

## OFFICIAL STATEMENT

### NEW ISSUE

### SERIAL BONDS

In the opinion of Barclay Damon LLP, Albany, New York, Bond Counsel, under existing law (1) interest on the Bonds is excluded from gross income of the owners thereof for federal income tax purposes and is not an "item of tax preference" for the purposes of the individual alternative minimum tax imposed by the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code"), except that the School District, by failing to comply with certain restrictions contained in the Code, may cause interest on the Bonds to become subject to federal income taxation from the date of issuance thereof, and (2) interest on the Bonds is exempt from personal income taxes imposed by the State of New York or any political subdivision thereof (including The City of New York). See the caption "TAX MATTERS" herein.

The Bonds will be designated, or deemed designated as, "qualified tax-exempt obligations" pursuant to Section 265(b)(3) of the Code.

# **\$3,669,938**

## **SHARON SPRINGS CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT**

### **SCHOHARIE COUNTY, NEW YORK**

#### **GENERAL OBLIGATIONS**

#### **\$3,669,938 School District (Serial) Bonds, 2020**

(referred to herein as the "Bonds")

**Dated: June 18, 2020**

**Due: June 15, 2021-2035**

#### **MATURITIES**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Amount**</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>Amount**</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>Amount**</b>
2021	\$ 234,938	2026	\$ 215,000	2031	\$ 255,000 *
2022	265,000	2027	220,000	2032	260,000 *
2023	275,000	2028	225,000	2033	270,000 *
2024	200,000	2029	235,000 *	2034	275,000 *
2025	210,000	2030	245,000 *	2035	285,000 *

\* The Bonds maturing in the years 2029-2035 are subject to redemption prior to maturity. See "Optional Redemption" herein.

\*\* Principal amounts are subject to change pursuant to the accompanying Notice of Bond Sale in order to achieve substantially level or declining annual debt service and to comply with the requirements of the Code.

The Bonds are general obligations of the Sharon Springs Central School District, Schoharie County, New York, all the taxable real property within which is subject to the levy of ad valorem taxes to pay the Bonds and interest thereon, without limitation as to rate or amount. The faith and credit of the Sharon Springs Central School District are irrevocably pledged for the payment of the Bonds and the interest thereon. See "Description of the Bonds" herein.

The Bonds will be issued as registered bonds and, when issued, will be registered in the name of Cede & Co., as nominee of the Depository Trust Company ("DTC"), which will act as securities depository for the Bonds. Individual purchases will be made in book-entry form only, in the principal amount of \$5,000 each or integral multiples thereof, except for one necessary odd denomination maturing in 2021. Purchasers will not receive certificates representing their ownership interest in the Bonds. Interest on Bonds will be payable on December 15, 2020 and semi-annually thereafter on June 15 and December 15 in each year until maturity (or early redemption). Principal and interest will be paid by the District to DTC, which in turn remit such principal and interest to its participants, for subsequent distribution to the beneficial owners of the Bonds, as described herein. The Bonds may not be converted into coupon bonds or be registered to bearer.

Proposals for the Bonds shall be for not less than \$3,669,938 and accrued interest, if any, on the total principal amount of the Bonds. Proposals must be accompanied by a good faith deposit in the form of a wire transfer or certified or cashier's check, payable to the order of Sharon Springs Central School District, Schoharie, Montgomery and Otsego Counties, New York, in the amount of \$36,699.

The Bonds are offered when, as and if issued and received by the purchaser and subject to the receipt of an unqualified legal opinion as to the validity of the Bonds of Barclay Damon LLP, Bond Counsel, Albany, New York. It is anticipated that the Bonds will be available for delivery through the facilities of DTC in Jersey City, New Jersey on or about June 18, 2020.

Sealed bids will be received THURSDAY, June 4, 2020 until 11:00 a.m. Prevailing Time, in accordance with the Notice of Sale at R.G. Timbs, Inc., 24 Sherman Oaks Drive, New Hartford, NY 13413, fax (315)266-9212.

May 21, 2020

THE DISTRICT DEEMS THIS OFFICIAL STATEMENT TO BE FINAL FOR PURPOSES OF SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION RULE 15c2-12 ("THE RULE"), EXCEPT FOR CERTAIN INFORMATION THAT HAS BEEN OMITTED HEREFROM IN ACCORANCE WITH SAID RULE AND THAT WILL BE SUPPLIES WHEN THIS OFFICIAL STATEMENT IS UPDATED UPON REQUEST OF THE SUCCESSFUL BIDDERS, AS MORE FULLY DESCRIBED IN THE NOTICE OF SALE WITH RESPECT TO THE OBLIGATIONS HEREIN DESCRIBED. FOR A DESCRIPTION OF THE DISTRICT'S AGREEMENT TO PROVIDE CONTINUING DISCLOSURE FOR THE BONDS AS DESCRIBED IN THE RULE, SEE APPENDIX-D, CONTINUING DISCLOSURE UNDERTAKING" HEREIN.

**SHARON SPRINGS CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
SCHOHARIE COUNTY, NEW YORK**

School District Officials

**2019-20 BOARD OF EDUCATION**

James MacFadden - President  
Helen Roberts - Vice President

Christina Cornwell  
Laura Jackson  
Sofia Issa

.....

Patterson Green - Superintendent of Schools  
Anthony M. DiPace – Business Manager/School District Clerk  
Denise Perrotti - Treasurer

.....

School District Attorney

Girvin & Ferlazzo, PC

**BOND COUNSEL**

**Barclay Damon LLP**

**MUNICIPAL ADVISOR**



**R. G. Timbs, Inc.**

No person has been authorized by the School District to give any information or to make any representations not contained in this Official Statement, and, if given or made, such information or representations must not be relied upon as having been authorized. This Official Statement does not constitute an offer to sell or solicitation of an offer to buy any of the Bonds in any jurisdiction to any person to whom it is unlawful to make such offer or solicitation in such jurisdiction. The information, estimates and expressions of opinion herein are subject to change without notice, and neither the delivery of this Official Statement nor any sale made hereunder shall, under any circumstances, create any implication that there has been no change in the affairs of the School District.

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**PREPARED WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF:**

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## OFFICIAL STATEMENT

of the

### **SHARON SPRINGS CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT SCHOHARIE COUNTY, NEW YORK**

Relating To

### **\$3,669,938 School District (Serial) Bonds, 2020**

This Official Statement, which includes the cover page, has been prepared by the Sharon Springs Central School District, Schoharie County, New York (the "District" or the "School District") in connection with the sale by the District of \$3,669,938 aggregate principal amount of School District (Serial) Bonds, 2020 (herein referred to as the "Bonds").

The factors affecting the District's financial condition and the Bonds are described throughout this Official Statement. Inasmuch as many of these factors, including economic and demographic factors, are complex and may influence the District's tax base, revenues, and expenditures, this Official Statement should read in its entirety, and no one factor should be considered more or less important than any other by reason of its relative position in this Official Statement.

All quotations from and summaries and explanations of provisions of the Constitution and Laws of the State and acts and proceedings of the District contained herein do not purport to be complete and are qualified in their entirety by reference to the official compilations thereof, and all references to the Bonds and the proceedings of the District relating thereto are qualified in their entirety by reference to the definitive form of the Bonds and such proceedings.

### **Nature of the Obligation**

Each Bond when duly issued and paid for will constitute a contract between the District and the holder thereof.

Holders of any series of notes or bonds of the District may bring an action or commence a proceeding in accordance with the civil practice law and rules to enforce the rights of the holders of such series of notes or bonds.

The Bonds will be general obligations of the District and will contain a pledge of the faith and credit of the District for the payment of the principal thereof and the interest thereon as required by the Constitution and laws of the State. For the payment of such principal and interest, the District has power and statutory authorization to levy ad valorem taxes on all real property within the District subject to such taxation by the District, without limitation as to rate or amount.

Although the State Legislature is restricted by Article VIII, Section 12 of the State Constitution from imposing limitations on the power to raise taxes to pay "interest on or principal of indebtedness theretofore contracted" prior to the effective date of any such legislation, the New York State Legislature may from time to time impose additional limitations or requirements on the ability to increase a real property tax levy or on the methodology, exclusions or other restrictions of various aspects of real property taxation (as well as on the ability to issue new indebtedness). On June 24, 2011, Chapter 97 of the Laws of 2011 was signed into law by the Governor (the "Tax Levy Limitation Law" or "Chapter 97"). The Tax Levy Limitation Law applies to local governments and school districts in the State (with certain exceptions) and imposes additional procedural requirements on the ability of municipalities and school districts to levy certain year-to-year increases in real property taxes.

Under the Constitution of the State, the District is required to pledge its faith and credit for the payment of the principal of and interest on the Bonds and is required to raise real estate taxes, and without specification, other revenues, if such levy is necessary to repay such indebtedness. While the Tax Levy Limitation Law imposes a statutory limitation on the District's power to increase its annual tax levy, with the amount of such increase limited by the formulas set forth in the Tax Levy Limitation Law, it also provides the procedural method to surmount that limitation. See "TAX LEVY LIMITATION LAW" herein.

The Constitutionally-mandated general obligation pledge of municipalities and school districts in New York State has been interpreted by the Court of Appeals, the State's highest court, in Flushing National Bank v. Municipal Assistance Corporation for the City of New York, 40 N.Y.2d 731 (1976), as follows:

"A pledge of the city's faith and credit is both a commitment to pay and a commitment of the city's revenue generating powers to produce the funds to pay. Hence, an obligation containing a pledge of the City's "faith and credit" is secured by a promise both to pay and to use in good faith the city's general revenue powers to produce sufficient funds to pay the principal and interest of the obligation as it becomes due. That is why both words, "faith" and "credit" are used and they are not tautological. That is what the words say and this is what the courts have held they mean... So, too, although the Legislature is given the duty to restrict municipalities in order to prevent abuses in taxation, assessment, and in contracting of indebtedness, it may not constrict the City's power to levy taxes on real estate for the payment of interest on or principal of indebtedness previously contracted... While phrased in permissive language, these provisions, when read together with the requirement of the pledge and faith and credit, express a constitutional imperative: debt obligations must be paid, even if tax limits be exceeded".

In addition, the Court of Appeals in the Flushing National Bank (1976) case has held that the payment of debt service on outstanding general obligation bonds and notes takes precedence over fiscal emergencies and the police power of political subdivisions in New York State.

The pledge has generally been understood as a promise to levy property taxes without limitation as to rate or amount to the extent necessary to cover debt service due to language in Article VIII Section 10 of the Constitution, which provides an exclusion for debt 'service from Constitutional limitations on the amount of a real property tax levy, insuring the availability of the levy of property tax revenues to pay debt service. As the Flushing National Bank (1976) Court noted, the term "faith and credit" in its context is "not qualified in any way". Indeed, in Flushing National Bank v. Municipal Assistance Corp., 40 N.Y.2d 1088 (1977) the Court of Appeals described the pledge as a direct constitutional mandate. In Quirk v. Municipal Assistance Corp., 41 N.Y.2d 644 (1977), the Court of Appeals stated that, while holders of general obligation debt did not have a right to particular revenues such as sales tax, "with respect to traditional real estate tax levies, the bondholders are constitutionally protected against an attempt by the State to deprive the city of those revenues to meet its obligations." According to the Court in Quirk, the State Constitution "requires the city to raise real estate taxes, and without specification other revenues, if such a levy be necessary to repay indebtedness."

In addition, the Constitution of the State requires that every county, city, town, village, and school district in the State provide annually by appropriation for the payment of all interest and principal on its serial bonds and certain other obligations, and that, if at any time the respective appropriating authorities shall fail to make such appropriation, a sufficient sum shall be set apart from the first revenues thereafter received and shall be applied to such purposes. In the event that an appropriating authority were to make an appropriation for debt service and then decline to expend it for that purpose, this provision would not apply. However, the Constitution of the State does also provide that the fiscal officer of any county, city, town, village, or school district may be required to set apart and apply such first revenues at the suit of any holder of any such obligations.

In Quirk v. Municipal Assistance Corp., the Court of Appeals described this as a "first lien" on revenues, but one that does not give holders a right to any particular revenues. It should thus be noted that the pledge of the faith and credit of a political subdivision in New York State is a pledge of an issuer of a general obligation bond or note to use its general revenue powers, including, but not limited to, its property tax levy to pay debt service on such obligations, but that such pledge may not be interpreted by a court of competent jurisdiction to include a constitutional or statutory lien upon any particular revenues.

While the courts in New York State have historically been protective of the rights of holders of general obligation debt of political subdivisions, it is not possible to predict what a future court might hold.

## **Description of the Bonds**

The Bonds will be dated June 18, 2020 and mature in the principal amounts and on the dates as set forth on the cover page. The Bonds are subject to redemption prior to maturity as described herein under the heading “Optional Redemption” hereunder. The Bonds bear interest from June 18, 2020, with interest thereon payable on December 15, 2020 and semi-annually thereafter on June 15 and December 15. The “Record Date” of the Bonds will be the last business day of the calendar month preceding each such interest payment date.

The Bonds will be issued as registered bonds and, when issued will be registered in the name of Cede & Co., as nominee of The Depository Trust Company, New York, New York, which will act as Securities Depository for the Bonds. Individual purchases will be made in book-entry only form, in the principal amount of \$5,000 or integral multiples thereof, except one Bond of an odd denomination maturing in 2021. Purchasers will not receive certificates representing their ownership interest in the Bonds. Principal and Interest will be paid by the District to the Securities Depository, which will in turn remit such principal and interest to its Participants for subsequent distribution to the Beneficial Owners of the Bonds, as described herein.

## **Optional Redemption**

The Bonds maturing on or before June 15, 2028 will not be subject to redemption prior to maturity. The Bonds maturing on or after June 15, 2029 will be subject to redemption prior to maturity as a whole or in part (selected at random if less than all of a maturity is to be redeemed) at the option of the District on June 15, 2028 or any date thereafter at par (100%), plus accrued interest to the date of redemption.

If less than all of the Bonds of any maturity are to be redeemed, the particular Bonds of such maturity to be redeemed shall be selected by the District at random (by lot or in any other customary manner of selection as determined by the President of the Board of Education). Notice of such call for redemption shall be given by mailing such notice to the registered owners of the Bonds not more than sixty (60) days nor less than thirty (30) days prior to such date. Notice of redemption having been given as aforesaid, the Bonds so called for redemption shall, on the date for redemption set forth in such call for redemption, become due and payable, together with interest to such redemption date, and interest shall cease to be paid thereon after such redemption date.

## **Purpose and Authorization**

The Notes are authorized to be issued pursuant to the Constitution and laws of the State of New York, including among others, the Education Law, the Local Finance Law, and pursuant to a bond resolution dated February 12, 2018, authorizing the issuance of obligations of the District in the amount of \$3,845,000 for the financing of the reconstruction of the District Buildings.

The proceeds of the Notes will redeem at maturity the outstanding \$3,540,000 Bond Anticipation Notes and provide \$129,938 in new monies for the aforementioned purpose.

## **Book-Entry Only System**

The Depository Trust Company (“DTC”), New York, NY, will act as securities depository for the Bonds. The Bonds will be issued as fully-registered securities registered in the name of Cede & Co. (DTC’s partnership nominee) or such other name as may be requested by an authorized representative of DTC.

DTC, the world’s largest depository, is a limited-purpose trust company organized under the New York Banking Law, a “banking organization” within the meaning of the New York Banking Law, a member of the Federal Reserve System, a “clearing corporation” within the meaning of the New York Uniform Commercial Code, and a “clearing agency” registered pursuant to the provisions of Section 17A of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. DTC holds and provides asset servicing for over 3.5 million issues of U.S. and non-U.S. equity issues, corporate and municipal debt issues, and money market instruments from over 100 countries that DTC’s participants (“Direct Participants”) deposit

with DTC. DTC also facilitates the post-trade settlement among Direct Participants of sales and other securities transactions in deposited securities, through electronic computerized book-entry transfers and pledges between Direct Participants' accounts. This eliminates the need for physical movement of securities certificates. Direct Participants include both U.S. and non-U.S. securities brokers and dealers, banks, trust companies, clearing corporations, and certain other organizations. DTC is a wholly-owned subsidiary of The Depository Trust & Clearing Corporation ("DTCC"). DTCC is the holding company for DTC, National Securities Clearing Corporation and Fixed Income Clearing Corporation, all of which are registered clearing agencies. DTCC is owned by the users of its regulated subsidiaries. Access to the DTC system is also available to others such as both U.S. and non-U.S. securities brokers and dealers, banks, trust companies, and clearing corporations that clear through or maintain a custodial relationship with a Direct Participant, either directly or indirectly ("Indirect Participants"). The DTC Rules applicable to its Participants are on file with the Securities and Exchange Commission. More information about DTC can be found at [www.dtcc.com](http://www.dtcc.com) and [www.dtc.org](http://www.dtc.org).

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

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

Conveyance of notices and other communications by DTC to Direct Participants, by Direct Participants to Indirect Participants, and by Direct Participants and Indirect Participants to Beneficial Owners will be governed by arrangements among them, subject to any statutory or regulatory requirements as may be in effect from time to time. Beneficial Owners of Bonds may wish to take certain steps to augment the transmission to them of notices of significant events with respect to the Bonds, such as redemptions, tenders, defaults, and proposed amendments to the Bond documents. For example, Beneficial Owners of Bonds may wish to ascertain that the nominee holding the Bonds for their benefit has agreed to obtain and transmit notices to Beneficial Owners. In the alternative, Beneficial Owners may wish to provide their names and addresses to the registrar and request that copies of notices be provided directly to them.

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

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

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

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

*Source: The Depository Trust Company*

THE DISTRICT CANNOT AND DOES NOT GIVE ANY ASSURANCES THAT DTC, DIRECT PARTICIPANTS OR INDIRECT PARTICIPANTS OF DTC WILL DISTRIBUTE TO THE BENEFICIAL OWNERS OF THE BONDS (1) PAYMENTS OF PRINCIPAL OF OR INTEREST OR REDEMPTION PREMIUM ON THE BONDS; (2) CONFIRMATIONS OF THEIR OWNERSHIP INTERESTS IN THE BONDS; OR (3) OTHER NOTICES SENT TO DTC OR CEDE & CO., ITS PARTNERSHIP NOMINEE, AS THE REGISTERED OWNER OF THE BONDS, OR THAT THEY WILL DO SO ON A TIMELY BASIS, OR THAT DTC, DIRECT PARTICIPANTS OR INDIRECT PARTICIPANTS WILL SERVE AND ACT IN THE MANNER DESCRIBED IN THIS OFFICIAL STATEMENT.

THE DISTRICT WILL NOT HAVE ANY RESPONSIBILITY OR OBLIGATIONS TO DTC, THE DIRECT PARTICIPANTS, THE INDIRECT PARTICIPANTS OF DTC OR THE BENEFICIAL OWNERS WITH RESPECT TO (1) THE ACCURACY OF ANY RECORDS MAINTAINED BY DTC OR ANY DIRECT PARTICIPANTS OR INDIRECT PARTICIPANTS OF DTC; (2) THE PAYMENT BY DTC OR ANY DIRECT PARTICIPANTS OR INDIRECT PARTICIPANTS OF DTC OF ANY AMOUNT DUE TO ANY BENEFICIAL OWNER IN RESPECT OF THE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF OR INTEREST OR REDEMPTION PREMIUM ON THE BONDS; (3) THE DELIVERY BY DTC OR ANY DIRECT PARTICIPANTS OR INDIRECT PARTICIPANTS OF DTC OF ANY NOTICE TO ANY BENEFICIAL OWNER; OR (4) ANY CONSENT GIVEN OR OTHER ACTION TAKEN BY DTC AS THE REGISTERED HOLDER OF THE BONDS.

THE INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN CONCERNING DTC AND ITS BOOK-ENTRY SYSTEM HAS BEEN OBTAINED FROM DTC AND THE DISTRICT MAKES NO REPRESENTATION AS TO THE COMPLETENESS OR THE ACCURACY OF SUCH INFORMATION OR AS TO THE ABSENCE OF MATERIAL ADVERSE CHANGES IN SUCH INFORMATION SUBSEQUENT TO THE DATE HEREOF.

## **Certificated Bonds**

In the event the book-entry-only system is discontinued the following provisions will apply: The Bonds will be issued registered form in denominations of \$5,000 each or integral multiples thereof for any single maturity, except one Bond of an odd denomination maturing in 2021. Principal of the Bonds when due will be payable upon presentation at the office of a bank or trust company located and authorized to do business in the State of New York to be named as fiscal agent by the District upon termination of the book-entry-only system. Interest on the Bonds will remain payable on December 15, 2020 and semi-annually thereafter on June 15 and December 15, in each year to maturity. Interest on the Bonds will be payable by check or draft mailed by the fiscal agent to the registered owners of the Bonds, as shown on the registration books of the District maintained by the fiscal agent as of the close of business on the Record Date, being the last business day of the calendar month preceding each interest payment date. Bonds may be transferred or exchanged at no cost to the registered owner for Bonds of the same maturity or any other authorized denomination or denominations in the same aggregate principal amount in the manner described on the Bonds and as referenced in certain proceedings of the District referred to therein.



## **The District**

### **General Information**

The Sharon Springs Central School District, established in 1928, is located in the Towns of Sharon, Seward and Carlisle in Schoharie County, the Towns of Canajoharie and Root in Montgomery County and the Towns of Cherry Valley and Roseboom in Otsego County. The Village of Sharon Springs lies within the District. The District covers approximately 48 square miles.

The District lies approximately 45 miles west of Albany and is served by New York State Route 20, Interstate Route 88 and the New York State Thruway. The District is primarily an agricultural area, although a number of small high-tech companies have located in and around Schoharie County, providing employment to many District residents. Electricity is provided by National Grid and telephone by Verizon New York Inc. Police protection is provided by the County Sheriff's Departments and the New York State Police. Fire protection and ambulance services are provided by various volunteer organizations.

The District provides public education for K12. Opportunities for higher education are available at the State University at Albany, the State University College at Oneonta, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Russell Sage College, Union College, Siena College, the College of St. Rose and SUNY Cobleskill.

### **District Population**

The 2018 population of the District is estimated to be 2,010 (Source: 2018 U.S. Census Bureau estimate)

## Selected Wealth and Income Indicators

Per capital income statistics are not available for the District as such. The smallest areas for which such statistics are available, which include the District are the Towns Villages and Counties listed below. The figures set below with respect to such Towns, Village, Counties and State, are included for information only. It should not be inferred from the inclusion of such data in this Official Statement that the Towns, Village, Counties or State are necessarily representative of the District, or vice versa.

	<u>Per Capita Income</u>			<u>Median Family Income</u>		
	<u>2000</u>	<u>2006-2010</u>	<u>2014-2018</u>	<u>2000</u>	<u>2006-2010</u>	<u>2014-2018</u>
Towns Of:						
Sharon	\$18,639	\$24,343	\$27,697	\$40,417	\$54,972	\$60,341
Seward	18,227	26,497	27,927	44,813	70,417	72,292
Carlisle	17,767	24,500	32,675	48,095	69,567	65,833
Canajoharie	16,702	22,109	25,479	39,646	62,073	63,561
Root	16,206	23,568	21,808	41,927	53,750	53,942
Cherry Valley	16,792	24,899	28,854	44,559	54,926	71,250
Roseboom	19,977	22,111	26,297	43,438	57,083	60,469
Village Of:						
Sharon Springs	\$24,664	\$28,360	\$24,497	\$45,000	\$64,886	\$52,679
County Of:						
Schoharie	\$17,778	\$25,105	\$28,712	\$43,118	\$61,828	\$67,979
Montgomery	17,005	22,347	\$25,427	40,688	53,476	56,427
Otsego	16,806	22,902	\$27,680	41,110	56,797	66,399
State Of:						
New York	\$23,389	\$30,948	37,470	\$51,691	\$67,405	\$80,419

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 census, 2006-2010 and 2014-2018 American Survey data.

### District Facilities

<u>Name</u>	<u>Grades</u>	<u>Year Built</u>	<u>Current Maximum Capacity</u>	<u>Date of Last Addition or Alteration</u>
Sharon Springs Central	K-12	1930	639	2011

Source: District Officials

## District Employees

The District employs 62 full-time employees and 5 part-time employees. The number of members, the collective bargaining units which represent them and their current contract expiration dates are as follows:

<u>Employees</u>	<u>Bargaining Unit</u>	<u>Expiration Date</u>
36.5	Sharon Springs Teachers' Association	6/30/2023
23	Sharon Springs Non-Teachers' Organization	6/30/2024

## Historical and Projected Enrollment

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Projected</u>
2015-16	302	2020-21	276
2016-17	295	2021-22	276
2017-18	295	2022-23	276
2018-19	267	2023-24	276
2019-20	276	2024-25	276

Source: District Officials

## Employee Pension Benefits

All non-teaching and non-certified administrative employees of the District eligible for pension or retirement benefits under the Retirement and Social Security Law of the State of New York are members of the New York and Local Employees' Retirement -System ("ERS"). Teachers and certified administrators are members of the New York State Teachers' Retirement System ("TRS"). Payments to TRS are deducted from the District's State aid payments. Both the ERS and the TRS (together, the "Retirement Systems") are non-contributory with respect to members hired prior to July 27, 1976. Other than those in Tier V and Tier VI, all members hired on or after July 27, 1976 with less than 10 years of service must contribute 3% of their gross annual salary toward the cost of retirement programs.

On December 10, 2009, pension reform legislation was signed into law that created a new Tier V pension level. Key components of Tier V include:

- Raising the minimum age at which most civilians can retire without penalty from 55 to 62 and imposing a penalty of up to 38% for any civilian who retires prior to age 62.
- Requiring ERS employees to continue contributing 3% of their salaries toward pension costs so long as they accumulate additional pension credits.
- Increasing the minimum years of service required to draw a pension from 5 years to 10 years.
- Capping the amount of overtime that can be considered in the calculation of pension benefits for civilians at \$15,000 per year, and for police and firefighters at 15% of non-overtime wages.

Members of the TRS have a separate Tier V benefit structure that will achieve equivalent savings as other civilian public employees. It includes:

- Raising the minimum age an individual can retire without penalty from 55 to 57 years.

- Contributing 3.5% of their annual wages to pension costs rather than 3% and continuing this increased contribution so long as they accumulate additional pension credits.
- Increasing the 2% multiplier threshold for final pension calculations from 20 to 25 years.

In accordance with constitutional requirements, Tier V applies only to public employees hired after December 31, 2009 and before April 2, 2012.

On March 16, 2012, legislation was signed into law that created a new Tier VI pension program. The Tier VI plan only applies to those employees hired on or after April 1, 2012. The new pension tier has progressive contribution rates between 3% to 6% of salary; it increases the retirement age for new employees from 62 to 63 and includes provisions allowing early retirement with penalties. Under previous tiers, there was no limit to the number of public employers a public employee worked for from which retirement benefits could be calculated. Tier VI permits only two salaries to be included in the calculation. The pension multiplier for Tier VI is 1.75% for the first 20 years of service and 2% thereafter; Vesting will occur after 10 years of service. The final average salary is based on a five-year average instead of the previous Tiers' three-year average. Pension eligible overtime for civilian and non-uniformed employees will be capped at \$15,000, indexed for inflation. For uniformed employees outside of New York City, the cap is set at 15% of base pay. The number of sick and leave days that can be applied toward retirement service credit is reduced from 200 to 100. The legislation includes an optional defined contribution plan for new non-union employees with annual salaries of \$75,000 or more. The State is required to fund any pension enhancements on an ongoing basis. This is a potential future cost savings for local governments.

The District is required to contribute at an actuarially determined rate. The actual contribution for the last five years and the budgeted figures for the 2019-20 fiscal years are as follows:

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>ERS</u>	<u>TRS</u>
2014-2015	\$ 209,413	\$ 377,396
2015-2016	163,945	423,969
2016-2017	141,355	332,562
2017-2018	147,818	299,499
2018-2019	152,115	261,220
2019-2020 (Budgeted)	170,465	407,691
2020-2021 (Proposed Budget)	169,018	421,593

Source: District records

**Retirement Incentive Program** – Pursuant to various laws enacted between 1991 and 2002, the State Legislature authorized local governments to make available certain early retirement incentive programs to its employees. The District does not currently have early retirement incentive programs for its employees

**Historical Trends and Contribution Rates** – Historically there has been a State mandate requiring full (100%) funding of the annual actuarially required local governmental contribution out of current budgetary appropriations. With the strong performance of the Retirement System in the 1990s, the locally required annual contribution declined to zero. However, with the subsequent decline in the equity markets, the pension system became underfunded. As a result, required contributions increased substantially to 15% to 20% of payroll for the employees’ and the police and fire retirement systems, respectively. Wide swings in the contribution rate resulted in budgetary planning problems for many participating local governments.

