

AUDIT REPORT

**UNITED PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 7
Des Lacs, North Dakota**

For the Year Ended June 30, 2017

**RATH & MEHRER, P.C.
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS**

UNITED PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 7
Des Lacs, North Dakota

TABLE OF CONTENTS
For the Year Ended June 30, 2017

	<u>Page (s)</u>
Officials	1
Independent Auditor's Report	2-3
Management's Discussion and Analysis	4-9
 BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS	
Statement of Net Position	10
Statement of Activities	11
Balance Sheet - Governmental Funds	12
Reconciliation of Governmental Funds Balance Sheet to the Statement of Net Position	13
Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances - Governmental Funds	14
Reconciliation of the Governmental Funds Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances to the Statement of Activities	15
Statement of Fiduciary Assets and Liabilities - Agency Funds	16
Notes to the Financial Statements	17-34
 REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION	
Budgetary Comparison Schedule General Fund	35
Notes to the Budgetary Comparison Schedule	36
Schedules of Employer's Share of Net Position Liability ND Teachers Fund for Retirement	37
ND Public Employees Retirement System	38
 SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION	
Combining Balance Sheet - Nonmajor Governmental Funds	39
Combining Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances - Nonmajor Governmental Funds	40
Schedule of Fund Activity Arising from Cash Transactions	41
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	42-43
Schedule of Findings and Responses	44-45

UNITED PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 7
Des Lacs, North Dakota

SCHOOL DISTRICT OFFICIALS

Brett Casavant	Board President
Brenda Buri	Vice President
Chad Brown	Board Member
Matthew Schaefer	Board Member
Joshua Sundsbak	Board Member
Clarke Ranum	Administrator
Jody Askvig	Business Manager

Rath & Mehrer, P.C.

Certified Public Accountants

Jayson Rath, CPA
Ken Mehrer, CPA
Bryce Fischer, CPA

425 North Fifth Street
Bismarck, ND 58501
Phone 701-258-4560
Fax 701-258-4983

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Governing Board
United Public School District No. 7
Des Lacs, North Dakota

Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund and the aggregate remaining fund information of the United Public School District No. 7, Des Lacs, North Dakota, as of and for the year ended June 30, 2017, 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.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

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

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express opinions on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the school district's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements 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, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

Opinions

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the United Public School District No. 7, Des Lacs, North Dakota, as of June 30, 2017, and the respective changes in financial position for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Other Matters

Required Supplementary Information

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the management's discussion and analysis on pages 4 through 9, budgeting comparison information on pages 35 through 36, and the schedules of employer's share of net pension liability on pages 37 through 38 be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such 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. 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.

Other 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 and the schedule of fund activity arising from cash transactions are presented for additional analysis and are not a required part of the basic financial statements.

The combining nonmajor fund financial statements and the schedule of fund activity arising from cash transactions are 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. Such 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 and the schedule of fund activity arising from cash transactions 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 24, 2017 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 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 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 24, 2017

UNITED PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 7

Management's Discussion and Analysis

June 30, 2017

The Management's Discussion and Analysis (MD&A) of the United Public School District's financial performance provides an overall review of the school district's financial activities for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2017. The intent of the MD&A is to look at the school district's financial performance as a whole. It should, therefore, be read in conjunction with the basic financial statements and related notes.

The MD&A is a new element of the Required Supplementary Information specified in the Government Accounting Standards Board's (GASB) Statement No. 34 "*Basic Financial Statements - and Management's Discussion and Analysis - For State and Local Governments*". Certain comparative information between the current fiscal year and the prior year is required to be presented in the MD&A.

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

Key financial highlights for the year ended June 30, 2017 are as follows:

- * Net position of the school district increased \$69,693 as a result of the current year's operations.
- * Governmental net position as of the end of the fiscal year totaled (\$1,489,344).
- * Total revenues from all sources were \$8,511,605.
- * Total expenses were \$8,441,912.
- * The school district's general fund had \$7,584,837 in total revenues and \$7,554,082 in total expenditures. There was a total of \$291 received from other financing sources. Overall, the general fund balance increased by \$31,047 for the year ended June 30, 2017.

USING THIS ANNUAL REPORT

This annual financial report consists of a series of statements and related footnotes. These statements are organized so that the reader can understand the school district as a financial whole. The statements then proceed to provide an increasingly detailed look at financial activities.

The Statement of Net Position and Statement of Activities provide information about the activities of the whole school district, presenting both an aggregate view of the school district's finances and a longer-term view of those finances. Fund financial statements provide the next level of detail. These statements tell how services were financed in the short-term as well as what remains for future spending. The fund financial statements also look at the school district's general fund, debt service fund and capital projects fund with all other governmental funds presented in total in one column.

REPORTING ON THE SCHOOL DISTRICT AS A WHOLE

Statement of Net Position and Statement of Activities

These statements are summaries of all the funds used by the school district to provide programs and activities and attempt to answer the question "How did the school district do financially during the year ended June 30, 2017?"

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

The Statement of Activities presents information on how the school district's net position changed during the fiscal year. This statement is presented using the accrual basis of accounting, which means that all changes in net position are reported as soon as the underlying event giving rise to the change occurs, regardless of the timing of related cash flows. Thus, revenues and expenses are reported in the statement for some items that will only result in cash flows in future fiscal periods (for example, uncollected taxes and earned but unused sick leave and/or vacation leave).

These two statements report the school district's net position and changes in that position. This change in net position is important because it tells the reader whether, for the school district as a whole, the financial position of the school district has improved or deteriorated. The causes of this change may be the result of many factors, some financial and some not.

