranges of expected future real rates of return (expected returns, net 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. Best estimates of arithmetic real rates of return for each major asset class included in the fund's target asset allocation are summarized in the following table:

Asset Class	Target Allocation	Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return
Domestic Equity	31%	6.25%
International Equity	20%	6.95%
Private Equity	7%	9.45%
Domestic Fixed Income	23%	2.51%
International Equity Income	0%	0.00%
Global Real Assets	19%	4.33%
Cash Equivalents	0%	0.00%

Discount rate. For PERS, GASB No. 67 includes a specific requirement for the discount rate that is used for the purpose of the measurement of the Total Pension Liability. This rate considers the ability of the System to meet benefit obligations in the future. To make this determination, employer contributions, employee contributions, benefit payments, expenses and investment returns are projected into the future. The current employer and employee fixed rate contributions are assumed to be made in each future year. The Plan Net Position (assets) in future years can then be determined and compared to its obligation to make benefit payments in those years. In years where assets are not projected to be sufficient to meet benefit payments, which is the case for the PERS plan, the use of a municipal bond rate is required.

The Single Discount Rate (SDR) is equivalent to applying these two rates to the benefits that are projected to be paid during the different time periods. The SDR reflects (1) the long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments (during the period in which the fiduciary net position is projected to be sufficient to pay benefits) and (2) a tax-exempt municipal bond rate based on an index of 20-year general obligation bonds with an average AA credit rating as of the measurement date (to the extent that the contributions for use with the long-term expected rate of return are not met).

For the purpose of this valuation, the expected rate of return on pension plan investments is 6.50%; the municipal bond rate is 3.86%; and the resulting Single Discount Rate is 6.50%.

Sensitivity of the district's proportionate share of the net pension liability to changes in the discount rate. The following presents the district's proportionate share of the net pension liability calculated using the discount rate of 6.50% as well as what the district's proportionate share of the net pension liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1-percentage-point lower (5.50 percent) or 1-percentage-point higher (7.50 percent) than the current rate:

	1% Decrease (5.50%)	Current Rate (6.50%)	1% Increase (7.50%)
The district's proportionate share of the net pension liability	5,357,897	3,886,026	2,664,996

Pension plan fiduciary net position. Detailed information about the pension plan's fiduciary net position is available in the separately issued NDPERS financial report.

Note 12 OTHER POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS

The school district is required to implement GASB Statement No. 75, Accounting and Financial Reporting of Postemployment Benefits Other Than Pensions. The effect of this statement is not material to the school district's financial statements.

Note 13 TAX ABATEMENTS

The school district has not entered into any tax abatement agreements that would reduce the district's tax revenues for the year ended June 30, 2024.

NEW TOWN PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 1
New Town, North Dakota

Budgetary Comparison Schedule
General Fund
For the Year Ended June 30, 2024

	Original Budget	Final Budget	Actual	Variance with Final Budget
Revenues:				
Local Sources	2,662,319.18	2,511,173.64	4,252,062.49	1,740,888.85
County Sources	11,087,875.00	11,084,874.57	20,459,458.97	9,374,584.40
State Sources	191,315.00	121,315.79	157,928.48	36,612.69
Federal Sources	6,815,735.00	10,050,480.00	10,792,551.28	742,071.28
Total Revenues	20,757,244.18	23,767,844.00	35,662,001.22	11,894,157.22
Expenditures:				
Current:				
Regular Instruction	6,372,426.00	6,867,052.63	6,085,968.19	781,084.44
Federal Programs	3,738,216.00	6,826,939.00	4,934,301.79	1,892,637.21
Special Education	2,670,284.00	2,670,283.00	2,202,369.36	467,913.64
Vocational Education	557,983.00	581,202.00	542,669.32	38,532.68
District Wide Services	268,367.00	1,203,640.25	1,090,040.36	113,599.89
Administration	1,245,594.00	1,432,601.00	1,012,885.67	419,715.33
Operations and Maintenance	5,024,268.00	1,637,268.00	1,525,799.81	111,468.19
Student Transportation	774,214.00	774,214.00	526,492.81	247,721.19
Student Activities	914,530.00	577,530.00	286,776.71	290,753.29
Other Enterprise Services	595,205.00			-
Community Services	1,487.00	17,542.00	6,853.36	10,688.64
Capital Outlay	277,000.00	277,000.00	391,053.00	(114,053.00)
Total Expenditures	22,439,574.00	22,865,271.88	18,605,210.38	4,260,061.50
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures	(1,682,329.82)	902,572.12	17,056,790.84	16,154,218.72
Other Financing (Uses):				
Transfers Out	(457,500.00)	(450,000.00)		450,000.00
Net Change in Fund Balance	(2,139,829.82)	452,572.12	17,056,790.84	16,604,218.72
Fund Balance - July 1	26,782,924.87	26,782,924.87	26,782,924.87	
Fund Balance - June 30	24,643,095.05	27,235,496.99	43,839,715.71	16,604,218.72

