Basic Financial Statements
June 30, 2024 and 2023

South Dakota School District Benefits Fund

Independent Auditor's Report

The Board of Trustees
South Dakota School District Benefit Fund
Pierre, South Dakota

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of the South Dakota School District Benefit Fund (Fund) as of and for the years ended June 30, 2024 and 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Fund'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 financial position of the Fund as of June 30, 2024 and 2023, and the changes in its financial position and cash flows for the years then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS) and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States (*Government Auditing Standards)*. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of the Fund 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 opinion.

Emphasis of Matter

As discussed in Note 1, the financial statements of the Fund reporting entity are intended to present the net position, changes in net position, and cash flows of only the activities of the Fund. They do not purport to, and do not, present fairly the financial position of the Associated School Boards Protective Trust as of June 30, 2024 and 2023, and the changes in its net position or its cash flows for the years then ended, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Our opinion is not modified with respect to this matter.

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; 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.

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 Fund ’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 opinion. 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 Fund’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 Fund’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 Ten-Year Schedule of Claims Development Information be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with GAAS, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

Management has omitted the management's discussion and analysis that the accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires 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 to place the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. Our opinion on the financial statements is not affected by this missing information.

Other Reporting Required by *Government Auditing Standards*

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated March 18, 2025, on our consideration of the Fund'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 Fund's internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the Fund's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Eide Bailly LLP

Fargo, North Dakota
March 18, 2025

	2024	2023
Assets		
Current Assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	$ 659,944	$ 267,614
Receivables		
Member contributions	5,027,011	4,577,781
Reinsurance receivable	243,395	482,230
Pharmacy rebates receivable	2,749,595	2,851,180
Total current assets	8,679,945	8,178,805
Noncurrent Assets		
Investment in external pool	20,469,256	17,639,761
Total assets	$ 29,149,201	$ 25,818,566
Liabilities and Net Position		
Current Liabilities		
Accounts payable	$ 2,125	$ 9,866
Estimated liability for reported and unreported claims and claims adjustment expenses	4,612,000	4,692,000
Advance member contributions	2,531,673	2,644,851
Total current liabilities	7,145,798	7,346,717
Net Position		
Unrestricted	22,003,403	18,471,849
Total liabilities and net position	$ 29,149,201	$ 25,818,566

	2024	2023
Operating Revenues		
Member contributions earned	$ 63,802,084	$ 62,422,556
Less: Reinsurance premiums	(1,687,304)	(1,489,293)
Net operating revenues	62,114,780	60,933,263
Operating Expenses		
Claims and claims adjustment expenses incurred	55,507,068	59,040,253
Less: Reinsurance recoveries	(703,452)	(1,663,465)
Claims and claims adjustment expenses incurred, net	54,803,616	57,376,788
Underwriting gain	7,311,164	3,556,475
General and Administrative Expenses		
Administrative and services fees	3,717,894	3,707,583
Other	1,004,387	755,634
Total general and administrative expenses	4,722,281	4,463,217
Operating income (loss)	2,588,883	(906,742)
Nonoperating Revenues		
Interest income	942,671	638,952
Change in net position	3,531,554	(267,790)
Net Position		
Beginning of year	18,471,849	18,739,639
End of year	$ 22,003,403	$ 18,471,849

	2024	2023
Operating Activities		
Contributions received	$ 63,478,511	$ 61,849,862
Reinsurance premiums paid	(1,687,304)	(1,489,293)
Underwriting and expenses of operations paid	(4,730,022)	(4,453,751)
Claims and claims adjustment expenses paid, net	(54,782,031)	(58,857,008)
Net Cash from (used for) Operating Activities	2,279,154	(2,950,190)
Investing Activity		
Sale (purchase) of external investment pool	(2,829,495)	2,211,335
Investment income received	942,671	638,952
Net cash from (used for) Investing Activities	(1,886,824)	2,850,287
Net Change in Cash and Cash Equivalents	392,330	(99,903)
Cash and Cash Equivalents Beginning of Year	267,614	367,517
Cash and Cash Equivalents End of Year	$ 659,944	$ 267,614
Reconciliation of Operating Income (Loss) to Net Cash From (Used for) Operating Activities:		
Operating Income (Loss)	$ 2,588,883	$ (906,742)
Changes in assets and liabilities:		
Decrease (increase) in receivables	(108,810)	(1,861,248)
Increase (decrease) in accounts payable	(7,741)	9,466
Increase (decrease) in estimated liability for reported and unreported claims and claims adjustment expenses	(80,000)	(326,000)
Increase (decrease) in advance member contributions	(113,178)	134,334
Net Cash from (used for) Operating Activities	$ 2,279,154	$ (2,950,190)