In the Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities, the school district reports governmental activities. Governmental activities are the activities where most of the school district's programs and services are reported including, but not limited to, instruction, support services, operation and maintenance of buildings and grounds, student transportation and co-curricular activities.

REPORTING ON THE SCHOOL DISTRICT'S MOST SIGNIFICANT FUNDS

Balance Sheet - Governmental Funds

The school district uses separate funds to account for and manage money dedicated for particular purposes (e.g. taxes collected from special mill levies and funds received from grants and donations). The fund basis financial statements allow the school district to demonstrate its stewardship over and accountability for resources provided by taxpayers and other entities. Fund financial statements provide detailed information about the school district's major funds. Using the criteria established by GASB Statement No. 34, the school district's general fund, debt service fund and capital projects fund are considered "major funds".

The school district's other funds, which are used to account for a multitude of financial transactions, are summarized under the heading "Other Governmental Funds".

FINANCIAL ANALYSIS OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT AS A WHOLE

Table I provides a summary of the school district's net position as of June 30, 2017. A comparative analysis of district-wide data is presented for both current and prior year.

As indicated in the financial highlights above, the school district's net position increased by \$69,693 for the year ended June 30, 2017. Changes in net position may serve over time as a useful indicator of the school district's financial position.

The school district's net position of (\$1,489,344) is segregated into three separate categories. Net investment in capital assets totals \$2,701,506. It should be noted that these assets are not available for future spending. The restricted component of net position is \$829,604 of the school district's net position and represents resources that are subject to external restrictions on how they must be spent. The remaining unrestricted component of net position is (\$5,020,454) which includes (\$5,929,894) relating to the reporting of it's share of the unfunded liability for the North Dakota Teachers Fund for Retirement and the North Dakota Public Employees Retirement System as required by GASB Statement No. 68. The net amount of \$909,440 is available to meet the school district's ongoing obligations.

Table I
Net Position
As of June 30, 2017
(With comparative totals for June 30, 2016)

	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>
<u>Assets</u>		
Current Assets	1,769,456	1,717,325
Capital Assets (net of accumulated depreciation)	3,836,506	4,038,712
Total Assets	<u>5,605,962</u>	<u>5,756,037</u>
Deferred Outflows of Resources	<u>1,998,066</u>	<u>1,369,215</u>
<u>Liabilities</u>		
Current Liabilities	287,008	371,838
Long-Term Liabilities	878,404	1,236,394
Net Pension Liability	7,613,256	6,583,316
Total Liabilities	<u>8,778,668</u>	<u>8,191,547</u>
Deferred Inflows of Resources	<u>14,704</u>	<u>492,741</u>
<u>Net Position</u>		
Net Investment in Capital Assets	2,701,506	2,462,034
Restricted	829,605	833,107
Unrestricted	(5,020,454)	(4,854,178)
Total Net Position	<u>(1,489,344)</u>	<u>(1,559,037)</u>

Table II shows the changes in net position for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2017. A comparative analysis of district-wide data is presented for both current and prior year.

Table II
Changes in Net Position
As of June 30, 2017
(With comparative totals for June 30, 2016)

	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>
Revenues		
<u>Program Revenues:</u>		
Charges for Services	244,497	213,900
Operating Grants and Contributions	837,606	859,667
<u>General Revenues:</u>		
Property Taxes	1,547,320	1,421,071
Other Taxes	40,272	40,688
State Aid - Unrestricted	5,806,611	5,473,171
Interest Earnings and Other Revenue	35,298	17,176
Total Revenues	<u>8,511,605</u>	<u>8,025,673</u>
Expenses		
Regular Instruction	4,370,876	3,673,963
Federal Programs	216,461	224,484
Special Education	496,895	470,130
Vocational Education	275,730	269,277
District Wide Services	98,669	142,854
Administration	623,044	685,863
Operations and Maintenance	989,799	1,073,683
Student Transportation	409,999	438,685
Student Activities	242,293	155,269
Tuition and Assessments	99,629	85,235
Food Services	433,246	387,479
Other	1,579	1,789
Interest on Long-Term Debt	31,252	39,055
Unallocated Depreciation	152,440	152,440
Total Expenses	<u>8,441,912</u>	<u>7,800,207</u>
Net Change in Position	<u>69,693</u> =====	<u>225,465</u> =====

Property taxes constituted 18%, unrestricted state aid 68%, operating grants and contributions 10% and charges for services made up 3% of the total revenues of governmental activities of the school district for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2017.

Regular instruction constituted 52%, federal programs 3%, special education 6% and vocational education 3% of total expenses for governmental activities during the fiscal year ended June 30, 2017.

The Statement of Activities shows the cost of program services and the charges for services and grants offsetting those services. Table III shows the total cost of services and the net cost of services. That is, it identifies the cost of these services supported by tax revenue and other unrestricted revenues.

