

# PRELIMINARY OFFICIAL STATEMENT DATED SEPTEMBER 24, 2020

In the opinion of Bond Counsel, under present federal and State of Minnesota laws, regulations and rulings, the interest to be paid on the Bonds of this offering is not includible in gross income of the recipient for United States or in taxable net income of individuals, estates or trusts for State of Minnesota income tax purposes. Interest on the Bonds is includible in taxable income of corporations and financial institutions for purposes of the Minnesota franchise tax. See "Tax Exemption" herein for a discussion of federal tax legislation.

The District will NOT designate the Bonds as "qualified tax-exempt obligations" pursuant to Section 265 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, which permits financial institutions to deduct interest expenses allocable to the Bonds to the extent permitted under prior law.

**New Issue**

**Rating Application Made: Moody's Investors Service, Inc.**

## INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 876 (ANNANDALE), MINNESOTA (Wright, Stearns and Meeker Counties)

(Minnesota School District Credit Enhancement Program)

### \$16,030,000\* GENERAL OBLIGATION SCHOOL BUILDING REFUNDING BONDS, SERIES 2020A

**PROPOSAL OPENING:** October 8, 2020, 11:00 A.M., C.T. **CONSIDERATION:** October 8, 2020, 6:00 P.M., C.T.

**PURPOSE/AUTHORITY/SECURITY:** The \$16,030,000\* General Obligation School Building Refunding Bonds, Series 2020A (the "Bonds") are authorized pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 475, and Section 475.67, by Independent School District No. 876 (Annandale), Minnesota (the "District"), for the purpose of effecting a current refunding of certain outstanding general obligations of the District as more fully described herein. The Bonds will be general obligations of the District for which its full faith, credit and taxing powers are pledged. Delivery is subject to receipt of an approving legal opinion of Knutson, Flynn & Deans, P.A., Mendota Heights, Minnesota.

**DATE OF BONDS:** November 5, 2020

**MATURITY:** February 1 as follows:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Amount*</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Amount*</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Amount*</u>
2022	\$1,335,000	2026	\$1,395,000	2030	\$1,600,000
2023	1,245,000	2027	1,450,000	2031	1,635,000
2024	1,290,000	2028	1,505,000	2032	1,670,000
2025	1,340,000	2029	1,565,000		

**MATURITY ADJUSTMENTS:** \* The District reserves the right to increase or decrease the principal amount of the Bonds on the day of sale, in increments of \$5,000 each. Increases or decreases may be made in any maturity. If any principal amounts are adjusted, the purchase price proposed will be adjusted to maintain the same gross spread per \$1,000.

**TERM BONDS:** See "Term Bond Option" herein.

**INTEREST:** August 1, 2021 and semiannually thereafter.

**OPTIONAL REDEMPTION:** Bonds maturing on February 1, 2029 and thereafter are subject to call for prior optional redemption on February 1, 2028 and any date thereafter, at a price of par plus accrued interest.

**MINIMUM PROPOSAL:** \$15,901,760.

**GOOD FAITH DEPOSIT:** A good faith deposit in the amount of \$320,600 shall be made by the winning bidder by wire transfer of funds.

**PAYING AGENT:** Bond Trust Services Corporation

**BOND COUNSEL:** Knutson, Flynn & Deans, P.A.

**MUNICIPAL ADVISOR:** Ehlers and Associates, Inc.

**BOOK-ENTRY-ONLY:** See "Book-Entry-Only System" herein (unless otherwise specified by the purchaser).

This Preliminary Official Statement and the information contained herein are subject to completion and amendment. These securities may not be sold nor may offers to buy be accepted prior to the time the Official Statement is delivered in final form. Under no circumstances shall this Preliminary Official Statement constitute an offer to sell or the solicitation of an offer to buy these securities nor shall there be any jurisdiction in which such offer, solicitation or sale would be unlawful prior to registration or qualification under the securities laws of any such jurisdiction. This Preliminary Official Statement is in a form deemed final as of its date for purposes of SEC Rule 15c2-12(b) (1), but is subject to revision, amendment and completion in a Final Official Statement.

## REPRESENTATIONS

No dealer, broker, salesperson or other person has been authorized by the District to give any information or to make any representation other than those contained in this Preliminary Official Statement and, if given or made, such other information or representations must not be relied upon as having been authorized by the District. ***This Preliminary Official Statement does not constitute an offer to sell or a solicitation of an offer to buy any of the Bonds in any jurisdiction to any person to whom it is unlawful to make such an offer or solicitation in such jurisdiction.***

This Preliminary Official Statement is not to be construed as a contract with the Syndicate Manager or Syndicate Members. Statements contained herein which involve estimates or matters of opinion are intended solely as such and are not to be construed as representations of fact. Ehlers and Associates, Inc. prepared this Preliminary Official Statement and any addenda thereto relying on information of the District and other sources for which there is reasonable basis for believing the information is accurate and complete. Bond Counsel has not participated in the preparation of this Preliminary Official Statement and is not expressing any opinion as to the completeness or accuracy of the information contained therein. Compensation of Ehlers and Associates, Inc., payable entirely by the District, is contingent upon the delivery of the Bonds.

## COMPLIANCE WITH S.E.C. RULE 15c2-12

Certain municipal obligations (issued in an aggregate amount over \$1,000,000) are subject to Rule 15c2-12 promulgated by the Securities and Exchange Commission pursuant to the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Rule").

**Preliminary Official Statement:** This Preliminary Official Statement was prepared for the District for dissemination to potential investors. Its primary purpose is to disclose information regarding the Bonds to prospective underwriters in the interest of receiving competitive proposals in accordance with the sale notice contained herein. Unless an addendum is posted prior to the sale, this Preliminary Official Statement shall be deemed nearly final for purposes of the Rule subject to completion, revision and amendment in a Final Official Statement as defined below.

**Review Period:** This Preliminary Official Statement has been distributed to prospective bidders for review. Comments or requests for the correction of omissions or inaccuracies must be submitted to Ehlers and Associates, Inc. at least two business days prior to the sale. Requests for additional information or corrections in the Preliminary Official Statement received on or before this date will not be considered a qualification of a proposal received from an underwriter. If there are any changes, corrections or additions to the Preliminary Official Statement, interested bidders will be informed by an addendum prior to the sale.

**Final Official Statement:** Copies of the Final Official Statement will be delivered to the underwriter (Syndicate Manager) within seven business days following the proposal acceptance.

**Continuing Disclosure:** Subject to certain exemptions, issues in an aggregate amount over \$1,000,000 may be required to comply with provisions of the Rule which require that underwriters obtain from the issuers of municipal securities (or other obligated party) an agreement for the benefit of the owners of the securities to provide continuing disclosure with respect to those securities. This Preliminary Official Statement describes the conditions under which the District is required to comply with the Rule.

## CLOSING CERTIFICATES

Upon delivery of the Bonds, the underwriter (Syndicate Manager) will be furnished with the following items: (1) a certificate of the appropriate officials to the effect that at the time of the sale of the Bonds and all times subsequent thereto up to and including the time of the delivery of the Bonds, this Preliminary Official Statement did not and does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements therein, in the light of the circumstances under which they were made, not misleading; (2) a receipt signed by the appropriate officer evidencing payment for the Bonds; (3) a certificate evidencing the due execution of the Bonds, including statements that (a) no litigation of any nature is pending, or to the knowledge of signers, threatened, restraining or enjoining the issuance and delivery of the Bonds, (b) neither the corporate existence or boundaries of the District nor the title of the signers to their respective offices is being contested, and (c) no authority or proceedings for the issuance of the Bonds have been repealed, revoked or rescinded; and (4) a certificate setting forth facts and expectations of the District which indicates that the District does not expect to use the proceeds of the Bonds in a manner that would cause them to be arbitrage bonds within the meaning of Section 148 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, or within the meaning of applicable Treasury Regulations.

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## **ANNANDALE SCHOOL BOARD**

		<u>Term Expires</u>
Katie Jones	Chairperson	January 2021
Jon Scheer	Vice Chairperson	January 2021
Jennifer Mealey	Clerk	January 2023
Paul Zabinski	Treasurer	January 2021
Gena Jacobson	Member	January 2023
Melissa Muehring-Paulson	Member	January 2023

## **ADMINISTRATION**

Tim Prom, Superintendent of Schools

Rick Pullen, Business Manager

## **PROFESSIONAL SERVICES**

Knutson, Flynn & Deans, P.A., Bond Counsel, Mendota Heights, Minnesota

Ehlers and Associates, Inc., Municipal Advisors, Roseville, Minnesota  
*(Other offices located in Waukesha, Wisconsin and Denver, Colorado)*

## INTRODUCTORY STATEMENT

This Preliminary Official Statement contains certain information regarding Independent School District No. 876 (Annandale), Minnesota (the "District") and the issuance of its \$16,030,000\* General Obligation School Building Refunding Bonds, Series 2020A (the "Bonds"). Any descriptions or summaries of the Bonds, statutes, or documents included herein are not intended to be complete and are qualified in their entirety by reference to such statutes and documents and the form of the Bonds to be included in the resolution authorizing the issuance and sale of the Bonds ("Award Resolution") to be adopted by the Board of Education on October 8, 2020.

Inquiries may be directed to Ehlers and Associates, Inc. ("Ehlers" or the "Municipal Advisor"), Roseville, Minnesota, (651) 697-8500, the District's municipal advisor. A copy of this Preliminary Official Statement may be downloaded from Ehlers' web site at [www.ehlers-inc.com](http://www.ehlers-inc.com) by connecting to the Bond Sales link and following the directions at the top of the site.

## THE BONDS

### GENERAL

The Bonds will be issued in fully registered form as to both principal and interest in denominations of \$5,000 each or any integral multiple thereof, and will be dated, as originally issued, as of November 5, 2020. The Bonds will mature on February 1 in the years and amounts set forth on the cover of this Preliminary Official Statement. Interest will be payable on February 1 and August 1 of each year, commencing August 1, 2021, to the registered owners of the Bonds appearing of record in the bond register as of the close of business on the 15th day (whether or not a business day) of the immediately preceding month. Interest will be computed upon the basis of a 360-day year of twelve 30-day months and will be rounded pursuant to rules of the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board ("MSRB"). **The rate for any maturity may not be more than 2.00% less than the rate for any preceding maturity. (For example, if a rate of 4.50% is proposed for the 2022 maturity, then the lowest rate that may be proposed for any later maturity is 2.50%.)** All Bonds of the same maturity must bear interest from the date of issue until paid at a single, uniform rate. Each rate must be expressed in an integral multiple of 5/100 or 1/8 of 1%.

Unless otherwise specified by the purchaser, the Bonds will be registered in the name of Cede & Co., as nominee for The Depository Trust Company, New York, New York ("DTC"). (See "Book-Entry-Only System" herein.) As long as the Bonds are held under the book-entry system, beneficial ownership interests in the Bonds may be acquired in book-entry form only, and all payments of principal of, premium, if any, and interest on the Bonds shall be made through the facilities of DTC and its participants. If the book-entry system is terminated, principal of, premium, if any, and interest on the Bonds shall be payable as provided in the Award Resolution.

The District has selected Bond Trust Services Corporation, Roseville, Minnesota, to act as paying agent (the "Paying Agent"). Bond Trust Services Corporation and Ehlers are affiliate companies. The District will pay the charges for Paying Agent services. The District reserves the right to remove the Paying Agent and to appoint a successor.

\*Preliminary, subject to change.

**OPTIONAL REDEMPTION**

At the option of the District, the Bonds maturing on or after February 1, 2029 shall be subject to optional redemption prior to maturity on February 1, 2028 or any date thereafter, at a price of par plus accrued interest.

Redemption may be in whole or in part of the Bonds subject to prepayment. If redemption is in part, the selection of the amounts and maturities of the Bonds to be redeemed shall be at the discretion of the District. If only part of the Bonds having a common maturity date are called for redemption, then the District or Paying Agent, if any, will notify DTC of the particular amount of such maturity to be redeemed. DTC will determine by lot the amount of each participant's interest in such maturity to be redeemed and each participant will then select by lot the beneficial ownership interest in such maturity to be redeemed.

Notice of redemption shall be sent by mail not more than 60 days and not less than 30 days prior to the date fixed for redemption to the registered owner of each Bond to be redeemed at the address shown on the registration books.

**AUTHORITY; PURPOSE**

The Bonds are authorized pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 475, and Section 475.67, by the District for the purpose of effecting a current refunding of the District’s \$27,510,000 General Obligation School Building Bonds, Series 2011A (the “Series 2011A Bonds”) as follows:

<b>Issue Being Refunded</b>	<b>Date of Refunded Issue</b>	<b>Call Date</b>	<b>Call Price</b>	<b>Maturities Being Refunded</b>	<b>Interest Rates</b>	<b>Principal to be Refunded</b>	<b>CUSIP Base 035735</b>
Series 2011A Bonds	7/19/11	2/1/21	Par	2022	4.000%	\$ 1,295,000	EQ8
				2023	4.000%	1,335,000	ER6
				2024	3.500%	1,380,000	ES4
				2025	3.500%	1,430,000	ET2
				2026	4.000%	1,480,000	EU9
				2027	4.000%	1,535,000	EV7
				2028	4.000%	1,595,000	EW5
				2029	4.000%	1,660,000	EX3
				2030	4.000%	1,730,000	EY1
				2031	4.100%	1,800,000	EZ8
				2032	4.250%	<u>1,880,000</u>	FA2
Total Series 2011A Bonds Being Refunded						<u>\$17,120,000</u>	

Proceeds of the Bonds will be used to call and prepay the maturities described above and to pay all or most of the costs of issuance. The District will pay the principal and interest payment due on February 1, 2021 from the Debt Redemption Fund for the Series 2011A Bonds.

## ESTIMATED SOURCES AND USES\*

<b>Sources</b>		
Par Amount of Bonds	\$16,030,000	
Reoffering Premium	<u>1,308,733</u>	
<b>Total Sources</b>		<b>\$17,338,733</b>
<b>Uses</b>		
Total Underwriter's Discount (0.800%)	\$128,240	
Costs of Issuance	90,248	
Deposit to Current Refunding Fund	17,120,000	
Rounding Amount	<u>245</u>	
<b>Total Uses</b>		<b>\$17,338,733</b>

\*Preliminary, subject to change.

## SECURITY

The Bonds are general obligations of the District to which its full faith, credit and taxing powers are pledged. In accordance with Minnesota Statutes, the District will levy each year an amount not less than 105% of the debt service requirements on the Bonds. In the event funds on hand for payment of principal and interest are at any time insufficient, the District is required to levy additional taxes upon all taxable properties within its boundaries without limit as to rate or amount to make up any deficiency.

## RATING

The District will be participating in the State of Minnesota Credit Enhancement Program ("MNCEP") for this issue and is requesting a rating from Moody's Investors Service ("Moody's"). Moody's has a policy which assigns a minimum rating of "Aa2" to issuers participating in the MNCEP. The "Aa2" rating is based on the State of Minnesota's current "Aa1" rating from Moody's. See "STATE OF MINNESOTA CREDIT ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM FOR SCHOOL DISTRICTS" for further details.

The District currently has a "Aa2" underlying rating from Moody's and will be requesting an underlying rating on this issue. Such rating reflects only the views of such organization and explanations of the significance of such rating may be obtained from the rating agency furnishing the same. Generally, a rating agency bases its rating on the information and materials furnished to it and on investigations, studies and assumptions of its own. There is no assurance that such rating will continue for any given period of time or that it will not be revised downward or withdrawn entirely by such rating agency, if in the judgement of such rating agency circumstances so warrant. Any such downward revision or withdrawal of such rating may have an adverse effect on the market price of the Bonds.

Such rating is not to be construed as a recommendation of the rating agency to buy, sell or hold the Bonds, and the rating assigned by the rating agency should be evaluated independently. Except as may be required by the Disclosure Undertaking described under the heading "CONTINUING DISCLOSURE" neither the District nor the underwriter undertake responsibility to bring to the attention of the owner of the Bonds any proposed changes in or withdrawal of such rating or to oppose any such revision or withdrawal.

## **STATE OF MINNESOTA CREDIT ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM FOR SCHOOL DISTRICTS**

By resolution adopted for this issue on August 24, 2020 (the "Resolution"), the District has covenanted and obligated itself to be bound by the provisions of Minnesota Statutes, Section 126C.55, which provides for payment by the State of Minnesota in the event of a potential default of a school district obligation (herein referred to as the "State Payment Law" or the "Law"). The provisions of the State Payment Law shall be binding on the District as long as any obligations of the issue remain outstanding.

Under the State Payment Law, if the District believes it may be unable to make a principal or interest payment for this issue on the due date, it must notify the Commissioner of Education as soon as possible, but not less than 15 working days prior to the due date (which notice is to specify certain information) that it intends to exercise the provisions of the Law to guarantee payment of the principal and interest when due. The District also covenants in the Resolution to deposit with the Paying Agent for the issue three business days prior to the date on which a payment is due an amount sufficient to make that payment or to notify the Commissioner of Education that it will be unable to make all or a portion of the payment.

The Law also requires the Paying Agent for this issue to notify the Commissioner of Education if it becomes aware of a potential default in the payment of principal and interest on these obligations, or if, on the day two business days prior to the payment date, there are insufficient funds to make the payment or deposit with the Paying Agent.

The Law also requires, after receipt of a notice which requests a payment pursuant to the Law, after consultation with the Paying Agent and District, and after verifying the accuracy of the information provided, the Commissioner of Education shall notify the Commissioner of Management and Budget of the potential default. The State Payment Law provides that "upon receipt of this notice . . . the Commissioner of Management and Budget shall issue a warrant and authorize the Commissioner of Education to pay to the Paying Agent for the debt obligation the specified amount on or before the date due. The amounts needed for purposes of subdivision are annually appropriated to the Department of Education from the state general fund."

The Law requires that all amounts paid by the State on behalf of any School District are required to be repaid by the District to the State with interest, either via a reduction in State aid payable to the District, or through the levy of an ad valorem tax which may be made with the approval of the Commissioner of Education.

In its Official Statement dated August 11, 2020, for General Obligation State Bonds, Series 2020A, 2020B, 2020C, 2020D, 2020E, 2020F, and 2020G, the State of Minnesota disclosed the following information about the State Credit Enhancement Program for School Districts.

"As the date of this Official Statement, the total amount of principal on certificates of indebtedness and capital notes issued for equipment, certificates of participation and bonds, plus the interest on these obligations, through the year 2050, is approximately \$17.35 billion. Based upon these currently outstanding balances now enrolled in the program, during the Current Biennium the total amount of principal and interest outstanding as of the date of this Official Statement is currently estimated at \$1.26 billion, with the maximum amount of principal and interest payable in any one month being \$975.9 million. However, more certificates of indebtedness, capital notes, certificates of participation and bonds are expected to be enrolled in the program and these amounts are expected to increase.

The State has not had to make any debt service payments on behalf of school districts or intermediate school districts under the program and does not expect to make any payments in the future. If such payments are made the State expects to recover all or substantially all of the amounts so paid pursuant to contractual agreements with the school districts and intermediate school districts."



## **CONTINUING DISCLOSURE**

In order to assist brokers, dealers, and municipal securities dealers, in connection with their participation in the offering of the Bonds, to comply with Rule 15c2-12 promulgated by the Securities and Exchange Commission, pursuant to the Securities and Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Rule"), the District shall agree to provide certain information to the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board (MSRB) through its Electronic Municipal Market Access (EMMA) system, or any system that may be prescribed in the future. The Rule was last amended, effective February 27, 2019, to include an expanded list of material events.