Note 1 - Principal Business Activity and Significant Accounting Policies

Reporting Entity

The South Dakota School District Benefit Fund (Fund) is one of three sub-funds of the Associated School Boards Protective Trust (Trust). The Trust is a separate legal entity pursuant to South Dakota Codified law formed under the joint powers provisions as provided for in the laws. The Trust is governed by a Joint Powers Agreement and Bylaws (Bylaws). Each member also annually signs a Participation Agreement, which also binds the member to adhere to the Trust's Bylaws. The Fund was formed in 1991 to provide health coverage for member organizations belonging to the Associated School Boards of South Dakota (ASBSD). To be eligible for membership, an applicant must be a public agency and be a member of ASBSD. There were 77 and 74 members of the Fund as of June 30, 2024 and 2023, respectively, which were primarily school districts in the state of South Dakota. The objective of the Fund is to formulate, develop, and administer on behalf of the member organizations, a program of health coverage through pooling risks, self-insurance and joint purchases of insurance. The three sub-funds are supervised by a seven member Associated School Boards Protective Trust Board of Trustees (Board of Trustees).

The Fund operates as a single proprietary fund, more specifically as an enterprise fund. The Fund distinguishes operating revenues and expenses from nonoperating items. Operating revenues and expenses generally result from providing services in connection with the Fund's principal ongoing operations. Nonoperating revenues and expenses result primarily from noncapital financing activities.

The Fund is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts and errors and omissions. The Fund has commercial insurance to mitigate its risks.

The Fund's contract with its members provides for assessment provisions from the members. Members agree to continue membership in the Fund for one year and may withdraw from the Fund for any year thereafter upon giving written notice to the Fund in accordance with the applicable agreements. A member is liable for additional assessments as determined by the Board of Trustees. Any member whose membership has been terminated by the Fund will only retain an interest in any accrued or current excess contributions as determined by the Board of Trustees. Participating members upon termination from the Fund will be responsible for their termination contribution to the current financial position of the Fund. The financial contribution responsibility will be calculated by dividing the total number of insured singles and families in the current surplus or deficit to calculate an individual school's termination contribution or termination payout. The family count will have a weight of two when determining value.

In the event of termination or dissolution of the Fund, all assets in excess of liabilities, including a sufficient reserve for unreported liabilities shall be returned to the then active members on a pro-rata basis as determined by the Board of Trustees.

Basis of Presentation

The financial statements have been prepared using the accrual basis of accounting. The Fund prepares its financial statements primarily following the guidance of Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 10, *Accounting and Financial Reporting for Risk Financing and Related Insurance Issues* (as amended by subsequent GASB statements) along with other applicable standards issued by the GASB. GASB Statement No. 10 establishes accounting and financial reporting standards for risk financing and insurance-related activities of public entity risk pools.

Estimates

The preparation of financial statements requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates. Material estimates that are particularly susceptible to significant change in the near-term relate to the estimated liability for reported an unreported claims and claims adjustment expenses, amounts recoverable from reinsurers under excess of loss coverages and pharmacy rebates receivable.

Cash and Cash Equivalents

For purposes of reporting the statements of cash flows, the Fund includes as cash equivalents all highly liquid investments with an original maturity of three months or less at the date of acquisition and which are not subject to withdrawal restrictions or penalties.

Receivables

Receivables are recorded based on amounts due from members and other third-party payers, and amounts estimated to be received or recovered from reinsurers and other third-party payers. The Fund evaluates the collectability of such receivables monthly based on the reinsurers, members or other third-party payers' financial condition, credit history, and current economic conditions. Receivables are written off when deemed uncollectible. As of June 30, 2024 and 2023, there was no allowance for doubtful accounts. Recoveries of receivables previously written off are recorded when received.

Reinsurance

In the normal course of business, the Fund seeks to reduce the loss that may arise from events that cause unfavorable underwriting results, by reinsuring certain levels of risk in various areas of exposure with other insurance enterprises or reinsurers.