A chart of average ERS and TRS rates as a percent of payroll (2016 to 2020) is show below:

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>ERS</u>	<u>TRS</u>
2015-2016	18.2%	13.26%
2016-2017	15.5	11.72
2017-2018	15.3	9.80
2018-2019	14.9	10.62
2019-2020	14.6	8.86

In 2003, Chapter 49 of the Laws of 2003 amended the Retirement and Social Security Law and the Local Finance Law. The amendments empowered the State Comptroller to implement a comprehensive structural reform program for ERS. The reform program established a minimum contribution for any local governmental employer equal to 4.5% of pensionable salaries for bills which were due December 15, 2003 and for all fiscal years thereafter, as a minimum annual contribution where the actual rate would otherwise be 4.5% or less due to the investment performance of the fund. In addition, the reform program instituted a billing system to match the budget cycle of municipalities and districts that will advise such employers over one year in advance concerning actual pension contribution rates for the next annual billing cycle. Under the previous method, the requisite ERS contributions for a fiscal year could not be determined until after the local budget adoption process was complete. Under the new system, a contribution for a given fiscal year is based on the valuation of the pension fund on the prior April 1 of the calendar year preceding the contribution due date instead of the following April 1 in the year of contribution so that the exact amount may now be included in a budget.

Chapter 57 of the Laws of 2010 (Part TT) amended the Retirement and Social Security Law to authorize participating employers, if they so elect, to amortize an eligible portion of their annual required contributions to ERS when employer contribution rates rise above certain levels. The option to amortize the eligible portion began with the annual contribution due February 1, 2011. The amortizable portion of an annual required contribution is based on a “graded” rate by the State Comptroller in accordance with formulas provided in Chapter 57. Amortized contributions are to be paid in equal annual installments over a ten-year period but may be prepaid at any time. Interest is to be charged on the unpaid amortized portion at a rate to be determined by State Comptroller, which approximates a market rate of return on taxable fixed rate securities of a comparable duration issued by comparable issuers. The interest rate is established annually for that year’s amortized amount and then applies to the entire ten years of the amortization cycle of that amount. When in any fiscal year, the participating employer’s graded payment eliminates all balances owed on prior amortized amounts, any remaining graded payments are to be paid into an employer contribution reserve fund established by the State Comptroller for the employer, to the extent that amortizing employer has no currently unpaid prior amortized amounts, for future such use.

The District is not amortizing any pension payments, nor does it intend to do so in the foreseeable future.

**Stable Rate Pension Contribution Option** - The 2013-14 State Budget included a provision that provides local governments and school districts, including the District, with the option to “lock-in” long-term, stable rate pension contributions for a period of years determined by the State Comptroller and ERS and TRS. The stable rates would be 12% for ERS and 12.5% for TRS. The pension contribution rates under this program would reduce near-term payments for employers but will require higher than normal contributions in later years.

The District did not participate in the Stable Rate Pension Contribution Option nor does it intend to do so in the foreseeable future.

The State’s 2019-2020 Enacted Budget allows school districts in the State to establish a reserve fund for the purpose of funding/offsetting the cost of TRS contributions. School districts may pay into such fund, during any particular fiscal year, an amount not to exceed two percent of the total compensation or salaries of all district employed teachers who are members of the TRS paid during the immediately preceding fiscal year; provided that the balance of such fund may not exceed ten percent of the total compensation or salaries of all district-employed teachers who are members of the TRS paid during the immediately preceding fiscal year. As of the date of this Official Statement, the District has not yet determined whether it will establish such a fund.

The investment of monies, and assumptions underlying same, of the Retirement Systems covering the District's employees is not subject to the direction of the District. Thus, it is not possible to predict, control or prepare for future unfunded accrued actuarial liabilities of the Retirement Systems ("UAALs"). The UAAL is the difference between total actuarially accrued liabilities and actuarially calculated assets available for the payment of such benefits. The UAAL is based on assumptions as to retirement age, mortality, projected salary increases attributed to inflation, across-the-board raises and merit raises, increases in retirement benefits, cost-of-living adjustments, valuation of current assets, investment return and other matters. Such UAALs could be substantial in the future, requiring significantly increased contributions from the District which could affect other budgetary matters. Concerned investors should contact the Retirement Systems administrative staff for further information on the latest actuarial valuations of the Retirement Systems.

## **Other Post-Employment Benefits**

The District provides post-retirement healthcare benefits to various categories of former employees. These costs may be expected to rise substantially in the future. School districts and Boards of Cooperative Educational Services, unlike other municipal units of government in the State, have been prohibited from reducing retiree health benefits or increasing health care contributions paid by retirees below the level of benefits or contributions afforded to or required from active employees since the implementation of Chapter 729 of the Laws of 1994. Legislative attempts to provide similar protection to retirees of other local units of government in the State have not succeeded as of this date. Nevertheless, many such retirees of all varieties of municipal units in the State do presently receive such benefits.

**OPEB** - OPEB refers to "other post-employment benefits," meaning other than pension benefits. OPEB consists primarily of health care benefits and may include other benefits such as disability benefits and life insurance. Until now, these benefits have generally been administered on a pay-as-you-go basis and have not been reported as a liability on governmental financial statements.

**GASB 75** - requires municipalities and school districts to account for OPEB liabilities much like they already account for pension liabilities, generally adopting the actuarial methodologies used for pensions, with adjustments for the different characteristics of OPEB and the fact that most municipalities and school districts have not set aside any funds against this liability. However, GASB 75 also addresses certain circumstances in which a non-employer entity provides financial support for OPEB of employees of another entity and requires: (a) explanations of how and why the OPEB liability changed from year to year (b) amortization and reporting of deferred inflows and outflows due to assumption changes, (c) use of a discount rate that takes into account resources of an OPEB plan and how they will be invested to maximize coverage of the liability (d) a single actual cost method and (e) immediate recognition of OPEB expense and effects of changes to benefit terms.

Under GASB 75, a total OPEB liability is determined for each municipality or school district. A net change in the total OPEB Liability is calculated as the sum of changes for the year including service cost, interest, difference between expected and actual experience, changes in benefit terms, changes in assumptions or other inputs, less the benefit payments made by the District for the year.

Based on the most recent actuarial valuation dated June 30, 2019 and financial data as of June 30, 2019, the District's beginning year total OPEB liability was \$17,975,971, the net change for the year was \$2,019,726 resulting in a total OPEB liability of \$19,995,697 for a fiscal year ending June 30, 201\_. The aforementioned liability is recognized and disclosed in accordance with GASB 75 standards in the District's June 30, 2019 financial statements.

The total OPEB liability• is required to be determined through an actuarial valuation every two years, at a minimum. However, OPEB plans with fewer than 100 members may use an alternative measurement method in place of an actuarial valuation. Additional information about GASB 75 and other accounting rules applicable to municipalities and school districts may be obtained from GASB.

There is no authority in current State law to establish a trust account or reserve fund for this liability. While State Comptroller Thomas P. DiNapoli proposed a bill in April of 2015 that would create an optional investment

pool to help local governments fund their OPEB liabilities, such legislation has not advanced past the committee stage.

The District's total OPEB liability is expected to increase. As is the case with most municipalities, this is being handled by the District on a "pay-as-you-go" basis. Substantial future increases could have a material adverse impact upon the School District's finances and could force the District to reduce services, raise taxes or both.

## **COVID—19**

The outbreak of COVID-19, a respiratory disease caused by a new strain of coronavirus, which was first detected in China and has since spread to other countries, including the United States, has been declared a pandemic by the World Health Organization on March 11, 2020. The outbreak of the disease has affected education, travel, commerce and financial markets globally and is widely expected to affect economic growth worldwide. The School District has been communicating with the New York State Education Department and with local and State level department of health agencies. The School District has been following all relevant guidance as it has been released by State and federal agencies.

The School District is closed effective March 16, 2020 through the end of the 2019-20 school year. Pursuant to an Executive Order of the Governor, the school district annual board of education elections and budget vote originally scheduled for May 19, 2020 has been postponed until June 9, 2020. The degree of the impact of COVID-19 on the School District's operations and finances is extremely difficult to predict due to the dynamic nature of the COVID-19 outbreak, including uncertainties relating to its (i) duration, (ii) severity and (iii) ultimate geographic spread, as well as with regard to what actions may be taken by governmental authorities to contain or mitigate its impact.

The State has publicly announced that COVID-19 will have a significant negative impact on the State's revenues and 2020-21 budget. There can be no assurances that the spread of COVID-19 will not result in a delay and/or reduction in State aid paid to school districts, including the School District. Any delay or reduction in State aid payment to the School District would have a negative impact on the School District's finances and operations.

## **Major Employers**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Nature of Business</u>	<u>Estimated Number of Employees</u>
Wal-Mart Distribution	Regional Distribution Center	450
Sharon Springs Central School District	Education	67
AMT, Inc.	Manufacturer	25

## Unemployment Rate Statistics

Unemployment statistics are not available for the District as such. The smallest areas for which such statistics are available (which includes the District) are Schoharie, Montgomery and Otsego Counties. The data set forth below with respect to the County is included for information purposes only. It should not be inferred from the inclusion of such data in this Statement that the School District is necessarily representative of the County or vice versa.

Year	Schoharie County Unemployment Rate	Montgomery County Unemployment Rate	Otsego County Unemployment Rate	New York State Unemployment Rate	U.S. Unemployment Rate
2015	5.8%	6.6%	5.4%	5.3%	5.3%
2016	5.4%	5.7%	4.9%	4.9%	4.9%
2017	5.5%	5.7%	5.0%	4.7%	4.1%
2018	4.8%	5.2%	4.4%	4.1%	3.9%
2019	4.7%	5.1%	4.2%	4.0%	3.7%

### 2019-20 Monthly Figures

	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr
Schoharie County	3.8%	4.1%	4.6%	4.4%	3.8%	3.8%	3.8%	4.9%	6.1%	5.9%	6.0%	N/A
Montgomery County	4.4%	4.4%	5.0%	4.9%	4.4%	4.3%	4.7%	5.5%	6.2%	6.1%	6.5%	N/A
Otsego County	3.5%	3.9%	4.2%	3.9%	3.6%	3.7%	3.9%	4.7%	5.5%	5.1%	5.4%	N/A
New York State	3.6%	3.8%	4.2%	4.1%	3.6%	3.7%	3.6%	3.7%	4.1%	3.9%	4.4%	N/A

Note: Unemployment rates for 2020 and potentially for the foreseeable future are expected to increase substantially over prior years as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Source: Department of Labor, State of New York. (Note: Figures not seasonally adjusted).

## Investment Policy

Pursuant to the statutes of the State of New York, the District is permitted to invest only in the following investments: (1) special time deposit accounts in, certificates of deposit issued by or a deposit placement program (as provided by statute) with a bank or trust company located and authorized to do business in the State of New York; (2) obligations of the United States of America; (3) obligations guaranteed by agencies of the United States of America where the payment of principal and interest is guaranteed by the United States of America; (4) obligations of the State of New York; (5) obligations issued pursuant to Local Finance Law Sections 24.00 (tax anticipation notes) or 25.00 (revenue anticipation notes) with approval of the State Comptroller, by any municipality, school district or district corporation other than the District; and (6) in the case of the District moneys held in certain reserve funds established pursuant to law, obligations issued by the District. These statutes further require that all bank deposits, in excess of the amount insured under the Federal Deposit Insurance Act, be secured by a pledge of eligible securities, an eligible letter of credit or an eligible surety bond, as each such term is defined in the law, or satisfy the statutory requirements of the deposit placement program.

The District's current policy to invest in: (1) certificates of deposit or time deposit accounts that are fully secured as required by statute, (2) obligations of the United States of America or (3) obligations guaranteed by agencies of the United States of America where the payment of principal and interest is guaranteed by the United States of America. In the case of obligations of the United States government, the District may purchase such obligations



pursuant to a written repurchase agreement that requires the purchased securities to be delivered to a third-party custodian.

## **Form of School Government**

Subject to the provisions of the State Constitution, the District operates pursuant to the Education Law, the Local Finance Law, other laws generally applicable to the District, and any special laws applicable to the District. Under such laws, there is no authority for the District to have a charter or adopt local laws.

The legislative power of the District is vested in the Board of Education (the "Board"). Each year an election is held within the District to elect one or more members to the Board. The Board consists of five members with overlapping five-year terms. Therefore, as nearly as practicable, an equal number of members is elected to the Board each year.

During the first week in July of each year the Board meets for the purpose of reorganization. At that time an election is held within the Board to elect a President and Vice President and to appoint other District officials.

Pursuant to the Local Finance Law, the President of the Board is the chief fiscal officer of the District. However, certain of the financial management functions of the District are the responsibility of the Superintendent and Business Manager.

## **Budgetary Procedures**

Pursuant to the Education Law, the Board of Education of the District annually prepares, a budget for the ensuing fiscal year. A public hearing on such budget is held not less than seven and not more than fourteen days prior to the vote. The Board of Education causes notice of such public hearing to be published four times beginning seven weeks prior to the vote. After the public hearing, but not less than six days prior to the budget vote, the District must mail a school budget notice to all qualified voters which contains the total budgeted amount, the dollar and percentage increase or decrease in the proposed budget (or contingency budget) as compared to the current budget, the percentage increase or decrease in the consumer price index, the estimated property tax levy, the basic STAR exemption impact and the date, time and place of the budget vote. After the budget hearing and subsequent notice, a referendum upon the question of the adoption of the budget is held on the third Tuesday in May each year. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the 2020-21 budget vote has been delayed until June 9, 2020. All qualified District residents are eligible to participate.

Pursuant to Chapter 97 of the Laws of 2011 of the State of New York ("Chapter 97"), beginning with the 2012-13 fiscal year, if the proposed budget requires a tax levy increase that does not exceed the lesser of 2% (plus certain adjustments, if applicable) or the rate of inflation (the " Tax Cap"), then a majority vote is required for approval. If the proposed budget requires a tax levy increase that exceeds the Tax Cap, the budget proposition must include special language and a 60% vote is required for approval. Any separate proposition that would cause the District to exceed the District Tax Cap also must receive at least 60% voter approval.

If the proposed budget is not approved by the required margin, the Board of Education may resubmit the original budget or a revised budget to the voters on the third Tuesday in June, or adopt a contingency budget (which would provide for ordinary contingent expenses, including debt service) that levies a tax levy no greater than that of the prior fiscal year (i.e. a 0% increase in the tax levy).

If the resubmitted and/or revised budget is not approved by the required margin, the Board of Education must adopt a budget that requires a tax levy no greater than that of the prior fiscal year (i.e. a 0% increase in the tax levy). For a complete discussion of Chapter 97, see "Tax Levy Limitation Law" herein.

The budget for the 2018-19 fiscal year was adopted by the qualified voters on May 15, 2018 by a vote of 112 to 23. The District's 2018-19 Budget remained within the District Tax Cap imposed by Chapter 97.

The budget for the 2019-20 fiscal year was adopted by the qualified voters on May 21, 2019 by a vote of 241 to 46. The District's 2019-20 Budget remained within the District Tax Cap imposed by Chapter 97 of the laws of 2011.

The State's 2018-19 Enacted Budget includes a school building-based budget approval review process. Beginning with the 2018-19 school year, any school district with at least four schools that receives at least 50% percent of its total revenue through State aid will be required to annually report its budgeted support for individual schools within the school district. The report must follow a format, to be developed by the State Division of Budget ("DOB") in consultation with SED. In 2019-20, this requirement will expand to all school districts with at least four schools, regardless of State aid. In 2020-21, the requirement will apply to all school districts in the State. This report will be due to the State by the beginning of the school year, and the State will have 30 days to respond. While DOB or SED will not formally approve a school district's school-based budget, DOB and SED will have authority to determine whether the information was provided in a timely and sufficient manner. The reporting must include demographic data, per pupil funding, source of funds and uniform decision rules regarding allocation of centralized spending to individual schools from all funding sources. Should either DOB or SED determine that a school district did not meet this requirement, the school district's State aid increase can be withheld for the applicable year until compliance is determined by DOB and SED. If either DOB or SED determines that a school district has not properly complied, the school district will have 30 days to "cure" the problem. In the event the problem is not cured in 30 days, the city comptroller or chief financial officer, and in the event a school district located outside a city, the chief financial officer in the municipality where the school district is most located, will be authorized, at his or her discretion, to gather information and submit on behalf of the school district. Under this newly enacted legislation, the District will be required to annually report its budgeted support for individual schools beginning with the 2020-21 fiscal year.

The school district budget vote for the 2020-21 fiscal year was originally scheduled to be held on May 19, 2020, however, annual school budget votes across the State are postponed until June 9, 2020 under an Executive Order from Governor Andrew Cuomo that extends and expands restrictions aimed at limiting the spread of COVID-19. There will be no in-person voting. All voting will be done by absentee ballot using postage paid envelopes provided by the School District. The proposed budget will stay within the tax cap.

## State Aid

The District receives financial assistance from the State. In its adopted budget for the 2019-20 fiscal year, approximately 62.85% of the revenues of the District are estimated to be received in the form of State aid. If the State should experience difficulty borrowing funds in anticipation of the receipt of State taxes in order to pay State aid to municipalities and school districts in the State, including the District, in any year, the District may be affected by a delay in the receipt of State aid until sufficient State taxes have been received by the State to make State aid payments. Additionally, should the State budget not be adopted in a timely manner, municipalities and school districts in the State, including the District, may be affected by a delay in the payment of State aid.

The State is not constitutionally obligated to maintain or continue State aid to the District. No assurance can be given that present State aid levels will be maintained in the future. State budgetary restrictions which could eliminate or substantially reduce State aid could have a material adverse effect upon the District requiring either a counterbalancing increase in revenues from other sources to the extent available, or a curtailment of expenditures.

The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act also made extensive changes to the deductibility of various taxes, including placing a cap of \$10,000 on a taxpayer's deduction of state and local taxes (the "SALT Deduction Limitation"). While it cannot yet be predicted what precise effects the SALT Deduction Limitation will have for the State, it is possible that government officials at both the State and local level may find it politically more difficult to raise new revenues via tax increases, since the deduction thereof, for taxpayers who itemize deductions, is not limited.

**Potential reductions in Federal aid received by the State** - The State receives a substantial amount of Federal aid for education. Many of the policies that drive this Federal aid are subject to change under the current presidential administration and Congress. However, the State's current financial projections concerning Federal aid, and the assumptions on which they are based, are subject to revision as more information becomes available about the proposals for Federal tax policy and legislation, health care, including amendments to the Affordable Care Act, infrastructure, taxation, the Budget Control Act of 2011 (as amended), Federal regulatory reform, and other issues that may arise, including the diversion of federal resources to address the current COVID -19 outbreak.

Reductions in Federal funding levels could have a materially adverse impact on the State budget. In addition the potential fiscal impact of policies that may be processed and adopted by the new administration and Congress, the State budget may be adversely affected by other actions taken by the Federal government, including audits, disallowances, and changes to Federal participation rates or other Medicaid rules.

There can be no assurance that the State's financial position will not change materially and adversely from current projections. If this were to occur, the State would be required to take additional gap-closing actions. Such actions may include but are not limited to reductions in State agency operations' delays or reductions in payments to local governments or other recipients of State aid including school districts in the State. Reductions in the payment of State aid could adversely affect the financial condition of school districts in the State.

Should the District fail to receive State aid expected from the State in the amounts and at the time expected, occasioned by a delay in the payment of such monies or by a mid-year reduction in State Aid, The District is authorized by Local Finance Law to provide operating funds by borrowing in anticipation of the receipt of uncollected State aid.

**State Aid History** -The State's 2015-16 Budget contained a school aid increase of \$1.4 billion that is tied to changes in the teacher evaluation and tenure process. School districts must obtain approval of their revised teacher evaluation plans by November 15, 2015 in order to receive their allotted increase in State aid.

The 2016-2017 State Budget included a school aid increase of \$991 million over 2015-2016, \$863 million of which consisted of traditional operating aid. In addition to full-funding of expense based aids (\$408 million), the Enacted 2016-2017 State Budget included a \$266 million increase in Foundation Aid and an \$189 million restoration to the Gap Elimination Adjustment (the "GEA"). The majority of the remaining increase (\$100 million) related to Community Schools Aid, a newly adopted aid category, to support school districts that wish to create community schools. Such funds may only be used for certain purposes such as providing health, mental health and nutritional services to students and their families.

The State's 2017-18 Budget increased State aid to education by \$1.1 billion, including a \$700 million increase in Foundation Aid, bringing the total amount of State aid to education to \$25.8 billion or an increase of 4.4%. Expense-based aids to support school construction, pupil transportation, BOCES and special education were continued in full, as is the State's usual practice. Transportation aid increased by 5.5% and building aid increased by 4.8%. The State's 2017-18 Budget continued to link school aid increases for 2017-18 and 2018-19 to teacher and principal evaluation plans approved by September 1 of the current year in compliance with Education Law Section 3012-d.

The State's 2018-19 Enacted Budget included nearly \$1 billion in additional education funding, representing a 3.9% increase over 2017-18. Approximately \$859 million of that increase was comprised of traditional public-school aid, including increased Foundation Aid and full-funding of expense-based aids. Formula-based school aid was \$26.03 billion statewide, a 3.4% increase over the prior year. The State's 2018-19 Enacted Budget included an increase of \$618 million in Foundation Aid for school districts. Foundation Aid now totals nearly \$17.8 billion statewide. For the seventh consecutive year, the Foundation Aid increase was distributed using a one year, off formula methodology. The State's 2018-19 Enacted Budget guaranteed that all school districts received an increase in Foundation Aid over their 2017-18 levels. \$50 million of the Foundation Aid increase "set aside" for certain school districts to fund community schools. The State's 2018-19 Enacted Budget fully funded all expense-based aid for 2018-19, including building, transportation, BOCES and special education aid. These categories serve as State reimbursements for school district expenses made in the prior year, based on school district specific aid ratios. A total of \$240 million was approved for increases in all expense-based aids in 2018-19.

The State's 2019-20 Enacted Budget includes a total of \$27.69 billion for School Aid, a year-to-year funding increase of \$956 million or 3.6 percent and will provide additional funding for Foundation Aid of \$338.0 million and \$409.65 million in reimbursements for expense-based aids. In addition, the 2019-2020 Enacted Budget increases the Community Schools set-aside funding amount by \$49.99 million to a total of \$250 million. This increased funding is targeted to districts with failing schools and/or districts experiencing significant growth in English language learners. The 2019-20 Budget increases the minimum community schools funding amount from \$75,000 to \$100,000. This ensures all high-need districts across the State can apply the funds to a wide-range of activities.

Due to the anticipated impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on State revenues, State aid in the State's 2020-2021 Enacted Budget is 3.7 percent lower than in the State's 2019-2020 Enacted Budget but is offset in part with increased Federal support. This reduction in State Operating Funds support will be offset by approximately \$1.1 billion in funding provided to the State through the Federal CARES Act, including the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Education Relief Fund and the Governor's Emergency Education Relief Fund. With these Federal funds, State aid totals \$27.9 billion in the State's 2020-2021 Enacted Budget, an annual increase of approximately \$100 million or 0.4 percent.

The State's 2020-2021 Enacted Budget continues prior year funding levels for existing programs, including Foundation Aid, Community Schools and Universal Prekindergarten. The 2020-2021 Enacted Budget also provides over \$200 million in support for competitive grant programs, including \$1 million for development of a new Civics Education curriculum and \$10 million for a Student Mental Health program. Funding for expense-based aids, such as Building Aid, Transportation Aid, and Boards of Cooperative Educational Services (BOCES) Aid is continued under existing aid formulas. Out-year growth in School Aid reflects current projections of the ten-year average growth in State personal income.

Provisions in the State's 2020-2021 Enacted Budget grant the Budget Director the authority to reduce "aid-to-localities" appropriations and disbursements by any amount needed to achieve a balanced budget, as estimated by the New York State Division of the Budget. Aid-to-localities is a broad spending category that includes funding for health care, K-12 schools, and higher education as well as support for local governments, public transit systems, and the State's not-for-profit partners. In addition, the Budget Director is authorized to withhold and reduce specific local aid payments during the fiscal year. The State's Enacted Budget is deemed out of balance for the fiscal year, and the Budget Director's powers are activated, if actual tax receipts are less than 99 percent of estimated tax receipts, or actual disbursements are more than 101 percent of estimated disbursements, as measured at three points during the year (April 1-30, May 1-June 30, and July 1-December 31). The State's 2020-2021 Enacted Budget is premised on the assumption that the Budget Director's powers will be activated and across-the-board and targeted reductions to local aid programs will be taken to close a substantial portion of the State fiscal year 2021 budget gap caused by the receipts shortfall. Due principally to the COVID-19 pandemic, reduced receipts are expected through State fiscal year 2024. According to the four year financial plan released by the State on May 8, 2020, as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, State spending will be significantly reduced. Such reductions will include reductions to "aid to localities" which includes State aid to school districts, including the School District. Any significant reductions or delays in the payment of State aid could adversely affect the financial condition of school districts in the State.

The State receives a substantial amount of Federal aid for health care, education, transportation and other governmental purposes, as well as Federal funding to respond to, and recover from, severe weather events and other disasters. Many of the policies that drive this Federal aid may be subject to change under the Federal administration and Congress. Current Federal aid projections, and the assumptions on which they rely, are subject to revision because of changes in Federal policy and the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Reductions in Federal funding levels could have a materially adverse impact on the State budget. In addition to the potential fiscal impact of policies that may be proposed and adopted by the Federal administration and Congress, the State budget may be adversely affected by other actions taken by the Federal government, including audits, disallowances, and changes to Federal participation rates or other Medicaid rules.

There can be no assurance that the State's financial position will not change materially and adversely from current projections. If this were to occur, the State would be required to take additional gap-closing actions. Such actions may include, but are not limited to: reductions in State agency operations; delays or reductions in payments to local governments or other recipients of State aid, including school districts in the State.

**State Aid Litigation** -In January 2001, the State Supreme Court issued a decision in Campaign for Fiscal Equity v. New York mandating that the system of apportionment of State aid to school districts within the State be restructured by the Governor and the State Legislature. On June 25, 2002, the Appellate Division of the State Supreme Court reversed that decision. On June 26, 2003, the State Court of Appeals, the highest court in the State, reversed the Appellate Division, holding that the State must, by July 30, 2004, ascertain the actual cost of providing a sound basic education, enact reforms to the system of school funding and ensure a system of accountability for such reforms. The

Court of Appeals further modified the decision of the Appellate Division by deciding against a Statewide remedy and instead limited its ruling solely to the New York City school system

After further litigation, on appeal in 2006, the Court of Appeals held that \$1.93 billion of additional funds for the New York City schools – as initially proposed by the Governor and presented to the Legislature as an amount sufficient to provide a sound basic education – was reasonably determined. State legislative reforms in the wake of The Campaign for Fiscal Equity decision included increased accountability for expenditure of State funds and collapsing over 30 categories of school aid for school districts in the State into one classroom operating formula referred to as foundation aid. The stated purpose of foundation aid is to prioritize funding distribution based upon student need. As a result of the Court of Appeals ruling schools were to receive \$5.5 billion increase in foundation aid over a four fiscal year phase-in covering 2007 to 2011.

In school district fiscal year 2009-2010, foundation aid funding was frozen by the State Legislature to the prior fiscal year level, and in the fiscal year thereafter foundation aid funding was reduced through a “gap elimination adjustment” as described above, and other aid adjustments. The final phase-in of foundation aid as originally projected has not occurred as of this date.