Table III
Total and Net Cost of Services
As of June 30, 2017

	Total Cost Year Ended <u>June 30, 2017</u>	Net Cost Year Ended <u>June 30, 2017</u>
Regular Instruction	4,370,876	4,357,558
Federal Programs	216,461	(34,604)
Special Education	496,895	486,336
Vocational Education	275,730	235,793
District Wide Services	98,669	98,669
Administration	623,044	623,044
Operations and Maintenance	989,799	989,799
Student Transportation	409,999	5,643
Student Activities	242,293	202,527
Tuition and Assessments	99,629	99,629
Food Services	433,246	110,144
Other	1,579	1,579
Interest on Long-Term Debt	31,252	31,252
Unallocated Depreciation	152,440	152,440
Total Expenses	<u>8,441,912</u> =====	<u>7,359,808</u> =====

FINANCIAL ANALYSIS OF GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS

The purpose of the school district's governmental funds is to provide information on the near-term inflows, outflows and balances of available resources. Unassigned fund balance generally can be used as a measure of the school district's net resources available for spending as of the end of the fiscal year. These funds are accounted for using the modified accrual basis of accounting. The school district's governmental funds had total revenue of \$8,475,903 and expenditures of \$8,459,474 for the year ended June 30, 2017. As of June 30, 2017, the unassigned fund balance of the school district's general fund was \$814,302.

GENERAL FUND BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS

During the course of fiscal year 2017, the school district did not amend the general fund budget.

Actual revenue for the year ended June 30, 2017 was \$90,827 more than budgeted. Actual expenditures for the year ended June 30, 2017 were over budget by \$179,461.

CAPITAL ASSETS

As of June 30, 2017, the school district had \$3,836,506 invested in capital assets. Table IV shows the balances as of June 30, 2017.

Table IV
Capital Assets
(Net of Accumulated Depreciation)
As of June 30, 2017
(With comparative totals for June 30, 2016)

	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>
Buildings	3,501,132	3,653,572
Vehicles	335,374	385,140
Total (net of depreciation)	<u>3,836,506</u>	<u>4,038,712</u>

This total represents a decrease of \$202,206 in capital assets from July 1, 2016. For a detailed breakdown of the additions and deletions to capital assets, readers are referred to Note 5 to the audited financial statements which follow this analysis.

DEBT ADMINISTRATION

As of June 30, 2017, the school district had \$1,153,404 in outstanding debt of which \$275,000 was due within one year.

During fiscal year 2017, the school district issued no new long-term debt obligations.

For a detailed breakdown of the long-term debt, readers are referred to Note 8 to the audited financial statements which follow this analysis.

CONTACTING THE SCHOOL DISTRICT'S FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

This financial report is designed to provide our parents, taxpayers and creditors with a general overview of the school district's finances and to show the school district's accountability for the money it receives to provide the best possible education to all students enrolled in the United Public School. Anyone who has questions about information contained in this report or who is interested in receiving additional information is encouraged to contact Jody Askvig, Business Manager, United Public School, Des Lacs, ND 58733; phone 701-725-4334.

UNITED PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 7
Des Lacs, North Dakota

Statement of Net Position
June 30, 2017

	Governmental Activities
<u>ASSETS:</u>	
Cash and Investments	1,553,151.75
Taxes Receivable	168,904.21
Due from County Treasurer	47,400.08
Capital Assets (net of accumulated depreciation):	
Buildings	3,501,132.00
Vehicles	335,374.00
Total Capital Assets	3,836,506.00
Total Assets	5,605,962.04
<u>DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES:</u>	
Changes in Resources Related to Pensions	1,998,066.00
<u>LIABILITIES:</u>	
Interest Payable	12,008.34
Long-Term Liabilities:	
Due Within One Year:	
G.O. Bonds Payable	275,000.00
Due After One Year:	
G.O. Bonds Payable	860,000.00
Compensated Absences Payable	18,403.75
Net Pension Liability	7,613,256.00
Total Liabilities	8,778,668.09
<u>DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES:</u>	
Changes in Resources Related to Pensions	314,704.00
<u>NET POSITION:</u>	
Net Investment in Capital Assets	2,701,506.00
Restricted for:	
Special Projects	34,125.88
Food Service	60,562.22
Debt Service	354,435.83
Capital Projects	362,124.85
Special Assessments	18,355.57
Unrestricted	(5,020,454.40)
Total Net Position	(1,489,344.05)

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

UNITED PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 7
Des Lacs, North Dakota

Statement of Activities
For the Year Ended June 30, 2017

	Program Revenues		Net (Expense) Revenue and Changes in Net Position
	Expenses	Charges for Services	Operating Grants and Contributions
			Governmental Activities
Governmental Activities:			
Regular Instruction	4,370,876.26	13,318.26	(4,357,558.00)
Federal Programs	216,461.34		34,603.82
Special Education	496,894.98	10,558.87	(486,336.11)
Vocational Education	275,729.94		(235,792.67)
District Wide Services	98,669.41		(98,669.41)
Administration	623,043.74		(623,043.74)
Operations and Maintenance	989,799.12		(989,799.12)
Student Transportation	409,999.01		(5,643.05)
Student Activities	242,293.37	39,766.61	(202,526.76)
Tuition and Assessments	99,628.54		(99,628.54)
Food Services	433,245.65	180,853.46	(110,144.13)
Other	1,578.90		(1,578.90)
Interest on Long-Term Debt	31,251.87		(31,251.87)
Unallocated Depreciation	152,440.00		(152,440.00)
Total Governmental Activities	8,441,912.13	244,497.20	837,606.45
General Revenues:			
Taxes:			
Property taxes; levied for general purposes			1,047,425.73
Property taxes; levied for debt service			205,968.80
Property taxes; levied for building purposes			293,925.42
Telecommunication taxes			17,711.20
Homestead credit taxes			8,444.88
Disabled veterans credit taxes			10,899.14
Oil and gas production taxes			3,217.09
State aid - not restricted to specific program			5,806,611.20
Earnings on investments and other revenue			35,297.76
Total General Revenues			7,429,501.22
Change in Net Position			69,692.74
Net Position - July 1			(1,559,036.79)
Net Position - June 30			(1,489,344.05)