NEW TOWN PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 1
New Town, North Dakota

Notes to the Budgetary Comparison Schedule
June 30, 2024

Note 1 SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT BUDGET POLICIES

Based upon available financial information and requests by the governing board, the business manager prepares the school district budget. The budget is prepared for the general fund on the modified accrual basis of accounting. The budget includes the proposed expenditures and the means of financing them. All annual appropriations lapse at year-end.

School district taxes must be levied by the governing board on or before August 10. The taxes levied must be certified to the county auditor by August 10. The governing board may amend its tax levy and budget, but the certification must be filed with the county auditor by October 10. The current budget, except for property taxes, may be amended during the year for any revenues and appropriations not anticipated at the time the budget was prepared.

Note 2 LEGAL COMPLIANCE

Budget Amendments

The governing approved the following amendments to the school district's budget during the year ended June 30, 2024:

	Estimated Revenues		
	Original Budget	Amendments	Amended Budget
General Fund	20,757,244	3,010,600	23,767,844

	Appropriations		
	Original Budget	Amendments	Amended Budget
General Fund	22,439,574	425,698	22,865,272

	Transfers Out		
	Original Budget	Amendments	Amended Budget
General Fund	457,500	(7,500)	450,000

NEW TOWN PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 1
New Town, North Dakota

Schedule of Employer's Share of Net Pension Liability
ND Teacher's Fund for Retirement
Last 10 Fiscal Years

	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
District's proportion of the net pension liability	0.817143%	0.895410%	0.854923%	0.861494%	0.769703%	0.730523%	0.691684%	0.66242%	0.684514%	0.651376%
District's proportionate share of the net pension liability	11,467,068	13,037,637	9,007,945	13,185,195	10,600,753	9,736,831	9,500,454	9,704,784	8,952,452	6,825,266
District's covered employee payroll	6,556,859	7,046,089	6,588,890	6,285,982	5,399,683	4,966,191	4,668,667	4,303,882	4,210,478	3,778,325
District's proportionate share of the net pension liability as a percentage of its covered-employee payroll	174.89%	185.03%	136.71%	209.76%	196.32%	196.06%	203.49%	225.49%	212.62%	180.64%
Plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of the total pension liability	69.34%	67.50%	75.70%	63.40%	65.50%	65.50%	63.20%	59.20%	62.10%	66.60%

Schedule of Employer Contributions
ND Teachers Fund for Retirement
Last 10 Fiscal Years

	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
Statutorily required contribution	836,002	898,376	840,084	801,469	688,460	633,189	595,255	548,747	536,836	406,170
Contributions in relation to the statutorily required contributions	(836,002)	(898,376)	(840,084)	(801,469)	(688,460)	(633,189)	(595,255)	(548,747)	(536,836)	(406,170)
Contribution deficiency (excess)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
District's covered-employee payroll	6,556,859	7,046,089	6,588,890	6,285,982	5,399,683	4,966,191	4,668,667	4,303,882	4,210,478	3,778,325
Contributions as a percentage of covered-employee payroll	12.75%	12.75%	12.75%	12.75%	12.75%	12.75%	12.75%	12.75%	12.75%	10.75%

- For changes of benefit terms and assumptions, see Note 11 to the financial statements.