A case related to the Campaign for Fiscal Equity, Inc. v. State of New York was heard on appeal on May 30, 2017 in New Yorkers for Students’ Educational Rights v. State of New York (“NYSER”) and a consolidated case on the right to a sound basic education. The NYSER lawsuit asserts that the State has failed to comply with the original decision in the Court of Appeals in the Campaign for Fiscal Equity case, and asks the Court of Appeals to require the State to develop new methodologies, formulas and mechanisms for determining State aid, to fully fund the foundation aid formula, to eliminate the supermajority requirement for voter approval of budgets which increase school district property tax levies above the property tax cap limitation, and related matters. On June 27, 2017, the Court of Appeals held that the plaintiffs causes of action were properly dismissed by the earlier Appellate Division decision except insofar as two causes of action regarding accountability mechanisms and sufficient State funding for a “sound basic education” as applicable solely to the school districts in New York City and Syracuse. The Court emphasized its previous ruling in the CFE case that absent “gross education inadequacies”, claims regarding state funding for a “sound basic education” must be made on a district-by-district basis based on the specific facts therein.

The following table illustrates the percentage of total revenue of the District for each of the below fiscal years comprised of State aid.

Fiscal Year	Total Revenues	Total State Aid	Percentage of Total Revenues Consisting of State Aid
2014-2015	\$ 8,414,658	\$ 5,124,409	60.90%
2015-2016	8,412,384	5,321,064	63.25
2016-2017	8,330,272	5,059,377	60.73
2017-2018	8,327,339	5,131,488	61.62
2018-2019	8,519,441	5,298,561	62.19
2019-2020 (Budgeted)	8,502,902	5,344,194	62.85
2020-2021 (Proposed Budget)	10,044,090	5,529,195	55.05

Source: Audited financial statements for the 2014-2015 fiscal year through the 2018-2019 fiscal year and the adopted budget of the District for the 2019-2020 fiscal year. This table is not audited.

### **Fiscal Stress Monitoring**

The New York State Comptroller has developed a Fiscal Stress Monitoring System (“FSMS”) to provide independent information to District officials, taxpayers and policy makers regarding the various levels of fiscal stress under which the State’s diverse school districts are operating.

The fiscal stress scores are based on financial information submitted as part of each District’s ST-3 report filed yearly with the State Education Department. Using financial indicators that include year-end fund balance, cash

position and patterns of operating deficits, the OSC system creates an overall fiscal stress score which classifies whether a district is in “significant fiscal stress”, in “moderate fiscal stress”, as “susceptible to fiscal stress” or “no designation”. Entities that do not accumulate the number of points that would place them in a stress category will receive a financial score but will be classified in a category of “no designation”. This classification should not be interpreted to imply that the entity is completely free of fiscal stress conditions. Rather, the entity’s financial information, when objectively scored according to the FSMS criteria, did not generate sufficient points to place them in one of the three established stress categories.

The reports of State Comptroller for the past four fiscal years if the District are as follows:

<u>Fiscal Year Ending In</u>	<u>Stress Designation</u>	<u>Fiscal Score</u>
2019	No Designation	0.0
2018	No Designation	0.0
2017	No Designation	0.0
2016	No Designation	0.0

Note: See the official website of the New York State Comptroller for more information on FSMS. Reference to websites implies no warranty of accuracy of information therein.

### **State Comptroller Report of Examination**

The State Comptroller’s office, i.e., the Department of Audit and Control, periodically performs a compliance review to ascertain whether the District has complied with the requirements of various State and Federal statutes. These audits can be found by visiting the Audits of Local Governments section of the Office of the State Comptroller website.

The State Comptroller’s office released an audit report of the Sharon Springs Central School District on June 17, 2016. The purpose of this audit was to evaluate the District’s financial condition for the period July 1, 2014 through November 30, 2015.

**Key Findings**

- The District appropriated more fund balance than was needed in the adopted budgets for the three-year period ending June 30, 2015.
- Unrestricted fund balance exceeded the statutory limit in each of the past three fiscal years.

**Key Recommendations**

- Adopt more accurate budget estimates for revenues and appropriations, thus discontinuing the practice of adopting budgets that appropriate unexpended surplus funds that will not be used.
- Develop a plan to use the surplus fund balance in a manner that benefits District residents.

A copy of the complete report and the District’s response can be found by visiting the Audits of Local Governments section of the Office of the State Comptroller website:

[www.osc.state.ny.us/localgov/audits/schools/2016/sharonsprings.htm](http://www.osc.state.ny.us/localgov/audits/schools/2016/sharonsprings.htm)

There are no State Comptroller’s audits of the District that are currently in progress or pending release.

Note: Reference to website implies no warranty of accuracy of information therein.

## **Other Information**

The statutory authority for the power to spend money for the object or purpose, or to accomplish the object or purpose, for which the Bonds were issued is the Education Law and the Local Finance Law.

No principal or interest upon any obligation of the District is past due.

The fiscal year of the District is from July 1 to June 30.

Other than “Estimated Calculation of Overlapping Indebtedness”, this Official Statement does not include the financial data of any other political subdivisions of the State having power to levy taxes within the District.

## **Financial Statements**

The District retains an independent Certified Public Accountant, whose most recent report covers the period ended June 30, 2019 and may be found attached hereto as Appendix B

The District complies with the Uniform System of Accounts as prescribed for school districts in New York State. This system differs from generally accepted accounting principles as prescribed by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants’ Industry Audit Guide, “Audits of State and Local Governmental Units”, and codified in Government Accounting, Auditing and Financial Reporting (“GAAFR”), published by the National Committee on Government Accounting.

**Tax Information**

**Assessed and Full Valuations**

Fiscal Year Ended June 30:

	<u>2016</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2020</u>
Assessed Valuations:					
Canajoharie	\$ 266,426	\$ 478,963	\$ 505,769	\$ 516,521	\$ 547,846
Root	3,177,824	3,180,077	3,241,339	3,339,054	3,354,652
Cherry Valley	8,098,110	8,138,419	8,205,457	8,285,806	8,178,869
Roseboom	449,982	450,671	833,978	968,618	969,553
Carlisle	3,046,440	3,111,369	3,184,727	3,182,191	3,164,566
Seward	3,206,281	3,202,133	3,209,564	3,289,167	3,256,376
Sharon	<u>80,270,449</u>	<u>80,651,692</u>	<u>81,249,406</u>	<u>81,627,674</u>	<u>82,769,869</u>
Total	<u>\$ 98,515,512</u>	<u>\$ 99,213,324</u>	<u>\$ 100,430,240</u>	<u>\$ 101,209,031</u>	<u>\$ 102,241,731</u>

Equalization Rates:

Canajoharie	61.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	93.87%
Root	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	95.00%	95.00%
Cherry Valley	113.18%	110.28%	106.59%	100.00%	100.00%
Roseboom	55.00%	55.00%	115.56%	114.19%	109.54%
Carlisle	80.00%	81.00%	79.00%	76.00%	69.41%
Seward	80.00%	81.00%	79.00%	76.00%	69.41%
Sharon	80.00%	81.00%	79.00%	76.00%	69.41%

Full Valuations:

Canajoharie	\$ 436,764	\$ 478,963	\$ 505,769	\$ 516,521	\$ 583,622
Root	3,177,824	3,180,077	3,241,339	3,514,794	3,531,213
Cherry Valley	7,155,072	7,379,778	7,698,149	8,285,806	8,178,869
Roseboom	818,149	819,402	721,684	848,251	885,113
Carlisle	3,808,050	3,841,196	4,031,300	4,187,093	4,559,236
Seward	4,007,851	3,953,251	4,062,739	4,327,851	4,691,508
Sharon	<u>100,338,061</u>	<u>99,569,990</u>	<u>102,847,349</u>	<u>107,404,834</u>	<u>119,247,758</u>
Total	<u>\$ 119,741,771</u>	<u>\$ 119,222,657</u>	<u>\$ 123,108,330</u>	<u>\$ 129,085,151</u>	<u>\$ 141,677,320</u>

Equalized values shown here are those used by the District for tax levy purposes as provided in the Real Property Tax Law. In some cases, equalization rates established specifically for school tax apportionment may have been used, as is also provided in the Real Property Tax Law.

**Tax Rate per \$1,000 Assessed Value**

Fiscal Year Ending June 30:

	<u>2016</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2020</u>
Canajoharie	\$31.48	\$19.48	\$18.88	\$18.26	\$18.08
Root	19.20	19.48	18.88	19.22	17.87
Cherry Valley	16.96	17.66	17.71	18.25	16.97
Roseboom	34.91	35.42	16.34	15.99	15.50
Carlisle	24.00	24.05	23.90	24.02	24.45
Seward	24.00	24.05	23.90	24.03	24.45
Sharon	24.00	24.05	23.89	24.01	24.43



## Tax Collection Procedure

Taxes are payable until September 30 without penalty. Payments made from October 1 through October 31 carry a penalty of 2%. Unpaid taxes are turned over to the County Treasurers on November 1. After November 30, unpaid taxes are added to the following year's town/county tax bills.

The Counties reimburse the District for all unpaid taxes in April of the year following the year of levy, and the District is thus assured of 100% of its annual levy.

## Tax Collection Record

Fiscal Year Ended June 30:

	<u>2016</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2020</u>
Total Tax Levy	\$2,299,360	\$2,322,634	\$2,323,263	\$2,355,971	\$2,403,090
Less STAR Reimbursement	429,505	422,198	397,145	386,451	364,579
Adjustments	0	0	0	0	0
Total Taxes to be Collected	1,869,855	1,900,436	1,926,118	1,969,520	2,038,511
Taxes Collected Prior to Return to County	1,511,445	1,621,306	1,569,405	1,662,418	1,730,265
Returned to County	\$358,410	\$279,130	\$356,713	\$307,102	\$308,246
% Collected Prior to Return	80.83%	85.31%	81.48%	84.35%	84.88%

## Real Property Tax Revenues

The following table illustrates the percentage of total revenues of the District for each of the below fiscal years comprised of Real Property Taxes.

Fiscal Year	Total Revenues	Total Real Property Taxes	Percentage of Total Revenues Consisting of Real Property Taxes
2014-2015	\$ 8,414,658	\$ 2,525,592	30.01%
2015-2016	8,414,384	2,299,360	27.33
2016-2017	8,330,272	1,900,436	22.81
2017-2018	8,327,339	1,926,120	23.13
2018-2019	8,519,441	1,968,140	23.10
2019-2020 (Budgeted)	8,502,902	2,403,090	28.26
2020-2021 (Proposed Budget)	10,044,090	2,403,090	23.93

Source: Audited financial statements for the 2014-15 fiscal year through 2018-19 fiscal year and the adopted budget of the District for the 2019-2020 fiscal year. This table is not audited

## Major Taxpayers 2019

### For 2019-20 Tax Roll

<u>Name</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Full Value</u>
Niagara Mohawk Power Corp	Utility	\$3,370,692
Graulich, Arthur E	Farm	794,813
New York Land & Lakes, Development LLC	Real Estate	701,200
High Hill LLC	Farm	697,049
Beekman 1802 Farm LLC	Farm	630,847
State of New York	State Land	581,700
Parsons, Raymond L	Personal Business	476,000
Elite Holdings LLC	Business	399,500
Lynk, James C	Farmer	397,614
Sydow, Brian R	Rental Apartments	387,100
Total		\$8,436,515

1. The above taxpayers represent 5.95% of the District's 2019-20 Full value of \$141,677,320.

## General Fund Operations

District finances are operated primarily through its General Fund. All taxes and most other revenues are paid into this fund and all current operating expenditures are made from it. (A statement of such revenues and expenditures for the five-year period ending June 30, 2019 is contained in the Appendices). As reflected in the Appendices, the District derives the bulk of its annual revenues from a tax on real property and from State aid. Capital improvements are generally financed by the issuance of bonds and bond anticipation notes.

## STAR – School Tax Exemption

The STAR (School Tax Relief) program provides State-funded exemptions from school property taxes to homeowners for their primary residences. School districts receive full reimbursement from the State for real property taxes exempted pursuant to the STAR program.

Homeowners over 65 years of age with household adjusted gross incomes, less the taxable amount of total distributions from individual retirement accounts and individual retirement annuities (“STAR Adjusted Gross Income”) of \$88,050 or less in 2020, increased annually according to a cost-of-living adjustment, are eligible for a “full value” exemption of the first \$68,700 for the 2019-20 school year (adjusted annually). Other homeowners with household STAR Adjusted Gross Income not in excess of \$250,000 (\$500,000 in the case of a STAR credit, as discussed below) are eligible for a \$30,000 “full value” exemption on their primary residence.

Part A of Chapter 60 of the Laws of 2016 of the State of New York (“Chapter 60”) gradually converts the STAR program from a real property tax exemption to a personal income tax credit. Chapter 60 prohibits new STAR exemptions from being granted unless at least one of the applicants held title to the property on the taxable status date of the assessment roll that was used to levy school district taxes for the 2015-16 school year (generally, March 1, 2015), and the property was granted a

STAR exemption on that assessment roll. However, a new homeowner may receive a new personal income tax credit in the form of a check. The dollar benefit to eligible taxpayers will not change. A taxpayer who is eligible for the new credit will receive a check from the State equal to the amount by which the STAR exemption would have reduced his or her school tax bill. A homeowner who owned his or her home on the taxable status date for the assessment roll used to levy taxes for the 2015-16 school year, and who received a STAR exemption on that roll, may continue to receive a STAR exemption on that home as long as he or she still owns and primarily resides in it. No further action is required (unless the homeowner has been receiving Basic STAR and wants to apply for Enhanced STAR, which is permissible).

The 2019-20 Enacted State Budget makes several changes to the STAR program, which went into effect immediately. The changes are intended to encourage homeowners to switch from the STAR exemption to the STAR credit. The income limit for the exemption has been lowered to \$250,000, compared to a \$500,000 limit for the credit. Homeowners with STAR Adjusted Gross Income of \$250,000 have the option. The amount received for the STAR exemption will remain the same each year, while the amount of the STAR credit can increase up to two percent annually.

## **Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017**

On December 22, 2017, President Trump signed into law the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017 (HR. 1, P.L. 115-97), making major changes to the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code"), most of which are effective in the 2018 tax year. The new Federal tax law makes extensive changes to Federal personal income taxes, including the deductibility of real property taxes, including real property taxes levied by the District. The State's 2018-2019 Enacted Budget includes legislation decoupling certain linkages between Federal and local income tax, including increasing the opportunities for charitable contributions, and providing municipalities and school districts, including the District, with the option to establish local charitable funds that would accept charitable contributions and provide taxpayers with a credit against their property taxes. The District has no plans at this time to establish such a local charitable fund.

## **Tax Levy Limitation Law**

On June 24, 2011, Chapter 97 of the Laws of 2011 was signed into law by the Governor. The Tax Levy Limit Law modifies current law by imposing a limit on the amount of real property taxes that a school district may levy. The Law affected school district tax levies for the school district fiscal year beginning July 1, 2012.

Prior to the enactment of the Law, there was no statutory limitation on the amount of real property taxes that a school district could levy if its budget had been approved by a simple majority of its voters. In the event the budget had been defeated by the voters, the school district was required to adopt a contingency budget. Under a contingency budget, school budget increases were limited to the lesser of four percent (4%) of the prior year's budget or one hundred twenty percent (120%) of the consumer price index ("CPI").

The Tax Levy Limit Law requires that a school district hereafter submit its proposed tax levy (not its proposed budget) to the voters each year and imposes a limitation on the amount of tax levy growth from one fiscal year to the next. Such limitation is the lesser of (i) 2% or (ii) the annual percentage increase in the CPI, as described in the Law. Tax levies that do not exceed such limit will require approval by at least 50% of the voters. Approval by at least 60% of the voters will be required for a tax levy in excess of the limit. In the event the voters reject the tax levy, the school district's tax levy for the ensuing fiscal year may not exceed the amount of the tax levy for the prior fiscal year, without any stated exceptions.

There are exceptions for school districts to the tax levy limitation provided in the law, including expenditures made on account of certain tort settlements and certain increases in the average actuarial contribution rates of the New York State and Local Employees' Retirement System and the Teachers' Retirement System. School districts are also permitted to carry forward a certain portion of their unused levy limitation from a prior year.

There is also an exception for school districts for "Capital Local Expenditures" subject to voter approval where required by law. This term is defined in a manner that does not include certain items for which a school district may issue debt, including the payment of judgments or settled claims, including tax certiorari payments, and cashflow borrowings, including tax anticipation notes, revenue anticipation notes, budget notes and deficiency notes. "Capital Local Expenditures", are defined as "the taxes associated with budgeted expenditures resulting from the financing, refinancing, acquisition, design, construction, reconstruction, rehabilitation, improvement, furnishing and equipping of or otherwise providing for school district capital facilities or school district capital equipment, including debt service and lease expenditures, and transportation capital debt service, subject to the approval of the qualified voters where required by law". The portion of the tax levy necessary to support "Capital Local Expenditures" is defined as the "Capital Tax Levy", and is an exclusion from the tax levy limitation, applicable to the Notes.

On February 20, 2013, the New York State United Teachers ("NYSUT") and several individuals filed a lawsuit in State Supreme Court seeking a declaratory judgment and a preliminary injunction that the Tax Levy Limitation Law is unconstitutional as it applies to public school districts. On September 23, 2014, a Justice of the State Supreme Court dismissed each of NYSUT's causes of action but granted NYSUT's motion to amend the complaint. After the ruling, NYSUT amended its complaint to include a challenge to the Real Property Tax Rebate, also on Federal and State constitutional grounds. On March 16, 2015, all causes of action contained in the amended complaint were dismissed. On May 5, 2016, the dismissal was upheld by the New York Supreme Court, Appellate Division, Third Judicial Department to dismiss the complaint. An additional appeal by NYSUT was dismissed on October 20, 2016 by the Court of Appeals, New York's highest court, on the grounds that no substantial constitutional question was directly involved, and thereafter, leave to appeal was denied on January 14, 2017 by the Court of Appeals.

## **Status of Indebtedness**

### **Constitutional Requirements**

The New York State Constitution limits the power of the District (and other municipalities and certain school districts of the State) to issue obligations and to contract indebtedness. Such constitutional limitations in summary form and as generally applicable to the District include the following:

Purpose and Pledge. The District shall not give or loan any money or property to or in aid of any individual or private undertaking or give or loan its credit to or in aid of any of the foregoing or any public corporation.

The District may contract indebtedness only for a District purpose and shall pledge its faith and credit for the payment of principal of and interest thereon.

Payment and Maturity. Except for certain short-term indebtedness contracted in anticipation of taxes or to be paid within three fiscal year periods, indebtedness shall be paid in annual installments commencing no later than two years after the date such indebtedness shall have been contracted and ending no later than the expiration of the period of probable usefulness of the object or purpose as determined by statute; unless substantially level or declining annual debt service is utilized, no installment maybe more than fifty percent in excess of the smallest prior installment. The District is required to provide an annual appropriation for the payment of interest due during the year on its indebtedness and for the amounts required in such year for amortization and redemption of its serial bonds and such required annual installments on its notes.

Debt Limit the District has the power to contract indebtedness for any school district purpose so long as the principal amount thereof shall not exceed ten per centum of the full valuation of the taxable real estate of the District and subject to certain enumerated deductions. The constitutional method for determining full valuation by taking the assessed valuation of taxable real estate for the last completed assessment roll and applying thereto the ratio which such assessed valuation bears to the full valuation as determined by the State Office of Real Property Services. The State Legislature is required to prescribe the manner by which such ratio shall be determined.

## **Statutory Procedure**

In general, the State Legislature has, by the enactment of the Local Finance Law, authorized the powers and procedure for the District to borrow and incur indebtedness subject, of course, to the constitutional provisions set forth above. The power to spend money, however, generally derives from other law, including the Education Law.

The District is generally required by such laws to submit propositions for the expenditure of money for capital purposes to the qualified electors of the District. Upon approval thereby, the Board of Education may adopt a bond resolution authorizing the issuance of bonds, and notes in anticipation of the bonds. With respect to certain school building construction projects, the District is not permitted to spend in excess of \$100,000 for construction costs until the plans and specifications for such project have been approved by the Commissioner of Education of the State. The District has obtained such approval with respect to the project to be financed by the Notes.

Each bond resolution usually authorizes the construction, acquisition or installation of the object or purpose to be financed, sets forth the plan of financing and specifies the maximum maturity of the bonds subject to the legal (Constitution, Local Finance Law and case law) restrictions relating to the period of probable usefulness with respect thereto.

The Local Finance Law also provides that where a bond resolution is published with a statutory form of notice, the validity of the bonds authorized thereby, including bond anticipation notes issued in anticipation of the sale thereof, may be contested only if:

- (1) Such obligations are authorized for a purpose for which the District is not authorized to expend money, or
  - (2) There has not been substantial compliance with the provisions of law which should have been complied within the authorization of such obligations
- and an action contesting such validity, is commenced within twenty days after the date of such publication or,
- (3) Such obligations are authorized in violation of the provisions of the Constitution.

The Board of Education, as the finance board of the District, has the power to enact bond resolutions. In addition, such finance board has the power to authorize the sale and issuance of obligations. However, such finance board may delegate the power to sell the obligations to the President of the Board of Education, the chief fiscal officer of the District, pursuant to the Local Finance Law.

The District is further subject to constitutional limitation by the general constitutionally imposed duty on the State Legislature to restrict the power of taxation and contracting indebtedness; however, the State Legislature is prohibited by a specific constitutional provision from restricting the power of the District to levy taxes on real estate for the payment of interest on or principal of indebtedness theretofore contracted.

Statutory law in the State permits bond anticipation notes to be renewed each year provided annual principal installments are made in reduction of the total amount of such notes outstanding, commencing no later than 2 years from the date of the first issuance of such notes and provided that such renewal issues do not exceed 5 years beyond the original date of borrowing.

In general, the Local Finance Law contains provisions providing the District with power to issue certain other short-term general obligation indebtedness including revenue, tax anticipation, budget and capital notes.

**Status of Indebtedness**

**Debt Outstanding End of Fiscal Year**

Fiscal Year Ending June 30:	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Serial Bonds	\$4,993,707	\$4,107,690	\$3,513,947	\$2,897,564	\$2,313,394
Bond Anticipation Notes	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$3,540,000
Total Debt Outstanding	\$4,993,707	\$4,107,690	\$3,513,947	\$2,897,564	\$5,853,394

## Status of Outstanding Bond Issues

Year of Issue:	2011		2012	
Amount Issued:	\$3,710,000		\$2,780,000	
Purpose/Instrument:	Refunding/Serial Bond		Construction/Serial Bond	
Fiscal Year Ending June 30:	<u>Principal</u>	<u>Interest</u>	<u>Principal</u>	<u>Interest</u>
2020	\$ 425,000	\$ 19,900	\$ 185,000	\$ 32,970
2021	220,000	7,150	190,000	28,808
2022	-	-	195,000	24,533
2023	-	-	200,000	20,145
2024	-	-	205,000	15,545
2025	-	-	210,000	10,625
2026	-	-	<u>215,000</u>	<u>5,375</u>
Totals:	\$ 645,000	\$ 27,050	\$ 1,400,000	\$ 138,001

Year of Issue:	2015		2016	
Amount Issued:	\$111,959		\$101,871	
Purpose/Instrument:	Buses/SIB		Buses/SIB	
Fiscal Year Ending June 30:	<u>Principal</u>	<u>Interest</u>	<u>Principal</u>	<u>Interest</u>
2020	\$ 22,392 *	\$ 728	\$ 20,374 *	\$ 1,324
2021	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>20,374</u>	<u>662</u>
Totals:	\$ 22,392	\$ 728	\$ 40,748	\$ 1,986

Year of Issue:	2017		2018	
Amount Issued:	\$107,523		\$49,266	
Purpose/Instrument:	Buses/SIB		Buses/SIB	
Fiscal Year Ending June 30:	<u>Principal</u>	<u>Interest</u>	<u>Principal</u>	<u>Interest</u>
2020	\$ 21,504 *	\$ 2,097	\$ 9,853 *	\$ 1,281
2021	21,504	1,398	9,853	961
2022	21,504	699	9,853	640
2023	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>9,853</u>	<u>320</u>
Totals:	\$ 64,512	\$ 4,194	\$ 39,412	\$ 3,202

Year of Issue:	2019		2020	
Amount Issued:	\$101,329		\$111,794.30	
Purpose/Instrument:	Buses/SIB		Buses/SIB	
Fiscal Year Ending June 30:	<u>Principal</u>	<u>Interest</u>	<u>Principal</u>	<u>Interest</u>
2020	\$ 20,265 *	\$ 3,445		
2021	20,266	2,756	22,359	2,795
2022	20,266	2,067	22,359	2,236
2023	20,266	1,378	22,359	1,677
2024	<u>20,266</u>	<u>689</u>	22,359	1,118
2025			<u>22,359</u>	<u>559</u>
Totals:	\$ 101,329	\$ 10,336	\$ 335,383	8,385

\*Principal reduction made prior to date of Debt Statement.

## Total Annual Bond Principal and Interest Due

Fiscal Year Ending June 30:	<u>Principal</u>	<u>Interest</u>	<u>Total Debt Service</u>	<u>%Paid</u>
2020	\$ 704,388 *	\$ 61,745	\$ 766,133	29.25%
2021	504,356	44,530	548,886	50.21%
2022	268,982	30,175	299,157	61.63%
2023	252,478	23,520	275,998	72.17%
2024	247,625	17,352	264,977	82.29%
2025	232,359	11,184	243,543	91.59%
2026	215,000	5,375	220,375	100.00%
<b>Totals:</b>	<b>\$ 2,425,187</b>	<b>\$ 193,881</b>	<b>\$ 2,619,069</b>	

\*\$94,388 in Principal reduction made prior to date of Debt Statement.

## Schedule of Principal Payments – Outstanding and Proposed Bonds

Fiscal Year Ending June 30:	<u>Prior Issues</u>	<u>This issue</u>	<u>Total Maturing Principal</u>	<u>Year-End Outstanding Principal</u>
2020	\$ 704,388	\$ 0	\$ 704,388	\$ 5,390,738
2021	504,356	234,938	739,294	4,651,444
2022	268,982	265,000	533,982	4,117,462
2023	252,478	275,000	527,478	3,589,984
2024	247,625	200,000	447,625	3,142,359
2025	232,359	210,000	442,359	2,700,000
2026	215,000	215,000	430,000	2,270,000
2027		220,000	220,000	2,050,000
2028		225,000	225,000	1,825,000
2029		235,000	235,000	1,590,000
2030		245,000	245,000	1,345,000
2031		255,000	255,000	1,090,000
2032		260,000	260,000	830,000
2033		270,000	270,000	560,000
2034		275,000	275,000	285,000
2035		285,000	285,000	-
<b>Totals:</b>	<b>\$ 2,425,188</b>	<b>\$ 3,669,938</b>	<b>\$ 6,095,126</b>	

\* \$94,388 in Principal reduction made prior to date of Debt Statement.

## Status of Short-Term Indebtedness

<u>Type</u>	<u>Dated Date</u>	<u>Maturity Date</u>	<u>Interest Rate</u>	<u>Amount Outstanding</u>
BAN	6/27/2019	6/26/2020	2.00%	3,540,000 <sup>1</sup>

Note: 1. To be paid in full at maturity with proceeds of the Bonds.

## **Cash Flow Borrowings**

The District, historically, does not issue Tax Anticipation Notes or Revenue Anticipation Notes.

## **Capital Project Plans**

On December 14, 2017, District voters approved a \$4,345,020 Capital Project consisting of updates to various District buildings and facilities. Construction began in Spring 2019. The first borrowing against such authorization was a \$3,540,000 Note issued June 27, 2019 which will be redeemed at maturity using the proceeds from this issue.

This issue will provide \$129,938 of new money against said authorization.

## **Building Aid Estimate**

Pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 760 of the Laws of 1963, the District is eligible to receive a Building Aid Estimate from the New York State Department of Education. The District has not applied for such estimate but anticipates that aid may be received on its outstanding indebtedness at their Building Aid Ratio of 85.7%.

The State building aid ratio is calculated each year based upon a formula which reflects Resident Weighted Average Daily Attendance (RWADA) and the full value per pupil compared with the State average. Consequently, the estimated aid will vary over the life of each issue. State building aid is further dependent upon the continued apportionment of funds by the State Legislature.