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

UNITED PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 7
Des Lacs, North Dakota

Balance Sheet
Governmental Funds
June 30, 2017

	Major Funds				
	General	Debt Service	Capital Projects	Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
ASSETS:					
Cash and Investments	782,230.94	336,955.41	339,277.30	94,688.10	1,553,151.75
Taxes Receivable	113,541.44	23,154.63	32,208.14		168,904.21
Due from County Treasurer	32,070.97	6,334.13	8,994.98		47,400.08
<hr/>					
Total Assets	927,843.35	366,444.17	380,480.42	94,688.10	1,769,456.04
<hr/> <hr/>					
DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES AND FUND BALANCES					
Deferred Inflows of Resources:					
Unavailable Revenue	113,541.44	23,154.63	32,208.14		168,904.21
<hr/>					
Fund Balances:					
Restricted for:					
Special Projects				34,125.88	34,125.88
Food Service				60,562.22	60,562.22
Debt Service		343,289.54			343,289.54
Capital Projects			330,360.94		330,360.94
Special Assessments			17,911.34		17,911.34
Unassigned	814,301.91				814,301.91
Total Fund Balances	814,301.91	343,289.54	348,272.28	94,688.10	1,600,551.83
<hr/>					
Total Deferred Inflows of Resources and Fund Balances	927,843.35	366,444.17	380,480.42	94,688.10	1,769,456.04
<hr/> <hr/>					

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

UNITED PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 7
Des Lacs, North Dakota

Reconciliation of Governmental Funds Balance Sheet
to the Statement of Net Position
For the Year Ended June 30, 2017

Total Fund Balances for Governmental Funds	1,600,551.83
--	--------------

Total net position reported for government 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	9,023,135.00	
Less Accumulated Depreciation	(5,186,629.00)	
		3,836,506.00
Net Capital Assets		

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.

168,904.21

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	1,998,066.00	
Total Deferred Inflows of Resources	(314,704.00)	
		1,683,362.00
Net Deferred Outflows/Inflows of Resources		

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. Interest on long-term debt is not accrued in governmental funds, but rather is recognized as an expenditure when due. All liabilities -both current and long-term- are reported in the statement of net position. Balances at June 30, 2017 are:

General Obligation Bonds Payable	(1,135,000.00)	
Compensated Absences Payable	(18,403.75)	
Interest Payable	(12,008.34)	
Net Pension Liability	(7,613,256.00)	
		(8,778,668.09)
Total Long-Term Liabilities		

Total Net Position of Governmental Activities	(1,489,344.05)
---	----------------

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

UNITED PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 7
Des Lacs, North Dakota

Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes
in Fund Balances - Governmental Funds
For the Year Ended June 30, 2017

	Major Funds			Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
	General	Debt Service	Capital Projects		
Revenues:					
Local Sources	1,133,541.55	206,128.77	291,570.98	184,293.29	1,815,534.59
County Sources	3,217.09				3,217.09
State Sources	6,189,483.45	27,689.59	38,681.37	2,969.57	6,258,823.98
Federal Sources	258,595.18			139,278.49	397,873.67
Other Sources				454.02	454.02
Total Revenues	7,584,837.27	233,818.36	330,252.35	326,995.37	8,475,903.35
Expenditures:					
Current:					
Regular Instruction	4,147,060.51				4,147,060.51
Federal Programs	216,461.34				216,461.34
Special Education	496,894.98				496,894.98
Vocational Education	275,729.94				275,729.94
District Wide Services	98,669.41				98,669.41
Administration	623,043.74				623,043.74
Operations and Maintenance	788,213.47		201,585.65		989,799.12
Student Transportation	409,999.01				409,999.01
Student Activities	164,806.37				164,806.37
Tuition and Assessments	99,628.54				99,628.54
Food Services	122,032.10			311,213.55	433,245.65
Other			1,578.90		1,578.90
Capital Outlay	27,721.00				27,721.00
Debt Service:					
Principal	83,821.22	275,000.00	82,857.04		441,678.26
Interest and Service Charges		31,222.50	1,934.25		33,156.75
Total Expenditures	7,554,081.63	306,222.50	287,955.84	311,213.55	8,459,473.52
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over Expenditures	30,755.64	(72,404.14)	42,296.51	15,781.82	16,429.83
Other Financing Sources (Uses):					
Transfers In	290.86				290.86
Transfers Out				(290.86)	(290.86)
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	290.86			(290.86)	
Net Change in Fund Balances	31,046.50	(72,404.14)	42,296.51	15,490.96	16,429.83
Fund Balance - July 1	783,255.41	415,693.68	305,975.77	79,197.14	1,584,122.00
Fund Balance - June 30	814,301.91	343,289.54	348,272.28	94,688.10	1,600,551.83

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

UNITED PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 7
Des Lacs, 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, 2017

Net Change in Fund Balances - Total Governmental Funds 16,429.83

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	27,721.00	
Current Year Depreciation Expense	(229,927.00)	(202,206.00)

The proceeds of debt issuances are reported as financing sources in governmental funds and thus contribute to the change in fund balance. In the statement of net position, issuing debt increases long-term liabilities and does not affect the statement of activities. Repayment of debt principal is an expenditure in the governmental funds, but the repayment reduces long-term liabilities in the statement of net position. This is the amount by which repayment of debt exceeded debt proceeds.