On the date of issue and delivery, the District shall execute and deliver a Continuing Disclosure Certificate, under which the District will covenant for the benefit of holders including beneficial holders, to provide electronically, or in a manner otherwise prescribed, certain financial information annually and to provide notices of the occurrence of certain events enumerated in the Rule (the "Disclosure Undertaking"). The details and terms of the Disclosure Undertaking for the District are set forth in Appendix D. Such Disclosure Undertaking will be in substantially the form attached hereto.

A failure by the District to comply with any Disclosure Undertaking will not constitute an event of default on the Bonds. However, such a failure may adversely affect the transferability and liquidity of the Bonds and their market price.

Prior continuing disclosure undertakings entered into by the District included language stating that an Annual Report including the District's audited financial statements and operating data would be filed "as soon as available." Although the District did not always comply with this requirement, the Annual Reports were timely filed within the required twelve (12) month timeframe as provided for in each undertaking. Except to the extent that the preceding is deemed to be material, the District believes it has not failed to comply in the previous five years in all material respects with its prior undertakings under the Rule. The District has reviewed its continuing disclosure responsibilities along with any changes to the Rule, to ensure compliance. Ehlers is currently engaged as dissemination agent for the District.

## **LEGAL OPINION**

An opinion as to the validity of the Bonds and the exemption from taxation of the interest thereon will be furnished by Knutson, Flynn & Deans, P.A., Mendota Heights, Minnesota, Bond Counsel to the District, and will be available at the time of delivery of the Bonds. The legal opinion will state that the Bonds are valid and binding general obligations of the District; provided that the rights of the owners of the Bonds and the enforceability of the Bonds may be limited by bankruptcy, insolvency, reorganization, moratorium, and other similar laws affecting creditors' rights and by equitable principles (which may be applied in either a legal or equitable proceeding). See "FORM OF LEGAL OPINION" found in Appendix B.

## **TAX EXEMPTION AND RELATED CONSIDERATIONS**

In the opinion of Knutson, Flynn & Deans, P.A., as Bond Counsel, on the basis of laws in effect on the date of issuance of the Bonds, interest on the Bonds is not includible in gross income for federal income tax purposes or in taxable net income of individuals, estates and trusts for Minnesota income tax purposes. Interest on the Bonds is includible in taxable income of corporations and financial institutions for purposes of the Minnesota franchise tax. Certain provisions of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the Code), however, impose continuing requirements that must be met after the issuance of the Bonds in order for interest thereon to be and remain not includible in federal gross income and in Minnesota taxable net income. Noncompliance with such requirements by the Issuer may cause the interest on the Bonds to be includible in federal gross income and in Minnesota taxable net income, retroactive to the date of issuance of the Bonds, irrespective in some cases of the date on which such noncompliance occurs or is ascertained. No provision has been made for redemption of or for an increase in the interest rate on the Bonds in the event that interest on the Bonds becomes includible in federal gross income or Minnesota taxable net income.

Interest on the Bonds is not an item of tax preference includible in alternative minimum taxable income for purposes of the federal alternative minimum tax applicable to all taxpayers or the Minnesota alternative minimum tax applicable to individuals, estates and trusts, and is not includible in adjusted current earnings in determining the alternative minimum taxable income of corporations for purposes of the federal alternative minimum tax, and the environmental tax imposed by Section 59A of the Code. Interest on the Bonds may be includible in the income of a foreign corporation for purposes of the branch profits tax imposed by Section 884 of the Code and is includible in the net investment income of foreign insurance companies for purposes of Section 842(b) of the Code. In the case of an insurance company subject to the tax imposed by Section 831 of the Code, the amount which otherwise would be taken into account as losses incurred under Section 832(b)(5) of the Code must be reduced by an amount equal to fifteen percent of the interest on the Bonds that is received or accrued during the taxable year. Section 86 of the Code requires recipients of certain Social Security and railroad retirement benefits to take into account interest on the Bonds in determining the taxability of such benefits. Passive investment income, including interest on the Bonds, may be subject to federal income taxation under Section 1375 of the Code for an S corporation that has Subchapter C earnings and profits at the close of the taxable year if more than twenty-five percent of its gross receipts is passive investment income. Section 265 of the Code denies a deduction for interest on indebtedness incurred or continued to purchase or carry the Bonds.

The foregoing is not intended to be an exhaustive discussion of collateral tax consequences arising from receipt of interest on the Bonds. Prospective purchasers or Bondholders should consult their tax advisors with respect to collateral tax consequences, including without limitation the calculations of alternative minimum tax, environmental tax or foreign branch profits tax liability or the inclusion of Social Security or other retirement payments in taxable income. Except as stated in its opinion, no opinion will be expressed by Bond Counsel regarding other state or federal tax consequences caused by the receipt or accrual of interest on or arising with respect to ownership of the Bonds.

## **NON-QUALIFIED TAX-EXEMPT OBLIGATIONS**

The District will NOT designate the Bonds as "qualified tax-exempt obligations" pursuant to Section 265 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, which permits financial institutions to deduct interest expenses allocable to the Bonds to the extent permitted under prior law.

## **MUNICIPAL ADVISOR**

Ehlers has served as municipal advisor to the District in connection with the issuance of the Bonds. The Municipal Advisor cannot participate in the underwriting of the Bonds. The financial information included in this Preliminary Official Statement has been compiled by the Municipal Advisor. Such information does not purport to be a review, audit or certified forecast of future events and may not conform with accounting principles applicable to compilations of financial information. Ehlers is not a firm of certified public accountants. Ehlers is registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission and the MSRB as a municipal advisor. Ehlers makes no representation, warranty or guarantee regarding the accuracy or completeness of the information in this Preliminary Official Statement, and its assistance in preparing this Preliminary Official Statement should not be construed as a representation that it has independently verified such information.

## **MUNICIPAL ADVISOR AFFILIATED COMPANIES**

Bond Trust Services Corporation ("BTSC") and Ehlers Investment Partners, LLC ("EIP") are affiliate companies of Ehlers. BTSC is chartered by the State of Minnesota and authorized in Minnesota, Wisconsin, Colorado, and Illinois to transact the business of a limited purpose trust company. BTSC provides paying agent services to debt issuers. EIP is a Registered Investment Advisor with the Securities and Exchange Commission. EIP assists issuers with the investment of bond proceeds or investing other issuer funds. This includes escrow bidding agent services. Issuers, such as the District, have retained or may retain BTSC and/or EIP to provide these services. If hired, BTSC and/or EIP would be retained by the District under an agreement separate from Ehlers.

## **INDEPENDENT AUDITORS**

The basic financial statements of the District for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2019 have been audited by BerganKDV, Ltd., St. Cloud, Minnesota, independent auditors (the "Auditor"). The report of the Auditor, together with the basic financial statements, component units financial statements, and notes to the financial statements are attached hereto as "APPENDIX A – FINANCIAL STATEMENTS". The Auditor has not been engaged to perform and has not performed, since the date of its report included herein, any procedures on the financial statements addressed in that report. The Auditor also has not performed any procedures relating to this Preliminary Official Statement.

## **RISK FACTORS**

Following is a description of possible risks to holders of the Bonds without weighting as to probability. This description of risks is not intended to be all-inclusive, and there may be other risks not now perceived or listed here.

**Taxes:** The Bonds are general obligations of the District, the ultimate payment of which rests in the District's ability to levy and collect sufficient taxes to pay debt service should other revenue (state aids) be insufficient. In the event of delayed billing, collection or distribution of property taxes, sufficient funds may not be available to the District in time to pay debt service when due.

**State Actions:** Many elements of local government finance, including the issuance of debt and the levy of property taxes, are controlled by state government. Future actions of the state may affect the overall financial condition of the District, the taxable value of property within the District, and the ability of the District to levy and collect property taxes.

**Future Changes in Law:** Various State and federal laws, regulations and constitutional provisions apply to the District and to the Bonds. The District can give no assurance that there will not be a change in or interpretation of any such applicable laws, regulations and provisions which would have a material effect on the District or the taxing authority of the District.

**Ratings; Interest Rates:** In the future, the District's credit rating may be reduced or withdrawn, or interest rates for this type of obligation may rise generally, either possibility resulting in a reduction in the value of the Bonds for resale prior to maturity.

**Tax Exemption:** If the federal government or the State of Minnesota taxes all or a portion of the interest on municipal obligations, directly or indirectly, or if there is a change in federal or state tax policy, the value of the Bonds may fall for purposes of resale. Noncompliance following the issuance of the Bonds with certain requirements of the Code and covenants of the Award Resolution may result in the inclusion of interest on the Bonds in gross income of the recipient for United States income tax purposes or in taxable net income of individuals, estates or trusts for State of Minnesota income tax purposes. No provision has been made for redemption of the Bonds, or for an increase in the interest rate on the Bonds, in the event that interest on the Bonds becomes subject to federal or State of Minnesota income taxation, retroactive to the date of issuance.

**Continuing Disclosure:** A failure by the District to comply with the Disclosure Undertaking for continuing disclosure (see "CONTINUING DISCLOSURE") will not constitute an event of default on the Bonds. Any such failure must be reported in accordance with the Rule and must be considered by any broker, dealer, or municipal securities dealer before recommending the purchase or sale of the Bonds in the secondary market. Such a failure may adversely affect the transferability and liquidity of the Bonds and their market price.

**State Economy; State Aids:** State of Minnesota cash flow problems could affect local governments and possibly increase property taxes.

**Book-Entry-Only System:** The timely credit of payments for principal and interest on the Bonds to the accounts of the Beneficial Owners of the Bonds may be delayed due to the customary practices, standing instructions or for other unknown reasons by DTC participants or indirect participants. Since the notice of redemption or other notices to holders of these obligations will be delivered by the District to DTC only, there may be a delay or failure by DTC, DTC participants or indirect participants to notify the Beneficial Owners of the Bonds.

**Economy:** A combination of economic, climatic, political or civil disruptions or terrorist actions outside of the control of the District, including loss of major taxpayers or major employers, could affect the local economy and result in reduced tax collections and/or increased demands upon local government. Real or perceived threats to the financial stability of the District may have an adverse effect on the value of the Bonds in the secondary market.

**Secondary Market for the Bonds:** No assurance can be given that a secondary market will develop for the purchase and sale of the Bonds or, if a secondary market exists, that such Bonds can be sold for any particular price. The underwriters are not obligated to engage in secondary market trading or to repurchase any of the Bonds at the request of the owners thereof. Prices of the Bonds as traded in the secondary market are subject to adjustment upward and downward in response to changes in the credit markets and other prevailing circumstances. No guarantee exists as to the future market value of the Bonds. Such market value could be substantially different from the original purchase price.

**Bankruptcy:** The rights and remedies of the holders may be limited by and are subject to the provisions of federal bankruptcy laws, to other laws, or equitable principles that may affect the enforcement of creditors' rights, to the exercise of judicial discretion in appropriate cases and to limitations on legal remedies against local governments. The opinion of Bond Counsel to be delivered with respect to the Bonds will be similarly qualified.

**Cybersecurity:** The District is dependent on electronic information technology systems to deliver services. These systems may contain sensitive information or support critical operational functions which may have value for unauthorized purposes. As a result, the electronic systems and networks may be targets of cyberattack. There can be no assurance that the District will not experience an information technology breach or attack with financial consequences that could have a material adverse impact.

**Impact of the Spread of COVID-19:** In late 2019, a novel strain of coronavirus (COVID-19) emerged in Wuhan, Hubei Province, China. COVID-19 has spread throughout the world, including to the United States, resulting in the World Health Organization proclaiming COVID-19 to be a pandemic and President Trump declaring a national emergency. In response to the spread of COVID-19, the United States government, state governments, local governments and private industries have taken measures to limit social interactions in an effort to limit the spread of COVID-19. The effects of the spread of COVID-19 and the government and private responses to the spread continue to rapidly evolve. COVID-19 has caused significant disruptions to the global, national and State economy. The extent to which the coronavirus impacts the District and its financial condition will depend on future developments, which are highly uncertain and cannot be predicted by the District, including the duration of the outbreak and measures taken to address the outbreak.

On March 13, 2020, Minnesota Governor Tim Walz signed Emergency Executive Order 20-01 and declared a peacetime emergency which is still in effect. On June 5, 2020, the Governor signed Emergency Executive Order 20-74 which outlines guidelines for continuing to safely reopen Minnesota's economy and ensuring safe non-work activities during the COVID-19 peacetime emergency. This order is effective as of June 10, 2020 and outlines the guidelines for continuing to lift the restrictions that were identified in prior Executive Orders signed by the Governor. On July 22, 2020, the Governor signed Emergency Executive Order 20-81 which requires individuals to wear a face covering in certain settings across Minnesota to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

The foregoing is intended only as a summary of certain risk factors attendant to an investment in the Bonds. In order for potential investors to identify risk factors and make an informed investment decision, potential investors should be thoroughly familiar with this entire Preliminary Official Statement and the Appendices hereto.

# VALUATIONS

## OVERVIEW

All non-exempt property is subject to taxation by local taxing districts. Exempt real property includes Indian lands, public property, and educational, religious and charitable institutions. Most personal property is exempt from taxation (except investor-owned utility mains, generating plants, etc.).

The valuation of property in Minnesota consists of three elements. (1) The estimated market value is set by city or county assessors. Not less than 20% of all real properties are to be appraised by local assessors each year. (2) The taxable market value is the estimated market value adjusted by all legislative exclusions. (3) The tax capacity (taxable) value of property is determined by class rates set by the State Legislature. The tax capacity rate varies according to the classification of the property. Tax capacity represents a percent of taxable market value.

The property tax rate for a local taxing jurisdiction is determined by dividing the total tax capacity or market value of property within the jurisdiction into the dollars to be raised from the levy. State law determines whether a levy is spread on tax capacity or market value. Major classifications and the percentages by which tax capacity is determined are:

Type of Property	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20
Residential homestead <sup>1</sup>	First \$500,000 - 1.00% Over \$500,000 - 1.25%	First \$500,000 - 1.00% Over \$500,000 - 1.25%	First \$500,000 - 1.00% Over \$500,000 - 1.25%
Agricultural homestead <sup>1</sup>	First \$500,000 HGA - 1.00% Over \$500,000 HGA - 1.25% First \$1,940,000 - 0.50% <sup>2</sup> Over \$1,940,000 - 1.00% <sup>2</sup>	First \$500,000 HGA - 1.00% Over \$500,000 HGA - 1.25% First \$1,900,000 - 0.50% <sup>2</sup> Over \$1,900,000 - 1.00% <sup>2</sup>	First \$500,000 HGA - 1.00% Over \$500,000 HGA - 1.25% First \$1,880,000 - 0.50% <sup>2</sup> Over \$1,880,000 - 1.00% <sup>2</sup>
Agricultural non-homestead	Land - 1.00% <sup>2</sup>	Land - 1.00% <sup>2</sup>	Land - 1.00% <sup>2</sup>
Seasonal recreational residential	First \$500,000 - 1.00% <sup>3</sup> Over \$500,000 - 1.25% <sup>3</sup>	First \$500,000 - 1.00% <sup>3</sup> Over \$500,000 - 1.25% <sup>3</sup>	First \$500,000 - 1.00% <sup>3</sup> Over \$500,000 - 1.25% <sup>3</sup>
Residential non-homestead:	1 unit - 1st \$500,000 - 1.00% Over \$500,000 - 1.25% 2-3 units - 1.25% 4 or more - 1.25% Small City <sup>4</sup> - 1.25% Affordable Rental: First \$121,000 - .75% Over \$121,000 - .25%	1 unit - 1st \$500,000 - 1.00% Over \$500,000 - 1.25% 2-3 units - 1.25% 4 or more - 1.25% Small City <sup>4</sup> - 1.25% Affordable Rental: First \$139,000 - .75% Over \$139,000 - .25%	1 unit - 1st \$500,000 - 1.00% Over \$500,000 - 1.25% 2-3 units - 1.25% 4 or more - 1.25% Small City <sup>4</sup> - 1.25% Affordable Rental: First \$150,000 - .75% Over \$150,000 - .25%
Industrial/Commercial/Utility <sup>5</sup>	First \$150,000 - 1.50% Over \$150,000 - 2.00%	First \$150,000 - 1.50% Over \$150,000 - 2.00%	First \$150,000 - 1.50% Over \$150,000 - 2.00%

<sup>1</sup> A residential property qualifies as "homestead" if it is occupied by the owner or a relative of the owner on the assessment date.

<sup>2</sup> Applies to land and buildings. Exempt from referendum market value tax.

<sup>3</sup> Exempt from referendum market value tax.

<sup>4</sup> Cities of 5,000 population or less and located entirely outside the seven-county metropolitan area and the adjacent nine-county area and whose boundaries are 15 miles or more from the boundaries of a Minnesota city with a population of over 5,000.

<sup>5</sup> The estimated market value of utility property is determined by the Minnesota Department of Revenue.

## CURRENT PROPERTY VALUATIONS

2019/20 Economic Market Value \$2,116,592,238<sup>1</sup>

### 2019/20 Assessor's Estimated Market Value

	<b>Wright County</b>	<b>Stearns County</b>	<b>Meeker County</b>	<b>Total</b>
Real Estate	\$ 1,798,467,700	\$ 172,647,300	\$ 1,407,600	\$ 1,972,522,600
Personal Property	<u>9,021,400</u>	<u>146,700</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>9,168,100</u>
Total Valuation	<u>\$ 1,807,489,100</u>	<u>\$ 172,794,000</u>	<u>\$ 1,407,600</u>	<u>\$ 1,981,690,700</u>

### 2019/20 Net Tax Capacity

	<b>Wright County</b>	<b>Stearns County</b>	<b>Meeker County</b>	<b>Total</b>
Real Estate	\$ 17,291,236	\$ 1,553,772	\$ 10,966	\$ 18,855,974
Personal Property	<u>180,224</u>	<u>2,934</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>183,158</u>
Net Tax Capacity	\$ 17,471,460	\$ 1,556,706	\$ 10,966	\$ 19,039,132
Less: Captured Tax Increment Tax Capacity <sup>2</sup>	(22,979)	0	0	(22,979)
Power Line Adjustment <sup>3</sup>	<u>(712)</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>(712)</u>
Taxable Net Tax Capacity	<u>\$ 17,447,769</u>	<u>\$ 1,556,706</u>	<u>\$ 10,966</u>	<u>\$ 19,015,441</u>

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<sup>1</sup> According to the Minnesota Department of Revenue, the Assessor's Estimated Market Value (the "AEMV") for Independent School District No. 876 (Annandale) is about 93.65% of the actual selling prices of property most recently sold in the District. The sales ratio was calculated by comparing the selling prices with the AEMV. Dividing the AEMV of real estate by the sales ratio and adding the AEMV of personal property and utility, railroads and minerals, if any, results in an Economic Market Value ("EMV") for the District of \$2,116,592,238.

<sup>2</sup> The captured tax increment value shown above represents the captured net tax capacity of tax increment financing districts located in the District.

<sup>3</sup> Ten percent of the net tax capacity of certain high voltage transmission lines is removed when setting local tax rates. However, taxes are paid on the full value of these lines. The taxes attributable to 10% of value of these lines are used to fund a power line credit. Certain property owners receive a credit when the high voltage transmission line runs over their property.