A fundamental reform of building aid was enacted as Chapter 383 of the Laws of 2001. The provisions legislated, among other things, a new "assumed amortization" payout schedule for future State building aid payments based on an annual "average interest rate" and mandatory periods of probable usefulness with respect to the allocation of building aid. The District has no reason to believe that it will not ultimately receive all of the building aid it anticipates; however, no assurance can be given as to when and how much building aid the District will receive in relation to its outstanding debt. See "State Aid" herein.



## Debt Statement Summary

As of May 21, 2020

<u>Town</u>	<u>Taxable Assessed</u> <u>Valuation</u>	<u>State</u> <u>Equalization Rate</u>	<u>Taxable Full</u> <u>Valuation</u>
Canajoharie	\$ 547,846	93.87%	\$ 583,622
Root	3,354,652	95.00%	3,531,213
Cherry Valley	8,178,869	100.00%	8,178,869
Roseboom	969,553	109.54%	885,113
Carlisle	3,164,566	69.41%	4,559,236
Seward	3,256,376	69.41%	4,691,508
Sharon	82,769,869	69.41%	<u>119,247,758</u>
Total			<u>\$ 141,677,320</u>
Debt Limit: 10% of Full Valuation			\$ 14,167,732
 Inclusions:			
Serial Bonds			\$ 2,330,799
Bond Anticipation Notes			<u>3,540,000</u>
Total Inclusions:			<u>\$ 5,870,799</u>
 Exclusions:			
Building Aid Estimate <sup>1</sup>			<u>\$0</u>
Total Exclusions:			<u>\$0</u>
Total Net Indebtedness Before Giving Effect to This Issue:			\$ 5,870,799
 This Issue			
Proceeds to be Used to Renew Indebtedness Listed Under Inclusions		3,669,938	
		<u>3,540,000</u>	<u>129,938</u>
Total Net Indebtedness			<u>\$ 6,000,737</u>
Net Debt Contracting Margin			\$ 8,166,995
Percentage of Debt-Contracting Power Exhausted			42.35%

Notes: 1. Pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 760 of the Laws of New York State of 1963, the School District receives aid on existing building debt. Since the Gross Indebtedness of the School District is within the debt limit, the School District is not required to apply for a Building Aid Estimate and therefore is not permitted to deduct Estimated Building Aid

## Estimated Overlapping Indebtedness

<u>Overlapping Unit</u>	<u>Applicable Equalized Value</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Gross Indebtedness</u>	<sup>1</sup> <u>Exclusions</u>	<u>Net Indebtedness</u>	<u>Estimated Applicable Overlapping Indebtedness</u>
Schoharie County	\$ 128,498,503 \$ 2,201,858,739	5.84%	\$ 51,845,732	N/A	\$ 51,845,732	\$ 3,025,670
Montgomery County	\$ 4,114,835 \$ 2,263,548,424	0.18%	\$ 38,657,000	N/A	\$ 38,657,000	\$ 70,273
Otsego County	\$ 9,063,982 \$ 4,520,155,525	0.20%	\$ 5,489,315	N/A	\$ 5,489,315	\$ 11,007
Town of Sharon	\$ 119,247,758 \$ 119,247,758	100.00%	\$ -	N/A	\$ -	\$ -
Town of Seward	\$ 4,691,508 \$ 99,714,205	4.70%	\$ 99,000	N/A	\$ 99,000	\$ 4,658
Town of Carlisle	\$ 4,559,236 \$ 96,851,297	4.71%	\$ -	N/A	\$ -	\$ -
Town of Canajoharie	\$ 583,622 \$ 187,374,908	0.31%	\$ 141,189	N/A	\$ 141,189	\$ 440
Town of Root	\$ 3,531,213 \$ 107,511,253	3.28%	\$ -	N/A	\$ -	\$ -
Town of Cherry Valley	\$ 8,178,869 \$ 98,903,811	8.27%	\$ 364,802	N/A	\$ 364,802	\$ 30,167
Town of Roseboom	\$ 885,113 \$ 57,678,339	1.53%	\$ -	N/A	\$ -	\$ -
Village of Sharon Springs	\$ 24,245,874 \$ 24,245,874	100.00%	\$ 1,253,635	N/A	\$ 1,253,635	\$ 1,253,635
<b>Total</b>						<u>\$ 4,395,851</u>

Source: Comptroller's Special Report on Municipal Affairs for Local Fiscal Years Ended in 2018

Notes: Bonds and Bond Anticipation notes as of 2018 fiscal year. Not adjusted to include subsequent bond and note sales

N/A Information not available from source document

## Debt Ratios

The following table sets forth certain ratios relating to the District's indebtedness as of May 21, 2020:

	Amount	Per Capita <sup>(a)</sup>	Percentage of Full Value <sup>(b)</sup>
Net Indebtedness	\$ 6,000,737	\$ 2,985.44	4.235%
Net Indebtedness Plus Net Overlapping Indebtedness	\$ 10,396,588	\$ 5,172.43	7.338%

(a) The District's estimated population is 2,010 (Source: 2018 U.S. Census Bureau estimate)

(b) The District's full valuation of taxable real estate for 2019-20 is \$141,677,320

Note: The above ratios do not take into account State building aid the District will receive for past and current construction building projects.

## Special Provisions Affecting Remedies Upon Default

In the event of a default in the payment of the principal of and/or interest on the Bonds, the State Comptroller is required to withhold, under certain conditions prescribed by Section 99-b of the State Finance Law, state aid and assistance to the School District and to apply the amount thereof so withheld to the payment of such defaulted principal and/or interest, which requirement constitutes a covenant by the State with the holders from time to time of the Notes. The covenant between the State of New York and the purchasers and the holders and owners from time to time of the notes and bonds issued by the school districts in the State for the school purposes provides that it will not repeal, revoke or rescind the provisions of Section 99-b, or amend or modify the same so as to limit, impair or impede the rights and remedies granted thereby.

Said section provides that in the event a holder or owner of any bond issued by a school district for school purposes shall file with the State Comptroller a verified statement describing such bond and alleging default in the payment thereof or the interest thereon or both, it shall be the duty of the State Comptroller to immediately investigate the circumstances of the alleged default and prepare and file in his office a certificate setting forth his determinations with respect thereto and to serve a copy thereof by registered mail upon the chief fiscal officer of the school district which issued the bond. Such investigation by the State Comptroller shall cover the current status with respect to the payment of principal of and interest on all outstanding bonds of such school district issued for school purposes and the statement prepared and filed by the State Comptroller shall set forth a description of all such bonds of the school district found to be in default and the amount of principal and interest thereon past due.

Upon the filing of such a certificate in the office of the State Comptroller, he shall thereafter deduct and withhold from the next succeeding allotment, apportionment or payment of such State aid or assistance due to such school district such amount thereof as may be required to pay (a) the school district's contribution to the State teachers retirement system, and (b) the principal of and interest on such bonds of such school district then in default. In the event such State aid or assistance initially so withheld shall be insufficient to pay said amounts in full, the State Comptroller shall similarly deduct and withhold from each succeeding allotment, apportionment or payment of such State aid or assistance due such school district such amount or amounts thereof as may be required to cure such default. Allotments, apportionments and payments of such State aid so deducted or withheld by the State Comptroller for the payment of principal and interest on bonds shall be forwarded promptly to the paying agent or agents for the bonds in default of such school district for the sole purpose of the payment of defaulted principal of and interest on such bonds. If any of such successive allotments, apportionments or payments of such State Aid so deducted or withheld shall be less than the amount of all principal and interest on the bonds in default with respect to which the same was so deducted or withheld, the State Comptroller shall promptly forward to each paying agent an amount in the proportion that the amount of such bonds in default payable to such paying agent bears to the total amount of the principal and interest then in default on such bonds of such school district. The State Comptroller shall promptly notify the chief fiscal officer of such school district of any payment or payments made to any paying agent or agents of defaulted bonds pursuant to said Section 99-b.

**General Municipal Law Contract Creditors' Provision.** Each Bond when duly issued and paid for will constitute a contract between the School District and the holder thereof. Under current law, provision is made for

contract creditors of the School District to enforce payments upon such contracts, if necessary, through court action. Section 3-a of the General Municipal Law provides, subject to exceptions not pertinent, that the rate of interest to be paid by the School District upon any judgement or accrued claim against it on an amount adjudged due to a creditor shall not exceed nine per centum per annum from the date due to the date of payment. This provision might be construed to have application to the holders of the Notes in the event of a default in the payment of the principal of and interest on the Notes.

**Execution/Attachment of Municipal Property.** As a general rule, property and funds of a municipal corporation serving the public welfare and interest have not been judicially subjected to execution or attachment to satisfy a judgement, although judicial mandates have been issued to officials to appropriate and pay judgements out of certain funds or the District may not be enforced to levy and execution against property owned by the School District.

**Authority to File for Municipal Bankruptcy.** The Federal Bankruptcy Code allows public bodies, such as municipalities, recourse to the protection of a Federal Court for the purpose of adjusting outstanding indebtedness. Section 85.80 of the Local Finance Law contains specific authorization or any municipality in the State or its emergency control board to file a petition under any provision of Federal bankruptcy law for the composition or adjustment of municipal indebtedness. While this Local Finance Law provision does not apply to school districts, there can be no assurance that it will not be made so applicable in the future.

**Constitutional Non-Appropriation Provision.** There is in the Constitution of the State, Article VII, Section 2, the following provision relating to the annual appropriation of monies for the payment of due principal of an interest on indebtedness of every county, city, town, village and school district in the State: "If at any time the respective appropriating authorities shall fail to make such appropriations, a sufficient sum shall be set apart from the first revenues thereafter received and shall be applied to such purposes. The Fiscal officer of any county, city, town, village or school district may be required to set aside and apply such revenues as aforesaid at the suit of any holder of obligations issued for any such indebtedness." This constitutes a specific non-exclusive constitutional remedy against a defaulting municipality or school district; however, it does not apply in a context in which monies have been appropriated for debt service, but the appropriating authorities decline to use such monies to pay debt service. However, Article VIII, Section 2 of the Constitution of the State also provides that the fiscal officer of any county, city, town, village or school district may be required to set apart and apply such revenues at the suit of any holder of any obligations of indebtedness issued with the pledge of the faith of the credit of such political subdivision.

The Constitutional provision providing for first revenue set asides does not apply to tax anticipation notes, revenue anticipation notes or bond anticipation notes.

**Default Litigation.** In prior years, certain events and legislation affecting a holder's remedies upon default have resulted in litigation. While courts of final jurisdiction have upheld and sustained the rights of bondholders, such courts might hold that future events including financial crises as they may occur in the State and in political subdivisions of the State require the exercise by the State or its political subdivisions of emergency and police powers to assure the continuations of essential public services prior to the payment of debt service.

**No Past Due Debt.** No principal of or interest on School District indebtedness is past due. The School has never defaulted in the payment of the principal of and interest on any indebtedness.

## **Market And Risk Factors**

There are various forms of risk associated with investing in the Bonds. The following is a discussion of certain events that could affect the risk of investing in the Bonds. In addition to the event cited herein, there are other potential risk factor that an investor must consider. In order to make an informed investment decision, an investor should be thoroughly familiar with the entire Official Statement, including its appendices, as well as all areas of potential risk

The financial and economic condition of the District as well as the market for the Bonds could be affected by a variety of factors, some of which are beyond the District's control. There can be no assurance that adverse events in the State and in other jurisdictions in the country, including for example, the seeking by a municipality or large taxable property owner of remedies pursuant to the Federal Bankruptcy Code or otherwise, will not occur which might affect the market price of and the market for the Bonds. If a significant default or other financial crisis should

occur in the affairs of the State or any other jurisdiction or any of its agencies or political subdivisions thereby further impairing the acceptability of obligations issued by borrowers within the State, both the ability of the District to arrange for additional borrowings, and the market for and market value of outstanding debt obligations, including the Bonds, could be adversely affected.

The District relies in part on State aid to fund its operations. There can be no assurance that the State appropriations for State aid to school districts will be continued in futures years, either pursuant to existing formulas or in any form whatsoever. State aid appropriated and apportioned to the District can be paid only if the State has such monies available therefore. The availability of such monies and the timelines of such payments may also be affected by a delay in the adoption of the State budget and other circumstances, including state fiscal stress. In any event, State aid appropriated and apportioned to the District can be paid only if the State has such monies available therefore.

Should the District fail to receive State aid expected from the State in the amounts and at the times expected, occasioned by a delay in the payment of such monies or by a reduction in State aid, the District is authorized by the Local Finance Law to provide operating funds by borrowing on account of the uncollected State aid.

Current and future legislative proposals, if enacted into law, or clarification of the Code or court decisions may cause interest on the Notes to be subject, directly or indirectly, to federal income taxation or to be subject to or exempted from state income taxation, or otherwise prevent the beneficial owners of the Bonds from realizing the full current benefit of the tax status of such interest. No assurance can be given that pending or future legislation or amendments to the Code, if enacted into law, or any proposed legislation or amendments to the Code, will not adversely affect the value of the Notes, or tax status of interest on the Bonds.

The enactment of the Tax Levy Limitation Law, which imposes a tax levy limitation upon municipalities, school districts and fire districts in the State, including the District could have an impact upon the market price of the Notes. See “TAX LEVY LIMITATION LAW” herein.

**COVID-19:** An outbreak of disease or similar health threat, such as the COVID-19 outbreak, or fear of such an event, could have an adverse impact on the District’s financial condition and operating results by potentially delaying the receipt of real property taxes or resulting in a delay or reduction by the State in the payment of State aid. Currently, the spread of COVID-19, a respiratory disease caused by a new strain of coronavirus, has spread globally, including to the United States, and has been declares a pandemic by the World Health Organization. The outbreak of the disease has affected travel, commerce and financial markets globally and is widely expected to affect economic growth worldwide. The current outbreak has caused the Federal government to declare a national state of emergency. The State has also declared a state of emergency and the Governor has taken steps designed to mitigate the spread and impacts of COVID-19, including closing schools and non-essential businesses. The outbreak of COVID-19 and the dramatic steps taken by the State to address it are expected to negatively impact the State’s economy and financial condition. The full impact of COVID-19 upon the State is not expected to be known for some time. Similarly, the degree of the impact to the District’s operations and finances is extremely difficult to predict due to the dynamic nature of the COVID-19 outbreak, including uncertainties relating to its (i) duration, and (ii) severity, as well as with regard to what actions may be taken by governmental and other health care authorities, including the State, to contain or mitigate its impact. The continued spread of the outbreak could have a material adverse effect on the State and municipalities and school districts located in the State, including the District. The District is monitoring the situation and will take such proactive measures as may be required to maintain its operations and meet its obligations. (See also “THE SCHOOL DISTRICT - State Aid” and “COVID-19”).

## Tax Matters

In the opinion of Bond Counsel, based on existing statutes, regulations, administrative rulings and court decisions and assuming compliance by the School District with certain covenants and the accuracy of certain representations, interest on the Bonds is excluded from gross income for federal income tax purposes under Section 103 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code"), and is not an "item of tax preference" for purposes of federal alternative minimum tax.

The Code imposes various limitations, conditions and other requirements which must be met at and subsequent to the date of issue of the Bonds in order that interest on the Bonds will be and remain excluded from gross income for federal income tax purposes. Included among these requirements are restrictions on the investment and use of proceeds of the Bonds and in certain circumstances, payment of amounts in respect of such proceeds to the United States. Failure to comply with the requirement of the Code may cause interest on the Bonds to be includable in gross income for purposes of federal income tax, possibly from the date of issuance of the Bonds. In the arbitrage certificate to be executed by the School District in connection with the issuance of the Bonds, the School District will covenant to comply with certain procedures and it will make certain representations and certifications, designed to assure satisfaction of the requirements of the Code in respect to the Bonds. The opinion of Bond Counsel assumes compliance with such covenants and the accuracy, in all material respects, of such representations and certificates.

Certain maturities of the Bonds (the "Discount Bonds") may be sold to the initial purchasers at prices less than the stated principal amounts thereof. The difference between the stated principal amount of the Discount Bonds and the initial offering price to the public (excluding bond houses, brokers, or similar persons or organizations acting in the capacity of underwriters or wholesalers) at which price a substantial amount of such Discount Bonds of the same maturity were sold constitutes original issue discount that is excluded from gross income for federal income tax purposes to the same extent as interest on the Bonds. Further, such original issue discount accrues actuarially on a constant yield basis over the term of each Discount Bond and the basis of such Discount Bond acquired at such initial offering price by an initial purchaser of each Discount Bond will be increased by the amount of such accrued discount.

Certain maturities of the Bonds (the "Premium Bonds") may be sold to the initial purchasers at prices greater than the stated principal amount thereof. The Premium Bonds will be subject to requirements under the Code relating to tax cost reduction associated with the amortization of bond premium and, under certain circumstances, the initial owner of a Premium Bond may realize taxable gain upon disposition of Premium Bonds even though sold or redeemed for an amount less than or equal to such owner's original cost of acquiring Premium Bonds. The amortization requirements may also result in the reduction of the amount of stated interest that an owner of Premium Bonds is treated as having received for federal tax purposes (and an adjustment to basis). Owners of Premium Bonds are advised to consult with their own tax advisors with respect to the tax consequences of owning such Premium Bonds.

Prospective purchasers of the Bonds should be aware that ownership of the Bonds, and the accrual or receipt of interest thereon, may have collateral federal income tax consequences for certain taxpayers, including financial institutions, property and casualty insurance companies, S corporations, certain foreign corporations, individual recipients of Social Security or Railroad benefits and taxpayers who may be deemed to have incurred or continued indebtedness to purchase or carry such obligations. Prospective purchasers should consult their tax advisors as to any possible collateral consequences of their ownership of the Bonds and their accrual or receipt of interest thereon. Bond Counsel expresses no opinion regarding any such collateral federal income tax consequences.

The Bonds shall be designated, or deemed designated, by the School District as "qualified tax exempt obligations" within the meaning of, an pursuant to Section 265(b)(3) of the Code.

In the opinion of Bond Counsel, interest on the Bonds is exempt from personal income taxes imposed by the State or any political subdivision thereof, including the City of New York.

Bond Counsel has not undertaken to determine (or to inform any person) whether any actions taken (or not taken) or events occurring (or not occurring) after the date of issuance and delivery of the Bonds may affect the tax status of interest on the Bonds.

No assurance can be given that any future legislation or governmental actions, including amendments to the Code or State income tax laws, regulations, administrative rulings, or court decisions, will not, directly or indirectly, cause interest on the Bonds to be subject to federal, State or local income taxation, or otherwise prevent holders of the Bonds from realizing the full current benefit of the tax status of such interest. Further, no assurance can be given that the introduction or enactment of any such future legislation, or any judicial decision or action of the Internal

Revenue Service or any State taxing authority, including, but not limited to, the promulgation of a regulation or ruling, or the selection of the Bonds for audit examination or the course or result of an audit examination of the Bonds or of obligations which present similar tax issues, will not affect the market price, value or marketability of the Bonds. Prospective purchasers of the Bonds should consult their own tax advisors regarding the foregoing matters.

All summaries and explanations of provisions of law do not purport to be complete and reference is made to such laws for full and complete statements of their provisions.

**ALL PROSPECTIVE PURCHASERS OF THE BONDS SHOULD CONSULT WITH THEIR TAX ADVISORS IN ORDER TO UNDERSTAND THE IMPLICATIONS OF THE CODE AS TO THE TAX CONSEQUENCES OF PURCHASING OR HOLDING THE BONDS.**

### **Continuing Disclosure**

In accordance with the provisions of Rule 15c2-12, as the same may be amended or officially interpreted from time to time (the "Rule"), promulgated by the Securities and Exchange Commission pursuant to the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the District will enter into an Undertaking to provide Material Event Notices, the description of which is attached hereto as "Appendix D".

The District is in compliance, in all material respects, within the last five years with all previous undertakings made pursuant to the Rule 15c2-12

### **Litigation**

The District is subject to a number of lawsuits in the ordinary conduct of its affairs. The District does not believe, however, that such suits, individually or in the aggregate, are likely to have a material adverse effect on its financial condition.

### **Cybersecurity**

The District, like many other public and private entities, relies on technology to conduct its operations. As a recipient and provider of personal, private, or sensitive information, the District faces multiple cyber threats including, but not limited to hacking, viruses, malware and other attacks on computer and other sensitive digital networks and systems. To mitigate the risk of business operations impact and/or damage from cyber incidents or cyber attacks, the District invests in various forms of cybersecurity and operation controls; however, no assurances can be given that such security and operational control measures will be completely successful to guard against cyber threats and attacks. The results of any such attack could impact business operations and/or damage District digital networks and systems and the costs of remedying any such damage could be substantial.

### **Bond Rating**

The District has requested a rating review for this issue from Standard & Poor's Rating Service, a division of the McGraw-Hill Companies, Inc.

### **Municipal Advisor**

R.G. Timbs, Inc. is a Municipal Advisor, registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission and the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board. The Municipal Advisor serves as independent municipal advisor to the District on matters relating to debt management. The Municipal Advisor is a municipal advisory and consulting organization and is not engaged in the business of underwriting, marketing, or trading municipal securities or any other negotiated instruments. The Municipal Advisor has provided advice as to the plan of financing and the structuring of the Bonds and has reviewed and commented on certain legal documents, including this Official Statement. The advice on the plan of financing and the structuring of the Bonds was based on materials provided by the District and other sources of information believed to be reliable. The Municipal Advisor has not audited,

authenticated, or otherwise verified the information provided by the District or the information set forth in this Official Statement or any other information available to the District with respect to the appropriateness, accuracy, or completeness of disclosure of such information and no guarantee, warranty, or other representation is made by the Municipal Advisor respecting the accuracy and completeness of or any other matter related to such information and this Official Statement.

## **Miscellaneous**

So far as any statements made in this Official Statement involve matters of opinion or estimates whether or not expressly stated, they are set forth as such and not as representations of fact, and no representation is made that any of the statements will be realized. Neither this Official Statement nor any statement which may have been made verbally or in writing is to be construed as a contract with the holders of the Bonds.

Statements in this official statement, and the documents included by specific reference, that are not historical facts are forward-looking statements, which are based on the District management's beliefs as well as assumptions made by, and information currently available to, the District's management and staff. Because the statements are based on expectations about future events and economic performance and are not statements of fact, actual results may differ materially from those projected. Important factors that could cause future results to differ include legislative and regulatory changes, changes in the economy, and other factors discussed in this and other documents that the District's files with the repositories. When used in District documents or oral presentation, the words "anticipate", "estimate", "expect", "objective", "projection", "forecast", "goal", or similar words are intended to identify forward-looking statements.

To the extent any statements made in this Official Statement involve matters of opinion or estimates, whether or not expressly stated, they are set forth as such and not as representations of fact, and no representation is made that any of the statements will be realized. Neither this Official Statement nor any statement which may have been made verbally or in writing is to be construed as a contract with the holder of the Bonds.

Barclay Damon LLP, Albany, New York, Bond Counsel to the District, expresses no opinions as to the accuracy or completeness of information in any documents prepared by or on behalf of the District for use in connection with the offer and sale of the Bonds, including but not limited to, the financial or statistical information in this Official Statement.

References herein to the Constitution of the State and various State and federal laws are only brief outlines of certain provisions thereof and do not purport to summarize or describe all of such provisions.

Concurrently with the delivery of the Bonds, the District will furnish a certificate to the effect that as of the date of the Official Statement, the Official Statement did not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements herein, in the light of the circumstances under which they were made, not misleading, subject to a limitation as to information in the Official Statement obtained from sources other than the District.

The Official Statement is submitted only in connection with the sale of the Bonds by the District and may not be reproduced or used in whole or in part for any other purpose.

The District hereby disclaims any obligation to update developments of the various risk factors or to announce publicly any revision to any of the forward-looking statements contained herein or to make corrections to reflect future events or developments except to the extent required by Rule 15c2-12 promulgated by the Securities and Exchange Commission.

R.G. Timbs, Inc. may place a copy of this Official Statement on its website at [www.RGTimbsInc.net](http://www.RGTimbsInc.net). Unless this Official Statement specifically indicates otherwise, no statement on such website is included by specific reference or constitutes a part of this Official Statement. R.G. Timbs, Inc. has prepared such website information for convenience, but no decisions should be made in reliance upon that information. Typographical or other errors may have occurred in converting original source documents to digital format, and neither the School District nor R.G. Timbs, Inc. assumes any liability or responsibility for errors or omissions on such website. Further, R.G. Timbs, Inc.



and the School District disclaim any duty or obligation either to update or to maintain that information or any responsibility or liability for any damages caused by viruses in the electronic files on the website.

The District's contact information is as follows: Anthony DiPace, Business Manager, phone: (518) 284-2266 x101; email: [adipace@sharonsprings.org](mailto:adipace@sharonsprings.org).

Additional copies of the Notice of Sale and the Official Statement may be obtained from the offices of R.G. Timbs, Inc., telephone number (877) 315-0100 or at [www.RGTimbsInc.net](http://www.RGTimbsInc.net).

**Sharon Springs Central School District**

**Dated: May 21, 2020**  
**Sharon Springs, New York**

**James McFadden**  
President, Board of Education  
and Chief Fiscal Officer

**APPENDIX A**

**Financial Information**

## General Fund – Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Fund Balance

Fiscal Year Ending June 30:	<u>2015</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2019</u>	Budget <u>2020</u>	
Beginning Fund Balance - July 1	\$2,157,243	\$2,345,377	\$2,526,758	\$2,954,247	\$2,775,977	\$3,423,241	E
<u>Revenues:</u>							
Real Property Taxes	\$2,525,592	\$2,299,360	\$1,900,436	\$1,926,120	\$1,968,140	\$2,403,090	
Other Tax Items	232,110	587,520	1,011,529	1,037,602	1,056,910	670,110	
Charges for Services	95,327	83,328	158,830	101,242	82,655	1,400	
Use of Money & Property	12,741	12,075	13,383	14,792	14,134	2,853	
Sale of Property/Comp. for Loss	92	16,374	142	1,624	1,070	0	
Miscellaneous	402,054	72,207	182,356	112,270	91,878	81,255	
State Aid	5,124,409	5,321,064	5,059,377	5,131,488	5,298,561	5,344,194	
Federal Aid	18,101	20,715	0	2,201	6,093	0	
Interfund Transfer	<u>4,232</u>	<u>1,741</u>	<u>4,219</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	
Total Revenues	\$8,414,658	\$8,414,384	\$8,330,272	\$8,327,339	\$8,519,441	\$8,502,902	
<u>Expenditures:</u>							
General Support	\$944,055	\$969,845	\$920,971	\$988,792	\$976,994	\$1,367,583	
Instruction	3,785,523	3,743,608	3,657,811	3,762,943	3,585,455	4,457,620	
Transportation	393,084	357,937	373,727	407,578	418,692	601,297	
Community Services	0	0	0	0	0	1,084	
Employee Benefits	1,930,455	1,928,302	1,952,518	1,940,452	1,962,206	2,378,353	
Debt Service	1,107,403	1,129,732	814,260	759,622	763,241	767,299	
Interfund Transfer	<u>66,004</u>	<u>103,579</u>	<u>183,496</u>	<u>646,222</u>	<u>165,589</u>	<u>117,500</u>	
Total Expenditures	\$8,226,524	\$8,233,003	\$7,902,783	\$8,505,609	\$7,872,177	\$9,690,736	
Adjustments	0	0	0				
Year End Fund Balance	\$2,345,377	\$2,526,758	\$2,954,247	\$2,775,977	\$3,423,241	\$2,235,407	E
Excess (Deficit) Revenues Over Expenditures	\$188,134	\$181,381	\$427,489	(\$178,270)	\$647,264	(\$1,187,834)	1

Source: Audited Annual Financial Reports and Annual Budget. This table is NOT audited.