Debt Proceeds	0.00	
Repayment of Debt	441,678.26	441,678.26

Some expenses reported in the statement of activities do not require the use of current financial resources and are not reported as expenditures in governmental funds.

Net Decrease in Interest Payable	1,904.88	
Net Increase in Compensated Absences	(763.75)	
Net Increase to Pension Expense	(223,052.00)	(221,910.87)

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		35,701.52

Change in Net Position of Governmental Activities		69,692.74

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

UNITED PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 7
Des Lacs, North Dakota

Statement of Fiduciary Assets and Liabilities
Agency Funds
June 30, 2017

	Agency Funds
<u>Assets:</u>	
Cash	349,506.42
	=====
<u>Liabilities:</u>	
Due to Student Activities Groups	105,069.90
Due to Employees	244,436.52

Total Liabilities	349,506.42
	=====

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

UNITED PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 7
Des Lacs, North Dakota

Notes to the Financial Statements
June 30, 2017

Note 1 SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The financial statements of the United Public School District No. 7 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. This criteria includes 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 United Public School District No. 7 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, United Public School District No. 7. These statements include the financial activities of the overall government, except for fiduciary activities. 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 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 including its fiduciary funds. Separate statements for each fund category - governmental and fiduciary - are presented. The emphasis of fund financial statements is on major governmental funds, 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.

Debt Service Fund. This fund is used to account for the accumulation of resources for, and the payment of, long-term debt principal, interest and related costs.

Capital Projects 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.

The school district reports the following fund type:

Agency Funds. These funds account for assets held by the school district in a custodial capacity as an agent on behalf of others. The school district's agency funds are used to account for various deposits of the student activity funds and employee flexible benefits.

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

Government-wide and Fiduciary Fund Financial Statements: The government-wide and fiduciary fund 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 and acquisitions under capital leases 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	70 years
Vehicles	5 to 10 years

F. Compensated Absences

Vested or accumulated sick leave is reported in the government-wide statement of net position. Compensation for unused sick leave will be granted to all certified employees and administrators upon termination of 5 or more years. The district's personnel policy requires a payout of \$5 for each day after 5 years and \$10 for each day after 10 years up to a maximum of 90 days for accumulated sick leave. Staff members must accumulate at least \$50 in days to receive the payout. Compensation for unused personal leave is granted at the rate of \$70 per unused day.

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 Teachers 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 investments 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, 2017 the school district's carrying amount of deposits was \$1,902,658 and the bank balance was \$2,242,418. Of the bank balance, \$250,000 was covered by Federal Depository Insurance. The remaining balance of \$1,992,418 was collateralized with securities held by the pledging financial institution's agent in the government's name.

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, 2017 the school district held certificates of deposit in the amount of \$34,125, 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 represents 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 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 CAPITAL ASSETS

The following is a summary of changes in capital assets for the year ended June 30, 2017:

	Balance July 1	Increases	Decreases	Balance June 30
Governmental Activities:				
<i>Capital assets</i>				
<i>being depreciated:</i>				
Buildings	7,960,000			7,960,000
Vehicles	1,035,414	27,721		1,063,135
Total	8,995,414	27,721		9,023,135
<i>Less accumulated depreciation for:</i>				
Buildings	4,306,428	152,440		4,458,868
Vehicles	650,274	77,487		727,761
Total	4,956,702	229,927		5,186,629
Governmental Activities Capital Assets, Net	4,038,712	(202,206)	-0-	3,836,506
	=====	=====	=====	=====

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

Student Transportation	77,487.00
Unallocated Depreciation	152,440.00
Total Depreciation Expense	229,927.00
	=====

Note 6 INTEREST PAYABLE

Interest payable consists of interest on long-term liabilities accrued to June 30, 2017.

Note 7 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 8 LONG-TERM DEBT

Changes in Long-Term Liabilities. During the year ended June 30, 2017, the following changes occurred in liabilities reported in the long-term liabilities - Governmental Activities:

	<u>Balance July 1</u>	<u>Increases</u>	<u>Decreases</u>	<u>Balance June 30</u>	<u>Due Within One Year</u>
General Obligation					
Bonds	1,410,000		275,000	1,135,000	275,000
State School					
Construction Loan	166,678		166,678		
Compensated Absences *	17,640	764		18,404	
 Total	<u>1,594,318</u>	<u>764</u>	<u>441,678</u>	<u>1,153,404</u>	<u>275,000</u>

* The change in compensated absences is shown as a net change because changes in salary prohibit exact calculations of increases and decreases.

Outstanding debt at June 30, 2017 consists of the following:

General Obligation Debt. General obligation debt is a direct obligation and pledges the full faith and credit of the government.

Bonds and Loans Payable. The school district has issued general obligation bonds to provide funds for the construction and renovation of major capital facilities.

\$1,495,000 Limited Tax School Building Bonds, Series 2011, due in annual installments of \$110,000 to \$135,000 through August 1, 2024; interest is at 2.2% to 3.1%.	970,000.00
\$810,000 General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2012, due in final installment of \$165,000.00 on August 1, 2017; interest is at .9%.	165,000.00
Total General Obligation Debt	1,135,000.00

The annual requirements to amortize the outstanding general obligation bond and loan debt are as follows:

<u>Year Ending June 30</u>	<u>Principal</u>	<u>Interest</u>
2018	275,000.00	26,867.50
2019	115,000.00	23,650.00
2021	115,000.00	20,717.50
2020	120,000.00	17,310.00
2022	120,000.00	13,830.00
2023-2025	390,000.00	18,445.00
 Total	1,135,000.00	120,820.00

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, 2017:

<u>Fund</u>	<u>Transfer In</u>	<u>Transfer Out</u>
General	290.86	
Special Reserve		290.86

To transfer interest earned.