## 2019/20 NET TAX CAPACITY BY CLASSIFICATION

	<b>2019/20 Net Tax Capacity</b>	<b>Percent of Total Net Tax Capacity</b>
Residential homestead	\$ 8,897,486	46.73%
Agricultural	2,127,880	11.18%
Commercial/industrial	983,417	5.17%
Public utility	36,283	0.19%
Railroad operating property	56,458	0.30%
Non-homestead residential	951,928	5.00%
Commercial & residential seasonal/rec.	5,788,565	30.40%
Other	13,957	0.07%
Personal property	183,158	0.96%
Total	<u>\$19,039,132</u>	<u>100.00%</u>

## TREND OF VALUATIONS

<b>Levy Year</b>	<b>Assessor's Estimated Market Value</b>	<b>Assessor's Taxable Market Value</b>	<b>Net Tax Capacity<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Taxable Net Tax Capacity<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>Percent +/- in Estimated Market Value</b>
2015/16	\$1,627,484,600	\$1,536,762,034	\$15,379,020	\$15,303,578	+2.65%
2016/17	1,679,219,600	1,590,811,563	15,969,649	15,952,693	+3.18%
2017/18	1,763,176,700	1,669,721,841	16,827,541	16,809,862	+5.00%
2018/19	1,869,015,800	1,770,531,025	17,869,230	17,851,571	+6.00%
2019/20	1,981,690,700	1,880,087,753	19,039,132	19,015,441	+6.03%

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<sup>1</sup> Net Tax Capacity includes tax increment and power line values.

<sup>2</sup> Taxable Net Tax Capacity does not include tax increment or power line values.



**LARGER TAXPAYERS<sup>1</sup>**

<b>Taxpayer</b>	<b>Type of Property</b>	<b>2019/20 Net Tax Capacity</b>	<b>Percent of District's Total Net Tax Capacity</b>
Centerpoint Energy	Utility	\$ 85,022	0.45%
Xcel Energy	Utility	74,535	0.39%
Individual	Seasonal Residential/Rec.	63,781	0.34%
Soo Line Railroad Company	Railroad	56,458	0.30%
Annandale Marketplace	Commercial	40,966	0.22%
Individual	Agricultural	40,879	0.21%
Annandale Clinic Partners, LLC	Commercial	36,334	0.19%
Timberwoods Resort Association	Commercial	34,766	0.18%
Individual	Seasonal Residential/Rec.	33,281	0.17%
Gravco Land, LLC	Agricultural/Commercial	33,243	0.17%
<b>Total</b>		<u><u>\$499,265</u></u>	<u><u>2.62%</u></u>

District's Total 2019/20 Net Tax Capacity      \$19,039,132

**Source:** Current Property Valuations, Net Tax Capacity by Classification, Trend of Valuations and Larger Taxpayers have been furnished by Wright, Stearns and Meeker Counties.

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<sup>1</sup> In 2019, the estimated median commercial and industrial sales ratio used to equalize utility values in Meeker County dropped below 90% to 84.13%, thereby resulting in lower valuations for this classification of property. Depreciation may also have affected the decrease in valuations.

# DEBT

## DIRECT DEBT<sup>1</sup>

**General Obligation Debt** (see schedule following)

Total G.O. debt secured by taxes and state aids <sup>2</sup> (includes the Bonds)*	<u>\$20,895,000</u>
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\*Preliminary, subject to change.

## STATE AID FOR DEBT SERVICE

The Minnesota Debt Service Equalization program provides state aid to finance a portion of the principal and interest payments on most school district bonds. Bonds not eligible for the program include all alternative facilities bonds, facilities maintenance bonds, capital facilities bonds and OPEB bonds, as well as building bonds with relatively short maturities.

Under the Debt Service Equalization Formula (the Formula) adopted by the 2001 Minnesota State Legislature, each school district is responsible for the amount of its qualifying annual debt service which is equal to 15.74% of its Adjusted Net Tax Capacity (ANTC). The District does not currently qualify for debt service equalization aid.

In addition to debt service equalization aid, some school districts will qualify for state Long Term Facilities Maintenance Aid to finance a portion of the payments on Alternative Facilities Bonds and Facilities Maintenance Bonds, pursuant to the Long Term Facilities Maintenance Revenue (LTFMR) program approved by the State in 2015. If any aid is received, it is deposited into the District's debt service fund and must be used for payments on the bonds; any payment of state aid into the debt service fund causes a reduction in the tax levy for Alternative Facilities Bonds and Facilities Maintenance Bonds. The amount of aid received in the debt service fund will vary each year, depending on a number of factors. The District does not currently qualify for Long Term Facilities Maintenance Aid in the debt service fund.

Some Districts will also receive aid for debt service payments through the state School Building Bond Agricultural Credit, which is paid to Districts to offset a portion of certain bond levies (Minn. Stat. Section 273.1387). The reimbursement percentages are 40% for taxes payable in 2018 and 2019, 50% for 2020, 55% for 2021, 60% for 2022, and 70% for 2023 and thereafter. The school building bond agricultural credit applies to farmland, excluding the house, garage and one acre, rural vacant land and managed forestland. The amount of agricultural credit received in the debt service fund for taxes payable 2021 is approximately 4.1% of total annual debt service levies, based on the District's 2019/20 qualifying agricultural land valuation.

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<sup>1</sup> Outstanding debt is as of the dated date of the Bonds.

<sup>2</sup> Based upon the agricultural land valuation and current statistics, the District anticipates a portion of this debt will be paid by the State of Minnesota.

**Independent School District No. 876 (Annandale), Minnesota**  
**Schedule of Bonded Indebtedness**  
**General Obligation Debt Secured by Taxes**  
**(As of 11/05/2020)**

Fiscal Year Ending	School Building Bonds Series 2011A		School Building Bonds Series 2016A		School Building Refunding Bonds 1) Series 2020A		Total Principal	Total Interest	Total P & I	Principal Outstanding	% Paid	Fiscal Year Ending		
	Dated Amount	Maturity	Principal	Interest	Principal	Interest							Principal	Interest
2021	07/19/2011 \$27,510,000	02/01	1,255,000	363,725	02/18/2016 \$3,905,000	02/01	11/05/2020 \$16,030,000*	02/01	1,570,000	403,569	1,973,569	19,325,000	7.51%	2021
2022					315,000	39,844	0		1,665,000	707,451	2,372,451	17,660,000	15.48%	2022
2023					330,000	73,388	1,335,000	634,063	1,590,000	525,188	2,115,188	16,070,000	23.09%	2023
2024					345,000	66,788	1,245,000	458,400	1,650,000	468,488	2,118,488	14,420,000	30.99%	2024
2025					360,000	59,888	1,290,000	408,600	1,710,000	409,688	2,119,688	12,710,000	39.17%	2025
2026					370,000	52,688	1,340,000	357,000	1,770,000	347,763	2,117,763	10,940,000	47.64%	2026
2027					375,000	44,363	1,395,000	303,400	1,835,000	283,525	2,118,525	9,105,000	56.42%	2027
2028					385,000	35,925	1,450,000	247,600	1,900,000	216,863	2,116,863	7,205,000	65.52%	2028
2029					395,000	27,263	1,505,000	189,600	1,930,000	147,775	2,077,775	5,275,000	74.75%	2029
2030					365,000	18,375	1,565,000	129,400	1,970,000	107,350	2,077,350	3,305,000	84.18%	2030
2031					370,000	9,250	1,600,000	98,100	1,635,000	66,100	1,701,100	1,670,000	92.01%	2031
2032							1,670,000	33,400	1,670,000	33,400	1,703,400	0	100.00%	2032
			1,255,000	363,725	3,610,000	427,769	16,030,000	2,925,663	20,895,000	3,717,157	24,612,157			

\* Preliminary, subject to change.

1) This issue will refund the 2022 through 2032 maturities of the District's \$27,510,000 General Obligation School Building Bonds, Series 2011A, dated July 19, 2011.

**BONDED DEBT LIMIT**

Minnesota Statutes, Section 475.53, subdivision 4, presently limits the "net debt" of a school district to 15% of its actual market value. The actual market value of property within a district, on which its debt limit is based, is (a) the value certified by the county auditors, or (b) this value divided by the ratio certified by the commissioner of revenue, whichever results in a higher value. The current debt limit of the District is computed as follows:

2019/20 Economic Market Value	\$2,116,592,238
Multiply by 15%	<u>0.15</u>
Statutory Debt Limit	\$ 317,488,836
Less: Long-Term Debt Outstanding Being Paid Solely from Taxes (includes the Bonds)*	<u>(20,895,000)</u>
Unused Debt Limit*	<u><u>\$ 296,593,836</u></u>

\*Preliminary, subject to change.

**OVERLAPPING DEBT<sup>1</sup>**

<b>Taxing District</b>	<b>2019/20 Taxable Net Tax Capacity</b>	<b>% In District</b>	<b>Total G.O. Debt<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>District's Proportionate Share</b>
Meeker County	\$30,754,576	0.0357%	\$1,360,000	\$486
Stearns County	164,289,001	0.9475%	11,315,000	107,210
Wright County	176,615,617	9.8790%	100,020,000	9,880,976
City of Annandale	2,678,854	100.0000%	7,336,000	7,336,000
City of Clearwater	2,223,013	0.3012%	2,615,000	7,876
City of South Haven	131,927	100.0000%	382,000	382,000
District's Share of Total Overlapping Debt				<u><u>\$17,714,547</u></u>

**DEBT PAYMENT HISTORY**

The District has no record of default in the payment of principal and interest on its debt.

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<sup>1</sup> Overlapping debt is as of the dated date of the Bonds. Only those taxing jurisdictions with general obligation debt outstanding are included in this section. It does *not* include non-general obligation debt, self-supporting general obligation revenue debt, short-term general obligation debt, or general obligation tax/aid anticipation certificates of indebtedness.

<sup>2</sup> Outstanding debt is based on information in Official Statements obtained on EMMA and the Municipal Advisor's records.

## DEBT RATIOS

	<b>G.O. Debt</b>	<b>Debt/Economic Market Value (\$2,116,592,238)</b>	<b>Debt/ Current Population Estimate (10,792)</b>
Direct G.O. Debt Secured By Taxes and State Aids <sup>1</sup> (includes the Bonds)*	\$20,895,000	0.99%	\$1,936.16
Less: State Agricultural Credit	<u>(856,695)</u>		
Tax Supported General Obligation Debt*	\$20,038,305	0.95%	\$1,856.77
District's Share of Total Overlapping Debt	<u>\$17,714,547</u>	<u>0.84%</u>	<u>\$1,641.45</u>
Total*	<u>\$37,752,852</u>	<u>1.79%</u>	<u>\$3,498.22</u>

\*Preliminary, subject to change.

## FUTURE FINANCING

The District has no current plans for additional financing in the next 12 months.

## LEVY LIMITS

Minnesota school district tax levies for most purposes are subject to statutory limitations. No limit, however, is placed on the debt service levy, and districts are required to levy 105% of actual principal and interest requirements to allow for delinquencies.

School districts receive a basic revenue amount per pupil unit from aid and levy proceeds in a variety of categorical state aids. They are also allowed to certify additional levies within limits for certain specified purposes. The State Department of Education and the applicable County Auditors review the levies of each school district to determine compliance with state levy limits.

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<sup>1</sup> Based on current State law and statistics, the State of Minnesota is estimated to pay approximately 4.1% of the principal and interest of the District's general obligation bonds. Assuming this percentage continues for the life of the issue, the State's proportionate share of principal is \$856,695.

## TAX RATES, LEVIES AND COLLECTIONS

### TAX LEVIES AND COLLECTIONS

Tax Year	Net Tax Levy <sup>1</sup>	Total Collected Following Year	Collected to Date <sup>2</sup>	% Collected
2015/16	\$ 5,017,132	\$ 4,956,684	\$ 5,014,536	99.95%
2016/17	5,099,196	5,051,447	5,097,058	99.96%
2017/18	5,359,681	5,324,883	5,356,328	99.94%
2018/19	5,487,254	5,440,699	5,468,830	99.66%
2019/20	5,796,230	In process of collection		

Property taxes are collected in two installments in Minnesota--the first by May 15 and the second by October 15.<sup>3</sup> Mobile home taxes are collectible in full by August 31. Minnesota Statutes require that levies (taxes and special assessments) for debt service be at least 105% of the actual debt service requirements to allow for delinquencies.

The spread of COVID-19 and responses taken by the United States government, state governments, local governments and private industries have caused significant disruptions to the national and State economy. See "RISK FACTORS - Impact of the Spread of COVID-19" herein. Certain states have announced extended deadlines for payment of property taxes, although as of this date Minnesota has not taken such measures. The District cannot predict whether and how much payment of property taxes will be impacted. Any delays or reduction in the receipt of property taxes may materially adversely impact the District's finances and payment of debt obligations, including the Bonds.

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<sup>1</sup> This reflects the Final Levy Certification of the District after all adjustments have been made.

<sup>2</sup> Collections are through June 19, 2020 for Wright County, through May 15, 2020 for Stearns County and through December 31, 2019 for Meeker County.

<sup>3</sup> Second half tax payments on agricultural property are due on November 15th of each year.

**TAX CAPACITY RATES<sup>1</sup>**

	<b>2015/16</b>	<b>2016/17</b>	<b>2017/18</b>	<b>2018/19</b>	<b>2019/20</b>
I.S.D. No. 876 (Annandale)	23.367%	22.900%	22.585%	21.140%	20.688%
Meeker County	49.539%	48.415%	48.683%	48.705%	49.145%
Stearns County	51.673%	52.337%	52.488%	51.401%	50.398%
Wright County	39.970%	39.599%	39.946%	44.273%	44.421%
City of Annandale	67.921%	63.955%	60.107%	58.156%	55.706%
City of Clearwater	2.349%	1.881%	1.719%	1.640%	1.568%
City of South Haven	134.401%	135.237%	132.047%	113.063%	105.298%
Town of French Lake <sup>2</sup>	14.597%	14.089%	14.777%	13.984%	15.242%
Annandale Second Fire District	2.305%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Clearwater River Watershed	2.306%	1.823%	1.764%	1.648%	1.550%
Lynden Fire District	3.788%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Meeker Countywide	0.187%	0.195%	0.201%	0.204%	0.214%
Regional Rail Authority	0.166%	0.106%	0.105%	0.099%	0.064%
Stearns County HRA	0.397%	0.390%	0.372%	0.350%	0.338%

*Referendum Market Value Rates:*

I.S.D. No. 876 (Annandale)	0.16116%	0.15510%	0.16495%	0.16700%	0.17055%
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**Source:** Tax Levies and Collections and Tax Capacity Rates have been furnished by Wright, Stearns and Meeker Counties.

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<sup>1</sup> After reduction for state aids. Does not include the statewide general property tax against commercial/industrial, non-homestead resorts and seasonal recreational residential property.

<sup>2</sup> Representative town rate.

# THE ISSUER

## EMPLOYEES

The District is governed by an elected school board and employs a staff of 269, including 115 non-licensed employees and 154 licensed employees (148 of whom are teachers). The District provides education for 1,977 students in grades kindergarten through twelve.

## PENSIONS; UNIONS

### Teachers' Retirement Association (TRA)

All teachers employed by the District are covered by defined benefit pension plans administered by the State of Minnesota Teachers Retirement Association (TRA). TRA members belong to either the Coordinated Plan or the Basic Plan. Coordinated members are covered by Social Security and Basic members are not. All new members must participate in the Coordinated Plan. These plans are established and administered in accordance with Minnesota Statutes, Chapters 354 and 356.

### Public Employees' Retirement Association (PERA)

All full-time and certain part-time employees of the District (other than those covered by TRA) are covered by a defined benefit plan administered by the Public Employees' Retirement Association of Minnesota (PERA). PERA administers the General Employees Retirement Fund (GERF) which is a cost-sharing, multiple-employer retirement plan. This plan is established and administered in accordance with Minnesota Statutes, Chapters 353 and 356.

### Recognized and Certified Bargaining Units

<b>Bargaining Unit</b>	<b>Expiration Date of Current Contract</b>
Annandale Education Association	June 30, 2021
Annandale Principals Association	June 30, 2021
Annandale Secretarial Association	June 30, 2021
Annandale Custodial Supervisors Association	June 30, 2021
Annandale Custodians Association	June 30, 2021

## POST EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS

The District has obligations for some post-employment benefits for its employees. Accounting for these obligations is dictated by Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement No. 75 (GASB 75). The District's most recent actuarial study shows a total OPEB liability of \$1,638,748 as of July 1, 2019. The District has been funding these obligations on a pay-as-you-go basis.

**Source:** The District's most recent actuarial study.



**STUDENT BODY**

The number of students enrolled for the past four years and for the current year have been as follows:

<b>Year</b>	<b>Kindergarten</b>	<b>Grades 1-6</b>	<b>Grades 7-12</b>	<b>Total</b>
2016/17	137	886	783	1,806
2017/18	147	900	811	1,858
2018/19	146	933	855	1,934
2019/20	162	928	888	1,978
2020/21	137	923	917	1,977

Enrollments for the next three years are projected to be as follows:

<b>Year</b>	<b>Kindergarten</b>	<b>Grades 1-6</b>	<b>Grades 7-12</b>	<b>Total</b>
2021/22	140	885	945	1,970
2022/23	140	866	957	1,963
2023/24	150	860	960	1,970

**SCHOOL BUILDINGS**

<b>School Building</b>	<b>Year Constructed</b>	<b>Years of Additions/ Remodelings</b>
Bendix Elementary	2013	--
Annandale Middle School	1954	1961, 1978, 1980, 1991
Annandale High School	1991	2000
Community Education Center	1967	--

**FUNDS ON HAND** (as of June 30, 2020)

<b>Fund</b>	<b>Total Cash and Investments</b>
General	\$ 6,694,189
Food Service	317,422
Community Service	929,804
Debt Service	2,148,075
Building/Construction	44,112
<b>Total Funds on Hand</b>	<b><u><u>\$10,133,602</u></u></b>

## **LITIGATION**

There is no litigation threatened or pending questioning the organization or boundaries of the District or the right of any of its officers to their respective offices or in any manner questioning their rights and power to execute and deliver the Bonds or otherwise questioning the validity of the Bonds.

## **MUNICIPAL BANKRUPTCY**

Municipalities are prohibited from filing for bankruptcy under Chapter 11 (reorganization) or Chapter 7 (liquidation) of the U.S. Bankruptcy Code (11 U.S.C. §§ 101-1532) (the "Bankruptcy Code"). Instead, the Bankruptcy Code permits municipalities to file a petition under Chapter 9 of the Bankruptcy Code, but only if certain requirements are met. These requirements include that the municipality must be "specifically authorized" under State law to file for relief under Chapter 9. For these purposes, "State law" may include, without limitation, statutes of general applicability enacted by the State legislature, special legislation applicable to a particular municipality, and/or executive orders issued by an appropriate officer of the State's executive branch.

Currently there is no statutory authority for Minnesota school districts to file for bankruptcy relief under Chapter 9 of the Bankruptcy Code.

Nevertheless, there can be no assurance (a) that State law will not change in the future while the Bonds are outstanding; or (b) even absent such a change in State law, that an executive order or other executive action could not effectively authorize the District to file for relief under Chapter 9; or (c) whether it would still be eligible for voluntary or involuntary relief under Chapters of the Bankruptcy Code other than Chapter 9 or under similar federal or state law or equitable proceeding regarding insolvency or providing for protection from creditors. Such action could impact the rights of holders of the Bonds. Such modifications could be adverse to holders of the Bonds and there could ultimately be no assurance that holders of the Bonds would be paid in full or in part on the Bonds.

## SUMMARY GENERAL FUND INFORMATION

Following are summaries of the revenues and expenditures and fund balances for the District's General Fund. These summaries are not purported to be the complete audited financial statements of the District, and potential purchasers should read the included financial statements in their entirety for more complete information concerning the District. Copies of the complete statements are available upon request. Appendix A includes the District's 2019 audited financial statements.