Note: 1. Appropriated Fund Balance is planned to be used

E. Estimated

## General Fund – Comparative Balance Sheet

Fiscal Year Ending June 30:	<u>2015</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2019</u>
<b>Assets:</b>					
Unrestricted Cash	\$1,380,006	\$1,323,791	\$1,579,989	\$1,288,103	\$1,856,697
Restricted Cash	933,666	1,108,667	1,162,478	1,222,025	1,241,631
Taxes Receivable	0	0	0	0	0
Other Receivables	4,859	12,182	9,212	11,519	7,156
Due from Other Funds	192,155	103,917	419,185	231,668	305,743
Due from State & Federal	114,109	117,441	113,419	113,266	112,027
Due from Other Governments	228,009	257,852	244,699	229,417	244,171
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$2,852,804</b>	<b>\$2,923,850</b>	<b>\$3,528,982</b>	<b>\$3,095,998</b>	<b>\$3,767,425</b>
<b>Liabilities:</b>					
Accounts Payable	\$4,312	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Accrued Liabilities	24,702	5,802	1,483	5,714	11,470
Due to Other Funds	8,870	5,370	228,819	5,378	5,378
Due Retirement System	469,543	385,920	344,433	308,929	327,336
<b>Total Liabilities:</b>	<b>\$507,427</b>	<b>\$397,092</b>	<b>\$574,735</b>	<b>\$320,021</b>	<b>\$344,184</b>
<b>Fund Balances:</b>					
Restricted	\$933,666	\$1,108,667	\$1,162,478	\$1,222,025	\$1,241,631
Assigned	1,040,245	1,052,762	1,150,471	1,174,610	1,793,981
Unassigned	371,466	365,329	641,298	379,342	387,629
<b>Total Fund Balance</b>	<b>\$2,345,377</b>	<b>\$2,526,758</b>	<b>\$2,954,247</b>	<b>\$2,775,977</b>	<b>\$3,423,241</b>
<b>Total Liabilities and Fund Balance</b>	<b>\$2,852,804</b>	<b>\$2,923,850</b>	<b>\$3,528,982</b>	<b>\$3,095,998</b>	<b>\$3,767,425</b>

Source: Audited Financial Reports. This table is NOT audited.

## **APPENDIX B**

### **Audited Financial Statements For The Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2019**

*Note: Such Financial Reports and opinions were prepared as of the date thereof and have not been reviewed and/or updated by the District's Auditors in connection with the preparation and dissemination of this official statement. Consent of the Auditors for inclusion of the Audited Financial Reports in this Official Statement has neither been requested nor obtained*

SHARON SPRINGS  
CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
  
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
AND SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION  
  
Year Ended June 30, 2019

SHARON SPRINGS CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

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# RAYMOND G. PREUSSER, CPA, P.C.

Certified Public Accountants  
P.O. Box 538  
Claverack, New York 12513

Telephone: (518) 851-6650  
Fax: (518) 851-6675

## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Board of Education of the  
Sharon Springs Central School District:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the fiduciary funds of the Sharon Springs Central School District as of and for the year ended June 30, 2019, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Sharon Springs Central 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 judgment, 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 entity'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 entity'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 fiduciary fund information of the Sharon Springs Central School District, as of June 30, 2019, and the respective changes in financial position thereof for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

## **Other Matters**

### *Required Supplementary Information*

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the management's discussion and analysis, budgetary comparison information and the schedule of changes in the total OPEB liability, the District's proportionate share of the net pension asset/liability, and District contributions on pages M1-M9 and 48-52 be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Government 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 an opinion on the financial statements that collectively comprise the Sharon Springs Central School District's basic financial statements as a whole. The other supplementary information is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the financial statements, but is supplementary information required by the New York State Education Department. The other supplementary information has not been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and accordingly, we do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on it.

## Other Reporting Required by *Government Auditing Standards*

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated October 1, 2019 on our consideration of the Sharon Springs Central 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 the 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 Sharon Springs Central School District's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

*Raymond G. Preusser, CPA, PC*

Claverack, New York  
October 1, 2019

**SHARON SPRINGS CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**Management's Discussion and Analysis (MD&A)**  
**June 30, 2019**

**INTRODUCTION**

The Sharon Springs Central School District offers readers of the District's financial statements this narrative overview and analysis of the financial activities of the District for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2019. Please review it in conjunction with the District's financial statements and the accompanying notes to the financial statements.

**FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS**

- As of the close of this fiscal year, the District's general fund reported a fund balance of \$3,423,241, an increase of \$647,264 in comparison with the prior year. With the increase the District was able to appropriate \$1,774,064 of the fund balance for subsequent year's expenditures. The District also was able to maintain reserves for unemployment insurance, property loss, insurance, repairs, employee benefit accrued liability and retirement contributions.

**OVERVIEW OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

This Management's Discussion and Analysis narrative (required supplemental information) is intended to serve as an introduction to the District's basic financial statements. The District's basic financial statements are comprised of three components:

1. Districtwide Financial Statements
2. Fund Financial Statements
3. Notes to the Financial Statements

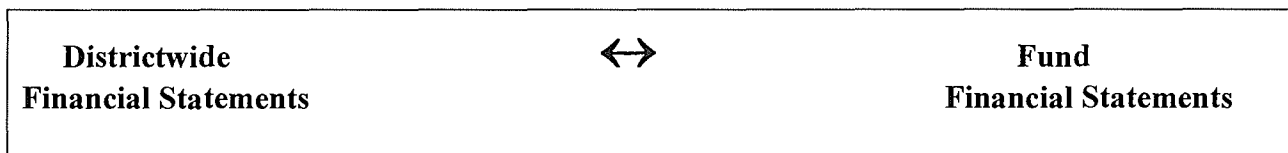
In addition to these statements, this report also includes required supplemental information and other supplemental information.

Our auditor has provided assurance in the independent auditor's report that the Basic Financial Statements are fairly stated. A different degree of assurance is being provided by the auditor regarding the supplemental information identified below. A user of this report should read the independent auditor's report carefully to ascertain the level of assurance being provided for each part in the financial statements.

**Financial Statements**

**Required Supplemental Information (Part A)**  
**Management's Discussion & Analysis (MD&A)**

**Basic Financial Statements**



**Notes to the Basic Financial Statements**

**Required Supplemental Information (Part B)**

**General Fund Budget to Actual Schedule**

**Changes in the Total OPEB Liability**

**District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Asset/Liability**

**District Contributions**

**Supplemental Information**

**General Fund Budget & Fund Balance Information**

**Capital Project Funds Schedule of Project Expenditures**

**Schedule of Net Investment in Capital Assets**

**DISTRICTWIDE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

The districtwide financial statements are designed to provide readers with a broad overview of the District's finances in a manner similar to a private-sector business.

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

The statement of activities presents information showing how the District's net position changed during the most recent fiscal year. 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 this statement for some items that will only result in cash flows in future fiscal periods (e.g. certain federal/state grants earned but not yet received, unused vacation/sick leave, and proceeds from Revenue Anticipation Notes and related interest).

All of the District's services are reported in the districtwide financial statements as *governmental activities*, including general support, instruction, pupil transportation, community services, and school lunch. Property taxes, state/federal aid, and investment earnings finance most of these activities. Additionally, all capital and debt financing activities are reported here.

### DISTRICTWIDE FINANCIAL ANALYSIS

#### Sharon Springs Central School District's Net Position June 30, 2019 and 2018

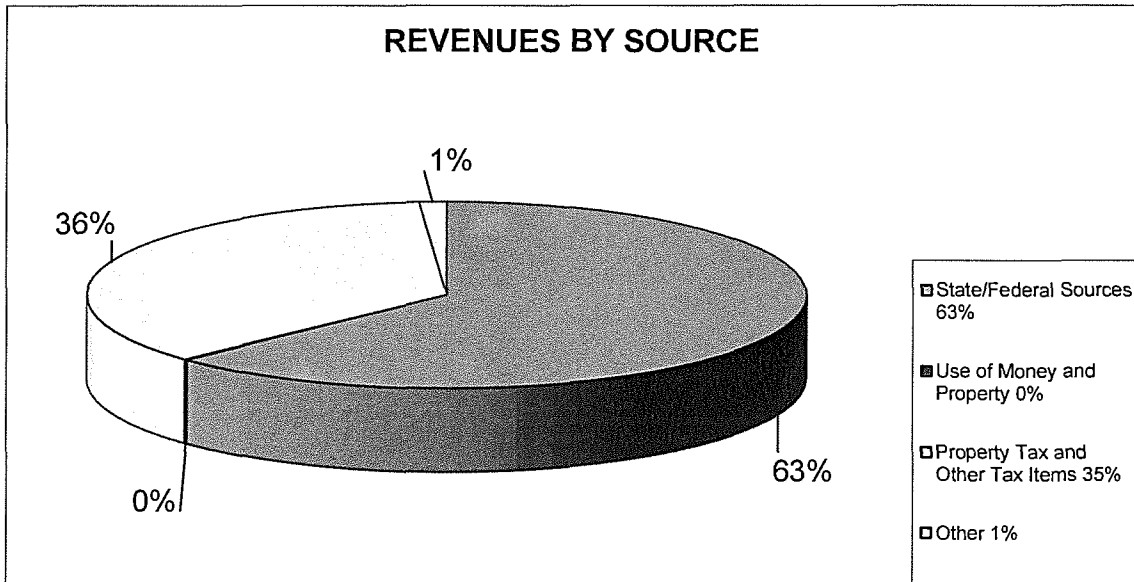
	Governmental Activities		Variance Increase (Decrease)
	2019	2018	
Current Assets	\$ 7,260,032	\$ 3,436,031	\$ 3,824,001
Capital Assets	12,655,120	12,436,337	218,783
Net Pension Asset	290,441	120,218	170,223
Total Assets	<u>20,205,593</u>	<u>15,992,586</u>	<u>4,213,007</u>
Deferred Outflows of Resources	<u>2,796,998</u>	<u>2,273,587</u>	<u>523,411</u>
Total Assets and Outflows of Resources	<u>23,002,591</u>	<u>18,266,173</u>	<u>4,736,418</u>
Current Liabilities	4,594,673	1,017,351	3,577,322
Noncurrent Liabilities	21,822,839	20,386,566	1,436,273
Net Pension Liability	267,888	124,356	143,532
Total Liabilities	<u>26,685,400</u>	<u>21,528,273</u>	<u>5,157,127</u>
Deferred Inflow of Resources	<u>1,224,501</u>	<u>1,631,957</u>	<u>(407,456)</u>
Total Liabilities and Inflows of Resources	<u>27,909,901</u>	<u>23,160,230</u>	<u>4,749,671</u>
Net Position:			
Investment in capital assets, net of related debt	9,900,532	9,538,772	361,760
Restricted	1,263,136	1,272,003	(8,867)
Unrestricted (deficit)	<u>(16,070,978)</u>	<u>(15,704,832)</u>	<u>(366,146)</u>
Total Net Position	<u>\$ (4,907,310)</u>	<u>\$ (4,894,057)</u>	<u>\$ (13,253)</u>

**Sharon Springs Central School District's  
Changes in Net Position  
For the Years Ended June 30, 2019 and 2018**

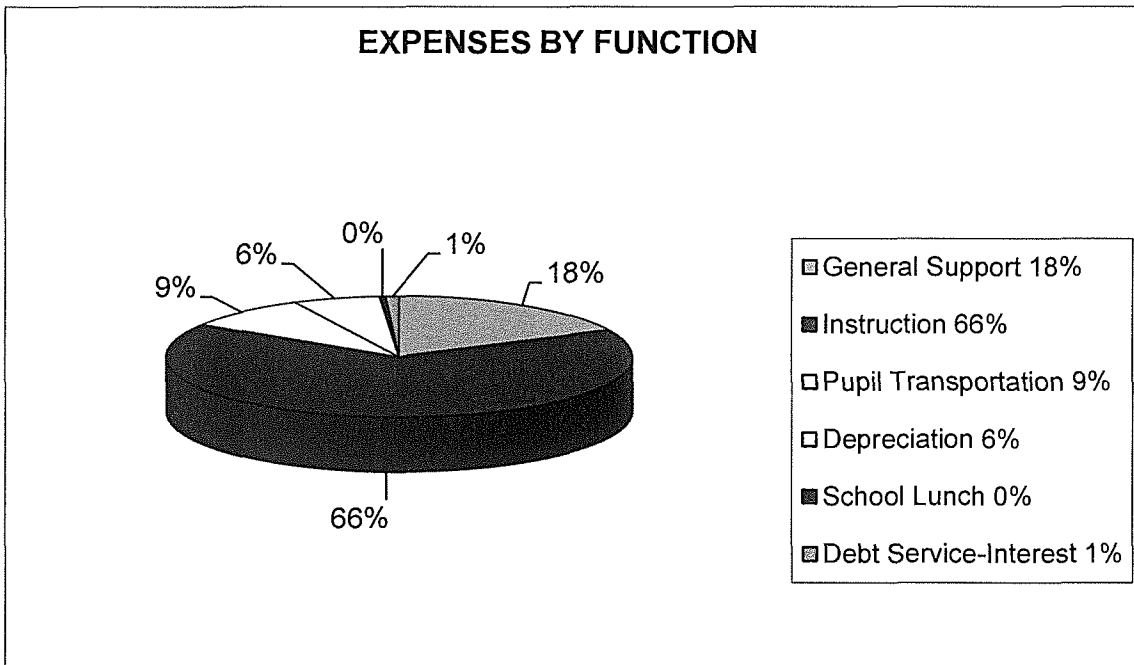
	Governmental Activities		Variance Increase (Decrease)
	2019	2018	
<b><u>Revenues:</u></b>			
Program Revenues:			
Charges for Services	\$ 111,882	\$ 128,845	\$ (16,963)
Operating Grants and Contributions	525,317	513,699	11,618
Total Program Revenues	<u>\$ 637,199</u>	<u>\$ 642,544</u>	<u>\$ (5,345)</u>
General Revenues:			
Real Property Taxes	\$ 1,968,140	\$ 1,926,120	\$ 42,020
Other Tax Items	1,056,910	1,037,602	19,308
Use of Money and Property	14,222	14,811	(589)
Sale of Property and Compensation for Loss	1,070	1,624	(554)
Miscellaneous	91,878	112,270	(20,392)
State Sources	5,298,561	5,297,012	1,549
Federal Sources	6,093	2,201	3,892
Premium on Obligations	11,789	-	11,789
Total General Revenues	<u>8,448,663</u>	<u>8,391,640</u>	<u>57,023</u>
<b><u>Expenses (Net of Program Revenues):</u></b>			
Instruction	5,606,973	4,870,471	736,502
Support Services:			
General Support	1,500,792	1,231,237	269,555
Pupil Transportation	732,564	566,579	165,985
Debt Service-Interest	76,963	93,024	(16,061)
Depreciation-Unallocated	506,618	505,376	1,242
School Lunch	38,006	44,338	(6,332)
Total Expenses	<u>8,461,916</u>	<u>7,311,025</u>	<u>1,150,891</u>
Change in Net Position	<u>\$ (13,253)</u>	<u>\$ 1,080,615</u>	<u>\$ (1,093,868)</u>

The following charts provide the percentage of breakdown of all revenues by source and all expenses by function for the entire District:

**Districtwide Revenues by Source  
For the Year Ended June 30, 2019**



**Districtwide Expenses by Function  
For the Year Ended June 30, 2019**



## FUND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The fund financial statements provide more detailed information about the District's funds, focusing on its most significant or "major" funds.

A fund is a grouping of related accounts, and is used to maintain control over resources that have been segregated for specific activities or objectives. The District, like other state and local governments, uses fund accounting to ensure and demonstrate compliance with finance related legal requirements. The District establishes other funds to control and manage money for particular purposes (such as repaying its long-term debts) or to show that it is properly using certain revenues (such as federal grants). All of the funds of the District can be divided into two categories; governmental funds, and fiduciary funds.

- **Governmental funds:** All of the District's services are reported in governmental funds. Governmental fund reporting focuses on showing how money flows into and out of funds, and the balances left at year-end that are available for spending. They are reported using the modified accrual method of accounting, which measures cash and all other financial assets that can readily be converted into cash. The governmental fund statements provide a detailed short-term view of the District's operations and the services it provides. Governmental fund information helps the reader determine whether there are more or fewer financial resources available to be spent in the near future to finance the District's programs. Because this information does not encompass the additional long-term focus of the districtwide statements, additional information at the bottom of the governmental funds statements explains the relationship (or differences) between them.
- **Fiduciary funds:** The District is the trustee, or *fiduciary*, for assets that belong to others, such as the scholarship fund and the student activities funds. The District is responsible for ensuring that the assets reported in these funds are used only for their intended purposes and by those to whom the assets belong. The District excludes these activities from the districtwide financial statements because it cannot use these assets to finance its operations.

## FUND FINANCIAL ANALYSIS (DISTRICT'S FUNDS)

The District's governmental funds (as presented on the balance sheet) reported a combined Fund Balance of \$3.4 million, which is above last year's total of \$3.1 million. The schedule below indicates the fund balance and the total change in fund balance by fund type as of June 30, 2019 and 2018.

	<u>Fund Balance</u> <u>2019</u>	<u>Fund Balance</u> <u>2018</u>	<u>Variance</u> <u>Increase</u> <u>(Decrease)</u>
General	\$ 3,423,241	\$ 2,775,977	\$ 647,264
School Lunch	2,862	868	1,994
Special Aid	628	-	628
Capital	(73,019)	323,955	(396,974)
Debt Service	20,778	8,901	11,877
Totals	<u>\$ 3,374,490</u>	<u>\$ 3,109,701</u>	<u>\$ 264,789</u>



**General Fund**

The tables that follow assist in illustrating the financial activities and balance of the general fund.

<b><u>Revenues:</u></b>	<b><u>2019</u></b>	<b><u>2018</u></b>	<b><u>Variance Increase (Decrease)</u></b>
Taxes and Other Tax Items	\$ 3,025,050	\$ 2,963,722	\$ 61,328
Use of Money and Property	14,134	14,792	(658)
State/Federal Sources	5,304,654	5,133,689	170,965
Other	175,603	215,136	(39,533)
Totals	<b><u>\$ 8,519,441</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 8,327,339</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 192,102</u></b>

<b><u>Expenses:</u></b>	<b><u>2019</u></b>	<b><u>2018</u></b>	<b><u>Variance Increase (Decrease)</u></b>
General Support	\$ 976,994	\$ 988,792	\$ (11,798)
Instruction	3,585,455	3,762,943	(177,488)
Pupil Transportation	418,692	407,578	11,114
Employee Benefits	1,962,206	1,940,452	21,754
Debt Service	763,241	759,622	3,619
Other	165,589	646,222	(480,633)
Totals	<b><u>\$ 7,872,177</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 8,505,609</u></b>	<b><u>\$ (633,432)</u></b>

**GENERAL FUND BUDGET INFORMATION**

The District's budget is prepared in accordance with New York State law and is based on the modified accrual basis of accounting, utilizing cash receipts, disbursements, and encumbrances. The most significant budgeted fund is the General Fund.

The difference between the general fund's original budget and the final amended budget was \$24,139. This amount represents the carryover encumbrances from 2017-2018.

**CAPITAL ASSETS**

The District's capital assets (net of accumulated depreciation) as of June 30, 2019 are as follows:

<u>Asset Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Land	\$ 74,094
Construction in Progress	825,899
Buildings and Improvements	11,140,607
Machinery & Equipment	272,867
Vehicles	<u>341,653</u>
Total	<u>\$ 12,655,120</u>

The total increase in the District's capital assets (net of accumulated depreciation) for the current fiscal year was \$218,783. The most significant changes to capital assets were attributable to the purchases of equipment and vehicles and the expenditures from the capital project less depreciation expense.

**DEBT**

The District had total debt including serial bonds, bond anticipation note payable, OPEB obligations, net pension liability-proportionate share and compensated absences in the amount of \$26,335,115 as of June 30, 2019, an increase over the previous year of \$5,138,693. The debt outstanding for the year ended June 30, 2019 is summarized as follows:

<u>Debt Description</u>	<u>Outstanding Balance</u>
Bonds	\$ 2,313,394
Bond Anticipation Note Payable	3,540,000
OPEB Obligations	19,995,697
Net Pension Liability-Proportionate Share	267,888
Compensated Absences	<u>218,136</u>
	<u>\$26,335,115</u>

The District has refunding bonds outstanding, the proceeds of which are in escrow to fund other previously existing debt. The refunding was done as a result of a change in the manner in which the State was planning to pay building aid related to the existing debt.

Under current state statutes, the District's general obligation bonded debt issues are subject to a legal limitation based on 10% of the total full value of real property. At June 30, 2019 the District's general obligation debt was under its total debt limit.

**FACTORS BEARING ON THE DISTRICT'S FUTURE**

At the time these financial statements were prepared and audited, the District was aware of existing circumstances that could significantly affect its financial health in the future. Challenges facing the District are the state's economy and its effect on state aid funding levels and the enactment of the Property Tax Cap Chapter 97 of the Laws of 2011 which could result in revenue forecasts having to be revised downward and could cause the District to scale down the educational program offerings or seek additional resources.

Another challenge is the cost of employee benefits continues to be a major budgetary factor. The continued growth in the cost of health insurance combined with costs of funding the Teachers' Retirement System and Employees' Retirement System are projected to have significant budgetary impact in the near to intermediate future.

**CONTACTING THE DISTRICT'S FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT**

It is the intent of this report to provide the District's citizens, taxpayers, customers, investors and creditors with a general overview of the District's finances and to demonstrate the District's accountability for the funds it receives. Questions concerning any of the information provided in this report or requests for additional financial information should be addressed to the following:

Sharon Springs Central School District  
PO Box 218  
Route 20  
Sharon Springs, New York 13459

SHARON SPRINGS CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
STATEMENT OF NET POSITION  
June 30, 2019  
-----

**ASSETS**

Unrestricted cash	\$ 5,496,460	
Restricted cash	1,241,631	
Other receivables, net	8,030	
State and federal aid receivable	263,249	
Due from other governments	244,171	
Inventories	6,491	
Capital assets, net	12,655,120	
Net pension asset	290,441	
Total Assets		\$ 20,205,593

**DEFERRED OUTFLOW OF RESOURCES**

Pensions	\$ 1,683,760	
OPEB-GASB 75	1,113,238	
Total Deferred Outflows of Resources		\$ 2,796,998

**LIABILITIES**

**Current Liabilities:**

Bond anticipation notes payable	3,540,000	
Accrued liabilities	16,463	
Due to other governments	286	
Due to teachers' retirement system	280,701	
Due to employees' retirement system	46,635	
Unearned revenue	6,200	

**Long-Term Liabilities:**

**Due and payable within one year**

Bonds payable	704,388	

**Due and payable after one year**

Bonds payable	1,609,006	
Compensated absences payable	218,136	
Other postemployment benefits payable	19,995,697	
Net pension liability - proportionate share	267,888	

Total Liabilities		\$ 26,685,400
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**DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES**

Pensions	503,855	
OPEB-GASB 75	720,646	

Total Deferred Inflows of Resources		\$ 1,224,501
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**NET POSITION**

Net Investment in Capital Assets	9,900,532	
Restricted	1,263,136	
Unrestricted (deficit)	(16,070,978)	
<b>Total Net Position</b>		<b>\$ (4,907,310)</b>

SHARON SPRINGS CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES AND CHANGES IN NET POSITION  
For Year Ended June 30, 2019

	Expenses	Indirect Expenses Allocation	Program Revenues		Net (Expense) Revenue and Changes in Net Position
			Charges for Services	Operating Grants	
<b>FUNCTIONS/PROGRAMS</b>					
General support	\$ 976,994	\$ 523,798	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (1,500,792)
Instruction	3,909,187	2,186,704	82,655	406,263	(5,606,973)
Pupil transportation	423,300	313,872	-	4,608	(732,564)
Employee benefits	3,083,349	(3,083,349)	-	-	-
Debt service-interest	76,963	-	-	-	(76,963)
Depreciation	506,618	-	-	-	(506,618)
School lunch program	122,704	58,975	29,227	114,446	(38,006)
<b>Total Functions and Programs</b>	<u>\$ 9,099,115</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 111,882</u>	<u>\$ 525,317</u>	<u>(8,461,916)</u>
<b>GENERAL REVENUES</b>					
Real property taxes					1,968,140
Other tax items					1,056,910
Use of money and property					14,222
Sale of property and compensation for loss					1,070
Miscellaneous					91,878
State sources					5,298,561
Federal sources					6,093
Premium on obligations					11,789
<b>Total General Revenues</b>					<u>8,448,663</u>
<b>Change in Net Position</b>					(13,253)
<b>Total Net Position - Beginning of year</b>					<u>(4,894,057)</u>
<b>Total Net Position - End of year</b>					<u>\$ (4,907,310)</u>

See auditor's report. See notes to financial statements.

SHARON SPRINGS CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
RECONCILIATION OF GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS BALANCE SHEET TO THE  
STATEMENT OF NET POSITION  
June 30, 2019

	Total Governmental Funds	Long-term Assets, Liabilities	Reclassifications and Eliminations	Statement of Net Position Totals
<b>ASSETS</b>				
Unrestricted cash	\$ 5,496,460	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 5,496,460
Restricted cash	1,241,631	-	-	1,241,631
Other receivables, net	8,030	-	-	8,030
Due from other funds	326,521	-	(326,521)	-
Due from other governments	244,171	-	-	244,171
State and federal aid receivable	263,249	-	-	263,249
Inventories	6,491	-	-	6,491
Capital assets, (net)	-	12,655,120	-	12,655,120
Net pension asset	-	290,441	-	290,441
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$ 7,586,553</b>	<b>\$ 12,945,561</b>	<b>\$ (326,521)</b>	<b>\$ 20,205,593</b>
<b>DEFERRED OUTFLOW OF RESOURCES</b>				
Pensions	\$ -	\$ 1,683,760	\$ -	\$ 1,683,760
OPEB-GASB 75	-	1,113,238	-	1,113,238
Total Deferred Outflows of Resources	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 2,796,998</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 2,796,998</u>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>				
Bond anticipation notes payable	\$ 3,540,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,540,000
Accrued liabilities	11,470	4,993	-	16,463
Bonds payable	-	2,313,394	-	2,313,394
Due to other funds	326,521	-	(326,521)	-
Due to other governments	286	-	-	286
Due to teachers' retirement system	280,701	-	-	280,701
Due to employees' retirement system	46,635	-	-	46,635
Other postemployment benefits payable	-	19,995,697	-	19,995,697
Compensated absences	-	218,136	-	218,136
Unearned revenues	6,450	-	(250)	6,200
Net pension liability- proportionate share	-	267,888	-	267,888
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>\$ 4,212,063</b>	<b>\$ 22,800,108</b>	<b>\$ (326,771)</b>	<b>\$ 26,685,400</b>
<b>DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES</b>				
Pensions	\$ -	\$ 503,855	\$ -	\$ 503,855
OPEB-GASB 75	-	720,646	-	720,646
Total Deferred Inflows of Resources	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 1,224,501</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 1,224,501</u>
<b>FUND BALANCE\NET POSITION</b>				
<b>Total Fund Balance\Net Position</b>	<b>\$ 3,374,490</b>	<b>\$ (8,282,050)</b>	<b>\$ 250</b>	<b>\$ (4,907,310)</b>
<b>Total Liabilities, Deferred Inflows of Resources, and Fund Balance\Net Position</b>	<b>\$ 7,586,553</b>	<b>\$ 15,742,559</b>	<b>\$ (326,521)</b>	<b>\$ 23,002,591</b>

See auditor's report. See notes to financial statements.

