CORNBELT EDUCATIONAL COOPERATIVE

AUDIT REPORT

FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

Schoenfish & Co., Inc.
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS
P.O. Box 247
105 EAST MAIN, PARKSTON, SOUTH DAKOTA 57366

CORNBELT EDUCATIONAL COOPERATIVE
COOPERATIVE OFFICIALS
JUNE 30, 2023

MEMBER SCHOOL	BOARD MEMBER	ADVISORY BOARD
Bridgewater/Emery	Bryan Harberts	Jason Bailey
Canistota	Ann Jacobson	Sonja Ortman
Ethan	Paula Vogel	Tim Hawkins
Freeman	Emily Anderson	Jake Tietje
Hanson	Gary Jarding (President)	Jim Bridge
Marion	Jared Schmidt	Brad Berens
McCook Central	Kurt Stiefvater	Matt Alley
Montrose	Jason McAreavey	Lonny Johnson (Vice-President)
Parker	Jason Chester (Vice-President)	Dr. Donavan DeBoer (President)

DIRECTOR:
Dean Kueter

BUSINESS MANAGER:
Pamela Selken

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Schoenfish & Co., Inc.

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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*

Board of Directors
Cornbelt Educational Cooperative
Sioux Falls, South Dakota

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 and each major fund of the Cornbelt Educational Cooperative, Sioux Falls, South Dakota (Cooperative), as of June 30, 2023 and for the year then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Cooperative's basic financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated September 12, 2023.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the Cooperative's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) to determine the audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Cooperative's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Cooperative'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 Cooperative's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected on a timely basis. A *significant deficiency* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies and therefore, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that have not been identified. We did identify certain deficiencies in internal control, described in the accompanying Schedule of Current Audit Findings and Questioned Costs as item 2023-001 to be a material weakness.

Compliance and Other Matters

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

Cooperative's Response to Findings

Governmental Auditing Standards requires the auditor to perform limited procedures on the Cooperative's response to the findings identified in our audit. The Cooperative's response to the findings identified in our audit is described in the accompanying Schedule of Current Audit Findings and Questioned Costs. The Cooperative's response was not subjected to the other auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and, accordingly, we express no opinion on the response.

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 Cooperative'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. As required by South Dakota Codified Law 4-11-11, this report is a matter of public record and its distribution is not limited.

Schoenfish & Co., Inc.

Schoenfish & Co., Inc.
Certified Public Accountants
September 12, 2023

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

Board of Directors
Cornbelt Educational Cooperative
Sioux Falls, South Dakota

Report on Compliance for Each Major Federal Program

Opinion on Each Major Federal Program

We have audited the Cornbelt Educational Cooperative, South Dakota (Cooperative), compliance with the types of compliance requirements described in the *U.S. Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Compliance Supplement* that could have a direct and material effect on each of the Cooperative's major federal programs for the year ended June 30, 2023. The Cooperative's major federal programs are identified in the summary of auditor's results section of the accompanying Schedule of Current Audit Findings and Questioned Costs.

In our opinion, the Cornbelt Educational Cooperative complied, in all material respects, with the types of compliance requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on each of its major federal programs for the year ended June 30, 2023.

Basis for Opinion on Each Major Federal Program

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

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

Responsibilities of Management for Compliance

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

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance

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

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

- exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- identify and assess the risks of material noncompliance, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the Cooperative's compliance with the compliance requirements referred to above and performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances.
- obtain an understanding of Cooperative's internal control over compliance relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances and to test and report on internal control over compliance in accordance with the Uniform Guidance, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Cooperative's internal control over compliance. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.

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

Report on Internal Control Over Compliance

Our consideration of internal control over compliance was for the limited purpose described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance section above and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control over compliance that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies in internal control over compliance and therefore, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified. However, as discussed below, we did identify certain deficiencies in internal control over compliance that we consider to be material weaknesses.

A *deficiency in internal control over compliance* exists when the design or operation of a control over compliance does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, noncompliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program on a timely basis. A *material weakness in internal control over compliance* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control over compliance, such that there is a reasonable possibility that material noncompliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis.

We consider the deficiencies in internal control over compliance described in the accompanying Schedule of Current Audit Findings and Questioned Costs as item 2023-001 to be a material weakness.

A *significant deficiency in internal control over compliance* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control over compliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program that is less severe than a material weakness in internal control over compliance, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

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

Government Auditing Standards requires the auditor to perform limited procedures on the Cooperative's response to the internal control over compliance findings identified in our audit described in the accompanying Schedule of Current Audit Findings and Questioned Costs. The Cooperative's response was not subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of compliance and, accordingly, we express no opinion on the response.

Purpose of this Report

The purpose of this report on internal control over compliance is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over compliance and the results of that testing based on the requirements of the Uniform Guidance. Accordingly, this report is not suitable for any other purposes. As required by South Dakota Codified Law 4-11-11, this report and our report on compliance for each major federal program are matters of public record and their distribution is not limited.

Schoenfish & Co., Inc.

Schoenfish & Co., Inc.
Certified Public Accountants
September 12, 2023

SCHEDULE OF PRIOR AUDIT FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS

PRIOR FEDERAL AUDIT FINDINGS:

Finding Number 2022-001:
A material weakness in internal controls was noted due to a lack of proper segregation of duties for revenues. This comment has not been corrected and is restated as current audit finding 2023-001.

SCHEDULE OF CURRENT AUDIT FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS

Summary of the Independent Auditor's Results:

Financial Statements

a. An unmodified opinion was issued on the financial statements of each opinion unit.

b. A material weakness was disclosed by our audit of the financial statements for a lack of segregation of duties for revenues as discussed in finding number 2023-001.

c. Our audit did not disclose any noncompliance which was material to the financial statements.

Federal Awards

d. A material weakness was disclosed for internal control over major federal programs for a lack of segregation of duties affecting the reporting compliance requirement category as discussed in finding number 2023-001.

e. An unmodified opinion was issued on compliance with the requirements applicable to major programs.

f. Our audit did not disclose any audit findings that need to be disclosed in accordance with 2 CFR 200.516(a) except for a material weakness resulting from the lack of segregation of duties for revenues as discussed in finding number 2023-001.

g. The federal awards tested as major programs were:

Special Education Cluster:

1. CFDA No. 84.027	Special Education – Grants to States
2. CFDA No. 84.173	Special Education - Preschool Grants

h. The dollar threshold used to distinguish between Type A and Type B federal award programs was $750,000.

i. Cornbelt Educational Cooperative did not qualify as a low-risk entity.

CURRENT FEDERAL AUDIT FINDINGS:

Internal Control – Related Finding – Material Weakness:

Finding Number 2023-001:
A material weakness in internal controls was noted due to a lack of proper segregation of duties for revenues. This affects the reporting requirements for Special Education – Grants to States, CFDA No. 84.027 and Special Education - Preschool Grants, CFDA No. 84.173.

Criteria:
Proper segregation of duties results in increased reliability of reported financial data and decreased potential for the loss of public assets.

SCHEDULE OF CURRENT AUDIT FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS
(Continued)

Condition:
The Business Manager processes all transactions from beginning to end. The Business Manager also receives and disburses money, issues receipts and checks, posts receipts in the accounting records, prepares bank deposits, reconciles bank statements, and prepares financial statements.

Effect:
As a result, there is an increased likelihood that errors could occur and not be detected in a timely manner by employees in the ordinary course of performing their duties.