COMBINED STATEMENT	FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30				
	2017 Audited	2018 Audited	2019 Audited	2019-20 Revised Budget 1)	2020-21 Adopted Budget 2)
<b>Revenues</b>					
Local property taxes	\$2,570,259	\$2,684,970	\$3,036,477	\$3,116,887	\$3,420,901
Other local and county revenues	666,176	716,519	703,955	555,500	465,500
Revenues from state sources	15,795,931	16,662,304	17,851,559	18,020,613	18,356,540
Revenues from federal sources	305,378	289,460	285,164	253,394	251,394
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<u>\$19,337,744</u>	<u>\$20,353,253</u>	<u>\$21,877,155</u>	<u>\$21,946,394</u>	<u>\$22,494,335</u>
<b>Expenditures</b>					
Current:					
Administration	1,220,072	1,271,802	1,305,431	1,357,764	1,411,465
District support services	645,244	637,536	738,871	750,558	814,528
Elementary & secondary regular instruction	9,354,885	9,553,675	10,065,974	10,914,449	11,032,158
Vocational education instruction	107,156	109,396	110,144	122,528	125,637
Special education instruction	3,143,658	3,336,538	3,515,777	3,503,532	3,634,212
Instructional support services	755,803	693,011	665,035	896,759	1,044,296
Pupil support services	1,828,539	1,964,032	1,965,030	1,919,182	1,932,383
Sites and buildings	1,606,269	1,545,835	1,633,071	1,904,866	1,775,269
Fiscal and other fixed cost programs	70,066	73,388	79,244	79,000	99,243
Capital outlay	413,605	1,358,219	1,363,845	535,041	343,163
Debt service	0	0	0		
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<u>\$19,145,297</u>	<u>\$20,543,432</u>	<u>\$21,442,422</u>	<u>\$21,983,679</u>	<u>\$22,212,354</u>
<b>Excess of revenues over (under) expenditures</b>	\$192,447	(\$190,179)	\$434,733	(\$37,285)	\$281,981
<b>Other Financing Sources (Uses)</b>					
Proceeds from sale of capital assets	\$0	\$12	\$0	\$0	\$0
Insurance recovery	3,650	35,679	28,051	0	0
<b>Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)</b>	<u>\$3,650</u>	<u>\$35,691</u>	<u>\$28,051</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>
<b>Net changes in Fund Balances</b>	\$196,097	(\$154,488)	\$462,784	(\$37,285)	\$281,981
General Fund Balance July 1	5,007,572	5,203,669	5,049,181		
Prior Period Adjustment	0	0	0		
Residual Equity Transfer in (out)	0	0	0		
General Fund Balance June 30	<u>\$5,203,669</u>	<u>\$5,049,181</u>	<u>\$5,511,965</u>		
<b>DETAILS OF JUNE 30 FUND BALANCE</b>					
Nonspendable	\$29,263	\$109,311	\$114,906		
Restricted	1,229,622	1,633,129	1,151,742		
Committed	469,514	469,514	469,514		
Assigned	228,043	379,512	518,211		
Unassigned	3,247,227	2,457,615	3,257,592		
<b>Total</b>	<u>\$5,203,669</u>	<u>\$5,049,081</u>	<u>\$5,511,965</u>		

1) The 2019-20 budget was revised on March 30, 2020.

2) The 2020-21 budget was adopted on June 29, 2020.

## GENERAL INFORMATION

### LOCATION

The District, with a 2010 U.S. Census population of 10,461, and a current population estimate of 10,792, and comprising an area of 50 miles northwest of the Minneapolis-St. Paul metropolitan area.

### LARGER EMPLOYERS<sup>1</sup>

Larger employers in the District include the following:

<b>Firm</b>	<b>Type of Business/Product</b>	<b>Estimated No. of Employees</b>
I.S.D. No. 876 (Annandale)	Elementary and secondary education	269
Malco Products, Inc.	Tool manufacturer	170
Annandale Care Center	Nursing and convalescent homes	97
Dish Network	Internet service	88
E-Z Crusher (R M Johnson Co.)	Recycling	65
Market Place	Grocers- retail	60
M & M Bus Service, Inc.	Buses - charter and rental	60
Backyard Reflections	Landscape contractors	50
Mid Minnesota Hot Mix	Asphalt and asphalt products	40
Lake Central Financial, Inc.	Holding companies (bank)	30

**Source:** *ReferenceUSA, written and telephone survey (August 2020), and the Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development.*

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<sup>1</sup> This does not purport to be a comprehensive list and is based on available data obtained through a survey of individual employers, as well as the sources identified above. Some employers do not respond to inquiries for employment data. Estimates provided are accurate as of the date noted and may not reflect changes in the number of employees resulting from the current COVID-19 pandemic. (See "Risk Factors - Impact of the Spread of COVID-19").

## U.S. CENSUS DATA

### Population Trend: The District

2000 U.S. Census population	10,299
2010 U.S. Census population	10,461
2018 Population Estimate	10,792
Percent of Change 2000 - 2010	+ 1.57%

### Income and Age Statistics

	<b>The District</b>	<b>Wright County</b>	<b>State of Minnesota</b>	<b>United States</b>
2018 per capita income	\$35,737	\$34,325	\$36,245	\$32,621
2018 median household income	\$67,378	\$81,881	\$68,411	\$60,293
2018 median family income	\$83,053	\$94,210	\$86,204	\$73,965
2018 median gross rent	\$709	\$935	\$944	\$1,023
2018 median value owner occupied units	\$232,200	\$225,600	\$211,800	\$204,900
2018 median age	45.3 yrs.	36.6 yrs.	37.9 yrs.	37.9 yrs.

	<b>State of Minnesota</b>	<b>United States</b>
District % of 2018 per capita income	98.60%	109.55%
District % of 2018 median family income	96.34%	112.29%

**Source:** 2000 and 2010 Census of Population and Housing, and 2018 American Community Survey (Based on a five-year estimate), U.S. Census Bureau (<https://data.census.gov/cedsci>).

## EMPLOYMENT/UNEMPLOYMENT DATA

Rates are not compiled for individual communities within counties.

Year	<u>Average Employment</u>		<u>Average Unemployment</u>	
	Wright County	Wright County	State of Minnesota	State of Minnesota
2016	70,485	3.9%	3.9%	
2017	71,599	3.5%	3.4%	
2018	72,455	3.0%	2.9%	
2019	73,062	3.3%	3.2%	
2020, August	70,611	5.8%	7.1%	

**Source:** Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development.

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

Potential purchasers should read the included financial statements in their entirety for more complete information concerning the District's financial position. Such financial statements have been audited by the Auditor, to the extent and for the periods indicated thereon. The District has not requested or engaged the Auditor to perform, and the Auditor has not performed, any additional examination, assessments, procedures or evaluation with respect to such financial statements since the date thereof or with respect to this Preliminary Official Statement, nor has the District requested that the Auditor consent to the use of such financial statements in this Preliminary Official Statement. Although the inclusion of the financial statements in this Preliminary Official Statement is not intended to demonstrate the fiscal condition of the District since the date of the financial statements, in connection with the issuance of the Bonds, the District represents that there have been no material adverse change in the financial position or results of operations of the District, nor has the District incurred any material liabilities, which would make such financial statements misleading.

Copies of the complete audited financial statements for the past three years and the current budget are available upon request from Ehlers.

**Independent School District No. 876  
Annandale, Minnesota**

**Financial Statements**

**June 30, 2019**

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Independent School District No. 876  
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**Board of Education and Administration**

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- Statement of Net Position
- Statement of Activities
- Fund Financial Statements
- Balance Sheet – Governmental Funds
- Reconciliation of the Balance Sheet to the Statement of Net Position – Governmental Funds
- Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances – Governmental Funds
- Reconciliation of the Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances to the Statement of Activities – Governmental Funds
- Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances – Budget and Actual – General Fund
- Statement of Fiduciary Net Position
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- Schedule of District's and Non-Employer Proportionate Share of Net Pension Liability
- General Employees Retirement Fund
- Schedule of District's and Non-Employer Proportionate Share of Net Pension Liability TRA Retirement Fund
- Schedule of District Contributions
- General Employees Retirement Fund
- Schedule of District Contributions TRA Retirement Fund
- Notes to the Required Supplementary Information

**Supplementary Information**

- Combining Balance Sheet – Nonmajor Governmental Funds
- Combining Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances – Nonmajor Governmental Funds
- Uniform Financial Accounting and Reporting Standards Compliance Table

**Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Based on an Audit of Financial Statements Performed in Accordance with Government Auditing Standards**

Independent School District No. 876  
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**Minnesota Legal Compliance**

**Schedule of Finding and Corrective Action Plan on Legal Compliance and Internal Control**



**Independent School District No. 876  
Board of Education and Administration  
June 30, 2019**

Board of Education	Position	Term Expires
Katie Jones	Chairperson	December 31, 2020
Jon Scheer	Vice Chairperson	December 31, 2020
Jennifer Mealey	Clerk	December 31, 2022
Paul Zabinski	Treasurer	December 31, 2020
Gena Jacobson	Director	December 31, 2022
Melissa Muehring-Paulson	Director	December 31, 2022
<u>Administration</u>		
Tim Prom	Superintendent	
Rick Pullen	Business Manager	

## Independent Auditor's Report

To the School Board  
Independent School District No. 876  
Annandale, Minnesota

### **Report on the Financial Statements**

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Independent School District No. 876, Annandale, Minnesota, as of and for the year ended June 30, 2019, and the related notes to financial statements, which collectively comprise the District's basic financial statements as listed in the Table of Contents.

### **Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements**

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

### **Auditor's Responsibility**

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

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the District's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the District's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

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

## **Opinions**

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to in the first paragraph present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Independent School District No. 876, Annandale, Minnesota, as of June 30, 2019, and the respective changes in financial position thereof, and the respective budgetary comparison for the General Fund for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

## **Other Matters**

### *Required Supplementary Information*

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the Management's Discussion and Analysis, which follows this report letter, and the Required Supplementary Information as listed in the Table of Contents be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by GASB, who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the Required Supplementary Information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

### *Other Information*

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the District's basic financial statements. The accompanying supplementary information identified in the Table of Contents is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the basic financial statements.

The accompanying supplementary information identified in the Table of Contents is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to, the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements or to the basic financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the accompanying supplementary information is fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the basic financial statements as a whole.

**Other Reporting Required by *Government Auditing Standards***

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated November 21, 2019, on our consideration of the District's internal control over financial reporting and 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 District's internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the District's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.



St. Cloud, Minnesota  
November 21, 2019

**Independent School District No. 876  
Management's Discussion and Analysis**

This section of the Independent School District No. 876's (the "District") annual financial report presents our discussion and analysis of the District's financial performance during the year ended June 30, 2018. Please read it in conjunction with the District's financial statements, which immediately follow this section. Certain comparative information between the current year (2018-2019) and the prior year (2017-2018) is required to be presented in the MD&A.

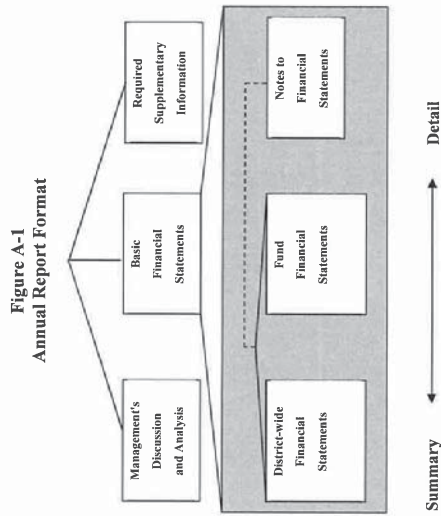
**FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS**

Key financial highlights for the 2018-2019 fiscal years include the following:

- Net position increased by \$6,711,579 from June 30, 2018.
- Overall General Fund revenues were \$21,877,155 as compared to \$21,442,422 of expenditures.
- General Fund balance increased \$462,784 from the prior year.

The financial statements include notes that explain some of the information in the statements and provide more detailed data.

Figure A-1 shows how the various parts of this annual report are arranged and related to one another.



**Independent School District No. 876  
Management's Discussion and Analysis**

**OVERVIEW OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

The financial section of the annual report consists of four parts: Independent Auditor's Report, Required Supplementary Information, which includes the MD&A, the basic financial statements, and supplemental information. The basic financial statements include two kinds of reports that present different views of the District:

- The first two reports are district-wide financial statements that provide both short-term and long-term information about the District's overall financial status.
- The remaining reports are fund financial statements that focus on individual parts of the District, reporting the District's operations in more detail than the district-wide statements.
- The governmental funds statements tell how basic services such as regular and special education were financed in the short-term as well as what remains for future spending.
- Fiduciary funds statements provide information about the financial relationships in which the District acts solely as a trustee or agent for the benefit of others to whom the resources belong.

Figure A-2 summarizes the major features of the District's financial statements. This includes the portion of the District's activities they address and the types of information they contain. The remainder of this overview section of MD&A highlights the structure and contents of each of the statements.

OVERVIEW OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

Figure A-2 Major Features of the District-Wide and Fund Financial Statements

Type of Statements	District-Wide Statements (Entire District except Fiduciary Funds)	Fund Financial Statements	
		Governmental Funds The activities of the District are not proprietary or fiduciary.	Fiduciary Fund Instance in which the District is the trustee for someone else's resources.
Scope	* Statement of Net Position * Statement of Activities	* Balance Sheet * Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances	* Statement of Fiduciary Net Position * Statement of Changes in Fiduciary Net Position
Accounting Basis and Measurement Focus	Accrual accounting and economic resources focus.	Modified accrual accounting and current financial resources focus.	Accrual accounting and economic resources focus.
Type of Asset/Liability Information	All assets and liabilities both financial and capital, short-term and long-term.	Only assets expected to be used up and liabilities that come due during the year or soon thereafter; no capital assets included.	All assets and liabilities, both short-term and long-term; the District's funds do not currently contain capital assets, although they can.
Type of Inflow/Outflow Information	All revenues and expenses during year, regardless of when cash is received or paid.	Revenues for which cash is received during or soon after the end of the year; expenditures when goods or services have been received and payment is due during the year or soon thereafter.	All revenues and expenses during the year, regardless of when cash is received or paid.

**District-Wide Statements**

The district-wide statements report information about the District as a whole using accounting methods similar to those used by private-sector companies. The Statement of Net Position includes all of the District's assets, deferred outflows of resources, liabilities, and deferred inflows of resources. All of the current year's revenues and expenses are accounted for in the Statement of Activities regardless of when cash is received or paid.

The two district-wide statements report the District's net position and how they have changed. Net position, the difference between the District's assets and deferred outflows of resources; and liabilities and deferred inflows of resources, is one way to measure the District's financial health or position.

OVERVIEW OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

**District-Wide Statements (Continued)**

- Over time, increases or decreases in the District's net position are an indicator of whether its financial position is improving or deteriorating.
- To assess the overall health of the District, additional nonfinancial factors such as changes in the District's property tax base and the condition of school buildings will also need to be considered.

In the district-wide financial statements, the District's expenditures are shown in one category:

- **Governmental Activities** – All of the District's basic services are included here, such as regular and special education, transportation, administration, food services, and community education. Revenue from property taxes and state aids support most of these expenditures.

**Fund Financial Statements**

The fund financial statements provide more detailed information about the District's funds, focusing on its most significant or "major" funds, not the District as a whole. Funds are accounting devices the District uses to keep track of specific sources of revenue and expenditures on particular programs:

- Some funds are required by state law and by bond covenants.
- The District establishes other funds to control and manage money for particular purposes (e.g., repaying its long-term debts) or to show it is properly using certain revenues.

The District has two types of funds:

- **Governmental Funds** – The District's basic services are included in governmental funds, which generally focus on (1) how cash and other financial assets can readily be converted to cash flow in and out and (2) the balances left at year-end that are available for spending. Consequently, the governmental funds statements provide a detailed short-term view that helps to determine whether there are more or fewer financial resources that can be spent in the near future to finance the District's programs. Because this information does not encompass the additional long-term focus of the district-wide statements, we provide additional information at the bottom of the governmental funds statements that explain the relationship (or differences) between them.
- **Fiduciary Funds** – The District is the trustee, or fiduciary, for assets that belong to others, i.e. scholarship funds. The District is responsible for ensuring the assets reported in these funds are used only for their intended purposes and by those to whom the assets belong. All of the District's fiduciary activities are reported in a separate Statement of Fiduciary Net Position and a Statement of Changes in Fiduciary Net Position. We exclude these activities from the district-wide financial statements because the District cannot use these assets to finance its operations.

FINANCIAL ANALYSIS OF THE DISTRICT AS A WHOLE

Net Position

The District's combined net position was \$4,058,967 on June 30, 2019, this was an increase of 253.02% from the prior year (see Table A-1).

Table A-1  
Net Position of the District

	2019	2018	Percentage Change
<b>Assets</b>			
Current and other assets	\$ 14,967,490	\$ 14,471,057	3.43%
Capital assets	39,211,699	38,931,578	0.72%
Total assets	\$ 54,179,189	\$ 53,402,635	1.45%
<b>Deferred Outflows of Resources</b>	\$ 19,567,125	\$ 19,567,125	0.00%
<b>Liabilities</b>			
Current liabilities	\$ 4,201,031	\$ 4,292,185	-2.12%
Long-term liabilities	37,086,971	60,449,634	-38.65%
Total liabilities	\$ 41,288,002	\$ 64,741,819	-36.23%
<b>Deferred Inflows of Resources</b>	\$ 24,094,843	\$ 10,880,553	121.45%
<b>Net Position</b>			
Net investment in capital assets	\$ 15,229,844	\$ 13,689,117	11.26%
Restricted amounts	2,323,754	2,526,656	-8.03%
Unrestricted amounts	(13,494,631)	(18,868,385)	-28.48%
Total net position	\$ 4,058,967	\$ (2,652,612)	253.02%

The deferred outflows of resources remained flat when compared to the prior year. The increase in deferred inflows of resources is associated with the net change in pension liability.

FINANCIAL ANALYSIS OF THE DISTRICT AS A WHOLE (CONTINUED)

Net Position (Continued)

Typically, the District does not include in an analysis of all governmental funds a breakout of expenses as depicted in Table A-2 on the following page. To do so distorts the latitude available to the District to allocate resources to instruction. All governmental funds are included; not only funds received for the general operation of the District, which are used for classroom instruction, but also resources from the entrepreneurial type funds of food service and community education and from resources for fiscal service transactions. Funding for the general operation of the District is controlled by the state and the District does not have the latitude to allocate money received in food service or community education or for fiscal services to enhance classroom instruction resources. The District cannot take funds from these restricted areas and use the funds to hire teachers to enhance instruction. In Minnesota, that is not an option. Therefore, a more accurate analysis of resources allocated to instruction should be limited to an analysis of resources received for the general operation of the District. This analysis (see Figure A-4) shows that 49.3% of available resources are spent on instruction.

The District's total revenues, in all funds except the fiduciary fund, were \$26,111,998 for the year ended June 30, 2019. The total cost of all programs and services was \$19,400,419. Total revenues exceeded expenditures which increased net position \$6,711,579 over the prior year. (see Table A-2).

Property taxes and state formula aid accounted for 68.2% of total revenue for the year. Restricted operating state and federal aids and grants make up the operating grants and contributions shown as 20.9% of the District's total revenue sources. The other 10.9% came from other general revenues combined with investment earnings and the remainder from program revenues (see Figure A-3).

The District's expenses are predominately related to educating and caring for students (65.4%) (See Figure A-4).