Amounts recoverable from reinsurers are estimated in a manner consistent with the development of the estimated liability for reported and unreported claims and claims adjustment expenses.

Amounts recoverable from reinsurers that relate to paid claims and claim adjustment expenses are classified as assets, net of an allowance for any estimated uncollectible amounts, and as a reduction to claims expenses incurred. Estimated amounts recoverable from reinsurers that related to unpaid claims and claims adjustment expenses are recorded as a reduction of insurance liabilities and claims expenses incurred. Reinsurance premiums paid and reinsurance recoveries on claims are netted against related earned member contributions and claims and claims adjustment expenses incurred, respectively.

Amounts payable to reinsurers relate to overpayments received from reinsurance companies. In the normal course of business, reinsurance companies may pay large claims in advance in order to provide the Fund adequate financing. The amounts left over are returned to the reinsurance company when the claims are closed.

Fair Value Measurements

The Company has determined the fair value of certain assets and liabilities in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, which provides a framework for measuring fair value.

Fair value is defined as the exchange price that would be received for an asset or paid to transfer a liability (an exit price) in the principal or most advantageous market for the asset or liability in an orderly transaction between market participants on the measurement date. Valuation techniques should maximize the use of observable inputs and minimize the use of unobservable inputs.

A fair value hierarchy has been established, which prioritizes the valuation inputs into three broad levels. Level 1 inputs consist of quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities that the reporting entity has the ability to access at the measurement date. Level 2 inputs are inputs other than quoted prices included within Level 1 that are observable for the related asset or liability. Level 3 inputs are unobservable inputs related to the asset or liability. There have been no changes in Level 1, Level 2, and Level 3 and no changes in valuation techniques for these assets or liabilities for the years ended June 30, 2024 and 2023.

Investments in External Pool

The Fund has investments held in an investment pool that qualifies as an external investment pool that elects to measure for financial reporting purposes all of their investments at amortized cost. The participants in these pools should measure their investments at amortized cost for financial reporting purposes. This measurement approximates fair value and mirrors the operation of the external investment pool that transact with the participant. As there is a readily determinable fair value the investments will be disclosed as an asset measured at fair value. There is no presence of any limitation or restrictions on participant withdrawals from this external investment pool.

Income Taxes

The Fund's income is excludable from income tax under section 115 of the Internal Revenue Code. A private letter ruling on the Fund's tax-exempt status has not been requested.

Operating Revenues

Members are billed monthly in advance for member contributions. Income from such contributions is recorded as earned during the coverage period. Contributions received in advance for coverage in the following policy year are recorded as advance member contributions. Revenue is reduced by reinsurance premiums ceded to reinsurance companies.

Contribution Deficiency Reserve

A contribution deficiency exists when the sum of expected claims costs (including an estimated liability for unreported claims) and all expected claims adjustment expenses, expected dividends, and policy acquisition costs exceed related unearned contributions. The Fund anticipates investment income in determining if a contribution deficiency exists. As of June 30, 2024 and 2023, there was no contribution deficiency reserve recorded.

Estimated Liability for Reported and Unreported Claims and Claims Adjustment Expenses

The coverage offered by the Fund is on the occurrence basis. Occurrence basis coverage provides for payment of claims that occur during the period of coverage regardless of when the claim is reported. The Fund has a provision that pertains to terminating members in each of its member participation agreements, whereby the Fund will only provide coverage for all eligible claims received and paid by its claims administrator prior to the date of the termination of coverage. Management has determined that no reduction in the estimated liability for reported and unreported claims and claims adjustment expenses is required as of June 30, 2024 and 2023 for terminated members. The estimated liability for reported and unreported claims and claims adjustment expenses is based upon data developed by the Fund's administrator. Industry experience and statistics were used to develop the estimated liability. The claims history of the Fund was also considered. The liability includes estimates of the costs to settle individual claims which have been reported, plus a provision for claims and costs incurred but not yet reported. A provision for inflation in the calculation of estimated future claims costs is implicit in the calculation because reliance is placed both on actual historical data that reflects past inflation and on other factors that are considered to be appropriate modifiers of past experience. Claims are reduced for subrogation when payment is received, as subrogation amounts are immaterial. There was no change in assumptions used in the current year to create the liability.