Identification as a Repeat Finding:
This is a repeat audit finding since fiscal year 2018.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. We recommend that the Cornbelt Educational Cooperative officials be cognizant of this lack of segregation of duties for revenues and attempt to provide compensating internal controls whenever, and wherever, possible and practical.

CURRENT OTHER AUDIT FINDINGS:

There are no written current other audit findings to report except for the lack of segregation of duties as stated in current audit finding number 2023-001.

CLOSING CONFERENCE

The audit was discussed with the officials during the course of the audit and with the Director and Business Manager on August 21, 2023.

Cornbelt Educational Cooperative

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Phone (605) 271-0218
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www.cornbeltcoop.k12.sd.us

DIRECTOR
Dean Kueter

BUSINESS MANAGER & MEDICAID BILLING
Pamela Selken

ADMINISTRATIVE SECRETARY
Jessica McIlravy

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Bryan Harberts
(Bridgewater-Emery)
Ann Jacobsen
(Canistota)
Paula Vogel
(Ethan)
Emily Andersen
(Freeman)
President Gary Jarding
(Hanson)
Jared Schmidt
(Marion)
Kurt Stiefvater
(McCook Central)
Jason McAreavey
(Montrose)
Vice-President Jason Chester
(Parker)

ADVISORY BOARD
Jason Bailey
(Bridgewater-Emery)
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Tim Hawkins
(Ethan)
Jake Tietje
(Freeman)
James Bridge
(Hanson)
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(Marion)
Matt Alley
(McCook Central)
Vice-President Lonny Johnson
(Montrose)
President Dr. Donavan DeBoer
(Parker)

SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGISTS
Colleen Cleveland
Echo Deelstra
Sarah Fergen, SLPA
Emily Hohn
Jenna Miller
Robyn Randall
Lori Tschetter
Jennifer Zulk

EARLY CHILDHOOD TEACHERS
Brooke Braun
Vacant
April Johnston
Brenda Kocer

PROGRAM COORDINATORS
Alicia Peterson
(Early Childhood Services)
(Speech, Language & Hearing Services)
(Psychologist & Diagnostic Services)
Abbie Wiebers
(Psychologist & Diagnostic Services)

Corrective Action Plan

Finding Number 2023-001: Material Weakness in Internal Controls due to lack of segregation of duties. Views of Responsible Officials and Planned Corrective Action Plan:

The Cornbelt Educational Cooperative Business Manager, Pamela Selken is the contact person responsible for the corrective action plan for this finding. This finding is due to the limited number of staff employed in the Cooperative's business office. Staffing the office at an efficient and financially feasible level precludes the hiring of enough personnel to provide an ideal environment for the internal controls. The Administration and Advisory Board is aware of the weakness in internal controls and will continue to develop policies and procedures and provide compensating controls to reduce the risk. We will also communicate this concern with our Board of Directors. The Cornbelt Educational Cooperative did adopt an Internal Controls and Procedures policy on March 13th, 2018 that does address many of these issues, and would ask for consideration reflecting this implementation. This finding will be an ongoing process, requiring continued analysis of processes and procedures in order to minimize the risk.

Dean Kueter, Director — Date: 9/5/23

Pamela Selken, Business Manager — Date: 9/5/23

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Board of Directors
Cornbelt Educational Cooperative
Sioux Falls, South Dakota

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Opinions

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities and each major fund of the Cornbelt Educational Cooperative, South Dakota (Cooperative), as of June 30, 2023, and for the year then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Cooperative's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities and each major fund of the Cornbelt Educational Cooperative as of June 30, 2023, and the respective changes in financial position thereof for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Basis for Opinions

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS) and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* (*Government Auditing Standards*), issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of the Cooperative and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

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

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Cooperative's ability to continue as a going concern for twelve months beyond the financial statement date, including any currently known information that may raise substantial doubt shortly thereafter.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that

includes our opinions. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with GAAS and *Government Auditing Standards* will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

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

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

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

Required Supplementary Information

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the Budgetary Comparison Schedules, the Schedule of the Cooperative's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability (Asset), and the Schedule of the Cooperative Contributions be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

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

Supplementary Information

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the Cooperative's basic financial statements. The Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards, which as required *Title 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 200, Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (Uniform Guidance) is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the basic financial statements as a whole.

Other Information

Management is responsible for the other information included in the annual report. The other information comprises the Schedule of Cooperative Officials but does not include the basic financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinions on the basic financial statements do not cover the other information, and we do not express an opinion or any form of assurance thereon.

In connection with our audit of the basic financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and consider whether a material inconsistency exists between the other information and the basic financial statements, or the other information otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on the work performed, we conclude that an uncorrected material misstatement of the other information exists, we are required to describe it in our report.

Other Reporting Required by *Government Auditing Standards*

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated September 12, 2023 on our consideration of the Cooperative's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the Cooperative's internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering Cooperative's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Schoenfish & Co., Inc.

Schoenfish & Co., Inc.
Certified Public Accountants
September 12, 2023

CORNBELT EDUCATIONAL COOPERATIVE
STATEMENT OF NET POSITION
As of June 30, 2023

	Primary Government
	Governmental Activities
ASSETS:	
Cash and Cash Equivalents	880,956.77
Other Assets	237,754.00
Net Pension Asset	3,732.15
TOTAL ASSETS	1,122,442.92
DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES:	
Pension Related Deferred Outflows	367,414.76
TOTAL DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES	367,414.76
LIABILITIES :	
Accounts Payable	3,105.82
Other Current Liabilities	172,501.55
TOTAL LIABILITIES	175,607.37
DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES:	
Pension Related Deferred Inflows	219,639.11
TOTAL DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES	219,639.11
NET POSITION:	
Restricted for:	
Special Education Purposes	935,232.12
SDRS Pension Purposes	151,507.80
Unrestricted	7,871.28
TOTAL NET POSITION	1,094,611.20

The notes to the financial statement are an integral part of this statement.

CORNBELT EDUCATIONAL COOPERATIVE
STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES
For the Year Ended June 30, 2023

Functions/Programs	Expenses	Program Revenues: Charges for Services	Program Revenues: Operating Grants and Contributions	Program Revenues: Capital Grants and Contributions	Net (Expense) Revenue and Changes in Net Position: Primary Government: Governmental Activities
Primary Government:					
Governmental Activities:					
Instruction	299,404.50				(299,404.50)
Support Services	1,107,832.69	600,001.00	815,215.64		307,383.95
Community Services	9,829.37				(9,829.37)
Nonprogrammed Charges	4,116.00				(4,116.00)
Total Governmental Activities	1,421,182.56	600,001.00	815,215.64	0.00	(5,965.92)
Total Primary Government	1,421,182.56	600,001.00	815,215.64	0.00	(5,965.92)

General Revenues:	
Unrestricted Investment Earnings	4,605.59
Other General Revenues	400.00
Total General Revenues	5,005.59
Change in Net Position	(960.33)
Net Position - Beginning	1,095,571.53
NET POSITION - ENDING	1,094,611.20

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

CORNBELT EDUCATIONAL COOPERATIVE
BALANCE SHEET
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
As of June 30, 2023

	General Fund	Special Education Fund	Total Governmental Funds
ASSETS:			
Cash and Cash Equivalents	7,871.28	873,085.49	880,956.77
Due from State Government		237,754.00	237,754.00
TOTAL ASSETS	7,871.28	1,110,839.49	1,118,710.77
LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES:			
Liabilities:			
Accounts Payable		3,105.82	3,105.82
Contracts Payable		133,881.36	133,881.36
Payroll Deductions and Withholdings and Employer Matching Payable		38,620.19	38,620.19
Total Liabilities	0.00	175,607.37	175,607.37
Fund Balances:			
Restricted:			
Special Education		935,232.12	935,232.12
Unassigned	7,871.28		7,871.28
Total Fund Balances	7,871.28	935,232.12	943,103.40
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES	7,871.28	1,110,839.49	1,118,710.77