SHARON SPRINGS CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
RECONCILIATION OF GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND  
CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE TO THE STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES  
For Year Ended June 30, 2019

	Total Governmental Funds	Long-term Revenue, Expenses	Capital Related Items	Long-term Debt Transactions	Statement of Activities Totals
<b>REVENUES</b>					
Real property taxes	\$ 1,968,140	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,968,140
Other tax items	1,056,910	-	-	-	1,056,910
Charges for services	82,655	-	-	-	82,655
Use of money and property	14,222	-	-	-	14,222
Sale of property and compensation for loss	1,070	-	-	-	1,070
Miscellaneous	91,878	-	-	-	91,878
State sources	5,407,779	-	-	-	5,407,779
Federal sources	422,192	-	-	-	422,192
Sales - school lunch	29,227	-	-	-	29,227
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<u>9,074,073</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>9,074,073</u>
<b>EXPENDITURES\EXPENSES</b>					
General support	976,994	-	-	-	976,994
Instruction	4,016,679	19,606	(127,098)	-	3,909,187
Pupil transportation	423,300	-	-	-	423,300
Employee benefits	2,021,181	1,062,168	-	-	3,083,349
Debt service-Principal	685,500	-	-	(685,500)	-
-Interest	77,741	(778)	-	-	76,963
Cost of sales	122,704	-	-	-	122,704
Capital outlay	598,303	-	(598,303)	-	-
Depreciation	-	-	506,618	-	506,618
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<u>8,922,402</u>	<u>1,080,996</u>	<u>(218,783)</u>	<u>(685,500)</u>	<u>9,099,115</u>
<b>Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over Expenditures</b>	<u>151,671</u>	<u>(1,080,996)</u>	<u>218,783</u>	<u>685,500</u>	<u>(25,042)</u>
<b>OTHER SOURCES AND USES</b>					
Premium on obligations	11,789	-	-	-	11,789
Proceeds from debt	101,329	-	-	(101,329)	-
Operating transfers in	165,589	(165,589)	-	-	-
Operating transfers (out)	(165,589)	165,589	-	-	-
<b>Total Other Sources (Uses)</b>	<u>113,118</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(101,329)</u>	<u>11,789</u>
<b>Net Change for the Year</b>	<u>\$ 264,789</u>	<u>\$ (1,080,996)</u>	<u>\$ 218,783</u>	<u>\$ 584,171</u>	<u>\$ (13,253)</u>

See auditor's report. See notes to financial statements.

SHARON SPRINGS CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BALANCE SHEET- GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS

June 30, 2019

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	General	Special Aid	School Lunch	Debt Service	Capital Projects	Total Governmental Funds
<b>ASSETS</b>						
Unrestricted cash	\$ 1,856,697	\$ 183	\$ 57	\$ -	\$ 3,639,523	\$ 5,496,460
Restricted cash	1,241,631	-	-	-	-	1,241,631
Other receivables, net	7,156	-	874	-	-	8,030
State and federal aid receivable	112,027	142,522	8,700	-	-	263,249
Due from other governments	244,171	-	-	-	-	244,171
Due from other funds	305,743	-	-	20,778	-	326,521
Inventories	-	-	6,491	-	-	6,491
<b>Total Assets</b>	<u>\$ 3,767,425</u>	<u>\$ 142,705</u>	<u>\$ 16,122</u>	<u>\$ 20,778</u>	<u>\$ 3,639,523</u>	<u>\$ 7,586,553</u>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>						
Bond anticipation notes payable	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,540,000	\$ 3,540,000
Accrued liabilities	11,470	-	-	-	-	11,470
Due to teachers' retirement system	280,701	-	-	-	-	280,701
Due to employees' retirement system	46,635	-	-	-	-	46,635
Due to other funds	5,378	139,587	9,014	-	172,542	326,521
Due to other governments	-	-	286	-	-	286
Unearned revenues	-	2,490	3,960	-	-	6,450
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<u>344,184</u>	<u>142,077</u>	<u>13,260</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,712,542</u>	<u>4,212,063</u>
<b>FUND BALANCES</b>						
Non-spendable	-	-	6,491	-	-	6,491
Restricted	1,241,631	628	99	20,778	-	1,263,136
Assigned	1,793,981	-	-	-	-	1,793,981
Unassigned (Deficit)	387,629	-	(3,728)	-	(73,019)	310,882
<b>Total Fund Balances</b>	<u>3,423,241</u>	<u>628</u>	<u>2,862</u>	<u>20,778</u>	<u>(73,019)</u>	<u>3,374,490</u>
<b>Total Liabilities and Fund Balances</b>	<u>\$ 3,767,425</u>	<u>\$ 142,705</u>	<u>\$ 16,122</u>	<u>\$ 20,778</u>	<u>\$ 3,639,523</u>	<u>\$ 7,586,553</u>

See auditor's report. See notes to financial statements.



SHARON SPRINGS CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE-  
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS  
For Year Ended June 30, 2019

	General	Special Aid	School Lunch	Debt Service	Capital Projects	Total Governmental Funds
<b>REVENUES</b>						
Real property taxes	\$ 1,968,140	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,968,140
Other tax items	1,056,910	-	-	-	-	1,056,910
Charges for services	82,655	-	-	-	-	82,655
Use of money and property	14,134	-	-	88	-	14,222
Sale of property and compensation for loss	1,070	-	-	-	-	1,070
Miscellaneous	91,878	-	-	-	-	91,878
State sources	5,298,561	106,259	2,959	-	-	5,407,779
Federal sources	6,093	304,612	111,487	-	-	422,192
Sales	-	-	29,227	-	-	29,227
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<u>8,519,441</u>	<u>410,871</u>	<u>143,673</u>	<u>88</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>9,074,073</u>
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>						
General support	976,994	-	-	-	-	976,994
Instruction	3,585,455	431,224	-	-	-	4,016,679
Pupil transportation	418,692	4,608	-	-	-	423,300
Employee benefits	1,962,206	-	58,975	-	-	2,021,181
Debt service						
Principal	685,500	-	-	-	-	685,500
Interest	77,741	-	-	-	-	77,741
Cost of sales	-	-	122,704	-	-	122,704
Capital outlay	-	-	-	-	598,303	598,303
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<u>7,706,588</u>	<u>435,832</u>	<u>181,679</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>598,303</u>	<u>8,922,402</u>
<b>Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over Expenditures</b>	<u>812,853</u>	<u>(24,961)</u>	<u>(38,006)</u>	<u>88</u>	<u>(598,303)</u>	<u>151,671</u>
<b>OTHER FINANCING SOURCES AND USES</b>						
Premium on obligations	-	-	-	11,789	-	11,789
Proceeds from debt	-	-	-	-	101,329	101,329
Operating transfers in	-	25,589	40,000	-	100,000	165,589
Operating transfers (out)	(165,589)	-	-	-	-	(165,589)
<b>Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)</b>	<u>(165,589)</u>	<u>25,589</u>	<u>40,000</u>	<u>11,789</u>	<u>201,329</u>	<u>113,118</u>
<b>Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues and Other Financing Sources Over Expenditures and Other Uses</b>	647,264	628	1,994	11,877	(396,974)	264,789
<b>Fund Balance- Beginning of year</b>	<u>2,775,977</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>868</u>	<u>8,901</u>	<u>323,955</u>	<u>3,109,701</u>
<b>Fund Balance (Deficit)- End of year</b>	<u>\$ 3,423,241</u>	<u>\$ 628</u>	<u>\$ 2,862</u>	<u>\$ 20,778</u>	<u>\$ (73,019)</u>	<u>\$ 3,374,490</u>

See auditor's report. See notes to financial statements.

SHARON SPRINGS CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
STATEMENT OF FIDUCIARY NET POSITION  
June 30, 2019

-----

	Private Purpose Trusts	Agency
<b>ASSETS</b>		
Cash	\$ 6,390	\$ 99,254
Investments	103,650	-
Due from private purpose trusts	-	5,455
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$ 110,040</b>	<b>\$ 104,709</b>
 <b>LIABILITIES</b>		
Extraclassroom activity balances	\$ -	\$ 33,739
Other liabilities	-	70,970
Due to agency funds	5,455	-
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	5,455	<b>\$ 104,709</b>
 <b>NET POSITION</b>		
Reserved for scholarships	<b>\$ 104,585</b>	

See auditor's report. See notes to financial statements.

SHARON SPRINGS CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN FIDUCIARY NET POSITION  
For Year Ended June 30, 2019

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	Private Purpose Trusts
<b>ADDITIONS</b>	
Contributions	\$ 14,198
Interest	952
Investment earnings	15,004
<b>Total Additions</b>	<b>30,154</b>
 <b>DEDUCTIONS</b>	
Scholarships and awards	3,750
<b>Change in Net Position</b>	<b>26,404</b>
<b>Net Position - Beginning of year</b>	<b>78,181</b>
<b>Net Position - End of year</b>	<b>\$ 104,585</b>

See auditor's report. See notes to financial statements.

# SHARON SPRINGS CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### I. **Summary of Significant Accounting Policies**

The financial statements of the Sharon Springs Central School District have been prepared in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP). Those principles are as prescribed by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) which is the accepted standard-setting body for establishing governmental accounting and financial reporting principles.

Significant accounting principles and policies utilized by the District are described below:

#### A. **Reporting Entity**

The Sharon Springs Central School District is governed by the laws of New York State. The District is an independent entity governed by an elected Board of Education consisting of 5 members. The President of the Board serves as the chief fiscal officer and the Superintendent is the chief executive officer. The Board is responsible for and controls all activities related to public school education within the District. Board members have authority to make decisions, power to appoint management, and primary accountability for all fiscal matters.

The reporting entity of the District is based upon criteria set forth by GASB Statement 14, The Financial Reporting Entity, as amended by GASB Statement 39, Component Units. The financial reporting entity consists of the primary government, organizations for which the primary government is financially accountable and other organizations for which the nature and significance of their relationship with the primary government are such that exclusion would cause the reporting entity's financial statements to be misleading or incomplete.

The accompanying financial statements present the activities of the District. The District is not a component unit of another reporting entity. The decision to include a potential component unit in the School District's reporting entity is based on several criteria including legal standing, fiscal dependency, and financial accountability. Based on the application of these criteria, the following is a brief review of certain entities included in the School District's reporting entity:

##### The Extraclassroom Activity Funds

The Extraclassroom Activity Funds of the Sharon Springs Central School District represent funds of the students of the School District. The Board of Education exercises general oversight of these funds. The Extraclassroom Activity Funds are independent of the School District with respect to its financial transactions and the designation of student management. Separate audited financial statements (cash basis) of the Extraclassroom Activity Funds are included in these financial statements. The District accounts for assets held as an agent for various student organizations in an agency fund.

SHARON SPRINGS CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

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**I. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)**

**B. Joint Venture**

The Sharon Springs Central School District is one of 23 component school districts in the Capital District Board of Cooperative Educational Services (BOCES). A BOCES is a voluntary, cooperative association of school districts in a geographic area that share planning, services, and programs which provide educational and support activities.

BOCES are organized under Section 1950 of the Education Law. A BOCES Board is considered a corporate body. All BOCES property is held by the BOCES Board as a corporation (Section 1950(6)). In addition, BOCES Boards are considered municipal corporations to permit them to contract with other municipalities on a cooperative basis under Section 119-n(a) of the General Municipal Law.

A BOCES' budget is comprised of separate budgets for administrative, program, and capital costs. Each component school district's share of administrative and capital cost is determined by resident public school district enrollment as defined in Education Law, Section 1950(4)(b)(7). In addition, component districts pay tuition or a service fee for programs in which its students participate.

There is no authority or process by which a school district can terminate its status as a BOCES component. In addition, component school districts pay tuition or a service fee for programs in which their students participate. Members of a BOCES Board are nominated and elected by their component member boards in accordance with provisions of Section 1950 of the Education Law.

During the year ended June 30, 2019, the Sharon Springs Central School District was billed \$743,888 for BOCES administrative and program costs. The District's share of BOCES Aid amounted to \$443,227. Financial statements for the BOCES Aid are available from the BOCES administrative office.

**C. Basis of Presentation**

**1. Districtwide Statements**

The Districtwide Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities present financial information about the District's governmental activities. These statements include the financial activities of the overall government in its entirety, except those that are fiduciary. Eliminations have been made to minimize the double counting of internal transactions. Governmental activities generally are financed through taxes,

SHARON SPRINGS CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)  
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**I. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)**

**C. Basis of Presentation (Continued)**

**1. Districtwide Statements (Continued)**

State Aid, intergovernmental revenues, and other exchange and nonexchange transactions. Operating grants include operating-specific and discretionary (either operating or capital) grants, while the capital grants column reflects capital-specific grants.

The Statement of Net Position presents the financial position of the District at fiscal year-end. The Statement of Activities presents a comparison between program expenses and revenues for each function of the District's governmental activities. Direct expenses are those that are specifically associated with and are clearly identifiable to a particular function. Program revenues include charges paid by the recipients of goods or services offered by the programs, and 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. Indirect expenses, principally employee benefits, are allocated to functional areas in proportion to the payroll expended for those areas.

**2. Fund Financial Statements**

The fund financial statements provide information about the District's funds, including fiduciary funds. Separate statements for each fund category (governmental and fiduciary) are presented. The emphasis of fund financial statements is on major governmental funds, each displayed in a separate column.

The District reports the following funds:

**a. Major Governmental Funds**

- (1) General Fund** - This is the District's primary operating fund. It accounts for all financial transactions that are not required to be accounted for in another fund.
- (2) Special Aid Fund** - These funds account for the proceeds of specific revenue sources, such as federal and state grants, that are legally restricted to expenditures for specified purposes and other activities whose funds are restricted as to use. These legal restrictions may be imposed either by governments that provide the funds, or by outside parties.

SHARON SPRINGS CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

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**I. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)**

**C. Basis of Presentation (Continued)**

**2. Fund Financial Statements (Continued)**

**a. Major Governmental Funds (Continued)**

- (3) **School Lunch Fund** – Used to account for transactions of the District’s lunch and breakfast programs.
- (4) **Debt Service Fund** – This fund accounts for the accumulation of resources and the payment of principal and interest on long-term obligations for governmental activities.
- (5) **Capital Projects Fund** – This fund is used to account for the financial resources used for acquisition, construction, or major repair of capital facilities.

**b. Fiduciary Funds**

Fiduciary activities are those in which the District acts as trustee or agent for resources that belong to others. These activities are not included in the districtwide financial statements, because their resources do not belong to the District, and are not available to be used. There are two classes of fiduciary funds:

- (1) **Private Purpose Trust Funds** – These funds are used to account for trust arrangements in which principal and income benefits annual third party awards and scholarships for students. Established criteria govern the use of the funds and members of the District or representatives of the donors may serve on committees to determine who benefits.
- (2) **Agency Funds** – These funds are strictly custodial in nature and do not involve the measurement of results of operations. Assets are held by the District as agent for various student groups or extraclassroom activity funds and for payroll or employee withholding.

SHARON SPRINGS CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

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**I. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)**

**D. Measurement Focus and Basis of Accounting**

Accounting and financial reporting treatment is determined by the applicable measurement focus and basis of accounting. Measurement focus indicates the type of resources being measured such as current financial resources or economic resources. The basis of accounting indicates the timing of transactions or events for recognition in the financial statements.

The districtwide and fiduciary fund financial statements are reported using the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recorded when earned and expenses are recorded at the time liabilities are incurred, regardless of when the related cash transaction takes place. Nonexchange transactions, in which the District gives or receives value without directly receiving or giving equal value in exchange, include property taxes, grants and donations. On an accrual basis, revenue from property taxes is recognized in the fiscal year for which the taxes are levied. Revenues from grants and donations are recognized in the fiscal year in which all eligibility requirements have been satisfied.

The fund statements 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 District considers all revenues reported in the governmental funds to be available if the revenues are collected within 60 days after the end of the fiscal year.

Expenditures are recorded when the related fund liability is incurred, except for principal and interest on general long-term debt, claims and judgments, and compensated absences, which are recognized as expenditures to the extent they have matured. General capital asset acquisitions are reported as expenditures in governmental funds. Proceeds of general long-term debt and acquisitions under capital leases are reported as other financing sources.

**E. Cash and Investments**

The District's cash and cash equivalents consist of cash on hand, demand deposits, and short-term investments with original maturities of three months or less from date of acquisition. New York State law governs the District's investment policies. Resources must be deposited in FDIC-insured commercial banks or trust companies located within the State. Permissible investments include obligations of the United States Treasury, United States Agencies, repurchase agreements and obligations of New York State or its localities. Collateral is required for demand and time deposits and certificates of deposit not covered by FDIC insurance. Obligations that may be pledged as collateral are obligations of the United States and its agencies and obligations of the State and its municipalities and districts. Certain cash balances are restricted by various legal and contractual obligations, such as legal reserves and debt agreements.



SHARON SPRINGS CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)  
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**I. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)**

**F. Property Taxes**

Real property taxes are levied annually by the Board of Education no later than September 1 and become a lien on August 28. Taxes are collected during the period September 1 to October 31.

Uncollected real property taxes are subsequently enforced by the Counties of Montgomery, Otsego and Schoharie. An amount representing uncollected real property taxes is transmitted to the Counties for enforcement and is paid by the Counties to the District no later than the forthcoming April 1.

**G. Restricted Resources**

When an expense is incurred for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted net assets are available, the District's policy concerning which to apply first varies with the intended use, and with the associated legal requirements, many of which are described elsewhere in these Notes to Financial Statements.

**H. Interfund Transactions**

The operations of the District include transactions between funds. These transactions may be temporary in nature, such as with interfund borrowings. The District typically loans resources between funds for the purpose of providing cash flow. These interfund receivables and payables are expected to be repaid within one year. Permanent transfers of funds include the transfer of expenditures and revenues to provide financing or other services.

In the districtwide statements, the amounts reported on the Statement of Net Position for interfund receivables and payables represent amounts due between different fund types (governmental activities and fiduciary funds). Eliminations have been made for all interfund receivables and payables between funds, with the exception of those due from or to the fiduciary funds.

The governmental funds report all interfund transactions as originally recorded. Interfund receivables and payables may be netted on the accompanying governmental funds balance sheet when it is the District's practice to settle these amounts at a net balance based upon the right of legal offset.

Refer to Note V for a detailed disclosure by individual fund for interfund receivables, payables, expenditures and revenues activity.

SHARON SPRINGS CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

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**I. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)**

**I. Estimates**

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amount of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates. Estimates and assumptions are made in a variety of areas, including computation of encumbrances, compensated absences, potential contingent liabilities and useful lives of long-lived assets.

**J. Receivables**

Accounts receivable are shown gross, with uncollectible amounts recognized under the direct write-off method. No allowance for uncollectible accounts has been provided since it is believed that such allowance would not be material.

**K. Inventories and Prepaid Items**

Inventories of food in the School Lunch Fund are recorded at cost on a first-in, first-out basis, or in the case of surplus food, at stated value that approximates market. Purchases of inventoriable items in other funds are recorded as expenditures at the time of purchase and are considered immaterial in amount.

Prepaid items represent payments made by the District for which benefits extend beyond year-end. These payments to vendors reflect costs applicable to future accounting periods and are recorded as prepaid items in both the districtwide and fund financial statements. These items are reported as assets on the Statement of Net Position or balance sheet using the consumption method. Under the consumption method, a current asset for the prepaid amounts is recorded at the time of purchase and an expense/expenditure is reported in the year the goods or services are consumed.

A portion of fund balance has been classified as nonspendable to indicate that inventory does not constitute an available spendable resource.

**L. Other Assets/Restricted Assets**

Certain proceeds from serial bonds and bond anticipation notes, as well as resources set aside for their repayment are classified as restricted assets in the districtwide financial statements and their use is limited by applicable bond covenants.

SHARON SPRINGS CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

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**I. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)**

**L. Other Assets/Restricted Assets (Continued)**

In the districtwide financial statements, bond discounts and premiums, and any prepaid bond insurance costs are deferred and amortized over the life of the debt issue. Bond issuance costs are recognized as an expense in the period incurred.

**M. Capital Assets**

Capital assets are reflected in the districtwide financial statements. Capital assets are reported at historical cost or estimated historical costs, based on appraisals conducted by independent third-party professionals. Donated assets are reported at fair market value as of the date received. Additions, improvements and other capital outlays that significantly extend the useful life of an asset are capitalized. Other costs incurred for repairs and maintenance are expensed as incurred.

Capital assets, except land, are depreciated on a straight-line basis over their estimated useful lives. Capitalization thresholds and estimated useful lives of capital assets reported in the districtwide statements are as follows:

	Capitalization Threshold	Estimated Useful Life
Buildings and Improvements	\$ 500	15-50
Furniture and Equipment	\$ 500	5-15
Vehicles	\$ 500	8

**N. Compensated Absences**

Compensated absences consist of unpaid accumulated annual sick leave, vacation, and sabbatical time.

Sick leave eligibility and accumulation is specified in negotiated labor contracts, and in individual employment contracts. Upon retirement, resignation or death, employees may contractually receive a payment based on unused accumulated sick leave.

District employees are granted vacation in varying amounts, based primarily on length of service and service position. Some earned benefits may be forfeited if not taken within varying time periods.

SHARON SPRINGS CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

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**I. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)**

**N. Compensated Absences (Continued)**

Consistent with GASB Statement 16, Accounting for Compensated Absences, the liability has been calculated using the vested method and an accrual for that liability is included in the Districtwide Financial Statements. The compensated absences liability is calculated based on the pay rates in effect at year end. In the fund statements only the amount of matured liabilities is accrued within the General Fund based upon expendable and available resources. These amounts are expensed on a pay-as-you-go basis.

**O. Accrued Liabilities and Long-Term Obligations**

Payables, accrued liabilities and long-term obligations are reported in the districtwide financial statements. In the governmental funds, payables and accrued liabilities are paid in a timely manner and in full from current financial resources.

Claims and judgments and compensated absences that will be paid from governmental funds are reported as a liability in the funds financial statements only to the extent that they are due for payment in the current year. Bonds and other long-term obligations that will be paid from governmental funds are recognized as a liability in the fund financial statements when due.

Long-term obligations represent the District's future obligations or future economic outflows. The liabilities are reported as due in one year or due within more than one year in the Statement of Net Position.

**P. Deferred Outflows of Resources**

Deferred outflows of resources, in the Statement of Net Position, represents a consumption of net position that applies to a future reporting period and so will not be recognized as an outflow of resources (expense/expenditure) until that time. The District has three items that qualify for reporting in this category. The first item represents the effect of the net change in the District's proportion of the collective net pension asset or liability and the difference during the measurement period between the District's contributions and its proportionate share of total contributions to the pension systems not included in pension expense. The second item is the District's contributions to the pension systems (TRS and ERS Systems) and OPEB subsequent to the measurement date. The third item relates to OPEB reporting in the districtwide Statement of Net Position. This represents the effect of the net change in the actual and expected experience.

SHARON SPRINGS CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)  
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**I. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)**

**Q. Deferred Inflows of Resources**

Deferred inflows of resources represent an acquisition of net position that applies to a future period(s) and so will not be recognized as an inflow of resources (revenue) until that time. The District has two items that qualify for reporting in this category. The first item is related to pensions reported in the Districtwide Statement of Net Position. This represents the effect of net change in the District's proportion of the collective net pension liability and difference during the measurement periods between the District's contributions and its proportionate share of total contributions to the pension systems not included in pension expense, and the net difference between projected and actual earnings on pension plan investments. The second item is related to OPEB reported in the districtwide Statement of Net Position. This represents the effect of the net changes of assumptions or other inputs.

**R. Unearned Revenue**

Unearned revenues arise when resources are received by the District before it has a legal claim to them, as when grant monies are received prior to the incurrence of qualifying expenditures or when charges for service monies are received in advance from payers prior to the services being rendered by the District. These amounts are recorded as liabilities in the financial statements. The liabilities are removed, and revenues are recognized in subsequent periods when the District has legal claim to the resources.

**S. Other Benefits**

Eligible District employees participate in the New York State Teachers' Retirement System or the New York State and Local Employees' Retirement System.

District employees may choose to participate in the District's elective deferred compensation plans established under Internal Revenue Code Sections 403(b) and 457.

In addition to providing pension benefits, the District provides postemployment health insurance coverage and survivor benefits to retired employees and their survivors in accordance with the provision of various employment contracts in effect at the time of retirement.

Substantially all of the District's employees may become eligible for these benefits if they reach normal retirement age while working for the District. Health care benefits are provided through plans whose premiums are based on the benefits paid during the year. The cost of providing post-retirement benefits is shared between the District and the retired employee. The District recognizes the cost of providing health insurance by recording its share of insurance premiums as an expenditure.

SHARON SPRINGS CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)  
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**I. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)**

**T. Short-Term Debt**

The School District may issue Revenue and Tax Anticipation Notes in anticipation of receipt of revenues. These notes are recorded as a liability of the fund that will actually receive the proceeds from the issuance of the notes. The revenue anticipation and tax anticipation notes represent a liability that will be extinguished by the use of expendable, available resources of the fund.

The District may issue budget notes up to an amount not to exceed 5% of the amount of the annual budget during any fiscal year for expenditures for which there is an insufficient or no provision made in the annual budget. The budget note must be repaid no later than the close of the second fiscal year succeeding the year in which the note was issued.

The School District may issue Bond Anticipation Notes in anticipation of proceeds from the subsequent sale of bonds. These notes are recorded as a current liability of the fund that will actually receive the proceeds from the issuance of bonds. State law requires that bond anticipation notes issued for capital purposes be converted to long-term financing within five years after the original issue date.

**U. Equity Classifications**

**1. Districtwide Statements**

In the districtwide statements there are three classes of net position:

**Net investment in capital assets** – consists of net capital assets (cost less accumulated depreciation) reduced by outstanding balances of related debt obligations from the acquisition, construction or improvement of those assets.

**Restricted net position** – reports net position when constraints placed on the assets are either externally imposed by creditors (such as through debt covenants), grantors, contributors, or laws or regulations of other governments, or imposed by law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation.

**Unrestricted net position** – reports all other net position that do not meet the definition of the above two classifications and are deemed to be available for general use by the District.

SHARON SPRINGS CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

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I. **Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)**

U. **Equity Classifications (Continued)**

2. **Fund Statements**

In the fund basis statements, there are five classifications of fund balance:

**Non-spendable** – includes amounts that cannot be spent because they are either not in spendable form or legally or contractually required to be maintained intact. Non-spendable fund balance includes the inventory recorded in the School Lunch Fund of \$6,491.

**Restricted** – includes amounts with constraints placed on the use of resources either externally imposed by creditors, grantors, contributors, or laws or regulations of other governments; or imposed by law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation. All encumbrances of funds other than the General Fund are classified as restricted fund balance. The School District has established the following restricted fund balances:

1. **Encumbrances**

Encumbrance accounting, under which purchase orders, contracts and commitments of expenditures are recorded for budgetary control purposes in order to reserve applicable appropriations, is employed as a control in preventing over-expenditure of established appropriations. Open encumbrances are reported as restricted fund balance in all funds other than the General Fund, since they do not constitute expenditures or liabilities and will be honored through budget appropriations in the subsequent year.

2. **Unemployment Insurance**

This reserve is used to pay the cost of reimbursement to the State Unemployment Insurance Fund for payments made to claimants where the employer has elected to use the benefit reimbursement method. The reserve may be established by Board action and is funded by budgetary appropriations and such other funds as may be legally appropriated. Within sixty days after the end of any fiscal year, excess amounts may either be transferred to another reserve or the excess applied to the appropriations of the next succeeding fiscal year's budget. This reserve is accounted for in the General Fund.

SHARON SPRINGS CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

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**I. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)**

**U. Equity Classifications (Continued)**

2. Fund Statements (Continued)

3. Employee Benefit Accrued Liability

This reserve is used to set aside funds for the payment of accrued employee benefits due an employee upon termination of the employee's service. This reserve may be established by a majority vote of the Board, and is funded by budgetary appropriations and such other reserves and funds that may be legally appropriated. This reserve is accounted for in the General Fund.

4. Property Loss

This reserve is used to pay property loss claims incurred. The total amount accumulated in the reserve may not exceed 3% of the total annual budget. This reserve is accounted for in the General Fund.

5. Employee Retirement Contributions

This reserve is used for future employee's retirement obligations. This reserve may be established by a majority vote of the Board, and is funded by budgetary appropriations and such other reserves and funds that may be legally appropriated.

6. Insurance

This reserve is used for the payment of liability, casualty, and other types of losses for which the following types of insurance may not be purchased: workers' compensation, unemployment, life annuities, accident and health, fidelity and surety, credit, title and residual value. This reserve is accounted for in the General Fund.



SHARON SPRINGS CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
 NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

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**I. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)**

**U. Equity Classifications (Continued)**

**2. Fund Statements (Continued)**

**7. Repair**

This reserve is used to pay the cost of repairs to capital improvements or equipment, which repairs are of a type not recurring annually. The Board of Education without voter approval may establish a repair reserve fund by a majority vote of its members. Voter approval is required to fund this reserve. Expenditures from this reserve may be made only after a public hearing has been held, except in emergency situations. If no hearing is held, the amount expended must be repaid to the reserve fund over the next two subsequent fiscal years. This reserve is accounted for in the General Fund.