As adjustments to this estimated liability become necessary, such adjustments are reflected in current operations. Management of the Fund believes the estimated liability for reported and unreported claims and claims adjustment expenses is sufficient to cover the ultimate net cost of incurred claims, but such reserves are necessarily based on estimates and the ultimate liability may be greater or less than the amounts estimated. An independent actuary assisted management with the establishment of estimated claims liabilities for the years ended June 30, 2024 and 2023.

Net Position

Net position represents the difference between (a) assets and deferred outflows of resources and (b) liabilities and deferred inflows of resources in the financial statements. The Fund has no deferred inflows or outflows of resources.

Any surplus monies for a fiscal year in excess of the amount necessary to fulfill all obligations of the Fund for that year may be refunded to the members at the discretion of the Board of Trustees. No dividends were declared by the Board of Trustees during the fiscal years ended June 30, 2024 and 2023. Discretionary dividends are reported as an expense of the Fund in the year declared.

Assessments

Assessments represent amounts received from participating or terminated members in order to fund the member's share of the deficit. Assessments principal including interest totaling $0 were recognized during the years ended June 30, 2024 and 2023. Assessments receivable as of June 30, 2024 and 2023 were $0. Assessment interest receivable as of June 30, 2024 and 2023 was $0.

Subsequent Events

The Fund has evaluated subsequent events through March 18, 2025, the date which the financial statements were available to be issued.

Note 2 - Deposits

The Fund's cash is comprised of deposit accounts, which have bank balances totaling $1,884,543 and $2,144,720 as of June 30, 2024 and 2023, respectively. Custodial credit risk is the risk that in the event of a bank failure, the Fund's deposits may not be returned to it. As of June 30, 2024 and 2023, deposits of $1,634,543 and $1,894,720, respectively, were exposed to custodial credit risk, as they were over the FDIC limit. A deposit pledge letter has been obtained ensuring the Fund's deposit accounts are secure in the event of a bank failure.

Note 3 - Investment in External Pool

There are three general valuation techniques that may be used to measure fair value, as described below:

1. Market Approach – Uses prices and other relevant information generated by market transactions involving identical or comparable assets or liabilities. Prices may be indicated by pricing guides, sale transactions, market trades, or other sources;

2. Cost Approach – Based on the amount that currently would be required to replace the service capacity of an asset (replacement cost); and

3. Income Approach – Uses valuation techniques to convert future amounts to a single present amount based on current market expectations about the future amounts (includes present value techniques and option-pricing models). Net present value is an income approach where a stream of expected cash flows is discounted at an appropriate market interest rate.

Assets and liabilities itemized below were measured at fair value during the year ended using the market and income approaches. The market approach was used for Level 1 and Level 2 assets and liabilities.

	Total	Quoted Prices in Active Markets (Level 1)	Other Observable Inputs (Level 2)	Unobservable Inputs (Level 3)
June 30, 2024				
Investment in External pool	$ 20,469,256	$ -	$ 20,469,256	$ -
June 30, 2023				
Investment in External pool	$ 17,639,761	$ -	$ 17,639,761	$ -

Note 4 - Service Agreement

ASBSD, on behalf of the Fund, has an agreement effective July 1, 2017 with Wellmark Blue Cross & Blue Shield of South Dakota (BCBS) to provide health claims administration services for the Fund. The agreement provides that BCBS be paid a claim administration fee per employee per month (PEPM). Total fees incurred under the agreement were $2,137,032 and $2,289,175 for the years ended June 30, 2024 and 2023, respectively. These fees are administrative and service fees in the statement of revenue, expenses and changes in net position.

Note 5 - Reinsurance

The Fund utilizes reinsurance agreements to limit maximum loss and minimize exposures on larger risk. During the years ended June 30, 2024 and 2023, the Fund utilized one reinsurance agreement for health, whereby all members are covered under a reinsurance agreement with a $350,000 retention. For the year ended June 30, 2024 the policy covered individual claims in excess of $350,000 for eligible claims expenses incurred from July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024 and actually paid from July 1, 2023 through June 30 2024 with a lifetime unlimited amount, were indemnified. For the year ended June 30, 2023 the policy covered Individual claims in excess of $350,000 for eligible claims expenses incurred from July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023 and actually paid from July 1, 2023 through June 30 2024 with a lifetime unlimited amount, were indemnified.