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

CORNBELT EDUCATIONAL COOPERATIVE
Reconciliation of the Governmental Funds Balance Sheet to the Statement of Net Position
As of June 30, 2023

Total Fund Balances - Governmental Funds	943,103.40
Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of net position are different because:	
Net pension asset reported in governmental activities is not an available financial resource and therefore is not reported in the funds.	3,732.15
Pension related deferred outflows are components of pension liability (asset) and therefore are not reported in the funds.	367,414.76
Pension related deferred inflows are components of pension liability (asset) and therefore are not reported in the funds.	(219,639.11)
Net Position - Governmental Activities	1,094,611.20

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

CORNBELT EDUCATIONAL COOPERATIVE
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
For the Year Ended June 30, 2023

	General Fund	Special Education Fund	Total Governmental Funds
Revenues:			
Revenue from Local Sources:			
Earnings on Investments and Deposits		4,605.59	4,605.59
Other Revenue from Local Sources:			
Services Provided Other School Districts		600,001.00	600,001.00
Other		400.00	400.00
Revenue from Federal Sources:			
Grants-in-Aid:			
Restricted Grants-in-Aid Received from Federal Government Through the State		815,215.64	815,215.64
Total Revenue	0.00	1,420,222.23	1,420,222.23
Expenditures:			
Instruction:			
Special Programs:			
Programs for Special Education		301,891.35	301,891.35
Support Services:			
Students:			
Psychological		152,297.31	152,297.31
Speech Pathology		652,998.21	652,998.21
Instructional Staff:			
Educational Media		1,700.00	1,700.00
General Administration:			
Board of Education		26,084.86	26,084.86
Business:			
Fiscal Services		104,170.81	104,170.81
Operation and Maintenance of Plant		14,098.20	14,098.20
Special Education:			
Administrative Costs		167,280.64	167,280.64
Community Services:			
Nonpublic School		9,935.68	9,935.68
Nonprogrammed Charges:			
Payments to State - Unemployment		4,116.00	4,116.00
Total Expenditures	0.00	1,434,573.06	1,434,573.06
Net Change in Fund Balances	0.00	(14,350.83)	(14,350.83)
Fund Balance - Beginning	7,871.28	949,582.95	957,454.23
FUND BALANCE - ENDING	7,871.28	935,232.12	943,103.40

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

CORNBELT EDUCATIONAL COOPERATIVE
Reconciliation of the Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances to the Government-Wide Statement of Activities
For the Year Ended June 30, 2023

Net Change in Fund Balances - Total Governmental Funds	(14,350.83)
Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of activities are different because:	
Revenues in the statement of activities that do not provide current financial resources are not reported as revenues in the funds. (Pension Revenue)	758.15
Changes in the pension related deferred outflows/inflows are direct components of pension liability (asset) and are not reflected in the governmental funds.	12,632.35
Change in Net Position of Governmental Activities	(960.33)

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The accounting policies of the Cooperative conform to generally accepted accounting principles applicable to government entities in the United States of America.

a. Financial Reporting Entity:

The reporting entity of Cornbelt Educational Cooperative (Cooperative) consists of the primary government (which includes all of the funds, organizations, institutions, agencies, departments, and offices that make up the legal entity, plus those funds for which the primary government has a fiduciary responsibility, even though those fiduciary funds may represent organizations that do not meet the criteria for inclusion in the financial reporting entity); those 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 their exclusion would cause the financial reporting entity's financial statements to be misleading or incomplete.

The cooperative service unit was formed for the purpose of providing special education services to the member school districts.

Financing of the Cooperative is based on each member school initially contributing their respective individual shares of monies provided under Public Law 94-142 and their respective shares of grant monies provided by the State of South Dakota. Thereafter, the members will appropriate such monies as they deem necessary in the adoption of the annual budget.

The members of the Cooperative and their relative percentage participation in the Cooperative are as follows:

Bridgewater/Emery School District	10.91%
Canistota School District	8.28%
Ethan School District	8.64%
Freeman School District	14.97%
Hanson School District	12.70%
Marion School District	6.40%
McCook Central School District	14.49%
Montrose School District	7.89%
Parker School District	15.72%
TOTAL	100.00%

The Cooperative's governing board is composed of two representatives from each member school district, who are the school superintendent and a school board member. The superintendent serves in an advisory capacity. The board is responsible for adopting the Cooperative's budget and setting service fees at a level adequate to fund the adopted budget.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
(Continued)

b. Basis of Presentation:

Government-wide Financial Statements:

The Statement of Net Position and Statement of Activities display information about the reporting entity as a whole. They include all funds of the reporting entity except for fiduciary funds. Governmental activities generally are financed through taxes, intergovernmental revenues, and other non-exchange revenues.

The Statement of Net Position reports all financial and capital resources, in a net position form (assets minus liabilities equal net position). Net position is displayed in three components, as applicable, net investment in capital assets, restricted (distinguishing between major categories of restrictions), and unrestricted.

The Statement of Activities presents a comparison between direct expenses and program revenues for each function of the Cooperative's governmental activities. Direct expenses are those that are specifically associated with a program or function and, therefore, are clearly identifiable to a particular function. Program revenues include (a) charges paid by recipients of goods and services offered by the programs and (b) grants and contributions that are restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular program. Revenues that are not classified as program revenues, including all taxes, are presented as general revenues.

Fund Financial Statements:

Fund financial statements of the reporting entity are organized into funds, each of which is considered to be a separate accounting entity. Each fund is accounted for by providing a separate set of self-balancing accounts that constitute its assets, liabilities, fund equity, revenues, and expenditures/expenses. Funds are organized into two major categories: governmental and fiduciary. An emphasis is placed on major funds within the governmental category. A fund is considered major if it is the primary operating fund of the Cooperative or it meets the following criteria:

1. Total assets, liabilities, revenues, or expenditures/expenses of the individual governmental fund are at least 10 percent of the corresponding total for all funds of that category or type, and
2. Total assets, liabilities, revenues, or expenditures/expenses of the individual governmental fund are at least 5 percent of the corresponding total for all governmental funds combined, or
3. Management has elected to classify one or more governmental funds as major for consistency in reporting from year to year, or because of public interest in the fund's operations.

The funds of the Cooperative financial reporting entity are described below within their respective fund types:

Governmental Funds:

General Fund – A fund established by South Dakota Codified Laws (SDCL) 13-16-3 to meet all the general operational costs of the cooperative, excluding capital outlay fund and special education fund expenditures. The General Fund is always a major fund.

Special Revenue Fund Types – special revenue funds are used to account for the proceeds of specific revenue sources that are legally restricted to expenditures for specified purposes.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
(Continued)

Special Education Fund – A fund established by SDCL 13-37-16 to pay the costs for the special education of all children in need of special assistance and prolonged assistance who reside with the member school districts. This fund is financed by grants and assessments by member school districts. This is a major fund.

c. Measurement Focus and Basis of Accounting:

Measurement focus is a term used to describe "how" transactions are recorded within the various financial statements. Basis of accounting refers to "when" revenues and expenditures or expenses are recognized in the accounts and reported in the financial statements, regardless of the measurement focus.

Measurement Focus:

Government-wide Financial Statements:

In the government-wide Statement of Net Position and Statement of Activities, governmental activities are presented using the economic resources measurement focus, applied on the accrual basis of accounting.