Restricted fund balance includes the following:

General Fund:

Employee Benefit Accrued Liability	\$ 218,135
Insurance	252,669
Repair	49,081
Unemployment Insurance	70,318
Employee Retirement Contributions	501,582
Property Loss	149,846
School Lunch Fund	99
Special Aid Fund	628
Debt Service Fund	20,778
Total restricted funds	\$ 1,263,136

**Committed** – Includes amounts that can only be used for the specific purposes pursuant to constraints imposed by formal action of the School District’s highest level of decision making, the Board of Education. The School District has no committed fund balances as of June 30, 2019.

SHARON SPRINGS CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

**I. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)**

**U. Equity Classifications (Continued)**

**2. Fund Statements (Continued)**

**Assigned** – Includes amounts that are constrained by the School District’s intent to be used for specific purposes, but are neither restricted nor committed. All encumbrances of the General Fund are classified as **Assigned Fund Balance** in the General Fund. Encumbrances reported in the General Fund amounted to \$19,917 and the assigned fund balance amounted to \$1,774,064.

**Unassigned** – Includes all other General Fund amounts that do not meet the definition of the above four classifications and are deemed to be available for general use by the District and could report a surplus or deficit. In funds other than the general fund, the unassigned classification is used to report a deficit fund balance resulting from overspending for specific purposes for which amounts had been restricted or assigned.

NYS Real Property Tax Law 1318 limits the amount of unexpended surplus funds a School District can retain to no more than 4% of the School District’s budget for the General Fund for the ensuing fiscal year. Nonspendable and restricted fund balance of the General Fund are excluded from the 4% limitation. Amounts appropriated for the subsequent year and encumbrances are also excluded from the 4% limitation.

Order of Use of Fund Balance:

The District’s policy is to apply expenditures against nonspendable fund balance, restricted fund balance, committed fund balance, assigned fund balance and unassigned fund balance at the end of the fiscal year. For all funds, nonspendable fund balances are determined first and then restricted fund balances for specific purposes are determined. Any remaining fund balance amounts for funds other than the General Fund are classified as restricted fund balance. In the General Fund, committed fund balance is determined next and then assigned. The remaining amounts are reported as unassigned. Assignments of fund balance cannot cause a negative unassigned fund balance.

**V. New Accounting Standards**

The District has adopted all current Statements of the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) that are applicable.

SHARON SPRINGS CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

I. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

W. Future Changes in Accounting Standards

GASB Statement 84, *Fiduciary Activities*, effective for the year ending June 30, 2020.

GASB has issued Statement 87, *Leases*, effective for the year ending June 30, 2021.

GASB has issued Statement 89, *Accounting for Interest Cost Incurred Before the End of a Construction Period*, effective for the year ending June 30, 2021.

The school district will evaluate the impact that these pronouncements may have on its financial statements and will implement it as applicable and when material.

II. Explanation of Certain Differences between Governmental Fund Statements and Districtwide Statements

Due to differences in the measurement focus and basis of accounting used in the governmental fund statements and the districtwide statements, certain financial transactions are treated differently. The basic financial statements contain a full reconciliation of these items. The differences result primarily from the economic focus of the Statement of Activities, compared with the current financial resources focus of the governmental funds.

1. Total Fund Balances of Governmental Funds vs. Net Position of Governmental Activities:

Total fund balances of the District's governmental funds differ from "net position" of governmental activities reported in the Statement of Net Position. This difference primarily results from the additional long-term economic focus of the Statement of Net Position versus the solely current financial resources focus of the governmental fund balance sheets.

2. Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance vs. Statement of Activities:

Differences between the funds Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance and the Statement of Activities fall into one of three broad categories:

a. Long-term revenue differences:

Long-term revenue differences arise because governmental funds report revenues only when they are considered "available", whereas the Statement of Activities reports revenues when earned. Differences in long-term expenses arise because governmental funds report on a modified accrual basis, whereas the accrual basis of accounting is used on the Statement of Activities.

SHARON SPRINGS CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

**II. Explanation of Certain Differences between Governmental Fund Statements and Districtwide Statements (Continued)**

2. Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance vs. Statement of Activities: (Continued)

b. Capital related differences:

Capital related differences include the difference between proceeds for the sale of capital assets reported on governmental fund statements and the gain or loss on the sale of assets as reported on the Statement of Activities, and the difference between recording an expenditure for the purchase of capital items in the governmental fund statements and depreciation expense on those items as recorded in the Statement of Activities.

c. Long-term debt transaction differences:

Long-term debt transaction differences occur because both interest and principal payments are recorded as expenditures in the governmental fund statements, whereas interest payments are recorded in the Statement of Activities as incurred, and principal payments are recorded as a reduction of liabilities in the Statement of Net Position.

d. Pension differences:

Pension differences occur as a result of changes in the District's proportion of the collective net pension asset/liability and differences between the District's contributions and its proportionate share of the total contributions to the pension systems.

The costs of building and acquiring capital assets (land, buildings, and equipment) financed from governmental funds are reported as expenditures in the year they are incurred, and the assets do not appear on the Balance Sheet. However, the Statement of Net Position includes those capital assets among the assets of the District as a whole, and their original costs are expensed annually of their useful lives.

Original cost of capital assets	\$19,700,170
Accumulated depreciation	<u>7,045,050</u>
Capital assets, net	<u>\$12,655,120</u>

Long-term liabilities are reported in the Statement of Net Position, but not in the governmental funds, because they are not due and payable in the current period. Balances at year end were:

Bonds and notes payable	\$ 2,313,394
OPEB obligations	<u>\$19,995,697</u>
Compensated Absences	<u>\$ 218,136</u>
Net Pension Liability-Proportionate Share	<u>\$ 267,888</u>

SHARON SPRINGS CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

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**II. Explanation of Certain Differences between Governmental Fund Statements and Districtwide Statements (Continued)**

2. Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance vs. Statement of Activities (Continued):

When the purchase or construction of capital assets is financed through governmental funds, the resources expended for those assets are reported as expenditures in the years they are incurred. However, in the Statement of Activities, the cost of those assets is allocated over their estimated useful lives and reported as depreciation expense. Depreciation of \$506,618 was less than capital expenditures of \$725,401 in the current year.

Repayment of bond principal of \$685,500 is an expenditure in the governmental funds, but it reduces long-term liabilities in the Statement of Net Position and does not affect the Statement of Activities.

Interest on long-term debt and short-term debt in the Statement of Activities differs from the amount reported in the governmental funds because interest is recorded as an expenditure in the funds when it is due, and thus requires the use of current financial resources. In the Statement of Activities, however, interest expense is recognized as the interest accrues, regardless of when it is due. The interest reported in the Statement of Activities decreased by \$778.

**III. Changes in Accounting Principles**

For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2018, the District implemented GASB Statement #75, *Accounting and Financial Reporting for Post-employment Benefits Other Than Pensions*. The implementation of the statement requires District's to report Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB) liabilities, OPEB expenses, deferred outflow of resources and deferred inflow of resources related to OPEB. See Note X. for the financial statement impact of the implementation of the statement.

SHARON SPRINGS CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

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**IV. Cash and Investments**

**A. Deposits**

The Sharon Springs Central School District's investment policies are governed by State statutes. The Sharon Springs Central School District's monies must be deposited in FDIC-insured commercial banks or trust companies located within the State. The Treasurer is authorized to use demand accounts and certificates of deposit. Permissible investments include obligations of the U.S. Treasury and U.S. Agencies, repurchase agreements, and obligations of New York State or its localities.

Collateral is required for demand and time deposits and certificates of deposit not covered by Federal Deposit Insurance. Obligations that may be pledged as collateral are: obligations of the United States and its agencies and obligations of the State and its municipalities and school districts.

Custodial credit risk is the risk that in an event of a bank failure, the District's deposits may not be returned to it. GASB directs that deposits be disclosed as exposed to custodial credit risk if they are not covered by depository insurance and the deposits are as follows:

- A. Uncollateralized
- B. Collateralized by securities held by the pledging financial institution, or
- C. Collateralized by securities held by the pledging financial institution's trust department or agent but not in the District's name.

Deposits and investments at year end were entirely covered by Federal Deposit Insurance or by collateral held by the School District's custodial bank in the School District's name.

The District did not have any investments at year end or during the year.

SHARON SPRINGS CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
 NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)  
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**V. Interfund Transaction**

Interfund balances at June 30, 2019 are as follows:

	Interfund		Interfund	
	Receivable	Payable	Revenues	Expenditures
General Fund	\$ 305,743	\$ 5,378	\$ -	\$ 165,589
Special Aid Fund	-	139,587	25,589	-
School Lunch Fund	-	9,014	40,000	-
Capital Fund	-	172,542	100,000	-
Debt Service Fund	20,778	-	-	-
Total governmental activities	<u>\$ 326,521</u>	<u>\$ 326,521</u>	<u>\$ 165,589</u>	<u>\$ 165,589</u>

The District typically transfers from the General Fund to the Special Aid Fund to pay its' share of the Summer Handicapped Program.

Interfund receivables and payables, other than between governmental activities and fiduciary funds, are eliminated on the Statement of Net Position.

SHARON SPRINGS CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
 NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

**VI. Capital Assets**

A summary of changes in general fixed assets follows:

	<u>Balance 7/1/2018</u>	<u>Additions</u>	<u>Deletions</u>	<u>Balance 6/30/2019</u>
<u>Capital assets-not depreciated:</u>				
Land	\$ 74,094	\$ -	\$ -	74,094
Construction in progress	<u>425,543</u>	<u>400,356</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>825,899</u>
Total capital assets-not depreciated:	<u>499,637</u>	<u>400,356</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>899,993</u>
 <u>Other capital assets:</u>				
Buildings and improvements	16,426,063	96,618	-	16,522,681
Machinery and equipment	1,000,937	127,098	19,034	1,109,001
Vehicles	<u>1,151,337</u>	<u>101,329</u>	<u>84,171</u>	<u>1,168,495</u>
Total other capital assets:	<u>18,578,337</u>	<u>325,045</u>	<u>103,205</u>	<u>18,800,177</u>
 <u>Less accumulated depreciation:</u>				
Buildings and improvements	5,042,282	339,792	-	5,382,074
Machinery and equipment	775,897	79,271	19,034	836,134
Vehicles	<u>823,458</u>	<u>87,555</u>	<u>84,171</u>	<u>826,842</u>
Total accumulated depreciation	<u>6,641,637</u>	<u>506,618</u>	<u>103,205</u>	<u>7,045,050</u>
Other capital assets, net	<u>11,936,700</u>	<u>(181,573)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>11,755,127</u>
Total	<u>\$ 12,436,337</u>	<u>\$ 218,783</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 12,655,120</u>

Depreciation expense for the period was shown as unallocated in the Statement of Activities.



SHARON SPRINGS CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

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**VII. Pension Plans**

1. General Information

New York State and Local Employees' Retirement System (ERS) and the New York State Teachers' Retirement (TRS) (the Systems).

2. Plan Descriptions and Benefits Provided

**Teachers' Retirement System (TRS)**

The District participates in the New York State Teachers' Retirement System (TRS). This is a cost-sharing multiple-employer retirement system. The System provides retirement benefits as well as, death and disability benefits to plan members and beneficiaries as authorized by the Education Law and the Retirement and Social Security Law of the State of New York. The System is governed by a 10 member Board of Trustees. System benefits are established under New York State Law. Membership is mandatory and automatic for all full-time teachers, teaching assistants, guidance counselors and administrators employed in New York Public Schools and BOCES who elected to participate in TRS. Once a public employer elects to participate in the System, the election is irrevocable. The New York State Constitution provides that pension membership is a contractual relationship and plan benefits cannot be diminished or impaired. Benefits can be changed for future members only by enactment of a State statute. Additional information regarding the System, may be obtained by writing to the New York State Teachers' Retirement System, 10 Corporate Woods Drive, Albany, NY 12211-2395 or by referring to the NYSSTR Comprehensive Annual Financial report which can be found on the System's website at [www.nystrs.org](http://www.nystrs.org).

**Employees' Retirement System (ERS)**

The District participates in the New York State and Local Employees' Retirement System (ERS). This is a cost-sharing multiple-employer retirement system. The System provides retirement benefits as well as death and disability benefits. The net position of the System is held in the New York State Common Retirement Fund (the Fund), which was established to hold all net assets and record changes in plan net position allocated to the System. The Comptroller of the State of New York serves as the trustee of the Fund and is the administrative head of the System. System benefits are established under the provisions of the New York State Retirement and Social Security Law (RSSL). Once a public employer elects to participate in the System, the election is irrevocable. The New York State Constitution provides that pension membership is a contractual relationship and plan benefits cannot be diminished or impaired. Benefits can be changed for future members only by enactment of a State statute. The District also participates in the Public Employees' Group Life Insurance Plan (GLIP), which provides death benefits in the form of life insurance. The System is included in the State's financial report as a pension trust fund. That report, including information with regard to benefits provided, may be found at [www.osc.state.ny.us/retire/publications/index.php](http://www.osc.state.ny.us/retire/publications/index.php) or obtained by writing to the New York State and Local Retirement System, 110 State Street, Albany, NY 12244.

SHARON SPRINGS CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

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**VII. Pension Plans (Continued)**

Funding Policies:

The Systems are noncontributory except for employees who joined after July 27, 1976, who contribute 3 percent of their salary for the first ten years of membership, and employees who joined on or after January 1, 2010 who generally contribute 3.0 to 3.5 percent of their salary for their entire length of service. In addition, employee contribution rates under ERS tier VI vary based on a sliding salary scale. For ERS, the Comptroller annually certifies the actuarially determined rates expressly used in computing the employers' contributions based on salaries paid during the Systems' fiscal year ending March 31. For TRS, contribution rates are established annually by the New York State Teachers' Retirement Board pursuant to Article 11 of the Education law.

Contributions for the current year and two preceding years were equal to 100 percent of the contributions required, and were as follows:

	<u>Contributions</u>	
	<u>ERS</u>	<u>TRS</u>
2019	\$152,115	\$261,220
2018	\$147,818	\$299,499
2017	\$141,355	\$332,562

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

At June 30, 2019, the District reported the following (asset)/liability for its proportionate share of the net pension (asset)/liability for each of the Systems. The net pension (asset)/liability was measured as of March 31, 2019 for ERS and June 30, 2018 for TRS. The total pension (asset)/liability used to calculate the net pension (asset)/liability was determined by an actuarial valuation. The District's proportion of the net pension (asset)/liability was based on a projection of the District's long-term share of contributions to the Systems relative to the projected contributions of all participating members, actuarially determined. This information was provided by the ERS and TRS Systems in reports provided to the District.

	<u>ERS</u>	<u>TRS</u>
Actuarial valuation date	1-Apr-18	30-Jun-17
Net pension liability/(asset)	\$267,888	(\$290,441)
District's portion of the Plan's total net pension liability	.0037809%	.016062%
Change in proportion since the prior measurement date	(.0000722%)	.000246%

SHARON SPRINGS CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

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**VII. Pension Plans (Continued)**

For the year ended June 30, 2019, the District's recognized pension expense of \$164,607 for ERS and \$220,607 for TRS. At June 30, 2019 the District reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions from the following sources:

	<u>Deferred Outflows of Resource; Deferred Inflows of Resources</u>			
	<u>ERS</u>	<u>TRS</u>	<u>ERS</u>	<u>TRS</u>
Differences between expected and actual experience	\$52,753	\$217,044	\$17,983	\$39,315
Changes of assumptions	67,336	1,015,282	0	0
Net difference between projected and actual earnings on pension plan investments	0	0	68,755	322,412
Changes in proportion and differences between the District's contributions and proportionate share of contributions	4,025	9,650	21,704	33,686
District's contributions subsequent to the measurement date	46,635	271,035	0	0
Total	<u>\$170,749</u>	<u>\$1,513,011</u>	<u>\$108,442</u>	<u>\$395,413</u>

District contributions subsequent to the measurement date which will be recognized as a reduction of the net pension liability in the year ended June 30, 2019. Other amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions will be recognized in pension expense as follows:

	<u>ERS</u>	<u>TRS</u>
Year ended:		
2019	\$ -	\$ 286,315
2020	45,359	192,849
2021	(58,770)	16,041
2022	(7,040)	192,165
2023	36,123	130,948
Thereafter	-	28,245

SHARON SPRINGS CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

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**VII. Pension Plans (Continued)**

4. Actuarial Assumptions

The total pension liability as of the measurement date was determined by using an actuarial valuation as noted in the table below, with update procedures used to roll forward the total pension liability to the measurement date. The actuarial valuations used the following actuarial assumptions:

Significant actuarial assumptions used in the valuations were as follows:

	<u>ERS</u>	<u>TRS</u>
Measurement date	March 31, 2019	June 30, 2018
Actuarial valuation date	April 1, 2018	June 30, 2017
Interest rate	7.0%	7.25%
Salary scale	4.20%	1.90%-4.72%
Decrement tables	April 1, 2010 - March 31, 2015 System's Experience	July 1, 2009 - June 30, 2014 System's Experience
Inflation rate	2.5%	2.25%

For ERS, annuitant mortality rates are based on April 1, 2010 – March 31, 2015 System’s experience with adjustments for mortality improvements based on MP-2014. For TRS, annuitant mortality rates are based on July 1, 2009 – June 30, 2014 System’s experience with adjustments for mortality improvements based on Society of Actuaries Scale AA.

For ERS, the actuarial assumptions used in the April 1, 2018 valuation are based on the results of an actuarial experience study for the period April 1, 2010 – March 31, 2015. For TRS, the actuarial assumptions used in the June 30, 2017 valuation are based on the results of an actuarial experience study for the period July 1, 2009 – June 30, 2014.

SHARON SPRINGS CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

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**VII. Pension Plans (Continued)**

The long-term 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 of 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 each the target asset allocation percentage and by adding expected inflation. Best estimates of the arithmetic real rates of return for each major asset class included in the target asset allocation are summarized below:

Measurement date	<u>ERS</u> March 31, 2019	<u>TRS</u> June 30, 2018
<u>Asset Type</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>%</u>
Domestic Equities	36%	33%
International Equities	14%	16%
Global equities	0%	4%
Private Equity	10%	8%
Real Estate	10%	11%
Domestic fixed income securities	0%	16%
Global fixed income securities	0%	2%
Bonds and mortgages	17%	8%
Cash Equivalents	1%	0%
Inflation-Indexed bonds	4%	0%
High yield fixed income securities	0%	1%
Real assets	3%	0%
Short-term	0%	1%
Alternative investments	<u>8%</u>	<u>0%</u>
	100%	100%

5. Discount Rate

The discount rate used to calculate the total pension liability was 7.0 % for ERS and 7.25 % for TRS. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumes that contributions from plan members will be made at the current contribution rates and that contributions from employers will be made at statutorily required rates, actuarially. Based upon the assumptions, the Systems' fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments of current plan members. Therefore, the long term expected rate of return on pension plan investments was applied to all periods of projected benefit payments to determine the total pension liability.

SHARON SPRINGS CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

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**VII. Pension Plans (Continued)**

6. Sensitivity of the Proportionate Share of Net Pension Asset/Liability to the Discount Rate Assumption

The following presents the District's proportionate share of the net pension liability calculated using the discount rate of 7.0% for ERS and 7.25% for TRS, as well as what the District's proportionate share of the net pension (asset)/liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1-percentage point lower (6.0% or ERS and 6.25% for TRS) or 1-percentage point higher (8.0% for ERS and 8.25% for TRS) than the current rate :

ERS	1% Decrease <u>(6.0%)</u>	Current Assumption <u>(7.0%)</u>	1% Increase <u>(8.0%)</u>
Employer's proportionate share Of the net pension (asset) liability	\$1,171,249	\$267,888	(\$491,000)
TRS	1% Decrease <u>(6.25%)</u>	Current Assumption <u>(7.25%)</u>	1% Increase <u>(8.25%)</u>
Employer's proportionate share Of the net pension (asset) liability	\$1,995,377	(\$290,441)	(\$2,205,321)

7. Pension Plan Fiduciary Net Position

The components of the current-year net pension (asset)/liability of the employers as of the respective valuation dates, were as follows:

	<u>ERS</u>	<u>TRS</u>
Measurement date	March 31, 2019	June 30, 2018
Employers' total pension liability	\$ (189,803,429) \$	(118,107,254)
Plan Fiduciary Net Position	182,718,124	119,915,518
Employers' net pension liability/(asset)	(7,085,305)	(1,808,264)
Ratio of plan fiduciary net position to the Employers' total pension (asset)/liability	96.2700%	101.5300%

SHARON SPRINGS CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
 NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)  
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**VII. Pension Plans (Continued)**

8. Payables to the Pension Plan

For ERS, employer contributions are paid annually based on the System’s fiscal year which ends on March 31<sup>st</sup>. Accrued retirement contributions as of June 30, 2019 represent the projected employer contribution for the period of April 1, 2019 through June 30, 2019 based on paid ERS wages multiplied by the employer’s contribution rate, by tier. Accrued retirement contributions as of June 30, 2019 amounted to \$46,635.

For TRS, employer and employee contributions for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2019 are paid to the System in September, October and November 2019 through a state aid intercept. Accrued retirement contributions as of June 30, 2019 represent employee and employer contributions for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2019 based on paid TRS wages multiplied by the employer’s contribution rate, by tier and employee contributions for the fiscal year as reported to the TRS System. Accrued retirement contributions as of June 30, 2019 amounted to \$280,701.

**VIII. Short-Term Debt Obligations**

Transactions in short-term debt for the year are summarized below:

	<u>Maturity</u>	<u>Interest Rate</u>	<u>Balance 7/1/2018</u>	<u>Issued</u>	<u>Redeemed</u>	<u>Balance 6/30/19</u>
BAN	2020	2.0%	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$3,540,000</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$3,540,000</u>

Interest on short-term debt for the year was composed of:

Interest paid	<u>\$ -</u>
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SHARON SPRINGS CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

**IX. Long-Term Debt Obligations**

Long-term liability balances and activity for the year are summarized below:

**1. Long-Term Debt Interest**

Interest paid	\$77,741
Less interest accrued in the prior year	(5,771)
Plus, interest accrued in the current year	<u>4,993</u>
Total expense	<u><u>\$76,963</u></u>

**2. Changes**

	Restated Balance 7/1/2018	Additions	Deletions	Balance 6/30/2019	Due Within One Year
Serial Bonds	\$ 2,897,565	\$ 101,329	\$ 685,500	\$ 2,313,394	<u>\$ 704,388</u>
Compensated Absences	198,530	19,606	-	218,136	
OPEB Obligations	17,975,971	2,019,726	-	19,995,697	
Net Pension Liability- Proportionate Share	<u>124,356</u>	<u>143,532</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>267,888</u>	
Totals	<u>\$ 21,196,422</u>	<u>\$ 2,284,193</u>	<u>\$ 685,500</u>	<u>\$ 22,795,115</u>	

Additions and deletions to compensated absences are shown net since it is impractical to determine these amounts separately.

**3. Maturity**

a. The following is a summary of the debt issued:

Purpose	Issue Date	Final Maturity	Interest Rate	Outstanding 6/30/2019
Serial Bonds:				
Advanced Refunding	2011	2021	2-3.5%	\$ 645,000
Buses	2016	2021	3.25%	40,748
Buses	2015	2020	3.25%	22,392
Buses	2017	2022	3.25%	64,513
Buses	2018	2023	3.25%	39,412
Buses	2019	2024	3.40%	101,329
Construction	2012	2026	2.25%	1,400,000
Total				<u>\$ 2,313,394</u>



SHARON SPRINGS CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
 NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)  
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**IX. Long-Term Debt Obligations (Continued)**

**3. Maturity (Continued)**

b. The following is a summary of maturing principal debt service requirements:

	Year	Principal	Interest	Total
Serial Bonds:	2020	\$ 704,388	\$ 61,745	\$ 766,133
	2021	481,997	41,735	523,732
	2022	246,623	27,938	274,561
	2023	230,119	21,843	251,962
	2024	225,267	16,234	241,501
	2025 and thereafter	425,000	16,000	441,000
	Total	<u>\$ 2,313,394</u>	<u>\$ 185,495</u>	<u>\$ 2,498,889</u>

**Prior-Year Defeasance of Debt**

In prior years, certain general obligation bonds were defeased by placing the proceeds of new bonds in an irrevocable trust to provide for all future debt service payments on the old bonds. Accordingly, the liability for the defeased bonds and the trust account assets are not included in the financial statements.

SHARON SPRINGS CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

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**X. Postemployment (Health Insurance) Benefits**

**A. General Information about the OPEB Plan**

*Plan Description-* The District's defined benefit OPEB plan, provides OPEB for all permanent full-time general and public safety employees of the District. The plan is a single employer defined benefit OPEB plan administered by the District. Article 11 of the State Compiled Statutes grants the authority to establish and amend the benefit terms and financing requirements to the District Board. No assets are accumulated in a trust that meets the criteria in Paragraph 4 of Statement 75.

*Benefits Provided-* The District provides healthcare and life insurance benefits for retirees and their dependents. The benefit terms are dependent on which contract each employee falls under. The specifics of each contract are on file at the District offices and are available upon request.

*Employees Covered by Benefit Terms-* At June 30, 2019, the following employees were covered by the benefit terms:

Inactive members or beneficiaries currently receiving benefit payments	37
Inactive members entitled to but not yet receiving benefit payments	-
Active members	<u>64</u>
Total membership	<u>101</u>

**B. Total OPEB Liability**

The District's total OPEB liability of \$19,995,697 was measured as of June 30, 2019 and was determined by an actuarial valuation as of that date.

*Actuarial Assumptions and Other Inputs-* The total OPEB liability in the June 30, 2019 actuarial valuation was determined using the following actuarial assumptions and other inputs, applied to all periods included in the measurement, unless otherwise specified:

SHARON SPRINGS CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
 NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)  
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**X. Postemployment (Health Insurance) Benefits (Continued)**

**B. Total OPEB Liability (Continued)**

Inflation	3.0%
Salary Increases	vary by pension retirement system membership
Discount Rate	3.51%
Healthcare Cost Trend Rates	5.5% for 2019, to an ultimate rate of 3.84% by 2075

The discount rate was based on the Bond Buyer General Obligation 20-year Municipal Bond Index.

Mortality rates were based on the April 1, 2010-March 31, 2015 NYSLRS experience, with adjustments for mortality improvements based on the Society of Actuaries Scale MP-2014.

The actuarial assumptions used in the June 30, 2018 valuation were based on the results of an actuarial experience study for the period April 1, 2010-March 31, 2015.

**C. Changes in the Total OPEB Liability**

Balance at June 30, 2018	<u>\$ 17,975,971</u>
<u>Changes for the Year</u>	
Service cost	517,519
Interest	706,237
Changes of benefit terms	-
Differences between expected and actual experience	-
Changes in assumptions or other inputs	1,289,592
Benefit payments	<u>(493,622)</u>
Net Changes	<u>\$ 2,019,726</u>
<b>Balance at June 30, 2019</b>	<u><u>\$ 19,995,697</u></u>

SHARON SPRINGS CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
 NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)  
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**X. Postemployment (Health Insurance) Benefits (Continued)**

**C. Changes in the Total OPEB Liability (Continued)**

Changes of assumptions and other inputs reflect a change in the discount rate from 3.87% in 2018 to 3.51% in 2019.