FINANCIAL ANALYSIS OF THE DISTRICT AS A WHOLE (CONTINUED)

Table A-2 Change in Net Position

	Governmental Activities for the		Total Percentage Change
	2019	2018	
<b>Revenues</b>			
Program revenues			
Charges for services	\$ 2,269,781	\$ 2,160,503	5.06%
Operating grants and contributions	5,462,421	5,064,662	7.85%
Capital grants and contributions	470,826	959,586	-50.93%
General revenues			
Property taxes	5,460,785	5,194,225	5.13%
Unrestricted state aid	12,337,806	12,167,918	1.40%
Investment income	103,000	99,963	3.04%
Other	7,379	7,979	-7.52%
Total revenues	26,111,998	25,654,836	1.78%
<b>Expenses</b>			
Administration	952,329	1,630,708	-41.60%
District support services	771,645	671,447	14.92%
Elementary and secondary regular instruction	6,963,028	12,755,458	-45.41%
Vocational education instruction	64,770	152,262	-57.46%
Special education instruction	2,532,870	4,264,357	-40.60%
Instructional support services	523,797	915,759	-42.80%
Pupil support services	1,829,778	2,094,789	-12.65%
Sites and buildings	1,670,427	1,497,546	11.54%
Fiscal and other fixed cost programs	79,244	73,388	7.98%
Food service	1,121,462	1,128,101	-0.59%
Community education and services	972,148	1,217,585	-20.16%
Unallocated depreciation	1,070,022	1,041,786	2.71%
Interest and fiscal charges on long-term debt	848,899	899,243	-5.60%
Total expenses	19,400,419	28,342,429	-31.55%
Increase in net position	6,711,579	(2,687,593)	-253.02%
Beginning net position	(2,652,612)	34,981	
Ending net position	\$ 4,058,967	\$ (2,652,612)	

FINANCIAL ANALYSIS OF THE DISTRICT AS A WHOLE (CONTINUED)

Figure A-3  
Sources of District's Revenues for 2019

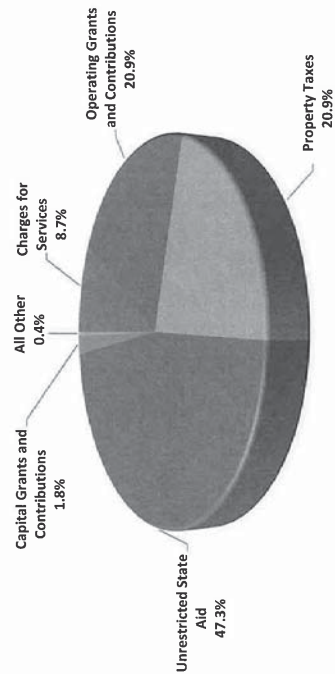
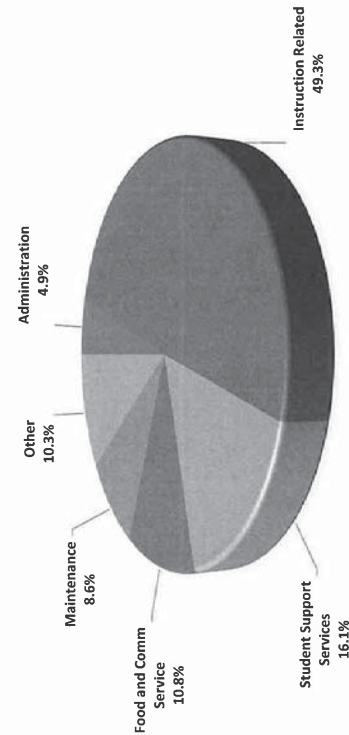


Figure A-4  
District Expenses for 2019





**FINANCIAL ANALYSIS OF THE DISTRICT AS A WHOLE (CONTINUED)**

Table A-3 presents the total cost for each major District activity. The table also shows each activity's net cost (total cost less fees generated by the activities and aid provided for specific programs.) The net cost shows the financial burden placed on the District's taxpayers for each activity.

- The cost of all governmental activities this year was \$19,400,419.
- Some of the cost was financed by the users of the District's programs \$2,269,781.
- The federal and state governments subsidized certain programs with grants and contributions \$5,933,247.
- Most of the District's costs were financed by taxpayers of the State of Minnesota \$12,337,806 and to a smaller scale, local property taxpayers \$5,460,785.

**Table A-3  
Net Cost of Governmental Activities**

	Total Cost of Services		Percentage Change	Net Cost of Services		Percentage Change
	2019	2018		2019	2018	
Administration	\$ 952,329	\$ 1,630,708	-41.60%	\$ 932,293	\$ 1,604,965	-41.91%
District support services	771,645	671,447	14.92%	771,645	668,474	15.43%
Elementary and secondary regular instruction	6,963,028	12,755,458	-45.41%	5,362,299	11,197,290	-52.11%
Vocational education instruction	64,770	152,262	-57.46%	60,641	150,004	-59.57%
Special education instruction	2,532,870	4,264,357	-40.60%	(31,307)	1,895,707	-101.65%
Instructional support services	523,797	915,759	-42.80%	523,797	910,397	-42.46%
Pupil support services	1,829,778	2,094,789	-12.65%	586,936	923,950	-36.48%
Sites and buildings (including unallocated depreciation)	2,740,449	2,539,332	7.92%	2,278,293	1,579,199	44.27%
Fiscal and other fixed cost programs	79,244	73,388	7.98%	79,244	73,388	7.98%
Food service	1,128,462	1,128,101	-0.59%	(82,457)	41,745	-297.53%
Community education and services	972,148	1,217,585	-20.16%	(132,892)	213,316	-162.30%
Interest and fiscal charges on Long-term debt	848,899	899,243	-5.60%	848,899	899,243	-5.60%
	\$ 19,400,419	\$ 28,342,429	-31.55%	\$ 11,197,391	\$ 20,157,678	-44.45%

**FINANCIAL ANALYSIS OF THE DISTRICT'S FUNDS**

The financial performance of the District as a whole is reflected in its governmental funds as well. As the District completed the year, its governmental funds reported a combined fund balance of \$7,146,422 which was \$485,498 over last year's ending fund balance of \$6,660,924.

**GENERAL FUND**

The General Fund includes the primary operations of the District in providing educational services to students from kindergarten through grade 12, including pupil transportation activities and capital outlay projects.

Approximately 97% of General Fund operational revenue is controlled by a complex set of state funding formulas resulting in the local School Board having no meaningful authority to determine the level of resources available to the District. This includes special education state aid that is based upon a cost reimbursement model providing revenue to support approximately 69% of personnel expenditures. Other state formulas then determine what portion of the revenue will be provided by property taxes and what portion will come from state aid.

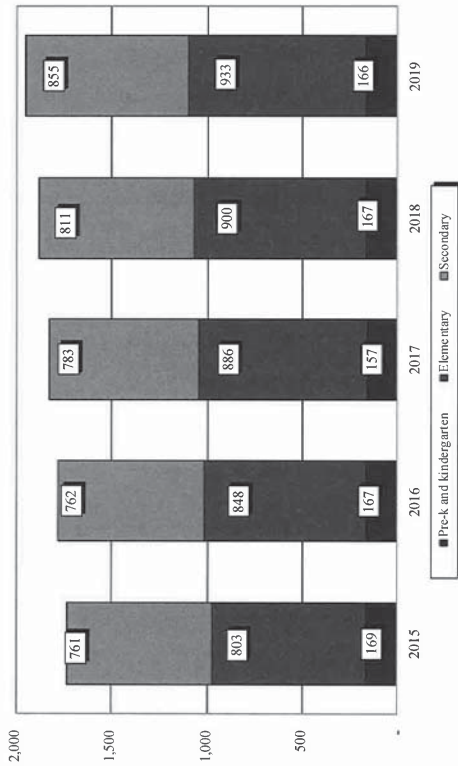
**ENROLLMENT**

Enrollment is a critical factor in determining revenue with approximately 91% of General Fund revenue being determined by enrollment. Table A-4 and the accompanying graph show the number of students in the District has fluctuated over the last five years.

	Table A-4 Five Year Enrollment Trend Adjusted Average Daily Membership (ADM)				
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Pre-k and kindergarten	169	167	157	167	166
Elementary	803	848	886	900	933
Secondary	761	762	783	811	855
Total students for aid	1,733	1,777	1,826	1,878	1,954
Percentage change		2.55%	2.78%	2.81%	4.05%

ENROLLMENT (CONTINUED)

Student Enrollment (ADM)



Over the last five years, the District has experienced an increase in ADM by 221 students, or 12.8%. This increase is a result of larger class sizes across all grade levels.

Table A-5  
General Fund Revenues

Fund	Year Ended		Amount of Increase (Decrease)	Percent Increase (Decrease)
	June 30, 2019	June 30, 2018		
Local sources	\$ 3,036,477	\$ 2,684,970	\$ 351,507	13.1%
Local property taxes	703,955	716,519	(12,564)	-1.8%
Other local and county revenues	17,851,559	16,662,304	1,189,255	7.1%
State sources	285,164	289,460	(4,296)	-1.5%
Federal sources				
Total general fund revenue	\$ 21,877,155	\$ 20,353,253	\$ 1,523,902	7.5%

ENROLLMENT (CONTINUED)

Total General Fund revenue increased by \$1,523,902 or 7.5%, from 2018 to 2019. Basic general education revenue is determined by multiple state formulas, largely enrollment driven and consists of an equalized mix of property tax and state aid revenue. Other state authorized revenue including operating levy referendum and the property tax shift involve an equalized mix of property tax and state aid revenue. Therefore, the proportion of property tax and state aid can change significantly from year-to-year without any net change on total revenue.

Table A-6  
Summary of Governmental Funds Revenues and Expenditures

Fund	Revenue and Other Sources		Expenditures	Fund Balance Increase/(Decrease)
General	\$ 21,905,206	\$ 21,442,422	\$ 462,784	
Debt service	2,385,502	2,374,399	11,103	
Other nonmajor funds	2,549,424	2,537,813	11,611	
Total	\$ 26,840,132	\$ 26,354,634	\$ 485,498	

The largest increase, in the general fund, was a result of the conservative budgeting.

Fund balance is the single best measure of overall financial health. It is the goal of the School Board to maintain one and a half months of General Fund expenditures (excluding capital projects) as a fund balance. The District realized its target of \$2,482,300.

CAPITAL ASSET AND DEBT ADMINISTRATION

Capital Assets

By the end of 2019, the District had invested just over \$39 million in a broad range of capital assets; including school buildings, athletic facilities, copiers and other equipment (more detailed information about capital assets can be found in Note 3 to the financial statements). Total depreciation expense for the year was \$1,214,753.

Long-Term Liabilities

At year-end, the District had \$24,106,949 in G.O. bonds outstanding, a decrease of 6% from last year (see Note 4 to financial statements for more detail).

**Independent School District No. 876  
Management's Discussion and Analysis**

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

With the exception of the voter approved operating referendum, the District is dependent on the State of Minnesota for revenue to run its programs and services.

Recent experience demonstrates legislated revenue increases have not been sufficient to meet instructional program needs and increased costs due to inflation.

The District will strive to maintain its long-standing commitment to academic excellence and educational opportunity for students within a framework of financial fiduciary responsibility.

**CONTACTING THE DISTRICT'S FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT**

This financial report is designed to provide our citizens, taxpayers, customers and investors and creditors with a general overview of the District's finances and to demonstrate the District's accountability for the money it receives. If you have questions about this report or need additional financial information, contact the District Office, Independent School District No. 876, 125 Cherry Avenue North, P.O. Box 190, Annandale, Minnesota 55302.

**BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**Independent School District No. 876**  
**Statement of Net Position**  
**June 30, 2019**

	<u>Governmental Activities</u>
<b>Assets</b>	
Cash and investments (including cash equivalents)	\$ 9,105,034
Current property taxes receivable	2,648,125
Delinquent property taxes receivable	35,585
Accounts receivable	35,012
Interest receivable	847
Due from Department of Education	2,608,299
Due from Federal Government through Department of Education	39,171
Due from other Minnesota school districts	16,965
Due from other governmental units	114,673
Inventory	30,479
Prepaid items	112,668
Equity interest in joint venture	220,632
Capital assets not being depreciated	
Land	1,021,636
Construction in progress	4,326,974
Capital assets being depreciated	
Land improvements	1,653,935
Buildings and improvements	45,882,937
Machinery and equipment	2,391,837
Less accumulated depreciation	<u>(16,065,620)</u>
Total assets	<u>54,179,189</u>
<b>Deferred Outflows of Resources</b>	
Deferred outflows of resources related to pensions	15,062,309
Deferred outflows of resources related to OPEB	200,314
Total deferred outflows of resources	<u>19,567,125</u>
Total assets and deferred outflows of resources	<u>\$ 69,441,812</u>
<b>Liabilities</b>	
Accounts and contracts payable	\$ 201,281
Salaries and benefits payable	1,836,927
Interest payable	354,733
Due to other Minnesota school districts	191,161
Due to other governmental units	5,388
Unearned revenue	41,541
Bond principal payable (net of premium)	
Payable within one year	1,515,000
Payable after one year	22,591,949
Compensated absences payable	
Payable within one year	55,000
Payable after one year	21,427
Total OPEB liability	1,952,487
Net pension liability	12,521,108
Total liabilities	<u>41,288,002</u>
<b>Deferred Inflows of Resources</b>	
Property taxes levied for subsequent year's expenditures	5,288,553
Deferred inflows of resources related to pensions	18,806,290
Total deferred inflows of resources	<u>24,094,843</u>
<b>Net Position</b>	
Net investment in capital assets	15,229,844
Restricted for	
Debt service	203,078
Other purposes	2,120,676
Unrestricted	<u>(13,494,631)</u>
Total net position	<u>4,058,967</u>
Total liabilities, deferred inflows of resources, and net position	<u>\$ 69,441,812</u>

See notes to financial statements.

**Independent School District No. 876**  
**Statement of Activities**  
**For the Year Ended June 30, 2019**

Functions/Programs	Expenses	Program Revenues			Net (Expense)
		Charges for Services	Operating Grants and Contributions	Capital Grants and Contributions	Revenues and Changes in Net Position
Governmental activities					Governmental Activities
Administration	\$ 952,329	\$ 14,036	\$ 6,000	\$ -	\$ (932,293)
District support services	771,645	-	-	-	(771,645)
Elementary and secondary regular instruction	6,963,028	498,506	1,065,502	36,721	(5,362,299)
Vocational education instruction	64,770	4,129	-	-	(60,641)
Special education instruction	2,532,870	33,790	2,530,387	-	31,307
Instructional support services	523,797	-	-	-	(523,797)
Pupil support services	1,829,778	-	1,242,842	-	(586,936)
Sites and buildings	1,670,427	28,051	-	434,105	(1,208,271)
Fiscal and other fixed cost programs	79,244	-	-	-	(79,244)
Food service	1,121,462	712,868	491,051	-	82,457
Community education and services	972,148	978,401	126,639	-	132,892
Unallocated depreciation	1,070,022	-	-	-	(1,070,022)
Interest and fiscal charges on long-term debt	848,899	-	-	-	(848,899)
Total governmental activities	<u>\$ 19,400,419</u>	<u>\$ 2,269,781</u>	<u>\$ 5,462,421</u>	<u>\$ 470,826</u>	(11,197,391)
General revenues					
Taxes					
Property taxes, levied for general purposes					3,029,241
Property taxes, levied for community service					173,121
Property taxes, levied for debt service					2,258,423
State aid-formula grants					12,337,806
Other general revenues					7,379
Investment income					103,000
Total general revenues					<u>17,908,970</u>
Change in net position					6,711,579
Net position - beginning					<u>(2,652,612)</u>
Net position - ending					<u>\$ 4,058,967</u>

See notes to financial statements.

**Independent School District No. 876**  
**Balance Sheet - Governmental Funds**  
**June 30, 2019**

	General	Debt Service	Other Nonmajor Funds	Total Governmental Funds
<b>Assets</b>				
Cash and investments	\$ 6,004,126	\$ 1,755,811	\$ 1,345,097	\$ 9,105,034
Current property taxes receivable	1,431,049	1,141,062	76,014	2,648,125
Delinquent property taxes receivable	18,203	16,247	1,135	35,585
Accounts receivable	8,212	-	26,800	35,012
Interest receivable	-	-	847	847
Due from Department of Education	2,585,738	10,165	12,396	2,608,299
Due from Federal Government through Department of Education	20,773	-	18,398	39,171
Due from other Minnesota school districts	8,297	-	8,668	16,965
Due from other governmental units	114,673	-	-	114,673
Inventory	2,238	-	28,241	30,479
Prepaid items	112,668	-	-	112,668
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>\$ 10,305,977</b>	<b>\$ 2,923,285</b>	<b>\$ 1,517,596</b>	<b>\$ 14,746,858</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>				
Accounts and contracts payable	\$ 138,508	\$ -	\$ 62,773	\$ 201,281
Salaries and benefits payable	1,740,610	-	96,317	1,836,927
Due to other Minnesota school districts	105,720	-	85,441	191,161
Due to other governmental units	5,359	-	29	5,388
Unearned revenue	25,780	-	15,761	41,541
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>2,015,977</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>260,321</b>	<b>2,276,298</b>
<b>Deferred Inflows of Resources</b>				
Unavailable revenue - property taxes levied for subsequent year's expenditures	2,759,832	2,365,474	163,247	5,288,553
Unavailable revenue - delinquent property taxes	18,203	16,247	1,135	35,585
<b>Total deferred inflows of resources</b>	<b>2,778,035</b>	<b>2,381,721</b>	<b>164,382</b>	<b>5,324,138</b>
<b>Fund Balances</b>				
Nonspendable	114,906	-	28,241	143,147
Restricted	1,151,742	541,564	1,064,652	2,757,958
Committed	469,514	-	-	469,514
Assigned	518,211	-	-	518,211
Unassigned	3,257,592	-	-	3,257,592
<b>Total fund balances</b>	<b>5,511,965</b>	<b>541,564</b>	<b>1,092,893</b>	<b>7,146,422</b>
<b>Total liabilities, deferred inflows of resources, and fund balances</b>	<b>\$ 10,305,977</b>	<b>\$ 2,923,285</b>	<b>\$ 1,517,596</b>	<b>\$ 14,746,858</b>

See notes to financial statements.

**Independent School District No. 876  
Reconciliation of the Balance Sheet to  
the Statement of Net Position - Governmental Funds  
June 30, 2019**

Total fund balances - governmental funds \$ 7,146,422

Amounts reported for governmental activities in the Statement of Net Position are different because:

Capital assets used in governmental activities are not current financial resources and, therefore, are not reported as assets in governmental funds.

Cost of capital assets	55,277,319
Less accumulated depreciation	(16,065,620)

Equity interests in underlying capital assets of joint ventures are not reported in the funds because they do not represent current financial assets.

Equity interest in joint venture - Wright Technical Center	220,632
--	---------

Long-term liabilities, including bonds payable, are not due and payable in the current period and, therefore, are not reported as liabilities in the funds.

Long-term liabilities at year-end consist of:

Bond principal payable	(23,500,000)
Premium on bonds payable	(606,949)
Compensated absences payable	(76,427)
Total OPEB liability	(1,952,487)
Net pension liability	(12,521,108)

Deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources are created as a result of various differences related to pensions and OPEB that are not recognized in the governmental funds.

Deferred outflows of resources related to pensions	15,062,309
Deferred inflows of resources related to pensions	(18,806,290)
Deferred outflows of resources related to OPEB	200,314

Delinquent property tax receivables will be collected in subsequent years, but are not available soon enough to pay for the current period's expenditures and, therefore, are deferred in the funds.

35,585

Governmental funds do not report a liability for accrued interest on bonds until due and payable.

(354,733)

Total net position - governmental activities

\$ 4,058,967

See notes to financial statements.