The Fund would be liable for any obligations that the reinsurance companies are unable to meet under the reinsurance agreements. During fiscal years ended June 30, 2024 and 2023, claims expenses was reduced by $703,452 and $1,663,465, respectively, of recoveries from the reinsurance companies under contract.

Note 6 - Health Care Receivables

The Fund receives pharmacy rebates on a quarterly basis. The Fund records the rebates as a contra claim expense, reducing total pharmacy claims. As of June 30, 2024 and 2023, a receivable is estimated based on historical receipts as well as benefit payments made throughout the fourth quarter. The estimates are adjusted based on actual collections through the date these financials statements are issued. The subsequent collections are considered a Type 1 subsequent event and are included in the recorded balance as of June 30, 2024 and 2023. Rebates earned and changes in estimates are reflected withing the financial statements as an offset to claim expenses incurred. There were no allowance for doubtful accounts noted as of June 30, 2024 and 2023. At June 30, 2024 and 2023, the Fund had recorded $2,749,595 and $2,851,180, respectively, of estimated pharmacy rebate receivables in the statements of net position.

Note 7 - Estimated Liability for Reported and Unreported Claims and Claims Adjustment Expenses

The Fund establishes liabilities for both reported and unreported covered events, which includes estimates of both future payments of claims and related claims adjustment expenses. The following is a summary of the changes in those aggregate liabilities for the fiscal years ended June 30, 2024 and 2023.

	2024	2023
Reported and unreported claims and claims adjustment expense liabilities at beginning of year	$ 4,692,000	$ 5,018,000
Incurred claims and claims adjustment expenses		
Provision for insured events of the current year	54,903,553	57,043,684
Provision for insured events of prior years	(99,937)	333,104
Total incurred claims and claims adjustment expenses	54,803,616	57,376,788
Payments		
Claims and claims adjustment expenses attributable to insured events of the current year	50,291,553	52,351,684
Claims and claims adjustment expenses attributable to insured events of prior years	4,592,063	5,351,104
Total payments	54,883,616	57,702,788
Reported and unreported claims and claims adjustment expense liabilities at end of year	$ 4,612,000	$ 4,692,000

The 2024 favorable development and 2023 unfavorable development in prior year provisions of incurred claims and claims adjustment expenses resulted from changes in loss development experience as more information became known and payments made. There were no significant changes to assumption in the methodology to establish these significant estimates during the years ended June 30, 2024 and 2023.

Note 8 - Related Party Transactions

ASBSD is a private nonprofit membership corporation comprised of local school districts organized for the purpose of reducing the burdens of government and promoting the exchange and dissemination of information and ideas designed for the efficient administration and conduct of public school affairs, for the purpose of research, for the improvement of school administration and for the purpose of promoting the general welfare of public school systems in the state of South Dakota. ASBSD is the sponsoring organization of the Fund.

As of June 30, 2024 and 2023, there are no payments owed to a related party for the Fund.

Administration Agreement

The Trust oversees three sub-funds known as the South Dakota School District Benefit Fund, ASB Property and Liability Fund, and ASB Workers' Compensation Fund (WC Fund). The Trust has an agreement with ASBSD in which ASBSD provides to the Trust, administrative oversight in the implementation and management of the Trust's activities including performing investment, promotion and accounting services for the Fund, among other activities. The agreement was amended during 2021. Under the current agreement, ASBSD receives a fixed administrative fee of $850,000. Amounts incurred by the Fund under the agreement and passed through from the Trust to the Fund during the fiscal years ended June 30, 2024 and 2023, were $850,000. The agreement was effective on July 1, 2017 for one year and automatically renews for annually for the period July 1 through June 30 unless either party gives written notice of intent not to renew at least twelve months prior to the termination date. No notice of intent was given by either party during 2024.

Advances

The Bylaws provide that the separate identity and liability of all three sub-funds will be maintained at all times, and under no circumstances are the Board of Trustees authorized to commingle those separate sub-funds. To insure liquidity of each sub-fund, the Bylaws provide that the Board of Trustees may borrow or loan necessary funds from any source willing to lend, including sub-funds, upon such terms as the Board of Trustees may determine, as set forth in written notes, and the Chair and Secretary/Treasurer of the Board of Trustees are authorized to execute such notes, including lines of credit, on behalf of the Trust. As of June 30, 2024 and 2023, there were no advances with other funds.