*Sensitivity of the Total OPEB Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate-* The following presents the total OPEB liability of the District, as well as what the District's total OPEB liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1 percentage point lower (2.51%) or 1 percentage point higher (4.51%) than the current discount rate:

	(2.51%) <u>1% Decrease</u>	Current Discount Rate (3.51%) <u>Rate (3.51%)</u>	(4.51%) <u>1% Increase</u>
Total OPEB Liability	<u>\$24,392,534</u>	<u>\$19,995,697</u>	<u>\$16,569,600</u>

*Sensitivity of the Total OPEB Liability to Changes in the Healthcare Cost Trend Rates-* The following presents the total OPEB liability of the District, as well as what the District's total OPEB liability would be if it were calculated using healthcare cost trend rates that are 1 percentage point lower or 1 percentage point higher than the current healthcare cost trend rate:

	<u>1% Decrease</u>	Healthcare Cost Trend Rates <u>Cost Trend Rates</u>	<u>1% Increase</u>
Total OPEB Liability	<u>\$ 16,047,838</u>	<u>\$ 19,995,697</u>	<u>\$ 25,208,996</u>

SHARON SPRINGS CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
 NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)  
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**X. Postemployment (Health Insurance) Benefits (Continued)**

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

For the year ended June 30, 2019, the District recognized a negative OPEB expense of \$1,099,165. At June 30, 2019, the District reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB from the following sources:

	Deferred Outflows of Resources	Deferred Inflows of Resources
Differences between expected and actual experience	\$ -	\$ -
Changes of assumptions or other inputs	<u>1,113,238</u>	<u>(720,646)</u>
 Total	 <u><u>\$ 1,113,238</u></u>	 <u><u>\$ (720,646)</u></u>

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

<u>Fiscal Year Ending June 30,</u>	<u>Amount</u>
2020	\$ 40,703
2021	40,703
2022	40,703
2023	40,703
2024	40,703
2025 and Thereafter	189,077

SHARON SPRINGS CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)  
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**XI. Commitments and Contingencies**

**A. Risk Financing and Related Insurance**

1. General Information

The Sharon Springs Central School District is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; and natural disasters. These risks are covered by commercial insurance purchased from independent third parties. Settled claims from these risks have not exceeded commercial insurance coverage for the past two years.

2. Health Insurance

The Sharon Springs Central School District participates in the Benetech Health Insurance Consortium, which is a trust formed under New York State Insurance Law on June 30, 1988. The Consortium's purpose is to provide health insurance coverage at a lower rate for member educational institutions due to a larger participation pool.

3. Grants

The School District has received grants, which are subject to audit by agencies of the State and Federal government. Such audits may result in disallowances and a request for a return of funds. Based on prior audits, the School District's administration believes disallowances, if any, will be immaterial.

4. Operating Leases

The School District leases equipment under operating leases. Total rental expenditures on such leases for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2019 were approximately \$15,038. The future non-cancelable operating lease payments are as follows:

<u>Year Ended</u>	<u>Lease Payments</u>
2020	<u>\$ 15,038</u>

SHARON SPRINGS CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
 NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)  
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**XII. Tax Abatements**

The Counties of Montgomery, Otsego and Schoharie, enter into various property tax abatement programs for the purpose of economic development. The School District property tax revenue was reduced by approximately \$1,450,000. The District received payments in Lieu of Tax (PILOT) payment totaling \$661,282.

**XIII. Other Disclosures**

**A. Summary of Reconciliation of Governmental Funds Balance Sheet to the Statement of Net Position**

Total governmental fund balance	\$ 3,374,490
Capital assets (net)	12,655,120
Net pension asset	290,441
Deferred outflows of resources	2,796,998
Bonds payable	(2,313,394)
Accrued interest payable	(4,993)
Net pension liability- proportionate share	(267,888)
Deferred inflows of resources	(1,224,501)
Compensated absences	(218,136)
OPEB obligations	(19,995,697)
Unearned revenue	250
Total net position	<u>\$ (4,907,310)</u>

SHARON SPRINGS CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
 NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)  
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**XIII. Other Disclosures (Continued)**

**B. Reconciliation of the Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance to the Statement of Activities**

Net changes in fund balance – total governmental funds	\$264,789
Capital outlays are expenditures in governmental funds, but are capitalized in the Statement of Net Position	725,401
Depreciation is not recorded as an expenditure in the governmental funds, but is recorded in the Statement of Activities	(506,618)
Repayments of Long-term Debt are recorded as expenditures in the governmental funds, but are recorded as payments of liabilities in the Statement of Net Position	685,500
Interest is recognized as an expense in governmental funds when paid. For governmental activities, interest expense is recognized as it accrues. The decrease in accrued interest during 2018/19 results in less expense.	778
Proceeds from debt are recognized as revenue in the Governmental Funds, but not in the Statement of Activities	(101,329)
(Increases) Decreases in proportionate share of net pension asset/liability reported in the Statement of Activities do not provide for or require the use of current financial resources and therefore, are not reported as revenues or expenditures in the governmental funds:	
Teachers' Retirement System	50,562
Employees' Retirement System	(13,565)
Certain expenses in the Statement of Activities do not require the expenditure of current resources and are, therefore, not reported as expenditures in the governmental funds:	
OPEB obligations	(1,099,165)
Compensated absences	<u>(19,606)</u>
Change in Net Position – Governmental Activities	<u><u>(\$ 13,253)</u></u>



SHARON SPRINGS CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)  
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**XIV. Stewardship, Compliance and Accountability**

**A. Budgetary Procedures and Budgetary Accounting**

1. Budgets

The District administration prepares a proposed budget for approval by the Board of Education for the governmental funds for which legal (appropriated) budgets are adopted. The voters of the District approved the proposed appropriation budget for the General Fund.

Appropriations are adopted at the program line item level.

Appropriations established by adoption of the budget constitute a limitation on expenditures (and encumbrances), that may be incurred. Appropriations lapse at the fiscal year end unless expended or encumbered. Encumbrances will lapse if not expended in the subsequent year. Appropriations authorized for the current year are increased by the planned use of specific reserves, and budget amendments approved by the Board of Education as a result of selected new revenue sources not included in the original budget (When permitted by law). These supplemental appropriations may occur subject to legal restrictions, if the Board approves them because of a need that exists which was not determined at the time the budget was adopted.

The General Fund budget was increased to reflect the carryover encumbrances in the amount of \$24,139.

Budgets are adopted annually on a basis consistent with GAAP. Appropriations authorized for the year are increased by the amount of encumbrances carried forward from the prior year.

Budgets are established and used for individual capital project funds expenditures as approved by a special referendum of the District's voters. The maximum project amount authorized is based primarily upon the cost of the project, plus any requirements for external borrowings, not annual appropriations. These budgets do not lapse and are carried over to subsequent fiscal years until the completion of the projects.

Special Aid Fund and School Lunch Fund have not been included because they do not have legally authorized budgets.

SHARON SPRINGS CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

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**XIV. Stewardship, Compliance and Accountability (Continued)**

2. Encumbrances

Encumbrance accounting is used for budget control and monitoring purposes and is reported as a part of the governmental funds. Under this method, purchase orders, contracts and other commitments for the expenditure of monies are recorded to reserve applicable appropriations. Outstanding encumbrances as of year-end are presented as reservations of fund balance and do not represent expenditures or liabilities. These commitments will be honored in the subsequent period. Related expenditures are recognized at that time as the liability is incurred or the commitment is paid.

3. The Capital Fund had a deficit fund balance at June 30, 2019 in the amount of \$73,019. The deficit will be eliminated when the District receives funds from the Smart School Bond Act.

**XV. Subsequent Events**

There were no significant subsequent events to report from the period of July 1, 2019 to October 1, 2019.

SHARON SPRINGS CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
SCHEDULE OF REVENUES COMPARED TO BUDGET- GENERAL FUND  
For Year Ended June 30, 2019

-----

	Original Budget	Revised Budget	Actual	Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)
<b>REVENUES</b>				
Local Sources				
Real property taxes	\$ 1,969,520	\$ 1,969,520	\$ 1,968,140	\$ (1,380)
Other tax items	1,050,232	1,050,232	1,056,910	6,678
Charges for services	1,400	1,400	82,655	81,255
Use of money and property	2,853	2,853	14,134	11,281
Sale of property and compensation for loss	-	-	1,070	1,070
Miscellaneous	81,255	81,255	91,878	10,623
<b>Total Local Sources</b>	<u>3,105,260</u>	<u>3,105,260</u>	<u>3,214,787</u>	<u>109,527</u>
State Sources	5,227,824	5,227,824	5,298,561	70,737
Federal Sources	-	-	6,093	6,093
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<u>8,333,084</u>	<u>8,333,084</u>	<u>8,519,441</u>	<u>\$ 186,357</u>
<b>Appropriated Fund Balance</b>	1,150,471	1,150,471		
<b>Appropriated Reserves</b>	-	24,139		
<b>Total Revenues and Other Financing Sources, Appropriated Fund Balance and Reserves</b>	<u>\$ 9,483,555</u>	<u>\$ 9,507,694</u>		

See paragraph on required supplementary information included in auditor's report.

SHARON SPRINGS CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES, OTHER USES AND ENCUMBRANCES COMPARED TO BUDGET-  
GENERAL FUND  
For Year Ended June 30, 2019  
-----

	Original Budget	Revised Budget	Actual	Encumbrances	Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>					
General Support					
Board of education	\$ 15,187	\$ 15,587	\$ 12,078	\$ -	\$ 3,509
Central administration	165,435	165,770	164,432	-	1,338
Finance	264,822	292,111	263,223	-	28,888
Staff	24,672	24,672	9,066	-	15,606
Central services	753,517	753,789	448,563	830	304,396
Special items	104,993	104,993	79,632	-	25,361
<b>Total General Support</b>	<u>1,328,626</u>	<u>1,356,922</u>	<u>976,994</u>	<u>830</u>	<u>379,098</u>
Instructional					
Instruction, administration and improvement	46,864	46,864	33,967	-	12,897
Teaching - regular school	2,676,852	2,602,338	2,305,097	2,781	294,460
Programs for children with handicapping conditions	564,749	655,958	447,029	-	208,929
Occupational education	155,775	188,094	188,094	-	-
Teaching - special school	4,152	2,822	2,822	-	-
Instructional media	525,390	511,903	338,727	10,276	162,900
Pupil services	378,029	396,075	269,719	6,030	120,326
<b>Total Instructional</b>	<u>4,351,811</u>	<u>4,404,054</u>	<u>3,585,455</u>	<u>19,087</u>	<u>799,512</u>
Pupil transportation	585,073	585,073	418,692	-	166,381
Community services	1,052	1,052	-	-	1,052
Employee benefits	2,336,123	2,231,634	1,962,206	-	269,428
Debt service					
Principal	685,500	685,500	685,500	-	-
Interest	77,870	77,870	77,741	-	129
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<u>9,366,055</u>	<u>9,342,105</u>	<u>7,706,588</u>	<u>19,917</u>	<u>1,615,600</u>
<b>OTHER FINANCING USES</b>					
Operating transfers out	117,500	165,589	165,589	-	-
<b>Total Expenditures and Other Financing Uses</b>	<u>\$ 9,483,555</u>	<u>\$ 9,507,694</u>	<u>7,872,177</u>	<u>\$ 19,917</u>	<u>\$ 1,615,600</u>
<b>Net changes in fund balance</b>			647,264		
<b>Fund balance- Beginning</b>			<u>2,775,977</u>		
<b>Fund balance- Ending</b>			<u>\$ 3,423,241</u>		

See paragraph on required supplementary information included in auditor's report.

SHARON SPRINGS CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
 SCHEDULE OF CHANGES IN THE TOTAL OPEB LIABILITY  
 For Year Ended June 30, 2019

	<b>2019</b>
<b>Total OPEB Liability</b>	
Service Cost at end of year	\$ 517,519
Interest	706,237
Changes of benefit terms	-
Difference between expected and actual experience	-
Changes of assumptions or other inputs	1,289,592
Benefit payments	(493,622)
<b>Net change in Total OPEB Liability</b>	2,019,726
<b>Total OPEB Liability- beginning</b>	17,975,971
<b>Total OPEB Liability- ending</b>	\$ 19,995,697
<b>Covered-employee payroll</b>	3,632,387
<b>Total OPEB Liability as a percentage of covered-employee payroll</b>	550.50%

See paragraph on required supplementary information included in auditor's report

SHARON SPRINGS CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
SCHEDULE OF THE DISTRICT'S PROPORTIONATE SHARE OF THE NET PENSION ASSET/LIABILITY  
June 30, 2019  
-----

	<u>Teachers' Retirement System</u>			
	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>
District 's proportion of the net pension asset	.016062%	.015816%	.015979%	.015733%
District's proportionate share of the net pension (asset)/liability	\$ (290,441)	\$ (120,218)	\$ 171,139	\$ (1,634,149)
District's covered-employee payroll	\$ 2,552,116	\$2,705,058	\$ 2,579,693	\$ 2,548,393
District's proportionate share of the net pension liability as a percentage of its covered-employee payroll	11.38%	4.44%	6.60%	64.10%
Plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of the total pension liability	101.53%	100.66%	99.01%	110.46%
	<u>Employees' Retirement System</u>			
	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>
District 's proportion of the net pension liability	.0037809%	.0038531%	.0039648%	.0040852%
District's proportionate share of the net pension liability	\$ 267,888	\$ 124,356	\$ 372,538	\$ 655,680
District's covered-employee payroll	\$ 1,067,824	\$1,029,078	\$ 1,000,031	\$ 944,651
District's proportionate share of the net pension liability as a percentage of its covered-employee payroll	25.09%	12.08%	37.25%	69.40%
Plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of the total pension liability	96.27%	98.24%	94.70%	90.70%

See paragraph on required supplementary information included in auditor's report.

SHARON SPRINGS CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
SCHEDULE OF DISTRICT CONTRIBUTIONS  
June 30, 2019  
-----

	<u>Teachers' Retirement System</u>			
	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>
Contractually required contribution	\$ 271,035	\$ 256,397	\$ 308,332	\$ 332,562
Contributions in relation to the contractually required contribution	<u>271,035</u>	<u>256,397</u>	<u>308,332</u>	<u>332,562</u>
Contribution deficiency (excess)	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>
District's covered-employee payroll	<u>\$ 2,552,116</u>	<u>\$ 2,705,058</u>	<u>\$ 2,579,693</u>	<u>\$ 2,548,393</u>
Contributions as a percentage of covered employee payroll	10.62%	9.50%	11.96%	13.50%

	<u>Employees' Retirement System</u>			
	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>
Contractually required contribution	\$ 152,115	\$ 147,818	\$ 141,355	\$ 163,945
Contributions in relation to the contractually required contribution	<u>152,115</u>	<u>147,818</u>	<u>141,355</u>	<u>163,945</u>
Contribution deficiency (excess)	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>
District's covered-employee payroll	<u>\$ 1,067,824</u>	<u>\$ 1,029,078</u>	<u>\$ 1,000,031</u>	<u>\$ 944,651</u>
Contributions as a percentage of covered employee payroll	14.3%	14.4%	14.1%	17.4%

See paragraph on required supplementary information included in auditor's report.

SHARON SPRINGS CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
 SCHEDULE OF CHANGE FROM ORIGINAL BUDGET TO FINAL BUDGET AND  
 REAL PROPERTY TAX LIMIT  
 For Year Ended June 30, 2019  
 -----

**CHANGE FROM ORIGINAL BUDGET TO FINAL BUDGET**

<b>Original Budget</b>	\$ 9,483,555
<b>Additions:</b>	
Prior year's encumbrances	24,139
<b>Final Budget</b>	\$ 9,507,694

**SECTION 1318 OF REAL PROPERTY TAX LAW LIMIT CALCULATION**

2019-20 Voter-approved Expenditure Budget	\$ 9,690,736
Maximum allowed (4% of 2019-2020 Budget)	\$ 387,629

General Fund Fund Balance Subject to Section 1318 of Real Property Tax Law\*:

Unrestricted fund balance:	
Committed fund balance	\$ -
Assigned fund balance	1,793,981
Unassigned fund balance	387,629
Total unrestricted fund balance	\$ 2,181,610

Less:	
Appropriated fund balance	1,774,064
Encumbrances included in committed and assigned fund balance	19,917
Total adjustments	\$ 1,793,981

General Fund Fund Balance Subject to Section 1318 of Real Property Tax Law	\$ 387,629
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Actual percentage	4.0%
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\* Per Office of the State Comptroller's "Fund Balance Reporting and Governmental Fund Type Definitions", Updated April 2011 (originally Issued November 2010), the portion of General Fund Fund Balance subject to Section 1318 of the Real Property Tax Law is: unrestricted fund balance (i.e., the total of the committed, assigned and unassigned classifications), minus appropriated fund balance, amounts reserved for insurance recovery, amounts reserved for tax reduction, and encumbrances included in committed and assigned fund balance.



SHARON SPRINGS CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
SCHEDULE OF PROJECT EXPENDITURES- CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND  
For Year Ended June 30, 2019  
-----

PROJECT TITLE	Original Budget	Revised Budget	Expenditures			Unexpended Balance	Methods of Financing			Fund Balance June 30, 2019	
			Prior Years	Current Year	Total		Proceeds of Obligations	State Sources	Local Sources		Total
Buses-18/19	\$ 101,329	\$ 101,329	\$ -	\$ 101,329	\$ 101,329	\$ -	\$ 101,329	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 101,329	\$ -
Elementary Project	100,000	100,000	92,872	-	92,872	7,128	-	-	100,000	100,000	7,128
Smart Schools Act	448,000	448,000	320,836	63,869	384,705	63,295	-	240,949	-	240,949	(143,756)
Districtwide	4,345,000	4,345,000	104,707	336,487	441,194	3,903,806	-	-	500,000	500,000	58,806
Glass Project	100,000	100,000	-	96,618	96,618	3,382	-	-	100,000	100,000	3,382
	<u>\$ 5,094,329</u>	<u>\$ 5,094,329</u>	<u>\$ 518,415</u>	<u>\$ 598,303</u>	<u>\$ 1,116,718</u>	<u>\$ 3,977,611</u>	<u>\$ 101,329</u>	<u>\$ 240,949</u>	<u>\$ 700,000</u>	<u>\$ 1,042,278</u>	<u>\$ (74,440)</u>

See paragraph on required supplementary information included in auditor's report.

SHARON SPRINGS CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
 SCHEDULE OF INVESTMENT IN CAPITAL ASSETS, NET OF RELATED DEBT  
 FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2019

-----

Capital assets, net		\$ 12,655,120
Deduct:		
Bond anticipation notes payable	\$ 3,540,000	
Short-term portion of bonds payable	704,388	
Long-term portion of bonds payable	1,609,006	
less: unspent portion of bond anticipation notes	<u>(3,098,806)</u>	<u>2,754,588</u>
Net investment in capital assets		<u><u>\$ 9,900,532</u></u>

See paragraph on required supplementary information included in auditor's report.

# RAYMOND G. PREUSSER, CPA, P.C.

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## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS BASED ON AN AUDIT OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH *GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS*

To the Board of Education of the  
Sharon Springs Central School District:

We have audited, 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, the financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund and the fiduciary funds of the Sharon Springs Central School District as of and for the year ended June 30, 2019, and the related notes to the financial statements which collectively comprise the District's basic financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated October 1, 2019.

### **Internal Control Over Financial Reporting**

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

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

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or, significant deficiencies. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses may exist that have not been identified.

## Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Sharon Springs Central 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*. We noted certain other matters that we have reported to the Board of Education, Audit Committee and Management in our accompanying management letter.

## Purpose of This Report

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

*Raymond G. Preusser, CPA, PC*

Claverack, New York  
October 1, 2019

**RAYMOND G. PREUSSER, CPA, P.C.**

Certified Public Accountants

P.O. Box 538

Claverack, New York 12513

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To the Board of Education of the  
Sharon Springs Central School District:

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the fiduciary funds of the Sharon Springs Central School District as of and for the year ended June 30, 2019, in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, we considered the Sharon Springs Central School District's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Sharon Springs Central School District's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Sharon Springs Central 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 entity's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected on a timely basis.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be significant deficiencies or material weaknesses, and, therefore, there can be no assurance that all such deficiencies have been identified. We did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses.

During our audit, we noted certain matters involving the internal control and other operational matters that are presented for your consideration. This letter does not affect our report dated October 1, 2019 on the financial statements of the Sharon Springs Central School District. We will review the status of these comments during our next audit engagement. Our comments and recommendations, all of which have been discussed with appropriate members of management, are intended to improve the internal control or result in other operating efficiencies.

We will be pleased to discuss these comments in further detail at your convenience, perform any additional study of these matters, or assist you in implementing the recommendations. Our comments are summarized as follows:

Other Matters:

Budgeting

We noted that the General Fund Budget was only 83% utilized.

We recommend more scrutiny when preparing future budgets so that a higher percentage of the budget is utilized and/or unnecessary expenditures are not budgeted.

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

We would like to acknowledge the Business Office personnel for their courtesies received during the course of our audit.

Very truly yours,  
RAYMOND G. PREUSSER, CPA, P.C.

  
Scott R. Preusser

**APPENDIX C**  
**Form of Legal Opinion**

June \_\_, 2020

Board of Education of the  
Sharon Springs Central School District  
Schoharie, Montgomery and Otsego Counties, New York

Re: Sharon Springs Central School District Central School District  
\$3,669,938 School District (Serial) Bonds, 2020

Dear Board Members:

We have acted as bond counsel to the Sharon Springs Central School District, a school district of the State of New York, situate in the Counties of Schoharie, Montgomery and Otsego (the "Issuer") in connection with the issuance of \$3,669,938 School District (Serial) Bonds, 2020, dated June 18, 2020 (the "Bonds"). In such capacity, we have examined such law and such proceedings and other documents as we have deemed necessary to render this opinion.

As to questions of fact material to our opinion, we have relied upon the certified proceedings and other certifications of public officials and others furnished to us without undertaking to verify the same by independent investigation.

Based upon the foregoing, we are of the opinion that under existing law:

1. The Bonds are valid and binding general obligations of the Issuer.
2. All taxable property in the territory of the Issuer is subject to ad valorem taxation, without limitation as to rate or amount to pay the Bonds. The Issuer is required by law to include in its annual tax levy the principal and interest coming due on the Bonds to the extent the necessary funds are not provided from other sources.
3. Interest on the Bonds is excluded from gross income for federal income tax purposes and is not an item of tax preference for purposes of the federal alternative minimum tax imposed on individuals. The opinion set forth in the preceding sentence is subject to the condition that the Issuer comply with all requirements of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, that must be satisfied subsequent to the issuance of the Bonds in order that interest thereon be, or continue to be, excluded from gross income for federal income tax purposes. The Issuer has covenanted to comply with all such requirements. Failure to comply with all such requirements may cause interest on the Bonds to be included in gross income for federal income tax purposes retroactive to the date of issuance of the Bonds. We express no opinion regarding other federal tax consequences arising with respect to the Bonds.

[Certain maturities of the Bonds (the "Discount Bonds") may be sold to the initial purchasers at prices less than the stated principal amounts thereof. The difference between the stated principal amount of the Discount Bonds and the initial offering price to the public (excluding bond houses, brokers, or similar persons or organizations acting in the capacity of underwriters or wholesalers) at which price a substantial amount of such Discount Bonds of the same maturity



were sold constitutes original issue discount that is excluded from gross income for federal income tax purposes to the same extent as interest on the Bonds. Further, such original issue discount accrues actuarially on a constant yield basis over the term of each Discount Bond and the basis of such Discount Bond acquired at such initial offering price by an initial purchaser of each Discount Bond will be increased by the amount of such accrued discount.]

4. In our opinion, interest on the Bonds is exempt from personal income taxes imposed by New York State or any political subdivision thereof, including The City of New York.

Except as expressly stated above, we express no opinion as to any other federal or state income tax consequences of acquiring, carrying, owning or disposing of the Bonds. Owners of the Bonds should consult their tax advisors as to the applicability of any collateral tax consequences of ownership of the Bonds, which may include original issuance discount, purchase at a market discount or at a premium, taxation upon sale, redemption or other disposition, and various withholding requirements.

It is to be understood that the rights of the owners of the Bonds and the enforceability of the Bonds may be limited by bankruptcy, insolvency, reorganization, moratorium and other similar laws affecting creditors' rights generally and by equitable principles, whether considered at law or in equity.

We express no opinion herein as to the accuracy, adequacy or completeness of the Official Statement relating to the Bonds.

This opinion is given as of the date hereof and we assume no obligation to update or supplement this opinion to reflect any facts or circumstances that may hereafter come to our attention or any changes in law that may hereafter occur.

Very truly yours,

**APPENDIX D**

**FORM OF CONTINUING DISCLOSURE UNDERTAKING**

## FORM OF CONTINUING DISCLOSURE UNDERTAKING

In accordance with the requirements of Rule 15c2-12, as the same may be amended or officially interpreted from time to time (the "Rule"), promulgated by the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Commission"), the School District has agreed to provide or cause to be provided,

- (i) to the Electronic Municipal Market Access ("EMMA") systems of the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board ("MSRB") or any other entity designated or authorized by the Commission to receive reports pursuant to the Rule, during each fiscal year in which the Bonds are outstanding, (i) certain annual financial information and operating data for the preceding fiscal year in a form generally consistent with the information contained or cross referenced in the final Official Statement dated June 4, 2020 of the School District relating to the Bonds by December 31 following the end of each succeeding fiscal year, commencing with the fiscal year ending June 30, 2021, and (ii) a copy of the audited financial statements if any, (prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America in effect at the time of the audit) for the preceding fiscal year, commencing with the fiscal year ending June 30, 2021; such audit, if any, will be so provided on or prior to the later of either December 31 of each such succeeding fiscal year or, if an audited financial statement at that time, within sixty days following receipt by the School District of its audited financial statement for the preceding fiscal year, but in any event not later than June 30 of each succeeding fiscal year: and provided further in the event that the audited financial statement for any fiscal year is not available by December 31 following the end of any such succeeding fiscal year, unaudited financial statements in the form provided to the State, if available, will be provided no later than said date; provided however, that provision of unaudited financial statements in any year shall be further conditioned upon the determination by the School District of whether such provision is compliant with the requires of federal Securities laws including Rule 10b-5 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and Rule 17(a) (2) of Securities Act of 1933
- (ii) in a timely manner not in excess of ten (10) business days after the occurrence of the event, notice of the occurrence of any of the following events with respect to the Bonds, to EMMA or any other entity designated or authorized by the Commission to receive reports pursuant to the Rule:
  - (a) principal and interest payment delinquencies
  - (b) non-payment related defaults, if material
  - (c) unscheduled draws on debt service reserves reflecting financial difficulties
  - (d) unscheduled draws on credit enhancements reflecting financial difficulties
  - (e) substitution of credit or liquidity providers, or their failure to perform
  - (f) adverse tax opinions, the issuance by the Internal Revenue Service of proposed or final determinations of taxability, Notices of Proposed Issue (IRS Form 5701 TEB) or other material notices or determinations with respect to the tax status of the Bond, or other material events affecting the tax status of the Bond
  - (g) modifications to rights of Bondholders, if material
  - (h) Bond calls, if material and tender offers
  - (i) defeasances
  - (j) release, substitution, or sale of property securing repayment of the bond
  - (k) rating changes
  - (l) bankruptcy, insolvency, receivership or similar event of the School District

(m) the consummation of a merger, consolidation, or acquisition involving the School District or the sale of all or substantially all of the assets of the School District, other than in the ordinary course of business, the entry into a definitive agreement to undertake such an action or the termination of a definitive agreement relating to any such actions, other than pursuant to its terms, if material

(n) appointment of a successor or additional trustee or the change of name of a trustee, if material

(o) Incurrence of a financial obligation of the District, if material, or agreement to covenants, events of default, remedies, priority rights, or other similar terms of a financial obligation of the District, any of which affect security holders, if material: and

(p) Default, event of acceleration, termination event, modification of terms, or other similar events under the terms of a financial obligation of the District, any of which reflect financial difficulties.

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

The School District reserves the right to terminate its obligation to provide the afore described notices of material events, as set forth above, if and when the School District no longer remains an obligated person with respect to the Bond within the meaning of the Rule. The School District acknowledges that its undertaking pursuant to the Rule described under this heading is intended to be for the benefit of the holders of the Bond (including holders of beneficial interests in the Bond). The right of holders of the Bond to enforce the provisions of the undertaking will be limited to a right to obtain specific enforcement of the School District's obligations under its material event notices undertaking and any failure by the School District to comply with the provisions of the undertaking will neither be a default with respect to the Bond nor entitle any holder of the Bond to recover monetary damages.

The School District reserves the right to modify from time to time the specific types of information provided or the format of the presentation of such information, to the extent necessary or appropriate in the judgment of the School District; provided that the School District agrees that any such modification will be done in a manner consistent with the Rule

A Continuing Disclosure Undertaking Certificate to this effect shall be provided to the purchaser at Closing.