Note 10 RISK MANAGEMENT

The United Public School District No. 7 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 \$1,000,000 per occurrence for general liability and automobile; and \$4,868 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 Chapter 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 Board comprised of seven members. 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 equal 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 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, 2017, the United Public School District reported a liability of \$6,604,080 for its proportionate share of the net pension liability. The net pension liability was measured as of June 30, 2016 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, 2016 the district's proportion was .450772 percent, which was an increase of .000105 from its proportion measured as of June 30, 2015.

For the year ended June 30, 2017 the district recognized pension expense of \$571,013. At June 30, 2017 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	31,191	31,269
Changes in assumptions	551,632	
Net difference between projected and actual earnings on pension plan investments	548,978	
Changes in proportion and differences between employer contributions and proportionate share of contributions	1,055	223,955
District contributions subsequent to the measurement date (see below)	428,711	
Total	<u>1,561,567</u> =====	<u>255,224</u> =====

\$428,711 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, 2018.

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: -----	
2018	159,111
2019	159,111
2020	293,256
2021	209,267
2022	61,923
Thereafter	(5,036)

Actuarial assumptions. The total pension liability in the July 1, 2016 actuarial valuation was determined using the following actuarial assumptions, applied to all periods included in the measurement:

Inflation	2.75%
Salary increases	4.25% to 14.50%, varying by service, including inflation and productivity.
Investment rate of return	7.75%, net of investment expenses.
Cost-of-living adjustments	None

For active and inactive members, mortality rates were based on the RP-2014 Employee Mortality Table, projected generationally using Scale MP-2014. For healthy retirees, mortality rates were based on the RP-2014 Healthy Annuitant Mortality Table set back on year, multiplied by 50% for ages under 75 and grading up to 100% by age 80, projected generationally using Scale MP-2014. For disabled retirees, mortality rates were based on the RP-2014 Disabled Mortality Table set forward four years.

The actuarial assumptions used were based on the results of an actuarial experience study dated April 30, 2015. They are the same as the assumptions used in the July 1, 2016, funding actuarial valuation for TFFR.

As a result of the April 30, 2015 actuarial experience study, the TFFR board adopted several assumption changes, including the following:

- * Investment return assumption lowered from 8% to 7.75%.
- * Inflation assumption lowered from 3% to 2.75%.
- * Total salary scale rates lowered by 0.25% due to lower inflation.
- * Added explicit administrative expense assumption, equal to prior year administrative expense plus inflation.
- * Rates of turnover and retirement were changed to better reflect anticipated future experience.
- * Updated mortality assumption to the RP-2014 tables with generational improvement.

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
Global Equities	58%	7.30%
Global Fixed Income	23%	0.9%
Global Real Assets	18%	5.30%
Cash Equivalents	1%	0.00%

Discount rate. The discount rate used to measure the total pension liability was 7.75 percent as of June 30, 2016. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumes that member and employer contributions will be made at rates equal to those based on the July 1, 2016, 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 June 30, 2016. 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, 2016.

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 7.75 percent, 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 (6.75 percent) or 1-percentage-point higher (8.75 percent) than the current rate:

	1% Decrease (6.75%)	Current Rate (7.75%)	1% Increase (8.75%)
	-----	-----	-----
The district's proportionate share of the net pension liability	8,565,988	6,604,080	4,969,996

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 by investment income and contributions.

Responsibility for administration of the NDPERS benefits program is assigned to a Board comprised of seven members. The Board consists of a Chairman, who is appointed by the Governor; one member appointed by the Attorney General; one member appointed by the State Health Officer; three members elected by active membership of the NDPERS system; and one member elected by the retired public employees.

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. 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 covered compensation. Member contribution rates are 7% and employer contribution rates are 7.12% 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 25 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, 2017, the United Public School District reported a liability of \$1,009,176 for its proportionate share of the net pension liability. The net pension liability was measured as of June 30, 2016 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, 2016 the district's proportion was .103548 percent, which was an increase of .002186 from its proportion measured as of June 30, 2015.

For the year ended June 30, 2017 the district recognized pension expense of \$160,413. At June 30, 2017 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	15,160	9,344
Changes in assumptions	93,033	50,136
Net difference between projected and actual earnings on pension plan investments	140,795	
Changes in proportion and differences between employer contributions and proportionate share of contributions	107,983	
District contributions subsequent to the measurement date (see below)	79,528	
Total	----- 436,499 -----	----- 59,480 -----

\$79,528 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, 2018.

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: -----	
2018	60,621
2019	60,621
2020	91,335
2021	67,587
2022	17,327
Thereafter	0

Actuarial assumptions. The total pension liability in the July 1, 2016 actuarial valuation was determined using the following actuarial assumptions, applied to all periods included in the measurement:

Inflation	3.50%
Salary increases	4.50% per annum
Investment rate of return	8.00%, net of investment expenses.
Cost-of-living adjustments	None

For active members, inactive members and healthy retirees, mortality rates were based on the RP-2000 Combined Healthy Mortality Table set back two years for males and three years for females, projected generationally using the SSA 2014 Intermediate Cost scale from 2014. For disabled retirees, mortality rates were based on the RP-2000 Disabled Retiree Morality Table with ages set back one year for males (not set back for females) multiplied by 125%.