NEW TOWN PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 1
New Town, North Dakota

Schedule of Employer's Share of Net Pension Liability
ND Public Employees Retirement System
Last 10 Fiscal Years

	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
District's proportion of the net pension liability	0.201531%	0.214983%	0.196333%	0.169597%	0.179656%	0.201876%	0.170674%	0.152151%	0.119297%	0.138257%
District's proportionate share of the net pension liability	3,886,026	6,191,654	2,046,380	5,335,558	2,105,698	3,406,878	2,473,292	1,482,860	811,199	877,547
District's covered-employee payroll	2,300,622	2,561,164	2,265,643	2,085,192	1,947,766	1,972,608	1,628,145	1,497,570	1,228,272	1,208,631
District's proportionate share of the net pension liability as a percentage of its covered-employee payroll	168.91%	241.75%	90.32%	255.88%	108.11%	172.71%	151.91%	99.02%	66.04%	72.61%
Plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of the total pension liability	65.31%	54.47%	78.26%	48.91%	71.66%	62.80%	61.98%	70.46%	77.15%	77.70%

Schedule of Employer Contributions
ND Public Employees Retirement System
Last 10 Fiscal Years

	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
Statutorily required contribution	176,573	194,071	169,081	149,760	138,681	140,450	115,924	106,574	87,453	81,027
Contributions in relation to the statutorily required contributions	(176,573)	(194,071)	(169,081)	(149,760)	(138,681)	(140,450)	(115,924)	(106,574)	(87,453)	(81,027)
Contribution deficiency (excess)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
District's covered-employee payroll	2,300,622	2,561,164	2,265,643	2,085,192	1,947,766	1,972,608	1,628,145	1,497,570	1,228,272	1,208,631
Contributions as a percentage of covered-employee payroll	7.68%	7.58%	7.46%	7.18%	7.12%	7.12%	7.12%	7.12%	7.12%	6.70%

- For changes of benefit terms and assumptions, see Note 11 to the financial statements.

NEW TOWN PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 1
New Town, North Dakota

Combining Balance Sheet
Nonmajor Governmental Funds
June 30, 2024

	Special Reserve	Food Service	Student Activity	Rental	Total Nonmajor Governmental Funds
ASSETS:					
Cash and Investments	198,625.88	713,539.23	368,330.13	1,186,699.56	2,467,194.80
Intergovernmental Receivables		25,029.36			25,029.36
Total Assets	198,625.88	738,568.59	368,330.13	1,186,699.56	2,492,224.16
LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES					
Liabilities:					
Payroll Benefits Payable		24,432.77		6,525.25	30,958.02
Fund Balances:					
Restricted for:					
Special Purposes	198,625.88				198,625.88
Food Services		714,135.82			714,135.82
Student Activities			368,330.13		368,330.13
Employee Housing				1,180,174.31	1,180,174.31
Total Fund Balances	198,625.88	714,135.82	368,330.13	1,180,174.31	2,461,266.14
Total Liabilities and Fund Balances	198,625.88	738,568.59	368,330.13	1,186,699.56	2,492,224.16

NEW TOWN PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 1
New Town, North Dakota

Combining Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes
in Fund Balances - Nonmajor Governmental Funds
For the Year Ended June 30, 2024

	Special Reserve	Food Service	Student Activity	Rental	Total Nonmajor Governmental Funds
Revenues:					
Local Sources	7.76	11,880.00	215,677.20		227,564.96
Charges for Services				770,336.47	770,336.47
State Sources		5,718.20			5,718.20
Federal Sources		592,918.88			592,918.88
Other Sources				44.01	44.01
Total Revenues	7.76	610,517.08	215,677.20	770,380.48	1,596,582.52
Expenditures:					
Current:					
Food Services		830,093.28			830,093.28
Student Activities			292,259.22		292,259.22
Rental				649,126.89	649,126.89
Total Expenditures	-	830,093.28	292,259.22	649,126.89	1,771,479.39
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures	7.76	(219,576.20)	(76,582.02)	121,253.59	(174,896.87)
Other Financing (Uses):					
Transfers Out		(75,721.10)			(75,721.10)
Net Change in Fund Balance	7.76	(295,297.30)	(76,582.02)	121,253.59	(250,617.97)
Fund Balance - July 1	198,618.12	1,009,433.12	444,912.15	1,058,920.72	2,711,884.11
Fund Balance - June 30	198,625.88	714,135.82	368,330.13	1,180,174.31	2,461,266.14

NEW TOWN PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 1
New Town, North Dakota

Schedule of Fund Activity Arising from Client Transactions
For the Year Ended June 30, 2024