**Independent School District No. 876**  
**Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and**  
**Changes in Fund Balances - Governmental Funds**  
**Year Ended June 30, 2019**

	General	Debt Service	Other Nonmajor Funds	Total Governmental Funds
<b>Revenues</b>				
Local property taxes	\$ 3,036,477	\$ 2,267,041	\$ 173,626	\$ 5,477,144
Other local and county revenues	703,955	16,808	1,043,419	1,764,182
Revenue from state sources	17,851,559	101,653	183,643	18,136,855
Revenue from federal sources	285,164	-	436,005	721,169
Sales and other conversion of assets	-	-	709,088	709,088
Total revenues	<u>21,877,155</u>	<u>2,385,502</u>	<u>2,545,781</u>	<u>26,808,438</u>
<b>Expenditures</b>				
<b>Current</b>				
Administration	1,305,431	-	-	1,305,431
District support services	738,871	-	-	738,871
Elementary and secondary regular instruction	10,065,974	-	-	10,065,974
Vocational education instruction	110,144	-	-	110,144
Special education instruction	3,515,777	-	-	3,515,777
Instructional support services	665,035	-	-	665,035
Pupil support services	1,965,030	-	-	1,965,030
Sites and buildings	1,633,071	-	7,917	1,640,988
Fiscal and other fixed cost programs	79,244	-	-	79,244
Food service	-	-	1,115,206	1,115,206
Community education and services	-	-	1,117,223	1,117,223
<b>Capital outlay</b>				
District support services	74,989	-	-	74,989
Elementary and secondary regular instruction	124,166	-	-	124,166
Instructional support services	86	-	-	86
Sites and buildings	1,164,604	-	285,140	1,449,744
Food service	-	-	2,955	2,955
Community education and services	-	-	9,372	9,372
<b>Debt service</b>				
Principal	-	1,450,000	-	1,450,000
Interest and fiscal charges	-	924,399	-	924,399
Total expenditures	<u>21,442,422</u>	<u>2,374,399</u>	<u>2,537,813</u>	<u>26,354,634</u>
Excess of revenues over expenditures	434,733	11,103	7,968	453,804
<b>Other Financing Sources</b>				
Proceeds from sale of capital assets	-	-	3,643	3,643
Insurance recovery	28,051	-	-	28,051
Total other financing sources	<u>28,051</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,643</u>	<u>31,694</u>
Net change in fund balances	462,784	11,103	11,611	485,498
<b>Fund Balances</b>				
Beginning of year	<u>5,049,181</u>	<u>530,461</u>	<u>1,081,282</u>	<u>6,660,924</u>
End of year	<u>\$ 5,511,965</u>	<u>\$ 541,564</u>	<u>\$ 1,092,893</u>	<u>\$ 7,146,422</u>

See notes to financial statements.

**Independent School District No. 876  
Reconciliation of the Statement of Revenues,  
Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances to the  
Statement of Activities - Governmental Funds  
Year Ended June 30, 2019**

Net change in fund balances - total governmental funds \$ 485,498

Amounts reported for governmental activities in the Statement of Activities are different because:

Capital outlays are reported in governmental funds as expenditures. However, in the Statement of Activities, the cost of those assets is allocated over the estimated useful lives as depreciation expense.

Capital outlays	1,520,007
Depreciation expense	(1,214,753)
Disposal of capital assets	(25,133)

Early retirement incentive payable, compensated absences payable and OPEB payable are recognized as paid in the governmental funds but recognized as the expense is incurred in the Statement of Activities. 50,097

Principal payments on long-term debt are recognized as expenditures in the governmental funds but have no effect on the change in net position in the Statement of Activities. 1,450,000

Net gain (loss) from equity interest in joint venture does not involve current financial resources and is not reported in the funds. 56,732

Interest on long-term debt in the Statement of Activities differs from the amount reported in the governmental funds because interest is recognized as an expenditure in the funds when it is due and thus requires use of current financial resources. In the Statement of Activities, however, interest expense is recognized as the interest accrues, regardless of when it is due. 23,873

Governmental funds report the effect of bond premiums when the debt is first issued, whereas these amounts are deferred and amortized in the Statement of Activities. 51,627

Governmental Funds recognized pension contributions as expenditures at the time of payment whereas the Statement of Activities factors in items related to pensions on a full accrual perspective. 4,329,990

Delinquent property tax receivables will be collected in subsequent years, but are not available soon enough to pay for the current period's expenditures and, therefore, are deferred in the funds. (16,359)

Change in net position - governmental activities \$ 6,711,579

See notes to financial statements.

**Independent School District No. 876**  
**Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and**  
**Changes in Fund Balances -**  
**Budget and Actual - General Fund**  
**Year Ended June 30, 2019**

	Budgeted Amounts		Actual Amounts	Variance with Final Budget - Over (Under)
	Original	Final		
<b>Revenues</b>				
Local property taxes	\$ 2,960,563	\$ 2,960,563	\$ 3,036,477	\$ 75,914
Other local and county revenues	564,600	564,600	703,955	139,355
Revenue from state sources	16,397,106	16,950,532	17,851,559	901,027
Revenue from federal sources	254,868	254,868	285,164	30,296
Total revenues	<u>20,177,137</u>	<u>20,730,563</u>	<u>21,877,155</u>	<u>1,146,592</u>
<b>Expenditures</b>				
Current				
Administration	1,299,303	1,299,303	1,305,431	6,128
District support services	688,512	688,512	738,871	50,359
Elementary and secondary regular instruction	10,306,342	10,306,820	10,065,974	(240,846)
Vocational education instruction	111,738	111,738	110,144	(1,594)
Special education instruction	3,414,749	3,414,749	3,515,777	101,028
Instructional support services	569,217	568,739	665,035	96,296
Pupil support services	1,888,277	1,888,277	1,965,030	76,753
Sites and buildings	1,641,508	1,641,508	1,633,071	(8,437)
Fiscal and other fixed cost programs	72,000	72,000	79,244	7,244
Capital outlay				
District support services	56,585	56,585	74,989	18,404
Elementary and secondary regular instruction	120,484	120,484	124,166	3,682
Instructional support services	86	86	86	-
Sites and buildings	616,344	1,123,989	1,164,604	40,615
Total expenditures	<u>20,785,145</u>	<u>21,292,790</u>	<u>21,442,422</u>	<u>149,632</u>
Excess of revenues over (under) expenditures	(608,008)	(562,227)	434,733	996,960
<b>Other Financing Sources</b>				
Insurance recovery	-	-	28,051	28,051
Net change in fund balances	<u>\$ (608,008)</u>	<u>\$ (562,227)</u>	462,784	<u>\$ 1,025,011</u>
<b>Fund Balances</b>				
Beginning of year			<u>5,049,181</u>	
End of year			<u>\$ 5,511,965</u>	

See notes to financial statements.

**Independent School District No. 876  
Statement of Fiduciary Net Position  
June 30, 2019**

	Trust Fund
<b>Assets</b>	
Cash and investments	\$ 162,179
<b>Net Position</b>	
Held in trust for scholarships	\$ 162,179

**Statement of Changes in Fiduciary Net Position  
Year Ended June 30, 2019**

	Trust Fund
<b>Additions</b>	
Contributions	\$ 79,929
Interest revenue	1,922
Total additions	81,851
<b>Deductions</b>	
Scholarships	114,930
Change in net position	(33,079)
<b>Net Position</b>	
Beginning of year	195,258
End of year	\$ 162,179

See notes to financial statements.

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**NOTE 1 – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

The District operates under a school board form of government for the purpose of providing educational services to individuals within the District areas. The governing body consists of a six member board elected by the voters of the District to serve four-year terms.

The accounting policies of the District conform to accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America as applicable to governmental units. The following is a summary of the more significant policies.

**A. Reporting Entity**

The financial statements present the District and its component units. The District includes all funds, organizations, institutions, agencies, departments, and offices that are not legally separate from such. Component units are legally separate organizations for which the elected officials of the District are financially accountable and are included within the financial statements of the District because of the significance of their operational or financial relationships with the District.

The District is considered financially accountable for a component unit if it appoints a voting majority of the organization's governing body and it is able to impose its will on the organization by significantly influencing the programs, projects, activities or level of services performed or provided by the organization, or there is a potential for the organization to provide specific financial benefits to or impose specific financial burdens on, the District.

As a result of applying the component unit definition criteria above, it has been determined the District has no component units.

The student activity accounts of the District are under School Board control and; therefore, no separate report is issued.

**B. Basic Financial Statement Information**

The government-wide financial statements (i.e. the Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities) display information about the reporting government as a whole. These statements include all the financial activities of the District, except for the fiduciary fund. The fiduciary fund is only reported in the Statement of Fiduciary Net Position and the Statement of Changes in Fiduciary Net Position at the fund financial statement level.

The Statement of Activities demonstrates the degree to which the direct expenses of a given function or segments are offset by program revenues. Direct expenses are those that are clearly identifiable with a specific function or segment. Program revenues include charges to customers or applicants who purchase, use, or directly benefit from goods, services, or privileges provided by a given function or segment and grants and contributions that are restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular function or segment. Taxes and other items not properly included among program revenues are reported instead as general revenues.

**NOTE 1 – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)**

**B. Basic Financial Statement Information (Continued)**

The District applies restricted resources first when an expense is incurred for a purpose for which both restricted and unrestricted net position are available. Depreciation expense that can be specifically identified by function is included in the direct expenses of that function. Depreciation expense relating to assets that serve multiple functions is presented as unallocated depreciation in the Statement of Activities. Interest on general long-term debt is considered an indirect expense and is reported separately in the Statement of Activities. The effect of interfund activity has been removed from these statements.

Separate fund financial statements are provided for governmental funds and the fiduciary fund, even though the latter is excluded from the government-wide financial statements. Major individual governmental funds are reported as separate columns in the fund financial statements.

The Trust Fund is presented in the fiduciary fund financial statements. Since by definition these assets are being held for the benefit of a third party (other local governments, private parties, etc.) and cannot be used to address activities or obligations of the District, this Fund is not incorporated into the government-wide statements.

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

The accounting and financial reporting treatment applied is determined by its measurement focus and basis of accounting. The government-wide financial statements are reported using the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting, as are the fiduciary fund financial statements. Revenues are recorded when earned and expenses are recorded when a liability is incurred, regardless of the timing of related cash flows. Governmental fund financial statements are reported using the current financial resources measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting. Under this basis of accounting transactions are recorded in the following manner.

**1. Revenue Recognition**

Revenue is recognized when it becomes measurable and available. "Measurable" means the amount of the transaction can be determined and "available" means collectible within the current period or soon enough thereafter to be used to pay liabilities of the current period. Property tax revenue is generally considered as available if collected within 60 days after year-end. State revenue is recognized in the year to which it applies according to *Minnesota Statutes* and accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. *Minnesota Statutes* include state aid funding formulas for specific years. Federal revenue is recorded in the year in which the related expenditure is made. Other revenue is considered available if collected within 60 days.

**2. Recording of Expenditures**

Expenditures are generally recorded when a liability is incurred. The exceptions to this general rule are interest and principal expenditures in the Debt Service Fund, compensated absences and claims and judgments are recognized when payment is due.

NOTE 1 – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

C. Measurement Focus and Basis of Accounting (Continued)

2. Recording of Expenditures (Continued)

The District applies resources in the following order when an expenditure is incurred for a purpose for which both restricted and unrestricted fund balances are available: restricted, committed, assigned, and unassigned, not including operating capital.

Description of Funds:

Major Funds:

General Fund – This fund is the basic operating fund of the District and is used to account for all financial resources except those required to be accounted for in another fund.

Debt Service Fund – This fund is used to account for the accumulation of resources for, and payment of, G.O. bond principal, interest, and related costs.

Nonmajor Funds:

Food Service Special Revenue Fund – This fund is used to account for food service revenues and expenditures.

Community Service Special Revenue Fund – This fund is used to account for services provided to residents in the areas of community education, school readiness, early childhood and family education or other similar services.

Capital Project Fund – This fund is used to account for financial resources used for the acquisition or construction of major capital facilities.

Fiduciary Fund:

Private Purpose Trust Fund – The Scholarship Trust Fund is used to account for resources received and held by the District in a trustee capacity to be used in making scholarship awards.

D. Deposits and Investments

Cash and investments include balances from all funds, except funds received from the 2016A G.O. School Building Bonds, that are combined and invested to the extent available in various securities as authorized by state law. Deposits and investments related to the 2016A Bonds are invested and held separately also as authorized by state law. Earnings from the pooled investments are allocated to the individual funds based on the average of month-end cash and investment balances.

NOTE 1 – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

D. Deposits and Investments (Continued)

The District categorizes its fair value measurements within the fair value hierarchy established by generally accepted accounting principles. The Hierarchy is based on the valuation inputs used to measure the fair value of the asset. Level 1 inputs are quoted prices in active markets for identical assets; Level 2 inputs are significant other observable inputs; Level 3 inputs are significant unobservable inputs. Investments held by investment pools are measured at amortized cost.

Cash and investments at June 30, 2019, were comprised of deposits, shares in the Minnesota School District Liquid Asset Fund (MSDLAF), negotiable certificates of deposits (CDs), and shares in MNTrust.

Minnesota Statutes requires all deposits be protected by federal depository insurance, corporate surety bonds, and collateral. The market value of collateral pledged must equal 110% of the deposits not covered by Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) insurance or corporate surety bonds.

Minnesota Statutes authorizes the District to invest in obligations of the U.S. Treasury, agencies, and instrumentalities, share of investment companies whose only investments are in the aforementioned securities, obligations of the State of Minnesota or its municipalities, bankers' acceptances, future contracts, repurchase and reverse repurchase agreements and commercial paper of the highest quality with a maturity of no longer than 270 days.

In accordance with GASB Statement No. 79, the various MSDLAF and MNTrust securities are valued at amortized cost, which approximates fair value. There are no restrictions or limitations on withdrawals from the MSDLAF or MNTrust Investment Shares Portfolio. Investments in the MSDLAF MAX must be deposited for a minimum of 14 calendar days with the exception of direct investments of funds distributed by the State of Minnesota. Withdrawals prior to the 14-day restriction period may be subject to a penalty and there is a 24 hour hold on all requests for redemptions. Seven days' notice of redemption is required for withdrawals of investments in the MNTrust Term Series withdrawn prior to the maturity date of that series. A penalty could be assessed as necessary to recoup the Series for any charges, losses, and other costs attributable to the early redemption. A 30-day advance notice is required for the MNTrust Limited Term Duration Series.

E. Property Tax Receivable

Current property taxes receivable are recorded for taxes certified the previous December and collectible in the current calendar year, which have not been received by the District. Delinquent property taxes receivable represent uncollected taxes for the past six years, and are deferred and included in the deferred inflows of resources section of the fund financial statements as unavailable revenue because they are not available to finance the operations of the District in the current year.

**NOTE 1 – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)**

**F. Property Taxes Levied for Subsequent Year's Expenditures**

Property taxes levied for subsequent year's expenditures consist principally of property taxes levied in the current year which will be collected and recognized as revenue in the District's following fiscal year to property match those revenues with the budgeted expenditures for which they were levied. This amount is equal to the amount levied by the School Board in December 2018, less various components and their related adjustments as mandated by the state. These portions of that levy were recognized as revenue in fiscal year 2019. The remaining portion of the levy will be recognized when measurable and available.

**G. Inventories**

Inventories of commodities donated directly by the U.S. Department of Agriculture are recorded at market value. Other inventories are stated at cost as determined on a first-in, first-out (FIFO) basis. Inventories are recorded as expenditures when consumed rather than when purchased.

**H. Prepaid Items**

Certain payments to vendors reflect costs applicable to future accounting periods and are recorded as prepaid items in both the government-wide and fund financial statements. Prepaid items are recorded as an expenditure at the time of consumption.

**I. Property Taxes**

The District levies its property tax during the month of December. December 28 is the last day the District can certify a tax levy to the County Auditor. Such taxes become a lien on January 1. The property tax is recorded as revenue when it becomes measurable and available. Meecker, Stearns, and Wright Counties are the collecting agencies for the levy and remit the collections to the District three times a year. The Tax levy notice is mailed in March with the first half of the payment due on May 15 and the second half due on October 15. Delinquent collections for November and December are received the following January.

A portion of property taxes levied is paid by the State of Minnesota through various tax credits, which are included in revenue from state sources in the financial statements.

**J. Capital Assets**

Capital assets are recorded in the government-wide financial statements, but are not reported in the fund financial statements.

Capital assets are defined by the District as assets with an initial individual cost of more than \$5,000 and an estimated useful life in excess of three years. Such assets are capitalized at historical cost, or estimated historical cost for assets where actual historical cost is not available. Donated assets are recorded as capital assets at its acquisition value at the date of donation.

The costs of normal maintenance and repairs that do not add to the value of the assets or materially extend the assets lives are not capitalized.

**NOTE 1 – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)**

**J. Capital Assets (Continued)**

Capital assets are depreciated using the half year convention method over their estimated useful lives. Since surplus assets are sold for an immaterial amount when declared as no longer needed for public school purpose by the District, no salvage value is taken into consideration for depreciation purpose. Useful lives vary from 20 to 50 years for land improvements and buildings and improvements and 3 to 20 years for machinery and equipment.

Capital assets not being depreciated include land and construction in progress. The District does not possess any material amounts of infrastructure capital assets, such as sidewalks and parking lots. Such items are considered to be part of the cost of buildings or other improvable property.

**K. Deferred Outflows/Inflows of Resources**

In addition to assets, the Statement of Financial Position will sometimes report a separate section for deferred outflows of resources. This separate financial statement element represents a consumption of net position that applies to a future period(s) and so will not be recognized as an outflow of resources (expense/expenditure) until that time. The District has two items that qualify for reporting in this category. Deferred outflows of resources related to pensions, and deferred outflows of resources related to OPEB are reported in the government-wide Statement of Net Position. Deferred outflows of resources related to pensions is recorded for various estimate differences that will be amortized and recognized over future years. Deferred outflows of resources related to OPEB is recorded for various estimate differences that will be amortized and recognized over future years.

In addition to liabilities, the Statement of Financial Position and fund financial statements will sometimes report a separate section for deferred inflows of resources. This separate financial statement element represents an acquisition of net position that applies to a future period(s) and so will not be recognized as an inflow of resources (revenue) until that time. The District has three types of items which qualify for reporting in this category. The first item, unavailable revenue from property taxes, arises under a modified accrual basis of accounting and is reported only in the Governmental Funds Balance Sheet. Delinquent property taxes not collected within 60 days of year-end are deferred and recognized as an inflow of resources in the governmental funds in the period the amounts become available. The second item is property taxes levied for subsequent years, which represent property taxes received or reported as a receivable before the period for which the taxes are levied, and is reported as a deferred inflow of resources in both the government-wide Statement of Net Position and the Governmental Funds Balance Sheet. Property taxes levied for subsequent years are deferred and recognized as an inflow of resources in the government-wide financial statements in the year for which they are levied and in the governmental fund financial statements during the year for which they are levied, if available. Deferred inflows of resources related to pensions is recorded on the government-wide statements for various estimate differences that will be amortized and recognized over future years.

**L. Long-Term Obligations**

In the government-wide financial statements long-term debt and other long term obligations are reported as liabilities in the applicable governmental activities Statement of Net Position. Bond premiums and discounts are deferred and amortized over the life of the bonds using the effective interest method. Bonds payable are reported net of the applicable bond premium or discount.



**NOTE 1 – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)**

**L. Long-Term Obligations (Continued)**

In the fund financial statements, governmental fund types recognize bond premiums and discounts, as well as bond issuance costs, during the current period. The face amount of debt issued is reported as an other financing source. Premiums received on debt issuances are reported as other financing source while discounts on debt issuances are reported as an other financing use. Issuance costs, whether or not withheld or not withheld from the actual debt proceeds received, are reported as debt service expenditures.

**M. Compensated Absences, Severance and Early Retirement Incentive Benefits Payable**

**1. Compensated Absences**

This is accrued vacation payable earned by certain District employees at varying increments that has not been used by year-end. The vacation liability is recorded as compensated absences payable in the government-wide financial statements.

**2. Early Retirement Incentive Benefits Compensated Absences**

The District maintains various early retirement incentive payment plans for some of its employee groups. Each employee group plan contains benefit formulas based on years of service and/or minimum age requirements. In addition, certain bargaining unit members are eligible to be compensated for unused accumulated sick leave upon termination subject to certain conditions.