Fund Financial Statements:

In the fund financial statements, the "current financial resources" measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting are applied to governmental fund types.

Basis of Accounting:

Government-wide Financial Statements:

In the government-wide Statement of Net Position and Statement of Activities, governmental activities are presented using the accrual basis of accounting. Under the accrual basis of accounting, revenues and related assets generally are recorded when earned (usually when the right to receive cash vests); and, expenses and related liabilities are recorded when an obligation is incurred (usually when the obligation to pay cash in the future vests).

Fund Financial Statements:

All governmental funds are accounted for using the modified accrual basis of accounting. Their revenues generally are recognized when they become measurable and available. "Available" means resources are collected or to be collected soon enough after the end of the fiscal year that they can be used to pay all the bills of the current period. The accrual period does not exceed one bill-paying cycle, and for the Cooperative, the length of that cycle is 60 days. The revenues which are accrued at June 30, 2023 are grants from the State of South Dakota.

Under the modified accrual basis of accounting, receivables may be measurable but not available. Available means collectible within the current period or soon enough thereafter to be used to pay liabilities of the current period. Unavailable revenues, where asset recognition criteria have been met,

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
(Continued)

but for which revenue recognition criteria have not been met, are reported as a deferred inflow of resources.

Expenditures generally are recognized when the related fund liability is incurred. Exceptions to this general rule include principal and interest on general long-term debt which are recognized when due.

d. Deposits and Investments:

For the purpose of financial reporting, "cash and cash equivalents" includes all demand and savings accounts and certificates of deposit or short-term investments with a term to maturity at date of acquisition of three months or less. Investments in open-end mutual fund shares, or similar investments in external investment pools, are also considered to be cash equivalents.

e. Capital Assets:

Capital assets include land, buildings, machinery and equipment, and all other tangible or intangible assets that are used in operations and that have initial useful lives extending beyond a single reporting period.

The accounting treatment over capital assets depends on whether the assets are reported in the government-wide or fund financial statements.

Government-Wide Statements:

All capital assets are valued at historical cost. Donated capital assets are valued at their estimated acquisition value on the date donated.

Interest costs incurred during the construction of general capital assets are not capitalized along with other capital asset costs.

The total June 30, 2023 balance of capital assets for governmental activities is all valued at original cost.

Depreciation/Amortization of all exhaustible capital assets is recorded as an allocated expense in the government-wide Statement of Activities, with net capital assets reflected in the Statement of Net Position. Capitalization thresholds (the dollar values above which asset acquisitions are added to the capital asset accounts), depreciation/amortization methods, and estimated useful lives of capital assets reported in the government-wide statements are as follows:

	Capitalization Threshold	Depr./Amort Method	Estimated Useful Life
Machinery & Equipment	$ 5,000.00	Straight-line	7-10 yrs.
Intangible Lease Assets	$ 5,000.00	Straight-line	Based on lease life

Fund Financial Statements:

In the fund financial statements, capital assets used in governmental fund operations are accounted for as capital expenditures of the governmental fund upon acquisition.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
(Continued)

f. Program Revenues:

In the Government-wide Statement of Activities, reported program revenues derive directly from the program itself or from parties other than the Cooperative's taxpayers or citizenry, as a whole. Program revenues are classified into three categories, as follows:

1. Charges for services – These arise from charges to customers, applications, or others who purchase, use, or directly benefit from the goods, services, or privileges provided, or are otherwise directly affected by the services.
2. Program-specific operating grants and contributions – These arise from mandatory and voluntary non-exchange transactions with other governments, organizations, or individuals that are restricted for use in a particular program.
3. Program-specific capital grants and contributions – These arise from mandatory and voluntary non-exchange transactions with other governments, organizations, or individuals that are restricted for the acquisition of capital assets for use in a particular program.

g. Deferred Inflows and Deferred Outflows of Resources:

In addition to assets, the statement of financial position reports a separate section for deferred outflows of resources. Deferred outflows of resources represent consumption of net position that applies to a future period or periods. These items will not be recognized as an outflow of resources until the applicable future period.

In addition to liabilities, the statement of financial position reports a separate section for deferred inflows of resources. Deferred inflows of resources represent acquisitions of net position that applies to a future period or periods. These items will not be recognized as an inflow of resources until the applicable future period.

h. Equity Classifications:

Government-wide Statements:

Equity is classified as net position and is displayed in three components.

1. Net Investment in Capital Assets – Consists of capital assets, including restricted capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation (if applicable) and reduced by the outstanding balances of any bonds, mortgages, notes, or other borrowings that are attributable to the acquisition, construction, or improvement of those assets.
2. Restricted Net Position – Consists of net position with constraints places on their use either by (a) external groups such as creditors, grantors, contributors, or laws and regulations of other governments; or (b) law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation.
3. Unrestricted Net Position – All other net position that do not meet the definition of "restricted" or "net investment in capital assets."

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
(Continued)

Fund Financial Statements:

Governmental fund equity is classified as fund balance, and is distinguished between Nonspendable, Restricted, Committed, Assigned or Unassigned components.

i. Application of Net Position:

It is the Cooperative's policy to first use restricted net position, prior to the use of unrestricted net position, when an expense is incurred for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted net position is available.

j. Fund Balance Classification Policies and Procedures:

In accordance with Government Accounting Standards Board (GASB) No. 54, Fund Balance Reporting and Governmental Fund Type Definitions, the Cooperative classifies governmental fund balances as follows:

- Nonspendable – includes fund balance amounts that cannot be spent either because it is not in spendable form or because of legal or contractual constraints.
- Restricted – includes fund balance amounts that are constrained for specific purposes which are externally imposed by providers, such as creditors or amounts constrained due to constitutional provisions or enabling legislation.
- Committed – includes fund balance amounts that are constrained for specific purposes that are internally imposed by the government through formal action of the highest level of decision making authority and does not lapse at year-end.
- Assigned – includes fund balance amounts that are intended to be used for specific purposes that are neither considered restricted or committed. Fund Balance may be assigned by the Business Manager.
- Unassigned – includes positive fund balance within the General Fund which has not been classified within the above-mentioned categories and negative fund balances in other governmental funds.

The Cooperative uses restricted/committed amounts first when both restricted and unrestricted fund balance is available unless there are legal documents/contracts that prohibit doing this, such as a grant agreement requiring dollar for dollar spending. Additionally, the Cooperative would first use committed, then assigned, and lastly unassigned amounts of unrestricted fund balance when expenditures are made.

The Cooperative does not have a formal minimum fund balance policy.

The purpose of each major special revenue fund and revenue source is listed below:

Major Special Revenue Fund:	Revenue Source:
Special Education	Grant Revenue and Charges for Services Provided

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
(Continued)

k. Pensions:

For purposes of measuring the net pension liability (asset), deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions, and pension expense (revenue), information about the fiduciary net position of the South Dakota Retirement System (SDRS) and additions to/deletions from SDSR's fiduciary net position have been determined on the same basis as they are reported by SDRS. Cooperative contributions and net pension liability (asset) are recognized on an accrual basis of accounting.

2. DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS CREDIT RISK, CONCENTRATIONS OF CREDIT RISK AND INTEREST RATE RISK

The Cooperative follows the practice of aggregating the cash assets of various funds to maximize cash management efficiency and returns. Various restrictions on deposits and investments are imposed by statutes. These restrictions are summarized below:

Deposits – The Cooperative's deposits are made in qualified public depositories as defined by SDCL 4-6A-1, 13-16-15, 13-16-15.1 and 13-16-18.1. Qualified depositories are required by SDCL 4-6A-3 to maintain at all times, segregated from their other assets, eligible collateral having a value equal to at least 100 percent of the public deposit accounts which exceed deposit insurance such as the FDIC and NCUA. In lieu of pledging eligible securities, a qualified public depository may furnish irrevocable standby letters of credit issued by federal home loan banks accompanied by written evidence of that bank's public debt rating which may not be less than "AA" or a qualified public depository may furnish a corporate surety bond of a corporation authorized to do business in South Dakota.

Investments – In general, SDCL 4-5-6 permits cooperative funds to be invested in (a) securities of the United States and securities guaranteed by the United States Government either directly or indirectly; or (b) repurchase agreements fully collateralized by securities described in (a) above; or in shares of an open-end, no-load fund administered by an investment company whose investments are in securities described in (a) above and repurchase agreements described in (b) above. Also, SDCL 4-5-9 requires that investments shall be in the physical custody of the political subdivision or may be deposited in a safekeeping account with any bank or trust company designated by the political subdivision as its fiscal agent.

As of June 30, 2023, the Cooperative did not have any investments.

Credit Risk – State law limits eligible investments for the Cooperative, as discussed above. The Cooperative has no investment policy that would further limit its investment choices.

Custodial Credit Risk – Deposits – The risk that, in the event of a depository failure, the Cooperative's deposits may not be returned to it. The Cooperative does not have a deposit policy for custodial credit risk.

Concentration of Credit Risk – The Cooperative places no limit on the amount that may be invested in any one issuer.

Interest Rate Risk – The Cooperative does not have a formal investment policy that limits investment maturities as a means of managing its exposure to fair value losses arising from increasing interest rates.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
(Continued)

Assignment of Investment Income – State law allows income from deposits and investments to be credited to either the General Fund or the fund making the investment. The Cooperative's policy is to credit all income from investments to the fund making the investment.

3. RECEIVABLES AND PAYABLES

Receivables and payables are not aggregated in these financial statements. The Cooperative expects all receivables to be collected within one year.

4. CHANGES IN CAPITAL ASSETS

A summary of changes in capital assets for the year ended June 30, 2023, is as follows:

	Balance 7/1/2022	Increases	Decreases	Prior Period Correction	Balance 6/30/2023
Governmental Activities:					
Capital Assets, being Depreciated:					
Intangible Lease Asset - Bldg	13,887.27			(13,887.27)	0.00
Intangible Lease Asset - Machinery & Equipment	5,163.81			(5,163.81)	0.00
Total, being Depreciated	19,051.08	0.00	0.00	(19,051.08)	0.00
Less Accumulated Depreciation for:					
Intangible Lease Asset - Bldg	0.00				0.00
Intangible Lease Asset - Machinery & Equipment	(1,206.38)			1,206.38	0.00
Total Accumulated Depreciation	(1,206.38)	0.00	0.00	1,206.38	0.00
Governmental Activity Capital Assets, Net	17,844.70	0.00	0.00	(17,844.70)	0.00

5. LONG-TERM LIABILITIES

A summary of changes in long-term liabilities follows:

	Beginning Balance 7/1/2022	Additions	Deletions	Prior Period Correction	Ending Balance 6/30/2023
Primary Government:					
Governmental Activities:					
Lease Payable - Copier	3,957.43			(3,957.43)	0.00
Lease Payable - Office Space	13,887.27			(13,887.27)	0.00
Total Governmental Activities	17,844.70	0.00	0.00	(17,844.70)	0.00
TOTAL PRIMARY GOVERNMENT	17,844.70	0.00	0.00	(17,844.70)	0.00

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
(Continued)

6. RESTRICTED NET POSITION

Restricted net position for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2023 was as follows:

Purpose	Restricted By	Amount
Major Funds:		
Special Education	Law	$ 935,232.12
SDRS Pension	Governmental Accounting Standards	151,507.80
Total Restricted Net Position		$ 1,086,739.92

7. PENSION PLAN

Plan Information:
All employees, working more than 20 hours per week during the school year, participate in the South Dakota Retirement System (SDRS), a cost sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan administered by SDRS to provide retirement benefits for employees of the State of South Dakota and its political subdivisions. The SDRS provides retirement, disability, and survivor benefits. The right to receive retirement benefits vests after three years of credited service. Authority for establishing, administering and amending plan provisions are found in SDCL 3-12. The SDRS issues a publicly available financial report that includes financial statements and required supplementary information. That report may be obtained at http://sdrs.sd.gov/publications.aspx or by writing to the SDRS, P.O. Box 1098, Pierre, SD 57501-1098 or by calling (605) 773-3731.

Benefits Provided:
SDRS has four different classes of members: Class A general members, Class B public safety and judicial members, and Class C Cement Plant Retirement Fund members, and Class D Department of Labor and Regulation members.

Members that were hired before July 1, 2017, are Foundation members. Class A Foundation members and Class B Foundation members who retire after age 65 with three years of contributory service are entitled to an unreduced annual retirement benefit. An unreduced annual retirement benefit is also available after age 55 for Class A Foundation members where the sum of age and credited service is equal to or greater than 85 or after age 55 for Class B Foundation judicial members where the sum of age and credited service is equal to or greater than 80. Class B Foundation public safety members can retire with an unreduced annual retirement benefit after age 55 with three years of contributory service. An unreduced annual retirement benefit is also available after age 45 for Class B Foundation public safety members where the sum of age and credited service is equal to or greater than 75. All Foundation retirements that do not meet the above criteria may be payable at a reduced level. Class A and B eligible spouses of Foundation members will receive a 60 percent joint survivor benefit when the member dies.

Members that were hired on/after July 1, 2017, are Generational members. Class A Generational members and Class B Generational judicial members who retire after age 67 with three years of contributory service are entitled to an unreduced annual retirement benefit. Class B Generational public safety members can retire with an unreduced annual retirement benefit after age 57 with three years of contributory service. At retirement, married Generational members may elect a single-life benefit, a 60 percent joint and survivor benefit, or a 100 percent joint and survivor benefit. All

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
(Continued)

Generational retirement benefits that do not meet the above criteria may be payable at a reduced level. Generational members will also have a variable retirement account (VRA) established, in which they will receive up to 1.5 percent of compensation funded by part of the employer contribution. VRAs will receive investment earnings based on investment returns.

Legislation enacted in 2017 established the current COLA process. At each valuation date:

- Baseline actuarial accrued liabilities will be calculated assuming the COLA is equal to the long-term inflation assumption of 2.25%.
- If the fair value of assets is greater or equal to the baseline actuarial accrued liabilities, the COLA will be:
  - The increase in the 3rd quarter CPI-W, no less than 0.5% and no greater than 3.5%.
- If the fair value of assets is less than the baseline actuarial accrued liabilities, the COLA will be:
  - The increase in the 3rd quarter CPI-W, no less than 0.5% and no greater than a restricted maximum such that, if the restricted maximum is assumed for future COLAs, the fair value of assets will be greater or equal to the accrued liabilities.

Legislation enacted in 2021 reduced COLA from 0.5 percent to 0.0 percent.

All benefits except those depending on the Member's Accumulated Contributions are annually increased by the Cost-of-Living Adjustment.