	Balance 7-1-2023	Revenues	Transfers In	Transfers Out	Expenditures	Balance 6-30-2024
General Fund	24,485,029.82	34,254,108.65			18,605,210.38	40,133,928.09
Special Revenue Funds						
Special Reserve	198,618.12	7.76				198,625.88
Food Service	927,015.15	623,047.08		75,721.10	785,234.67	689,106.46
Student Activity	444,912.15	215,677.20			292,259.22	368,330.13
Rental	1,058,920.72	770,380.48			649,126.89	1,180,174.31
Total Special Revenue Funds	2,629,466.14	1,609,112.52	-	75,721.10	1,726,620.78	2,436,236.78
Capital Projects Fund						
Building	28,066,043.07	1,141,889.16	75,721.10		4,636,160.15	24,647,493.18
Total All Funds	55,180,539.03	37,005,110.33	75,721.10	75,721.10	24,967,991.31	67,217,658.05

The above schedule is reported on a client basis, which includes an adjustment to cash and investments for payroll benefits payable in the general, food service and rental funds.

NEW TOWN PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 1
New Town, North Dakota

Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards
For the Year Ended June 30, 2024

Federal Grantor Pass-Through Grantor Program Title	Federal Assistance Listing Number	Pass-Through Entity Identifying Number	Expenditures
U.S. Department of Agriculture			
Passed Through State Department of Public Instruction:			
Child Nutrition Cluster:			
School Breakfast Program	10.553	F10553	125,494.83
National School Lunch Program	10.555	F10555	334,868.43
National School Lunch Program - Supply Chain Assistance	10.555	F10555S	22,681.26
National School Lunch Program - Commodities	10.555	N/A	44,858.61
Summer Food Service Program for Children	10.559	F10559	25,029.36
Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program	10.582	F10582	34,022.31
Total Child Nutrition Cluster			586,954.80
State Administrative Expenses for Child Nutrition	10.560	F10560A	5,964.08
Total Passed Through State Department of Public Instruction			592,918.88
Passed Through McKenzie County:			
Bankhead Jones - Schools and Roads - Grants to Counties	10.666	N/A	11,552.32
Total Department of Agriculture			604,471.20
U.S. Department of the Interior			
Passed Through McKenzie County:			
Mineral Leasing Act	15.437	N/A	8,828.80
U.S. Department of Education			
Direct Programs:			
Impact Aid (Title VII of ESEA)	84.041	N/A	4,986,900.00
Indian Education - Grants to Local Educational Agencies	84.060	N/A	241,137.00
Total Direct Programs			5,228,037.00
Passed Through State Department of Vocational Education:			
Career and Technical Education - Basic Grants to States	84.048	N/A	27,780.00
Passed Through Great Northwest Regional Education Association:			
English Language Acquisition State Grants	84.365	N/A	6,585.48

(continued)

NEW TOWN PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 1
New Town, North Dakota

Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards
For the Year Ended June 30, 2024
(continued)

Federal Grantor Pass-Through Grantor Program Title	Federal Assistance Listing Number	Pass-Through Entity Identifying Number	Expenditures
Passed Through State Department of Public Instruction:			
Title I, Grants to Local Education Agencies	84.010	F84010A	639,941.38
Improving Teacher Quality State Grants	84.367	F84367	106,331.33
Covid 19 - ESF Section 1 - Elementary and Secondary Education:			
Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund	84.425D	F84425D	467,132.31
American Rescue Plan - Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ARP ESSER)	84.425U	F84425U	4,296,362.66
Total Covid 19 - ESF Section 1 - Elementary and Secondary Education			4,763,494.97
Total Passed Through State Department of Public Instruction			5,509,767.68
Total Department of Education			10,772,170.16
Total Expenditures of Federal Awards			11,385,470.16

Notes to Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards

Note 1 - Significant Accounting Policies

The accompanying schedule of expenditures of federal awards is prepared on the modified accrual basis of accounting.

The de minimis indirect cost rate was not used.

Rath & Mehrer, P.C.
Certified Public Accountants

Jayson Rath, CPA
Bryce Fischer, CPA
Todd Goehring, CPA

Specializing in Governmental Auditing

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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

Governing Board
New Town Public School District No. 1
New Town, North Dakota

We have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards,* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund and the aggregate remaining fund information of the New Town Public School District No. 1, as of and for the year ended June 30, 2024, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the school district's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated November 29, 2024.

Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the school district's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the school district's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the school district's internal control.

A *deficiency* in internal control exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, misstatements on a timely basis. A *material weakness* is a deficiency, or combination of deficiencies, in internal control, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the school district's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected on a timely basis. A *significant deficiency* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies and therefore, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. We did identify a certain deficiency in internal control, described in the accompanying schedule of findings and responses as items 2024-001 that we consider to be a significant deficiency.

Report on Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the school district's financial statements are free of 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.*

School District's Response to Findings

Government Auditing Standards require the auditor to perform limited procedures on the school district's response to the findings identified in our audit and described in the accompanying *Schedule of Findings and Responses.* The school district's response was not subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and, accordingly, we express no opinion on it.

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 school district's internal control or on compliance. This is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the school district's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

Rath and Mehrer

Rath and Mehrer, P.C.

Bismarck, North Dakota

November 29, 2024

Rath & Mehrer, P.C.
Certified Public Accountants

Jayson Rath, CPA
Bryce Fischer, CPA
Todd Goehring, CPA

Specializing in Governmental Auditing

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REPORT ON COMPLIANCE FOR EACH MAJOR FEDERAL PROGRAM AND REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER COMPLIANCE REQUIRED BY THE UNIFORM GUIDANCE

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Governing Board
New Town Public School District No. 1
New Town, North Dakota

Report on Compliance for Each Major Federal Program

Opinion on Each Major Federal Program

We have audited the New Town Public School District's compliance with the types of compliance requirements identified as subject to audit in the *OMB Compliance Supplement* that could have a direct and material effect on each of the school district's major federal programs for the year ended June 30, 2024. The school district's major federal programs are identified in the summary of auditor's results section of the accompanying schedule of findings and responses.

In our opinion, the school district complied in all material respects, with the compliance requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on each of its major federal programs for the year ended June 30, 2024.

Basis for Opinion on Each Major Federal Program

We conducted our audit of compliance in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS); the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States (*Government Auditing Standards*); and the audit requirements of Title 2 *U.S. Code of Federal Regulations* Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (Uniform Guidance). Our responsibilities under those standards and the Uniform Guidance are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance section of our report.

We are required to be independent of the school district and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion on compliance for each major federal program. Our audit does not provide a legal determination of the school district's compliance with the compliance requirements referred to above.

Responsibilities of Management for Compliance

Management is responsible for compliance with the requirements referred to above and for the design, implementation and maintenance of effective internal control over compliance with the requirements of laws, statutes, regulations, rules and provisions of contracts or grant agreements applicable to the school district's federal programs.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether material noncompliance with the compliance requirements referred to above occurred, whether due to fraud or error, and express an opinion on the school district's compliance based on our audit. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with GAAS, *Government Auditing Standards*, and the Uniform Guidance will always detect material noncompliance when it exists. The risk of not detecting material noncompliance resulting from fraud is higher than for that resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Noncompliance with the compliance requirements referred to above is considered material, if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, it would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user of the report on compliance about the school district's compliance with the requirements of each major federal program as a whole.

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS, *Government Auditing Standards*, and the Uniform Guidance, we

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.

- Identify and assess the risks of material noncompliance, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the school district's compliance with the compliance requirements referred to above and performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances.

- Obtain an understanding of the school district's internal control over compliance relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances and to test and report on internal control over compliance in accordance with the Uniform Guidance, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the school district's internal control over compliance. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and any significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in internal control over compliance that we identified during the audit.

Report on Internal Control Over Compliance

A *deficiency in internal control over compliance* exists when the design or operation of a control over compliance does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned

functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, noncompliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program on a timely basis. A *material weakness in internal control over compliance* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control over compliance, such that there is a reasonable possibility that material noncompliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. A *significant deficiency in internal control over compliance* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control over compliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program that is less severe than a material weakness in internal control over compliance, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control over compliance was for the limited purpose described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance section above and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control over compliance that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies in internal control over compliance. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over compliance that we consider to be material weaknesses, as defined above. However, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies in internal control over compliance may exist that were not identified.

Our audit was not designed for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control over compliance. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.