**N. Pensions**

For purposes of measuring the net pension liability, deferred outflows/inflows of resources, and pension expense, information about the fiduciary net position of the Public Employees Retirement Association (PERA) and Teachers Retirement Association (TRA) and additions to/deductions from PERA's and TRA's fiduciary net position have been determined on the same basis as they are reported by PERA and TRA. For this purpose, plan contributions are recognized as of employer payroll paid dates and benefit payments and refunds are recognized when due and payable in accordance with the benefit terms. Investments are reported at fair value.

TRA has a special funding situation created by direct aid contributions made by the State of Minnesota, City of Minneapolis, and Minneapolis School District. The direct aid is a result of the merger of the Minneapolis Teachers Retirement Fund Association merger into TRA in 2006. A second direct aid source is from the State of Minnesota for the merger of the Duluth Teacher's Retirement Fund Association (DTRFA) in 2015.

**O. Risk Management**

The District is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts: theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; natural disasters; and injuries to employees for which the District carries commercial insurance. Settled claims have not exceeded this commercial coverage in any of the past three years. There were no significant reductions in the District's insurance coverage during the year ending June 30, 2019.

**NOTE 1 – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)**

**P. Fund Equity**

**1. Classifications**

In the fund financial statements, governmental funds report fund classifications that compromise a hierarchy based primarily on the extent to which the District is bound to honor the constraints on the specific purpose for which amounts in these funds can be spent.

- **Nonspendable Fund Balance** – These are amounts that cannot be spent because they are not in spendable form as they are legally or contractually required to be maintained intact and include items that are inherently unspendable, such as, but not limited to, inventories and prepaid items.
- **Restricted Fund Balance** – These are amounts that are comprised of funds that have legally enforceable constraints placed on their use that either are externally imposed by resource providers or creditors (such as through debt covenants), grantors, contributors, voters, or laws or regulations of other governments, or are imposed by law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation.
- **Committed Fund Balance** – These are amounts that can only be used for specific purposes pursuant to constraints imposed by formal action by majority vote of the School Board.
- **Assigned Fund Balance** – These are amounts that are constrained by the District's intent to be used for specific purposes but are neither restricted nor committed. The School Board, by a majority vote, may assign balances. The School Board also delegates authority to assign fund balances to the Superintendent or Business Manager.
- **Unassigned Fund Balance** – These are amounts that are the residual amounts in the General Fund not reported in any other classification. Unassigned amounts in the General Fund are technically available for expenditure for any purpose. The General Fund is the only fund that can report a positive unassigned fund balance. Other funds would report a negative unassigned fund balance should the total of nonspendable, restricted, and committed fund balances exceed the total net resources of that fund.

**2. Minimum Fund Balance**

**Minimum Fund Balance Policy** – The District shall strive to maintain a General Fund unassigned fund balance of one and a half months of operating expenditures.

**Q. Net Position**

Net position represents the difference between assets and deferred outflows of resources; and liabilities and deferred inflows of resources in the government-wide financial statements. Net investment in capital assets consists of capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation, reduced by the outstanding balance of any long-term debt used to build or acquire the capital assets. Net position is reported as restricted in the government-wide financial statement when there are limitations on their use through external restrictions imposed by creditors, grantors, or laws or regulations of other governments.

**NOTE 1 – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)**

**R. Use of Estimates**

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements. Estimates also affect the reported amounts of revenue and expenditures/expense during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

**S. Budgetary Information**

The District follows these procedures in establishing the budgetary data reflected in the financial statements:

1. Prior to July 1, the School Superintendent submits to the School Board, a proposed operating budget for the year commencing the following July 1. The operating budget includes proposed expenditures and the means of financing them.
2. The Superintendent is authorized to transfer budgeted amounts between departments within any fund; however, any revisions that alter the total expenditures of any fund must be approved by the School Board.
3. Formal budgetary integration is employed as a management control device during the year for the General, Special Revenue, Capital Project, and Debt Service Funds and are adopted on a basis consistent with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.
4. Budgets are as originally adopted or as amended by the School Board. Budgeted expenditure appropriations lapse at year-end.

**NOTE 2 – DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS**

**A. Deposits**  
In accordance with applicable *Minnesota Statutes*, the District maintains deposits at depository banks authorized by the District's School Board.

**Custodial Credit Risk – Deposits:** This is the risk that in the event of a bank failure, the District's deposits may not be returned to it. The District has a policy in place to address custodial credit risk for deposits, stating all deposits must be in compliance with *Minnesota Statutes* 118A. The District's bank balance was not exposed to custodial credit risk because it was insured and fully collateralized with securities held by pledging financial institutions trust department or agent and in the District's name.

**NOTE 2 – DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS (CONTINUED)**

**A. Deposits (Continued)**

As of June 30, 2019, the District had the following pooled deposits:

Checking	\$ 3,880,155
Savings	547,688
Certificates of deposit	1,267,528
<b>Total deposits</b>	<b>\$ 5,695,371</b>

As of June 30, 2019, the District had the following non-pooled deposits:

MNTrust Savings Deposit Account	\$ 523,886
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**B. Investments**

As of June 30, 2019, the District had the following investments:

Investment	Fair Value	Maturity		Rating
		0-1 Year	1-2 Years	
<b>Pooled</b>				
MSDLAF	\$ 1,845	\$ 1,845	\$ -	AAAm
Negotiable CDs	492,477	-	492,477	N/A
MN Trust Limited Term Duration	750,000	750,000	-	N/A
MN Trust Term Series	1,450,000	-	-	AAAm
MN Trust Investment Shares Portfolio	352,621	352,621	-	AAAm
<b>Total pooled investments</b>	<b>\$ 3,046,943</b>	<b>\$ 2,554,466</b>	<b>\$ 492,477</b>	
<b>Non-pooled</b>				
MN Trust Investment Shares Portfolio	\$ 613	\$ 613	\$ -	AAAm

**Credit Risk:** This is the risk an issuer or other counterparty to an investment will not fulfill its obligations. *Minnesota Statutes* 118A.04 and 118A.05 limit investments in the top two ratings issued by nationally recognized statistical rating organizations. The District's investment policy limits its investments to those specified in these Statutes. Investments are rated as indicated in the table above.

**Concentration of Credit Risk:** This is the risk of loss attributed to the magnitude of a District's investment in a single issuer. The District's investment policy states the District will attempt to diversify their investments to avoid incurring unreasonable risks inherent in over investing in specific instruments, individual financial institutions, or maturities. The policy states investment maturities shall be scheduled to coincide with projected District cash flow needs. Portfolio maturities shall be staggered to avoid undue concentration of assets and a specific maturity sector. The policy does not state the maximum percentage of the District's investment portfolio that may be invested in a single type of investment instrument.

**NOTE 2 – DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS (CONTINUED)**

**B. Investments (Continued)**

Interest Rate Risk: This is the risk that the market value of securities in a portfolio would decrease due to changes in market interest rates. The District's investments policy states the District shall manage investments in a manner to attain a market rate of return through various economic and budgetary cycles, while preserving and protecting the capital in the investment portfolio and taking into account constraints on risk and cash flow requirements.

Custodial Credit Risk – Investments: For investments, this is the risk that in the event of the failure of the counterparty, the District will not be able to recover the value of its investments of securities that are in the possession of an outside party. The District's investment policy states all investments shall be held in third party safekeeping by an institution designated as custodial agent.

The District has the following recurring fair value measurements as of June 30, 2019:

- \$492,477 are valued using a matrix pricing model (Level 2 inputs)

**C. Deposits and Investments**

Summary of total cash, deposits, and investments as of June 30, 2019:

Petty Cash	\$ 400
Deposits - pooled (Note 2.A.)	5,695,371
Deposits - nonpooled (Note 2.A.)	523,886
Investments - pooled (Note 2.B.)	3,046,943
Investments - nonpooled (Note 2.B.)	613
Total deposits and investments	<u>\$ 9,267,213</u>

Cash and investments are presented in the June 30, 2019, basic financial statements as follows:

Statement of Net Position	
Cash and investments	\$ 9,105,034
Statement of Fiduciary Net Position	
Private purpose trust fund - cash and investments	<u>162,179</u>
Total deposits and investments	<u>\$ 9,267,213</u>

**NOTE 3 – CAPITAL ASSETS**

Capital asset activity for the year ended June 30, 2019, was as follows:

	Beginning Balance	Increases	Decreases	Ending Balance
Governmental activities				
Capital assets not being depreciated				
Land	\$ 51,400	\$ 970,236	\$ -	\$ 1,021,636
Construction in progress	5,271,568	236,000	1,180,594	4,326,974
Total capital assets not being depreciated	<u>5,322,968</u>	<u>1,206,236</u>	<u>1,180,594</u>	<u>5,348,610</u>
Capital assets being depreciated				
Land improvements	1,590,428	70,007	6,500	1,653,935
Buildings and improvements	44,612,344	1,345,347	74,754	45,882,937
Machinery and equipment	2,318,980	79,011	6,154	2,391,837
Total capital assets being depreciated	<u>48,521,752</u>	<u>1,494,365</u>	<u>87,408</u>	<u>49,928,709</u>
Less accumulated depreciation for				
Land improvements	1,159,085	43,367	1,300	1,201,152
Buildings and improvements	12,349,650	1,020,000	54,821	13,314,829
Machinery and equipment	1,404,407	151,386	6,154	1,549,639
Total accumulated depreciation	<u>14,913,142</u>	<u>1,214,753</u>	<u>62,275</u>	<u>16,065,620</u>
Total capital assets being depreciated, net	<u>33,608,610</u>	<u>279,612</u>	<u>25,133</u>	<u>33,863,089</u>
Governmental activities, capital assets, net	<u>\$ 38,931,578</u>	<u>\$ 1,485,848</u>	<u>\$ 1,205,727</u>	<u>\$ 39,211,699</u>

**Independent School District No. 876**  
**Notes to Financial Statements**

**NOTE 3 – CAPITAL ASSETS (CONTINUED)**

Depreciation expense of \$1,214,753 for the year ended June 30, 2019, was charged to the following governmental functions:

Administration	\$ 3,089
District support services	6,579
Elementary and secondary regular instruction	51,688
Instructional support services	9,617
Food service	15,298
Community service	1,510
Sites and buildings	56,950
Unallocated	<u>1,070,022</u>
Total depreciation expense	<u>\$ 1,214,753</u>

**NOTE 4 – LONG-TERM DEBT**

**A. Components of Long-Term Liabilities**

Long-term liabilities	Issue Date	Interest Rates	Original Issue	Final Maturity	Principal Outstanding	Due Within One Year
G.O. Bonds						
2011A Building Bonds	07/19/11	2.00%-4.25%	27,510,000	02/01/22	\$ 19,498,000	\$ 1,220,000
2016A School Building Bonds	02/18/16	2.00%-2.50%	3,905,000	02/01/20	3,905,000	295,000
Total G.O. Bonds					23,500,000	1,515,000
Bond Premium					606,949	-
Total G.O. bonds, net of unamortized premium					24,106,949	1,515,000
Compensated absences					76,427	55,000
Total long-term liabilities					\$ 24,183,376	\$ 1,570,000

The long-term bond liabilities listed above were issued to finance acquisition and construction of capital facilities or to refinance (refund) previous bond issues. Bond principal will be repaid from the Debt Service Fund and compensated absences will be paid from the General Fund.

**Independent School District No. 876**  
**Notes to Financial Statements**

**NOTE 4 – LONG-TERM DEBT (CONTINUED)**

**B. Minimum Debt Payments for Bonds**

Minimum annual principal and interest payments required to retire the bond liabilities:

Year Ending June 30,	Principal	Interest	Total
2020	\$ 1,515,000	\$ 861,838	\$ 2,376,838
2021	1,570,000	807,138	2,377,138
2022	1,625,000	750,638	2,375,638
2023	1,680,000	692,237	2,372,237
2024	1,740,000	631,937	2,371,937
2025-2029	9,590,000	2,232,962	11,822,962
2030-2032	5,780,000	465,750	6,245,750
Total	\$ 23,500,000	\$ 6,442,500	\$ 29,942,500

**C. Changes in Long-Term Liabilities**

	Beginning Balance	Additions	Reductions	Ending Balance
Long-term liabilities	\$ 24,950,000	\$ -	\$ 1,450,000	\$ 23,500,000
Bonds payable	658,576	-	51,627	606,949
Bond premium	80,663	91,741	95,977	76,427
Compensated absences				
Total long-term liabilities	\$ 25,689,239	\$ 91,741	\$ 1,597,604	\$ 24,183,376

Independent School District No. 876  
Notes to Financial Statements

**NOTE 5 – FUND BALANCES/NET POSITION**

Certain portions of fund balance are reserved based on state requirements to track special program funding, to provide for funding on certain long-term liabilities or as required by other outside parties.

**Fund Equity**

Fund equity balances are classified below and on the following page to reflect the limitations and restrictions of the respective funds.

	General Fund	Debt Service	Other Nonmajor Funds	Total
Nonspendable for Inventory	\$ 2,238	\$ -	\$ 28,241	\$ 30,479
Prepaid items	112,668	-	-	112,668
Total nonspendable	114,906	-	28,241	143,147
Restricted/Reserved for Staff Development	113,405	-	-	113,405
Operating Capital	1,038,337	-	-	1,038,337
Community Education	-	-	280,119	280,119
Early Childhood and Family Education	-	-	29,060	29,060
School Readiness	-	-	392,579	392,579
Fund Purpose	-	541,564	362,894	904,458
Total restricted/reserved	1,151,742	541,564	1,064,652	2,757,958
Committed for Separation Benefits	469,514	-	-	469,514
Assigned for Student Activities	215,052	-	-	215,052
Q-Compensation	303,159	-	-	303,159
Total assigned	518,211	-	-	518,211
Unassigned for Long-term Facilities Maintenance	(610,135)	-	-	(610,135)
General Purpose	3,867,727	-	-	3,867,727
Total unassigned	3,257,592	-	-	3,257,592
Total fund balance	\$ 5,511,965	\$ 541,564	\$ 1,092,893	\$ 7,146,422

Nonspendable for Inventory – This balance represents the portion of fund balance that is not available as amounts have already been spent on inventory.

Nonspendable for Prepaid Items – This balance represents the portion of fund balance that is not available as the amounts have already been spent by the District on items for the next year.

Independent School District No. 876  
Notes to Financial Statements

**NOTE 5 – FUND BALANCES/NET POSITION (CONTINUED)**

**Fund Balance (Continued)**

Restricted/Reserved for Staff Development – This balance represents unspent staff development revenues set aside from general education revenue that were restricted/reserved for staff development related to Finance code 316. Expenditures for staff development must equal at least 2% of the basic general education revenue, unless legal stipulations are met (*Minnesota Statutes* 122A.61, subd. 1).

Restricted/Reserved for Operating Capital – This balance represents available resources in the General Fund to be used to purchase equipment and facilities.

Restricted/Reserved for Community Education – This balance represents the resources available to provide programming such as: nonvocational, recreational and leisure time activities, programs for adults with disabilities, noncredit summer programs, adult basic education programs, youth development and youth service programming, early childhood and family education, and extended day programs.

Restricted/Reserved for Early Childhood and Family Education – This balance represents the resources available to provide for services for early childhood and family education programming.

Restricted/Reserved for School Readiness – This balance represents the resources available to provide for services for school readiness programs (*Minnesota Statutes* 124D.16).

Restricted for Fund Purpose – This balance represents the accumulation of the activity to provide the food service program, debt service costs and construction costs.

Committed for Separation Benefits – This balance represents the resources set aside for the payment of retirement benefits.

Assigned for Student Activities – This balance represents the aggregate activity for student accounts under School Board control.

Assigned for Q-Compensation – This balance represents resources set aside for payments required through the teachers' Q-Compensation Program.

Unassigned for Long-Term Facilities Maintenance (LTFM) – This balance represents available resources to be used for LTFM projects in accordance with the ten year plan (*Minnesota Statutes* 123B.595, subd. 12). The balance is classified as unassigned as the balance was negative at year-end.

**Net Position**

Net position restricted for other purposes on the Statement of Net Position is comprised of the total positive restricted net position of the General Fund, Food Service, and Community Service Funds.

**NOTE 6 – DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS – STATE-WIDE**

The District participates in various pension plans, total pension expense for the year ended June 30, 2018, was (\$4,025,390). The components of pension expense are noted in the following plan summaries.

**NOTE 6 – DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS – STATE-WIDE (CONTINUED)**

The General Fund typically liquidates the Liability related to the pensions.

**Teachers' Retirement Association**

**A. Plan Description**

The Teachers Retirement Association (TRA) is an administrator of a multiple employer, cost-sharing, defined benefit retirement fund. TRA administers a Basic Plan (without Social Security coverage) and a Coordinated Plan (with Social Security coverage) in accordance with *Minnesota Statutes*, Chapters 354 and 356. TRA is a separate statutory entity and administered by a Board of Trustees. The Board consists of four active members, one retired member, and three statutory officials.

Educators employed in Minnesota's public elementary and secondary school, charter schools, and certain educational institutions maintained by the state are required to be TRA members (except those teachers employed by the cities of Duluth and St. Paul Public Schools or Minnesota State Colleges and Universities. Educators first hired by Minnesota State may elect either TRA coverage or coverage through Minnesota State's Individual Retirement Account Plan (IRAP) within one year of eligible employment.

**B. Benefits Provided**

TRA provides retirement benefits as well as disability benefits to members, and benefits to survivors upon death of eligible members. Benefits are established by *Minnesota Statute* and vest after three years of service credit. The defined retirement benefits are based on a member's highest average salary for any five consecutive years of allowable service, age and a formula multiplier based on years of credit at termination of service.

Two methods are used to compute benefits for TRA's Coordinated and Basic Plan members. Members first employed before July 1, 1989, receive the greater of the Tier I or Tier II benefits as described.

**Tier I Benefits**

Tier I	Step Rate Formula	Percentage
Basic	First ten years of service All years after	2.2% per year 2.7% per year
Coordinated	First ten years if service years are up to July 1, 2006 First ten years if service years are July 1, 2006, or after All other years of service if service years are up to July 1, 2006 All other years of service if service years are July 1, 2006, or after	1.2% per year 1.4% per year 1.7% per year 1.9% per year

**NOTE 6 – DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS – STATE-WIDE (CONTINUED)**

**Teachers' Retirement Association (Continued)**

**B. Benefits Provided (Continued)**

With these provisions:

- Normal retirement age is 65 with less than 30 years of allowable service and age 62 with 30 or more years of allowable service.
- 3% per year early retirement reduction factor for all years under normal retirement age.
- Unreduced benefits for early retirement under a Rule of 90 (age plus allowable service equals 90 or more).

**Tier II Benefits**

For years of service prior to July 1, 2006, a level formula of 1.7% per year for coordinated members and 2.7% per year for basic members is applied. For years of service July 1, 2006, and after, a level formula of 1.9% per year for Coordinated members and 2.7% for Basic members applies. Beginning July 1, 2015, the early retirement reduction factors are based on rates established under *Minnesota Statute*. Smaller reductions, more favorable to the member, will be applied to individuals who reach age 62 and have 30 years or more of service credit.

Members first employed after June 30, 1989, receive only the Tier II calculation with a normal retirement age that is their retirement age for full Social Security retirement benefits, but not to exceed age 66.

Six different types of annuities are available to members upon retirement. The No Refund Life Plan is a lifetime annuity that ceases upon the death of the retiree – no survivor annuity is payable. A retiring member may also choose to provide survivor benefits to a designated beneficiary(ies) by selecting one of the five plans that have survivorship features. Vested members may also leave their contributions in the TRA Fund upon termination of service in order to qualify for a deferred annuity at retirement age. Any member terminating service is eligible for a refund of their employee contributions plus interest.