Contributions:
Per SDCL 3-12, contribution requirements of the active employees and the participating employers are established and may be amended by the SDRS Board. Covered employees are required by state statute to contribute the following percentages of their salary to the plan; Class A Members, 6.0% of salary; Class B Judicial Members, 9.0% of salary; and Class B Public Safety Members, 8.0% of salary. State statute also requires the employer to contribute an amount equal to the employee's contribution. The Cooperative's share of contributions to the SDRS for the fiscal years ended June 30, 2023, 2022, and 2021, equal to the required contributions each year, were as follows:

Year	Amount
2023	$ 57,337.10
2022	$ 56,578.95
2021	$ 51,447.48

Pension Liabilities (Assets), Pension Expense (Revenue), and Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources to Pensions:
At June 30, 2022, SDRS is 100.1% funded and accordingly has a net pension asset. The proportionate share of the components of the net pension asset of South Dakota Retirement System, for the Cooperative as of the measurement period ending June 30, 2022 and reported by the Cooperative as of June 30, 2023 are as follows:

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
(Continued)

Proportionate share of pension liability	$ 5,574,794.10
Less proportionate share of net pension restricted for pension benefits	$ 5,578,526.25
Proportionate share of net pension liability (asset)	$ (3,732.15)

At June 30, 2023, the Cooperative reported a liability (asset) of $(3,732.15) for its proportionate share of the net pension liability (asset). The net pension liability (asset) was measured as of June 30, 2022 and the total pension liability (asset) used to calculate the net pension liability (asset) was based on a projection of the Cooperative's share of contributions to the pension plan relative to the contributions of all participating entities. At June 30, 2022, the Cooperative's proportion was 0.03949100%, which is an increase (decrease) of 0.0009931% from its proportion measured as of June 30, 2021.

For the year ended June 30, 2023, the Cooperative recognized pension expense (reduction of pension expense) of $(13,390.49). At June 30, 2023, the Cooperative reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions from the following sources:

	Deferred Outflows Of Resources	Deferred Inflows Of Resources
Difference between expected and actual experience.	$ 71,044.26	$ 242.28
Changes in assumption.	$ 237,203.86	$ 207,877.46
Net Difference between projected and actual earnings on pension plan investments.		$ 8,943.98
Changes in proportion and difference between School district contributions and proportionate share of contributions.	$ 1,829.54	$ 2,575.39
School District contributions subsequent to the measurement date.	$ 57,337.10	
TOTAL	$ 367,414.76	$ 219,639.11

$57,337.10 reported as deferred outflow of resources related to pensions resulting from Cooperative contributions subsequent to the measurement date will be recognized as a reduction of the net pension liability in the year ending June 30, 2024. Other amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions will be recognized in pension expense (revenue) as follows:

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
(Continued)

Year Ended June 30:	
2024	$ 25,404.89
2025	51,255.27
2026	(59,868.04)
2027	73,646.43
TOTAL	$ 90,438.55

Actuarial Assumptions:
The total pension liability (asset) in the June 30, 2022 actuarial valuation was determined using the following actuarial assumptions, applied to all periods included in the measurement:

Inflation	*2.25 percent*
Salary Increases	Graded by years of service, from 7.66% at entry to 3.15% after 25 years of service
Discount Rate	6.50% net of plan investment expense. This is composed of an average inflation rate of 2.50% and real returns of 4.00%
Future COLAs	2.10%

Mortality Rates:
All mortality rates based on Pub-2010 amount-weighted mortality tables, projected generationally with improvement scale MP-2020
- Active and Terminated Vested Members:
  - Teachers, Certified Regents, and Judicial: PubT-2010
  - Other Class A Members: PubG-2010
  - Public Safety Members: PubS-2010
- Retired Members:
  - Teachers, Certified Regents, and Judicial Retirees: PubT-2010, 108% of rates above age 65
  - Other Class A Retirees: PubG-2010, 93% of rates through age 74, increasing by 2% per year until 111% of rates at age 83 and above
  - Public Safety Retirees: PubS-2010, 102% of rates at all ages
- Beneficiaries:
  - PubG-2010 contingent survivor mortality table
- Disabled Members:
  - Public Safety: PubS-2010 disabled member mortality table
  - Others: PubG-2010 disabled member mortality table

The actuarial assumptions used in the June 30, 2022 valuation were based on the results of an actuarial experience study for the period of July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2021.

Investment portfolio management is the statutory responsibility of the South Dakota Investment Council (SDIC), which may utilize the services of external money managers for management of a portion of the portfolio. SDIC is governed by the Prudent Man Rule (i.e., the council should use the same degree of care as a prudent man). Current SDIC investment policies dictate limits on the percentage of assets invested in various types of vehicles (equities, fixed income securities, real estate, cash, private equity, etc.). The long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments was determined using a method in which best-estimate ranges of expected future real rates of return (expected returns, net of

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
(Continued)

pension plan investment expense and inflation) are developed for each major asset class. These ranges are combined to produce the long-term expected rate of return by weighing the expected future real rates of return by the target asset allocation percentage and by adding expected inflation. Best estimates of real rates of return for each major asset class included in the pension plan's target asset allocation as of June 30, 2022 (see the discussion of the pension plan's investment policy) are summarized in the following table using geometric means:

Asset Class	Target Allocation	Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return
Global Equity	58.0%	3.7%
Fixed Income	30.0%	1.1%
Real Estate	10.0%	2.6%
Cash	2.0%	0.4%
Total	100%	2.7%

Discount Rate:
The discount rate used to measure the total pension liability (asset) was 6.50%. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed that plan member contributions will be made at the current contribution rate and that matching employer contributions will be made at rates equal to the member rate. Based on these assumptions, the pension plan's fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all 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 (asset).

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

	1% Decrease	Current Discount Rate	1% Increase
Cooperative's proportionate share of the net pension liability (asset)	$774,946.05	$(3,732.15)	$(640,117.97)

Pension Plan Fiduciary Net Position:
Detailed information about the plan's fiduciary net position is available in the separately issued SDRS financial report.

8. RISK MANAGEMENT

The Cooperative is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; injuries to employees; and natural disasters. During the period ended June 30, 2023, the Cooperative managed its risks as follows:

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
(Continued)

Employee Health Insurance:
The Cooperative joined the South Dakota School District Health Benefits Fund. This is a public entity risk pool currently operating as a common risk management and insurance program for South Dakota local government entities. The Cooperative pays a monthly premium to the pool to provide health insurance coverage for its employees. The pool purchases reinsurance coverage with the premiums it receives from the members. The coverage also includes a $2,000,000 lifetime maximum payment per person.

The Cooperative does not carry additional health insurance coverage to pay claims in excess of this upper limit. Settled claims resulting from these risks have not exceeded the liability coverage during the past three years.

Liability Insurance:
The Cooperative joined the Associated School Boards of South Dakota Property Liability Fund (ASBSD-PLF), a public entity risk pool currently operating as a common risk management and insurance program for South Dakota local government entities. The objective of the ASBSD-PLF is to administer and provide risk management services and risk sharing facilities to the members and to defend and protect the members against liability, to advise members on loss control guidelines and procedures, and provide them with risk management services, loss control and risk reduction information and to obtain lower costs for that coverage. The Cooperative's responsibility is to promptly report to and cooperate with the ASBSD-PLF to resolve any incident which could result in a claim being made by or against the Cooperative. The Cooperative pays an annual premium, to provide liability coverage detailed below, under a claims-made policy and the premiums are accrued based on the ultimate cost of the experience to date of the ASBSD-PLF member, based on their exposure or type of coverage. The Cooperative pays an annual premium to the pool to provide coverage for:

Business Automobile Liability (including hired & non-owned)
Commercial General Liability Coverages
Employee Benefits Liability
Employers Liability
School Board Legal Liability

The agreement with the ASBSD-PLF provides that the above coverage's will be provided to a $6,000,000 limit. Member premiums are used by the pool for payment of claims and to pay for reinsurance for claims in excess of $100,000 to the upper limit. The Cooperative carries a $500 deductible for the property coverage.