Note 9 - Contingencies

The Fund is a party to various legal actions and is subject to various claims arising in the ordinary course of business. Management believes that the disposition of these matters will not have a material adverse effect on the Fund's financial position or results of operations.

Required Supplementary Information
June 30, 2024 and 2023

South Dakota School District Benefit Fund

South Dakota School District Benefit Fund
Ten-Year Schedule of Claims Development - Unaudited
For the Ten Years Ended June 30, 2024

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Net earned member contributions										
Earned	$ 34,887,812	$ 35,118,137	$ 37,894,362	$ 39,840,539	$ 50,087,719	$ 51,047,459	$ 54,350,752	$ 58,623,417	$ 62,422,556	$ 63,802,084
Ceded	(1,709,442)	(2,736,533)	(1,924,561)	(2,068,348)	(1,717,777)	(1,494,962)	(1,711,952)	(1,512,125)	(1,489,293)	(1,687,304)
Net earned	33,178,370	32,381,604	35,969,801	37,772,191	48,369,942	49,552,497	52,638,800	57,111,292	60,933,263	62,114,780
Unallocated expenses	1,034,340	1,628,062	1,317,973	1,215,675	1,200,700	1,239,431	1,277,862	1,456,318	4,463,217	4,722,281
Estimated claims and expenses, end of policy year										
Incurred	37,908,372	37,780,455	31,964,407	30,851,921	34,605,466	39,471,530	44,894,223	49,421,552	59,040,253	55,507,068
Ceded	(2,681,707)	(4,019,603)	(2,161,610)	(1,113,957)	(1,282,974)	(30,621)	(150,349)	(147,442)	(1,663,465)	(703,452)
Net incurred	35,226,665	33,760,852	29,802,797	29,737,964	33,322,492	39,440,909	44,743,874	49,274,110	57,376,788	54,803,616
Net paid (cumulative) as of:										
End of policy year	31,388,461	27,169,329	28,266,351	31,757,716	36,088,948	40,714,790	45,293,170	52,949,358	52,351,684	50,291,553
One year later	32,797,633	29,134,332	29,681,127	35,925,654	39,937,920	44,102,172	49,875,474	58,300,462	56,943,747	
Two years later	32,797,633	29,134,332	29,681,127	35,925,654	39,937,920	44,102,172	49,875,474	58,300,462		
Three years later	32,797,633	29,134,332	29,681,127	35,925,654	39,937,920	44,102,172	49,875,474			
Four years later	32,797,633	29,134,332	29,681,127	35,925,654	39,937,920	44,102,172				
Five years later	32,797,633	29,134,332	29,681,127	35,925,654	39,937,920					
Six years later	32,797,633	29,134,332	29,681,127	35,925,654						
Seven years later	32,797,633	29,134,332	29,681,127							
Eight years later	32,797,633	29,134,332								
Nine years later	32,797,633									
Reestimated ceded claims and expenses	2,681,707	4,019,603	2,161,610	1,113,957	1,282,974	30,621	150,349	147,442	1,663,465	703,452
Reestimated net incurred claims and expenses:										
End of policy year	33,760,852	29,802,797	29,737,964	33,322,492	39,440,909	44,743,874	49,274,110	57,908,662	57,376,788	54,803,616
One year later	33,452,665	30,064,110	29,168,233	33,047,012	39,487,059	44,779,112	49,215,414	58,241,766	57,276,851	
Two years later	33,452,665	30,064,110	29,168,233	33,047,012	39,487,059	44,779,112	49,215,414	58,241,766		
Three years later	33,452,665	30,064,110	29,168,233	33,047,012	39,487,059	44,779,112	49,215,414			
Four years later	33,452,665	30,064,110	29,168,233	33,047,012	39,487,059	44,779,112				
Five years later	33,452,665	30,064,110	29,168,233	33,047,012	39,487,059					
Six years later	33,452,665	30,064,110	29,168,233	33,047,012						
Seven years later	33,452,665	30,064,110	29,168,233							
Eight years later	33,452,665	30,064,110								
Nine years later	33,452,665									
Increase (decrease) in estimated net incurred claims and expenses from end of policy year	(308,187)	261,313	(569,731)	(275,480)	46,150	35,238	(58,696)	333,104	(99,937)	-

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 Trustees
South Dakota School District Benefit Fund
Pierre, 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 (*Government Auditing Standards*), the financial statements of the South Dakota School District Benefit Fund (Fund) as of and for the year ended June 30, 2024, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Fund's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated March 18, 2025. Our report includes an emphasis of matter paragraph describing the acknowledgement that the Fund's basic financial statements reflect only the assets, liabilities, and revenues and expenses of the Fund and not the Associated School Boards Protective Trust.

Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting

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

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Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies and therefore, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that have not been identified. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. We identified certain deficiencies in internal control, described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings and Responses as items 2024-A, 2024-B, and 2024-C that we consider to be significant deficiencies.

Report on Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Fund's financial statements are free from material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the financial statements. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit and, accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

ASB Benefits Fund's Response to Findings

Government Auditing Standards requires the auditor to perform limited procedures on the Fund's response to the findings identified in our audit and described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings and Responses. The Fund'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 result of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the Fund'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 Fund's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

Eide Bailly LLP

Fargo, North Dakota
March 18, 2025

Schedule of Findings and Responses

Finding 2024 - A

Significant Deficiency in Internal Control over Financial Reporting – Preparation of Financial Statements

Condition – The Fund does not have an internal control system designed to provide for the preparation of the financial statements being audited. The auditors were requested to, and did, draft the financial statements and accompanying notes to the financial statements.

Criteria – A good system of internal accounting control contemplates an adequate system for internally preparing the Fund's financial statements.

Effect – The disclosures in the financial statements could be incomplete.

Cause – The Fund does not have an internal control system designed to provide for the preparation of the financial statements being audited.

Recommendation – It is the responsibility of management and those charged with governance to make the decision whether to accept the degree of risk associated with this condition because of cost or other considerations.

View of Responsible Officials and Planned Corrective Actions – Management of the Fund concurs and will review the recommendation for future remedy. The governing board does receive quarterly financial statements prepared by Management, but the governing board agrees it is too costly and time prohibitive for Management to prepare the financial statements. The governing board request the auditors prepare the financial statements. We understand the risk related to having the auditor prepare the financial statements and will review the risk associated with such as an on-going item.

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Schedule of Findings and Responses

Finding 2024 - B

Significant Deficiency in Internal Control over Financial Reporting – Segregation of Duties

Condition – The Fund does not have enough staff to adequately separate duties in cash receipts, cash disbursements, accounts payable and purchasing and related liabilities, and general ledger maintenance and reconciliation.

Criteria – A good system of internal control requires an adequate segregation of duties so that no one individual has incompatible responsibilities. No one person should have more than one duty relating to the authorization (approval), custody of assets (check signers), record keeping, and reconciliation functions.

Effect – Inadequate segregation of duties could adversely affect the Fund's ability to detect misstatements in amounts that would be material in relation to the financial statements in a timely period by employees in the normal course of performing their assigned functions.

Cause – There is a limited amount of office employees involved in the internal control process.

Recommendation –The functions should be reviewed to determine if additional segregation of duties is feasible and to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of financial management and financial statement accuracy for the Fund. Segregation of authorization, custody of assets, record keeping, and reconciliation functions would assist in mitigating the risk of fraud or misstatements to the financial statements.

View of Responsible Officials and Planned Corrective Actions – Management of the Fund has reviewed with governance and has determined to accept the risks with additional government oversight as a cost-effective alternative.

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Schedule of Findings and Responses

Finding 2024 - C

Significant Deficiency in Internal Control over Financial Reporting – Significant Journal Entries

Condition – During the course of our engagement, we proposed significant audit adjustments that were not identified as a result of the Fund's existing internal controls, and therefore could have resulted in a significant, but not material misstatement of the Fund's financial statements.

Criteria – A good system of internal accounting control contemplates an adequate system for recording and processing entries significant to the financial statements.

Effect – This deficiency could result in a misstatement to the financial statements that would not be prevented or detected.

Cause – The Fund does not have an internal control system designed to identify all necessary adjustments.

Recommendation – A thorough review and reconciliation of accounts in each fund should take place prior to the beginning of the audit. This review should be done at both the accounting staff and accounting supervisor levels.

View of Responsible Officials and Planned Corrective Actions – Management of the Fund concurs and will review the recommendation above to determine if there are possible cost-effective methods that would assist in mitigating the risk related to the reconciliation.