The purpose of this report on internal control over compliance is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over compliance and the results of that testing based on the requirements of the Uniform Guidance. Accordingly, this report is not suitable for any other purpose.

Rath and Mehrer

Rath and Mehrer, P.C.

Bismarck, North Dakota

November 29, 2024

NEW TOWN PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 1
New Town, North Dakota

Schedule of Findings and Responses
For the Year Ended June 30, 2024

SECTION I – SUMMARY OF AUDIT RESULTS:

Financial Statements

Type of Auditor's Report Issued:	
Governmental Activities	Unmodified
Major Governmental Funds	Unmodified
Aggregate Remaining Fund Information	Unmodified

Internal control over financial reporting:

- Material weakness(es) identified? ____ Yes __X__ No
- Significant deficiency(ies) identified? __X__ Yes ____ None Reported

Noncompliance material to financial statements noted? ____ Yes __X__ No

Federal Awards

Internal control over major program(s):

- Material weakness(es) identified? ____ Yes __X__ No
- Significant deficiency(ies) identified? ____ Yes __X__ None Reported

Type of auditor's report issued on compliance for major program(s): Unmodified

Any audit findings disclosed that are required to be reported in accordance with 2 CFR 200.516 (a)? ____ Yes __X__ No

Identification of major program(s):

Federal Assistance Listing Number	Name of Federal Program
84.010	Title I, Grants to Local Education Agencies
84.425	COVID 19 – ESF Section 1 - Elementary And Secondary Education

Dollar threshold used to distinguish between type A and type B programs: $750,000

Auditee qualified as a low-risk auditee? __X__ Yes ____ No

SECTION II – FINANCIAL STATEMENT FINDINGS:

Significant Deficiency

1. 2024-001- Financial Statement Preparation

Criteria: A good system of internal controls requires the school district to determine that the financial statements are prepared based on accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. This means that the school district must maintain knowledge of current accounting principles and required financial statement disclosures.

Condition: The school district's financial statements, including the accompanying note disclosures, are prepared by the school district's external auditors.

Cause: The school district feels that it is more cost effective to have their external auditors prepare the complete financial statements and disclosures, rather than invest in ongoing specialized training that would be necessary.

Effect: Without the assistance of the auditors, the financial statements could be misstated or omit material financial statement disclosures.

Recommendation: We recommend that management be aware of this condition and be prepared and able to provide all necessary information and schedules to complete the financial statements and disclosures; and review and approve them prior to external distribution.

Views of Responsible Officials: The school district will continue to have the external auditors prepare the financial statements, including note disclosures, but will review and approve them prior to external distribution.

Repeat Finding from Prior Year: Yes, prior year finding No. 2023-001

SECTION III – FEDERAL AWARD FINDINGS AND RESPONSES:

No matters were reported

NEW TOWN PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 1
New Town, North Dakota

Summary Schedule of Prior Audit Findings
For the Year Ended June 30, 2024

1. Finding No. 2023-001: Financial Statement Preparation

   Status: This finding is repeated and updated in the Schedule of Findings and Responses as No. 2024-001.

   Reasons for Recurrence and Corrective Action Plan: The school district feels it is more cost effective to have their external auditors prepare the financial statements and note disclosures. See Corrective Action Plan.

New Town Public School

Officers:

Peter Young Bird, President
Nancy Reimer: Business Manager

DIRECTORS:
Marietta Heart
Delvin Driver, Jr.
Bryon Brady, Jr.
Douglas Bratvold

Dr. Anthony Vandal, Superintendent
Marc Bluestone, Sr., Superintendent
New Town Public School District No. 1
A Fully Accredited School
Business Office 701-627-3650
High School 701-627-3658
Middle School 701-627-3660
Elementary School 701-627-3718
Facsimile 701-627-3755
P.O. Box 700
New Town, North Dakota 58763-0700

NEW TOWN PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 1
New Town, North Dakota

Corrective Action Plan
For the Year Ended June 30, 2024

1. Finding No. 2024-001: Financial Statement Preparation

   Contact Person: Nancy Reimer, Business Manager.

   Corrective Action Plan: The school district feels it is more cost effective to have their external auditors prepare the financial statements and note disclosures.

   Completion Date: The New Town Public School District No. 1 will implement when it becomes cost effective.