The Cooperative does not carry additional insurance to cover claims in excess of the upper limit. Settled claims resulting from these risks have not exceeded the liability coverage during the past three years.

Worker's Compensation:
The Cooperative participates, with several other educational units and related organizations in South Dakota, in the Associated School Boards of South Dakota Workers' Compensation Fund Pool which provided workers' compensation insurance coverage for participating members of the pool. The objective of the Fund is to formulate, develop, and administer, on behalf of the member organizations, a program of worker's compensation coverage, to obtain lower costs for that coverage, and to develop a comprehensive loss control program. The Cooperative's responsibility is to initiate and maintain a safety program to give its employees safe and sanitary working conditions and to promptly report to

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
(Continued)

and cooperate with the Fund to resolve any worker's compensation claims. The Cooperative pays an annual premium to provide worker's compensation coverage for its employees, under a retrospectively rated policy and the premiums are accrued based on the ultimate cost of the experience to date of the Fund members. The Cooperative may also be responsible for additional assessments in the event the pool is determined by its board of trustees to have inadequate reserves to satisfy current obligations or judgments. Additional assessments, if any, are to be determined on a prorated basis based upon each participant's percentage of contribution in relation to the total contribution to the pool of all participants for the year in which the shortfall occurs. The pool provides loss coverage to all participants through pool retained risk retention and through insurance coverage purchased by the pool in excess of the retained risk. The pool pays the first $500,000 of any claim per individual. The pool has reinsurance which covers up to an additional $1,000,000 per individual per incident.

The Cooperative does not carry additional insurance to cover claims in excess of the upper limit. Settled claims resulting from these risks have not exceeded the liability coverage over the past three years.

Unemployment Benefits:
The Cooperative has elected to be self-insured and retain all risk for liabilities resulting from claims for unemployment benefits.

During the fiscal year ended June 30, 2023, one claim was paid for unemployment benefits in the amount of $4,116.00. At June 30, 2023, no claims had been filed for unemployment benefits and none are in the next fiscal year.

9. SIGNIFICANT CONTINGENCIES – LITIGATION

At June 30, 2023, the Cooperative was not involved in any significant litigation.

10. SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

Management has evaluated whether any subsequent events have occurred through September 12, 2023, the date on which the financial statements were available to be issued.

REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION
CORNBELT EDUCATIONAL COOPERATIVE
BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE - BUDGETARY BASIS
SPECIAL EDUCATION FUND (22)
For the Year Ended June 30, 2023

	Budgeted Amounts		Actual Amounts	Variance with Final Budget -
	Original	Final	(Budgetary Basis)	Positive (Negative)
Revenues:				
Revenue from Local Sources:				
Earnings on Investments and Deposits	72.00	72.00	4,605.59	4,533.59
Other Revenue from Local Sources:				
Services Provided Other School Districts	600,000.00	600,000.00	600,001.00	1.00
Other	2,500.00	2,500.00	400.00	(2,100.00)
Revenue from Federal Sources:				
Grants-in-Aid:				
Restricted Grants-in-Aid Received from Federal Government Through the State	817,713.00	817,713.00	815,215.64	(2,497.36)
Total Revenue	1,420,285.00	1,420,285.00	1,420,222.23	(62.77)
Expenditures:				
Instruction:				
Special Programs:				
Programs for Special Education	396,679.38	396,679.38	301,891.35	94,788.03
Support Services:				
Students:				
Psychological	161,225.69	161,225.69	152,297.31	8,928.38
Speech Pathology	688,420.25	688,420.25	652,998.21	35,422.04
Instructional Staff:				
Educational Media	1,700.00	1,700.00	1,700.00	0.00
General Administration:				
Board of Education	26,798.86	26,798.86	26,084.86	714.00
Business:				
Fiscal Services	119,596.25	119,596.25	104,170.81	15,425.44
Operation and Maintenance of Plant	15,039.20	15,039.20	14,098.20	941.00
Special Education:				
Administrative Costs	176,199.90	176,199.90	167,280.64	8,919.26
Community Services:				
Nonpublic School	9,935.00	9,935.00	9,935.68	(0.68)
Nonprogrammed Charges:				
Payments to State - Unemployment	0.00	4,116.00	4,116.00	0.00
Contingencies	25,000.00	25,000.00		
Amount Transferred		(4,116.00)		20,884.00
Total Expenditures	1,620,594.53	1,620,594.53	1,434,573.06	186,021.47
Net Change in Fund Balances	(200,309.53)	(200,309.53)	(14,350.83)	185,958.70
Fund Balance - Beginning	949,582.95	949,582.95	949,582.95	0.00
FUND BALANCE - ENDING	749,273.42	749,273.42	935,232.12	185,958.70

NOTES TO THE REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION
June 30, 2023

Schedules of Budgetary Comparisons for the General Fund
and for each major Special Revenue Fund with a legally required budget.

Note 1. Budgets and Budgetary Accounting:

The Cooperative followed these procedures in establishing the budgetary data reflected in the financial statements:

1. Prior to the first regular meeting in May of each year the board causes to be prepared a proposed budget for the next fiscal year according to the budgetary standards prescribed by the Auditor General.

2. The proposed budget is considered by the board at the first regular meeting held in the month of May of each year.

3. The proposed budget is published for public review no later than July 15 each year.

4. Public hearings are held to solicit taxpayer input prior to the approval of the budget.

5. Before October 1 of each year, the board must approve the budget for the ensuing fiscal year for each fund, except trust and agency funds.

6. After adoption by the board, the operating budget is legally binding and actual expenditures of each fund cannot exceed the amounts budgeted, except as indicated by number 8.

7. A line item for contingencies may be included in the annual budget. Such a line item may not exceed 5 percent of the total Cooperative budget and may be transferred by resolution of the school board to any other budget category, except for capital outlay, that is deemed insufficient during the year.

8. If it is determined during the year that sufficient amounts have not been budgeted, state statute allows adoption of supplemental budgets when moneys are available to increase legal spending authority.

9. Unexpended appropriations lapse at year-end unless encumbered by resolution of the board.

10. Formal budgetary integration is employed as a management control device during the year for the Special Fund.

11. Budgets for the Special Fund are adopted on a basis consistent with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP).

Note 2. GAAP/Budgetary Accounting Basis Differences:

The financial statements prepared in conformity with USGAAP present capital outlay expenditure information in a separate category of expenditures. Under the budgetary basis of accounting, capital outlay expenditures are reported within the function to which they relate. For example, the purchase of a new school bus would be reported as a capital outlay expenditure on the Governmental Funds Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances, however in the Budgetary RSI Schedule, the purchase of a school bus would be reported as an expenditure of the Support Services-Business/Student Transportation function of government, along with all other current Student Transportation related expenditures.

REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

SCHEDULE OF THE COOPERATIVE'S PROPORTIONATE SHARE OF THE NET PENSION LIABILITY (ASSET)

South Dakota Retirement System

Last 9 Fiscal Years *

	Cooperative's proportion of the net pension liability/asset	Cooperative's proportionate share of net pension liability (asset)	Cooperative's covered-employee payroll	Cooperative's proportionate share of the net pension liability (asset) as a percentage of its covered payroll	Plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of the total pension liability (asset)
2023	0.0394910%	$ (3,732)	$ 942,977	0.40%	100.10%
2022	0.0377840%	$ (289,361)	$ 857,451	33.75%	105.52%
2021	0.0384979%	$ (1,672)	$ 844,916	0.20%	100.04%
2020	0.0396743%	$ (4,204)	$ 843,564	0.50%	100.09%
2019	0.0418562%	$ (976)	$ 870,142	0.11%	100.02%
2018	0.0483579%	$ (4,389)	$ 982,520	0.45%	100.10%
2017	0.0480797%	$ 162,409	$ 914,232	17.76%	96.89%
2016	0.0492473%	$ (208,872)	$ 899,114	23.23%	104.10%
2015	0.0511121%	$ (368,242)	$ 894,000	41.19%	107.30%

* The amounts presented for each fiscal year were determined as of the measurement date of the collective net pension liability (asset) which is 06/30 of the previous year. Until a full 10-year trend is compiled, the Cooperative will present information for those years for which information is available.

REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

SCHEDULE OF THE COOPERATIVE PENSION CONTRIBUTONS

South Dakota Retirement System

Last 9 Fiscal Years *

	Contractually required contribution	Contributions in relation to the contractually required contribution	Contribution deficiency (excess)	Cooperative's covered payroll	Contributions as a percentage of covered payroll
2023	$ 57,337	$ 57,337	$ -	$ 955,620	6.00%
2022	$ 56,579	$ 56,579	$ -	$ 942,977	6.00%
2021	$ 51,447	$ 51,447	$ -	$ 857,451	6.00%
2020	$ 50,695	$ 50,695	$ -	$ 844,916	6.00%
2019	$ 50,613	$ 50,613	$ -	$ 843,564	6.00%
2018	$ 52,209	$ 52,209	$ -	$ 870,142	6.00%
2017	$ 58,952	$ 58,952	$ -	$ 982,520	6.00%
2016	$ 54,854	$ 54,854	$ -	$ 914,232	6.00%
2015	$ 53,947	$ 53,947	$ -	$ 899,114	6.00%

* Until a full 10-year trend is compiled, the Cooperative will present information for those years for which information is available.

Notes to Required Supplementary Information
for the Year Ended June 30, 2023
Schedule of the Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability (Asset) and
Schedule of Pension Contributions.

Changes from Prior Valuation

The June 30, 2022 Actuarial Valuation reflects numerous changes in actuarial assumptions as a result of an experience analysis completed since the June 30, 2021 Actuarial Valuation. In addition, two changes in actuarial methods have been implemented since the prior valuation.

The details of the changes since the last valuation are as follows:

Benefit Provision Changes

During the 2022 Legislative Session no significant SDRS benefit changes were made and gaming enforcement agents became Class B Public Safety Members.

Actuarial Assumption Changes

As a result of an experience analysis covering the period from July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2021 and presented to the SDRS Board of Trustees in April and June, 2022, significant changes to the actuarial assumptions were recommended by the SDRS Senior Actuary and adopted by the Board of Trustees first effective for this June 30, 2022 actuarial valuation.

The changes to economic assumptions included increasing the price inflation to 2.50% and increasing the wage inflation to 3.15%. The current assumed investment return assumption of 6.50% was retained, lowering the assumed real investment return to 4.00%. The baseline COLA assumption of 2.25% was also retained. Salary increase assumptions were modified to reflect the increase in assumed wage inflation and recent experience. The assumed interest on accumulated contributions was decreased to 2.25%.

The demographic assumptions were also reviewed and revised. The mortality assumption was changed to the Pub-2010 amount-weighted tables using separate tables for teachers, general, and public safety retirees, with assumptions for retirees adjusted based on credible experience. The mortality assumption for active and terminated vested members was changed to the unadjusted amount-weighted Pub-2010 tables, again by member classification and the assumption for beneficiaries was changed to the amount-weighted Pub-2010 general contingent survivor table. Adjustments based on experience were also made to the assumptions regarding retirement, termination, disability, age of spouses for married Foundation members, percentage of terminated vested members electing a refund, and benefit commencement age for terminated vested Public Safety members with 15 or more years of service.

The SDRS COLA equals the percentage increase in the most recent third calendar quarter CPI-W over the prior year, no less than 0% (0.5% prior to 2021) and no greater than 3.5%. However, if FVFR assuming the long-term COLA is equal to the baseline COLA assumption (currently 2.25%) is less than 100%, the maximum COLA payable will be limited to the increase that if assumed on a long-term basis, results in a FVFR equal to or exceeding 100%.

As of June 30, 2021, the FVFR assuming the long-term COLA is equal to the baseline COLA assumption (2.25%) was greater than 100% and the full 0% to 3.5% COLA range was payable. For the June 30, 2021 Actuarial Valuation, future COLAs were assumed to equal the baseline COLA assumption of 2.25%.

Notes to Required Supplementary Information
for the Year Ended June 30, 2023
Schedule of the Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability (Asset) and
Schedule of Pension Contributions.
(Continued)

As of June 30, 2022, the FVFR assuming future COLAs equal to the baseline COLA assumption of 2.25% is less than 100% and the July 2023 SDRS COLA is limited to a restricted maximum of 2.10%. The July 2023 SDRS COLA will equal inflation, between 0% and 2.10%. For this June 30, 2022 Actuarial Valuation, future COLAs were assumed to equal the restricted maximum COLA of 2.10%.

Actuarial assumptions are reviewed for reasonability annually and reviewed in depth periodically, with the next experience analysis anticipated before the June 30, 2027 Actuarial Valuation and any recommended 7 changes approved by the Board of Trustees are anticipated to be first implemented in the June 30, 2027 Actuarial Valuation.

Actuarial Method Changes

Actuarial method changes with minor impact were implemented for this valuation after recommendation by Cavanaugh Macdonald Consulting as part of their reviews of their reviews of prior valuations. As a result, liabilities and normal costs for refund benefits and the Generational Variable Retirement Account are now calculated using the entry age normal cost method with normal costs based on the expected value of these accounts rather than the actual balance.

CORNBELT EDUCATIONAL COOPERATIVE
SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS
For the Year Ended June 30, 2023

Federal Grantor/Pass-Through Grantor Program or Cluster Title	Federal CFDA Number	Pass-Through Entity Identifying Number	Expenditures FY 2023	
US Department of Education - Pass-Through Programs From:				
SD Department of Education:				
Special Education Cluster:				
Special Education - Grants to States (Note 3)	84.027A	H027A220091	771,463.64	
Special Education - Preschool Grants (Note 3)	84.173A	H173A220091	43,752.00	
Total Special Education Cluster				815,215.64
Total US Department of Education				**815,215.64**
GRAND TOTAL				**$815,215.64**

Note 1: *Basis of Presentation*

The accompanying Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards (the "Schedule") includes the federal award activity of the Cooperative under programs of the federal government for the year ended June 30, 2023. The information in this Schedule is presented in accordance with the requirements of Title 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations Part 200, Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards (Uniform Guidance). Because the Schedule presents only a selected portion of the operations of the Cooperative, it is not intended to and does not present the financial position, changes in net position, or cash flows of the Cooperative.

Note 2: *Summary of Significant Accounting Policies*

Expenditures reported on the Schedule are reported on the modified accrual basis of accounting. Such expenditures are recognized following the cost principles contained in the Uniform Guidance, wherein certain types of expenditures are not allowable or are limited as to reimbursement. The Cooperative has not elected to use the 10 percent de minimis indirect cost rate as allowed under the Uniform Guidance.

Note 3: *Major Federal Financial Assistance Program*

This represents a Major Federal Financial Assistance Program.