The actuarial assumptions used were based on the results of an actuarial experience study completed in 2015. They are the same as the assumptions used in the July 1, 2016, funding actuarial valuation for NDPERS.

As a result of the 2015 actuarial experience study, the NDPERS Board adopted several changes to the actuarial assumptions effective July 1, 2015. This includes changes to the mortality tables, disability incidence rates, retirement rates, administrative expenses, salary scale, and percent married assumption.

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%	6.90%
International Equity	21%	7.55%
Private Equity	5%	11.30%
Domestic Fixed Income	17%	1.52%
International Equity Income	5%	0.45%
Global Real Assets	20%	5.38%
Cash Equivalents	1%	0.00%

Discount rate. The discount rate used to measure the total pension liability was 8 percent as of June 30, 2016. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumes that member and employer contributions will be made at rates equal to those based on the July 1, 2016, 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 June 30, 2016. 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, 2016.

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 8 percent, 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 (7 percent) or 1-percentage-point higher (9 percent) than the current rate:

	1% Decrease (7%)	Current Rate (8%)	1% Increase (9%)
	-----	-----	-----
The district's proportionate share of the net pension liability	1,431,497	1,009,176	653,349

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

UNITED PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 7
Des Lacs, North Dakota

Budgetary Comparison Schedule
General Fund
For the Year Ended June 30, 2017

	Original Budget	Final Budget	Actual	Variance with Final Budget Positive (Negative)
Revenues:				
Local Sources	1,270,611.00	1,270,611.00	1,133,541.55	(137,069.45)
County Sources	4,000.00	4,000.00	3,217.09	(782.91)
State Sources	6,014,774.00	6,014,774.00	6,189,483.45	174,709.45
Federal Sources	204,625.25	204,625.25	258,595.18	53,969.93
Total Revenues	7,494,010.25	7,494,010.25	7,584,837.27	90,827.02
Expenditures:				
Current:				
Regular Instruction	3,986,356.00	3,986,356.00	4,147,060.51	(160,704.51)
Federal Programs	199,596.98	199,596.98	216,461.34	(16,864.36)
Special Education	488,187.00	488,187.00	496,894.98	(8,707.98)
Vocational Education	270,697.00	270,697.00	275,729.94	(5,032.94)
District Wide Services	126,406.00	126,406.00	98,669.41	27,736.59
Administration	638,485.00	638,485.00	623,043.74	15,441.26
Operations and Maintenance	743,410.00	743,410.00	788,213.47	(44,803.47)
Student Transportation	430,639.00	430,639.00	409,999.01	20,639.99
Student Activities	148,800.00	148,800.00	164,806.37	(16,006.37)
Tuition and Assessments	200,000.00	200,000.00	99,628.54	100,371.46
Food Services	114,323.00	114,323.00	122,032.10	(7,709.10)
Capital Outlay	27,721.00	27,721.00	27,721.00	
Debt Service:				
Principal			83,821.22	(83,821.22)
Total Expenditures	7,374,620.98	7,374,620.98	7,554,081.63	(179,460.65)
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over Expenditures	119,389.27	119,389.27	30,755.64	(88,633.63)
Other Financing Sources:				
Transfers In	300.00	300.00	290.86	(9.14)
Net Change in Fund Balances	119,689.27	119,689.27	31,046.50	(88,642.77)
Fund Balance - July 1	783,255.41	783,255.41	783,255.41	
Fund Balance - June 30	902,944.68	902,944.68	814,301.91	(88,642.77)

UNITED PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 7
Des Lacs, North Dakota

Notes to the Budgetary Comparison Schedule
June 30, 2017

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 15. The taxes levied must be certified to the county auditor by August 25. 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

The governing board did not amend the budget for the year ended June 30, 2017.

Excess of Actual Expenditures Over Budget

Expenditures exceeded budget in the general fund by \$179,460.65 for the year ended June 30, 2017. No remedial action is anticipated or required by the school district regarding these excess expenditures.

UNITED PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 7
Des Lacs, North Dakota

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

	2017	2016	2015
	-----	-----	-----
District's proportion of the net pension liability	0.450772%	0.450667%	0.477723%
District's proportionate share of the net pension liability	6,604,080	5,894,072	5,005,690
District's covered-employee payroll	2,933,235	2,772,071	2,771,048
District's proportionate share of the net pension liability as a percentage of its covered-employee payroll	225.15%	212.62%	180.64%
Plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of the total pension liability	59.2%	62.1%	66.6%

Schedule of Employer Contributions
ND Teacher's Fund for Retirement
Last 10 Fiscal Years*

	2017	2016	2015
	-----	-----	-----
Statutorily required contribution	373,988	353,439	297,888
Contributions in relation to the statutorily required contribution	(373,988)	(353,439)	(297,888)
Contribution deficiency (excess)	0	0	0
District's covered-employee payroll	2,933,235	2,772,071	2,771,048
Contributions as a percentage of covered-employee payroll	12.75%	12.75%	10.75%

* Complete data for this schedule is not available prior to 2015.

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

UNITED PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 7
Des Lacs, North Dakota

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

	2017	2016	2015
	-----	-----	-----
District's proportion of the net pension liability	0.103548%	0.101362%	0.082024%
District's proportionate share of the net pension liability	1,009,176	689,244	520,624
District's covered-employee payroll	1,071,743	930,772	816,676
District's proportionate share of the net pension liability as a percentage of its covered-employee payroll	94.16%	74.05%	63.75%
Plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of the total pension liability	70.46%	77.15%	77.70%

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

	2017	2016	2015
	-----	-----	-----
Statutorily required contribution	76,308	66,271	54,171
Contributions in relation to the statutorily required contribution	(76,308)	(66,271)	(54,171)
Contribution deficiency (excess)	0	0	0
District's covered-employee payroll	1,071,743	930,772	816,676
Contributions as a percentage of covered-employee payroll	7.12%	7.12%	6.63%

* Complete data for this schedule is not available prior to 2015.

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

UNITED PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 7
Des Lacs, North Dakota

Combining Balance Sheet
Nonmajor Governmental Funds
June 30, 2017

	Special Reserve	Food Service	Total Nonmajor Governmental Funds
ASSETS:			
Cash and Investments	34,125.88	60,562.22	94,688.10
FUND BALANCES:			
Restricted for:			
Special Projects	34,125.88		34,125.88
Food Service		60,562.22	60,562.22
Total Fund Balances	34,125.88	60,562.22	94,688.10

UNITED PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 7
Des Lacs, North Dakota

Combining Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes
in Fund Balances - Nonmajor Governmental Funds
For the Year Ended June 30, 2017

	Special Reserve	Food Service	Total Nonmajor Governmental Funds
Revenues:			
Local Sources	290.86	184,002.43	184,293.29
State Sources		2,969.57	2,969.57
Federal Sources		139,278.49	139,278.49
Other Sources		454.02	454.02
Total Revenues	290.86	326,704.51	326,995.37
Expenditures:			
Current:			
Food Services		311,213.55	311,213.55
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over Expenditures	290.86	15,490.96	15,781.82
Other Financing (Uses):			
Transfers Out	(290.86)		(290.86)
Net Change in Fund Balances		15,490.96	15,490.96
Fund Balance - July 1	34,125.88	45,071.26	79,197.14
Fund Balance - June 30	34,125.88	60,562.22	94,688.10

UNITED PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 7
Des Lacs, North Dakota

Schedule of Fund Activity Arising from Cash Transactions

For the Year Ended June 30, 2017

	Balance 7-1-16	Receipts	Transfers In	Transfers Out	Disbursements	Balance 6-30-17
General Fund	763,343.96	7,572,677.75	290.86		7,554,081.63	782,230.94
<u>Special Revenue Funds</u>						
Special Reserve	34,125.88	290.86		290.86		34,125.88
Food Service	45,071.26	297,269.54			281,778.58	60,562.22
Total Special Revenue Funds	79,197.14	297,560.40		290.86	281,778.58	94,688.10
<u>Debt Service Fund</u>						
Sinking and Interest	230,156.46	109,723.16			167,677.50	172,202.12
HVAC	181,743.60	121,554.69			138,545.00	164,753.29
Total Debt Service Fund	411,900.06	231,277.85			306,222.50	336,955.41
<u>Capital Projects Fund</u>						
Building	286,190.21	321,675.87			286,376.94	321,489.14
Special Assessments	14,894.01	4,473.05			1,578.90	17,788.16
Total Capital Projects Fund	301,084.22	326,148.92			287,955.84	339,277.30
<u>Fiduciary Fund</u>						
<u>Agency Funds</u>						
Student Activity Funds	111,666.78	559,042.86			565,639.74	105,069.90
Flexible Benefits	154,074.50	946,301.69			855,939.67	244,436.52
Total Fiduciary Fund	265,741.28	1,505,344.55			1,421,579.41	349,506.42
Total All Funds	1,821,266.66	9,933,009.47	290.86	290.86	9,851,617.96	1,902,658.17

Rath & Mehrer, P.C.

Certified Public Accountants

Jayson Rath, CPA
Ken Mehrer, CPA
Bryce Fischer, CPA

425 North Fifth Street
Bismarck, ND 58501
Phone 701-258-4560
Fax 701-258-4983

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
United Public School District No. 7
Des Lacs, 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 United Public School District No. 7, Des Lacs, North Dakota, as of and for the year ended June 30, 2017, 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 24, 2017.

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) to determine the 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. However, material weaknesses may exist that have not been identified. We did identify certain deficiencies in internal control, described in the accompanying schedule of findings and responses as items II-1 and II-2, that we consider to be significant deficiencies.

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 determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit, and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

School District's Response to Findings

The school district's response to the findings identified in our audit are 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, P.C.

Bismarck, North Dakota

November 24, 2017

UNITED PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 7
Des Lacs, North Dakota

Schedule of Findings and Responses
For the Year Ended June 30, 2017

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

SECTION II - FINANCIAL STATEMENT FINDINGS:

Significant Deficiencies

1. Segregation of Duties

Condition: The school district has one person responsible for most accounting functions.

Criteria: There should be sufficient accounting personnel so duties of employees are segregated. The segregation of duties would provide better control over assets of the school district.

Effect: There is no segregation of duties as one employee is responsible to collect monies, deposit monies, issue checks, send checks to vendors, record receipts and disbursements in journals, maintain the general ledger and prepare financial statements. This increases the risk of misstatement of the school district's financial condition.

Recommendation: Due to the size of the school district, it is not feasible to obtain proper separation of duties and no recommendation will be made.

Client Response: No response is considered necessary.

2. Financial Statement Preparation

Condition: The school district's financial statements as of June 30, 2017 are prepared by the school district's external auditors.

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.

Effect: A control system is not in place to determine that the financial statements are properly stated and in compliance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Recommendation: We recommend the school district obtain the necessary knowledge of current accounting principles to prepare financial statements or outsource the preparation of its financial statements.

Client Response: It is not cost effective for the school district to prepare its own financial statements.