The benefit provisions stated apply to active plan participants. Vested, terminated employees who are entitled to benefits but not yet receiving them are bound by the plan provisions in effect at the time they last terminated their public service.

NOTE 6 – DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS – STATE-WIDE (CONTINUED)

Teachers' Retirement Association (Continued)

C. Contribution Rate

Per *Minnesota Statutes*, Chapter 354 sets the contribution rates for employees and employers. Rates for each fiscal year ended June 30, 2017, June 30, 2018, and June 30, 2019, were:

	June 30, 2017		June 30, 2018		June 30, 2019	
	Employee	Employer	Employee	Employer	Employee	Employer
Basic	11.0%	11.5%	11.0%	11.5%	11.0%	11.71%
Coordinated	7.5%	7.5%	7.5%	7.5%	7.5%	7.71%

The following is a reconciliation of employer contributions in TRA's CAFR "Statement of Changes in Fiduciary Net Position" to the employer contributions used in Schedule of Employer and Non-Employer Pension Allocations. Amounts are reported in thousands.

Employer contributions reported in TRA's CAFR Statement of Changes in Fiduciary Net Position	\$ 378,728
Deduct employer contributions not related to future contribution efforts	522
Deduct TRA's contributions not included in allocation	(471)
Total employer contributions	378,779
Total non-employer contributions	35,588
Total contributions reported in <i>Schedule of Employer and Non-Employer Allocations</i>	\$ 414,367

Amounts reported in the allocation schedules may not precisely agree with financial statement amounts or actuarial valuations due to the number of decimal places used in the allocations. TRA has rounded percentage amounts to the nearest ten thousandths.

NOTE 6 – DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS – STATE-WIDE (CONTINUED)

Teachers' Retirement Association (Continued)

D. Actuarial Assumptions

The total pension liability in the June 30, 2018, actuarial valuation was determined using the following actuarial assumptions, applied to all periods included in the measurement.

Key Methods and Assumptions Used in Valuation of Total Pension Liability	
<b>Actuarial Information</b>	
Valuation date	July 1, 2018
Experience study	June 5, 2015
Actuarial cost method	November 6, 2017 (economic assumptions)
Actuarial assumptions	Entry Age Normal
Investment rate of return	7.50%
Price inflation	2.50%
Wage growth rate	2.85% for ten years and 3.25% thereafter
Projected salary increase	2.85% to 8.85% for ten years and 3.25% to 9.25% thereafter
Cost of living adjustment	1.0% for January 2019 through January 2023, then increasing by 0.1% each year up to 1.5% annually.
<b>Mortality Assumptions</b>	
Pre-retirement	RP 2014 white collar employee table, male rates set back six years and female rates set back five years. Generational projection uses the MP 2015 scale.
Post-retirement	RP 2014 white collar annuitant table, male rates set back three years and female rates set back three years, with further adjustments of the rates. Generational projections uses the MP 2015 scale.
Post-disability	RP 2014 disabled retiree mortality table, without adjustment.

NOTE 6 – DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS – STATE-WIDE (CONTINUED)

Teachers' Retirement Association (Continued)

D. Actuarial Assumptions (Continued)

The long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments was determined using a building-block method in which best-estimate ranges of expected future real rates of return (expected returns, net of pension plan investment expense, and inflation) are developed for each major asset class. These ranges are combined to produce the long-term expected rate of return by weighting the expected future real rates of return by the target asset allocation percentage and by adding expected inflation. The target allocation and best estimates of geometric real rates of return for each major asset class are summarized in the table below:

Asset Class	Allocations as of June 30, 2018	Final Target Allocation	Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return
Domestic stocks	33 %	36 %	5.10 %
International stocks	16	17	5.30
Private markets	25	25	5.90
Fixed income	16	20	0.75
Treasuries	8	0	0.50
Unallocated cash	2	2	0.00
Total	100 %	100 %	

The TRA actuary has determined the average of the expected remaining services lives of all members for fiscal year 2016 is six years. The "Difference Between Expected and Actual Experience", "Changes of Assumptions", and "Changes in Proportion" use the amortization period of six years in the schedule presented. The amortization period for "Net Difference between Projected and Actual Investment Earnings on Pension Plan Investments" is over a period of five years as required by GASB 68.

Changes in actuarial assumptions since the 2017 valuation:

- The cost of living adjustment (COLA) was reduced from 2.0% each January 1 to 1.0%, effective January 1, 2019. Beginning January 1, 2024, the COLA will increase 0.1% each year until reaching the ultimate rate of 1.5% on January 1, 2028.
- Beginning July 1, 2024, eligibility for the first COLA changes to normal retirement age (age 65 to 66, depending on date of birth). However, members who retire under Rule of 90 and members who are at least age 62 with 30 years of service credit are exempt.
- The COLA trigger provision, which would have increased the COLA to 2.5% if the funded ratio was at least 90% for two consecutive years, was eliminated.

NOTE 6 – DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS – STATE-WIDE (CONTINUED)

Teachers' Retirement Association (Continued)

D. Actuarial Assumptions (Continued)

- Augmentation in the early retirement reduction factors is phased out over a five-year period beginning July 1, 2019, and ending July 1, 2024 (this reduces early retirement benefits). Members who retire and are at least age 62 with 30 years of service are exempt.
- Augmentation on deferred benefits will be reduced to zero percent beginning July 1, 2019. Interest payable on refunds to members was reduced from 4.0% to 3.0%, effective July 1, 2018. Interest due on payments and purchases from members, employers was reduced from 8.5% to 7.5%, effective July 1, 2018.
- The employer contribution rate is increased each July 1 over the next 6 years (7.71% in 2018, 7.92% in 2019, 8.13% in 2020, 8.34% in 2021, 8.55% in 2022, and 8.75% in 2023). In addition, the employee contribution rate will increase from 7.50% to 7.75% on July 1, 2023. The state provides funding for the higher employer contribution rate through an adjustment in the school aid formula.

E. Discount Rate

The discount rate used to measure the total pension liability was 7.5%. This is an increase from the discount rate at the prior measurement date of 5.12%. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed that employee contributions will be made at the fiscal 2018 contribution rate, contributions from school districts will be made at contractually required rates (actuarially determined), and contributions from the state will be made at current statutorily required rates. Based on those assumptions, the pension plan's fiduciary net position was not projected to be depleted and, as a result, the Municipal Bond Index Rate was not used in the determination of the Single Equivalent Interest Rate (SEIR).

F. Net Pension Liability

On June 30, 2019, the District reported a liability of \$10,074,621 for its proportionate share of the net pension liability. The net pension liability was measured as of June 30, 2018, and the total pension liability used to calculate the net pension liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of that date. The District's proportion of the net pension liability was based on the District's contributions to TRA in relation to total system contributions including direct aid from the State of Minnesota, City of Minneapolis, and Minneapolis School District. The District's proportionate share was 0.1604% at the end of the measurement period and 0.1574% for the beginning of the year.

The pension liability amount reflected a reduction due to direct aid provided to TRA. The amount recognized by the District as its proportionate share of the net pension liability, the direct aid and total portion of the net pension liability that was associated with the District were as follows:

District's proportionate share of net pension liability	\$ 10,074,621
State's proportionate share of the net pension liability associated with the District	946,703



NOTE 6 – DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS – STATE-WIDE (CONTINUED)

Teachers' Retirement Association (Continued)

F. Net Pension Liability (Continued)

For the year ended June 30, 2019, the District recognized pension expense of (\$4,157,968). It recognized (\$660,737) as an increase to this pension expense for the support provided by direct aid.

On June 30, 2019, the District had deferred resources related to pensions from the following sources:

	Deferred Outflows of Resources	Deferred Inflows of Resources
Differences between expected and actual experience	\$ 108,669	\$ 199,791
Net difference between projected and actual earnings on plan investment	-	814,599
Changes of assumptions	12,474,967	17,111,367
Changes in proportion	1,181,077	60,732
Contributions to TRA subsequent to the measurement date	708,101	-
Total	\$ 14,472,814	\$ 18,186,489

\$708,101 reported as deferred outflows of resources related to pensions resulting from District contributions to TRA subsequent to the measurement date will be recognized as a reduction of the net pension liability in the year ended June 30, 2020.

Other amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources and (deferred inflows of resources) will be recognized in pension expense as follows:

Year Ended June 30,	Pension Expense Amount
2020	\$ 1,027,112
2021	693,222
2022	82,774
2023	(3,601,983)
2024	(2,622,901)
Total	\$ (4,421,776)

NOTE 6 – DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS – STATE-WIDE (CONTINUED)

Teachers' Retirement Association (Continued)

G. Pension Liability Sensitivity

The following presents the District's proportionate share of the net pension liability calculated using the discount rate of 7.5% as well as what the net pension liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1 percent lower (6.5%) and 1 percent higher (8.5%) than the current rate.

	District proportionate share of NPL		
	1% decrease (6.5%)	Current (7.5%)	1% increase (8.5%)
	\$ 15,988,383	\$ 10,074,621	\$ 5,195,807

The District's proportion of the net pension liability was based on the employer contributions to TRA in relation to TRA's total employer contributions including direct aid contributions from the State of Minnesota, City of Minneapolis, and Minneapolis School District.

H. Pension Plan Fiduciary Net Position

Detailed information about the plan's fiduciary net position is available in a separately-issued TRA financial report. That can be obtained at [www.MinnesotaTRA.org](http://www.MinnesotaTRA.org), or by writing to TRA at 60 Empire Drive, Suite 400, St. Paul, MN, 55103-4000, or by calling (651) 296-2409 or (800) 657-3669.

Public Employees' Retirement Association

A. Plan Description

The District participates in the following cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan administered by PERA. PERA's defined benefit pension plan is established and administered in accordance with *Minnesota Statutes*, Chapters 353 and 356. PERA's defined benefit pension plan is a tax qualified plan under Section 401(a) of the Internal Revenue Code.

General Employees Retirement Plan

All full-time and certain part-time employees of the District other than teachers are covered by the General Employees Plan. General Employees Plan members belong to the Coordinated Plan. Coordinated Plan members are covered by Social Security.

B. Benefits Provided

PERA provides retirement, disability, and death benefits. Benefit provisions are established by state statute and can only be modified by the state Legislature. Vested, terminated employees who are entitled to benefits but are not receiving them yet are bound by the provisions in effect at the time they last terminated their public service.

**NOTE 6 – DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS – STATE-WIDE (CONTINUED)**

**Public Employees' Retirement Association (Continued)**

**B. Benefits Provided (Continued)**

General Employees Plan Benefits

General Employees Plan benefits are based on a member's highest average salary for any five successive years of allowable service, age, and years of credit at termination of service. Two methods are used to compute benefits for PERA's Coordinated Plan members. Members hired prior to July 1, 1989, receive the higher of Method 1 or Method 2 formulas. Only Method 2 is used for members hired after June 30, 1989. Under Method 1 the annuity accrual rate for a Coordinated Plan member is 1.2% of average salary for each of the first ten years of service and 1.7% for each additional year. Under Method 2, the annuity accrual rate is 1.7% for Coordinated Plan members for all years of service. For members hired prior to July 1, 1989, a full annuity is available when age plus years of service equal 90 and normal retirement age is 65. For members hired on or after July 1, 1989, normal retirement age is the age for unreduced Social Security benefits capped at 66.

Beginning January 1, 2019, benefit recipients will receive a future annual increase equal to 50% of the Social Security Cost of Living Adjustment, not less than 1.0% and not more than 1.5%. For retirements on or after January 1, 2024, the first benefit increase is delayed until the retiree reaches Normal Retirement Age (not applicable to Rule of 90 retirees, disability benefit recipients, or survivors). A benefit recipient who has been receiving a benefit for at least 12 full months as of June 30, will receive a full increase. Members receiving benefits for at least one month but less than 12 full months as of June 30, will receive a pro rata increase.

**C. Contributions**

*Minnesota Statutes* Chapter 353 set the rates for employer and employee contributions. Contribution rates can only be modified by the state legislature.

General Employees Fund Contributions

Coordinated Plan members were required to contribute 6.5% of their annual covered salary in fiscal year 2019 and the District was required to contribute 7.5% for Coordinated Plan members. The District's contributions to the General Employees Fund for the year ended June 30, 2019, were \$238,541. The District's contributions were equal to the required contributions as set by state statute.

**NOTE 6 – DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS – STATE-WIDE (CONTINUED)**

**Public Employees' Retirement Association (Continued)**

**D. Pension Costs**

General Employees Fund Pension Costs

At June 30, 2019, the District reported a liability of \$2,446,487 for its proportionate share of the General Employees Fund's net pension liability. The District's net pension liability reflected a reduction due to the State of Minnesota's contribution of \$16 million. The State of Minnesota is considered a non-employer contributing entity and the State's contribution meets the definition of a special funding situation. The State of Minnesota's proportionate share of the net pension liability associated with the District totaled \$80,167. The net pension liability was measured as of June 30, 2018, and the total pension liability used to calculate the net pension liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of that date. The District's proportion of the net pension liability was based on the District's contributions received by PERA during the measurement period for employer payroll paid dates from July 1, 2017, through June 30, 2018, relative to the total employer contributions received from all of PERA's participating employers. At June 30, 2018, the District's proportionate share was 0.0444% at the end of the measurement period and 0.0444% for the beginning of the period.

School's proportionate share of net pension liability	\$ 2,446,487
State of Minnesota's proportionate share of the net pension liability associated with the School	<u>80,167</u>
Total	<u>\$ 2,526,654</u>

For the year ended June 30, 2019, the District recognized pension expense of \$132,578 for its proportionate share of the General Employees Plan's pension expense. Included in this amount, the District recognized \$18,695 as pension expense (and grant revenue) for its proportionate share of the State of Minnesota's contribution of \$16 million to the General Employees Fund.

**NOTE 6 – DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS – STATE-WIDE (CONTINUED)**

**Public Employees' Retirement Association (Continued)**

**D. Pension Costs (Continued)**

At June 30, 2019, the District reported its proportionate share of deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources, and its contributions subsequent to the measurement date, from the following sources:

	Deferred Outflows of Resources	Deferred Inflows of Resources
Differences between expected and actual economic experience	\$ 65,174	\$ 70,059
Changes in actuarial assumptions	229,461	276,169
Difference between projected and actual investments earnings	-	259,209
Change in proportion	56,319	14,364
Contributions paid to PERA subsequent to the measurement date	<u>238,541</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 589,495</b>	<b>\$ 619,801</b>

\$238,541 reported as deferred outflows of resources related to pensions resulting from District contributions subsequent to the measurement date will be recognized as a reduction of the net pension liability in the year ended June 30, 2020. Other amounts reported as deferred outflows and inflows of resources related to pensions will be recognized in pension expense as follows:

Year Ended June 30,	Pension Expense
2020	\$ 104,697
2021	(118,369)
2022	(204,113)
2023	(51,062)
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ (268,847)</b>

**NOTE 6 – DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS – STATE-WIDE (CONTINUED)**

**Public Employees' Retirement Association (Continued)**

**E. Actuarial Assumptions**

The total pension liability in the June 30, 2018, actuarial valuation was determined using an individual entry-age normal actuarial cost method and the following actuarial assumptions:

Inflation	2.50 % Per year
Active member payroll growth	3.25 % Per year
Investment rate of return	7.50 %

Salary increases were based on a service-related table. Mortality rates for active members, retirees, survivors, and disability beneficiaries were based on RP 2014 tables for males or females, as appropriate, with slight adjustments to fit PERA's experience. Cost of living benefit increases after retirement for retirees are assumed to be 1.25% per year.

Actuarial assumptions used in the June 30, 2018, valuation were based on the results of actuarial experience studies. The most recent six-year experience study in the General Employees Plan was completed in 2015. Economic assumptions were updated in 2017 based on a review of inflation and investment return assumptions.

The following changes in actuarial assumptions occurred in 2018:

Changes in Actuarial Assumptions:

- The mortality projection scale was changed from MP-2015 to MP-2017.
- The assumed benefit increase was changed from 1.0% per year through 2044 and 2.5% per year thereafter to 1.25% per year.

Changes in Plan Provisions:

- The augmentation adjustment in early retirement factors is eliminated over a five-year period starting July 1, 2019, resulting in actuarial equivalence after June 30, 2024.
- Interest credited on member contributions decreased from 4.0% to 3.0%, beginning July 1, 2018.
- Deferred augmentation was changed to 0.0%, effective January 1, 2019. Augmentation that has already accrued for deferred members will still apply.
- Contribution stabilizer provisions were repealed.
- Post-retirement benefit increases were changed from 1.0% per year with a provision to increase to 2.5% upon attainment of 90% funding ratio to 50% of the Social Security Cost of Living Adjustment, not less than 1.0% and not more than 1.5%, beginning January 1, 2019.
- For retirements on or after January 1, 2024, the first benefit increase is delayed until the retiree reaches Normal Retirement Age. Does not apply to Rule of 90 retirees, disability benefit recipients, or survivors.
- Actuarial equivalent factors were updated to reflect revised mortality and interest assumptions.

**NOTE 6 – DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS – STATE-WIDE (CONTINUED)**

**Public Employees' Retirement Association (Continued)**

**E. Actuarial Assumptions (Continued)**

The State Board of Investment, which manages the investments of PERA, prepares an analysis of the reasonableness on a regular basis of the long-term expected rate of return using a building-block method in which best-estimate ranges of expected future rates of return are developed for each major asset class. These ranges are combined to produce an expected long-term rate of return by weighting the expected future rates of return by the target asset allocation percentages.

The target allocation and best estimates of geometric real rates of return for each major asset class are summarized in the following table:

Asset Class	Target Allocation	Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return
Domestic stocks	36%	5.10 %
International stocks	17%	5.30
Bonds	20%	0.75
Alternative assets	25%	5.90
Cash	2%	0.00
Total	100%	

**F. Discount Rates**

The discount rate used to measure the total pension liability in 2018 was 7.5%. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed that contributions from plan members and employers will be made at rates set in *Minnesota Statutes*. Based on these assumptions, the fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments of current plan members. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments was applied to all periods of projected benefit payments to determine the total pension liability.

**NOTE 6 – DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS – STATE-WIDE (CONTINUED)**

**Public Employees' Retirement Association (Continued)**

**G. Pension Liability Sensitivity**

The following table presents the District's proportionate share of the net pension liability for all plans it participates in, calculated using the discount rate disclosed in the preceding paragraph, as well as what the District's proportionate share of the net pension liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate 1 percentage point lower or 1 percentage point higher than the current discount rate:

	1% Decrease in Discount Rate (6.5%)	Discount Rate (7.5%)	1% Increase in Discount Rate (8.5%)
District's proportionate share of the PERA net pension liability	\$ 3,975,855	\$ 2,446,487	\$ 1,184,038

**H. Pension Plan Fiduciary Net Position**

Detailed information about the General Employees Fund's fiduciary net position is available in a separately-issued PERA financial report that includes the financial statements and required supplementary information. That report may be obtained on the Internet at [www.impera.org](http://www.impera.org).

**NOTE 7 – POST EMPLOYMENT HEALTH CARE PLAN**

**A. Plan Description**

The District's defined benefit OPEB plan provides a single-employer defined benefit health care plan to eligible retirees. The plan offers medical, dental, and life coverage. Medical coverage is administered by Blue Cross Blue Shield, dental coverage is administered by Guardian and life insurance coverage is administered by ReliaStar. It is the District's policy to periodically review its medical coverage and to obtain requests for proposals in order to provide the most favorable benefits and premiums for District employees and retirees. No assets are acclimated in a trust.

**B. Benefits Provided**

Teachers hired prior to July 1, 2012, who apply for early retirement shall remain eligible to receive certain health insurance benefits until the teacher becomes Medicare eligible. Full vesting of such amounts occurs upon attaining 55 years of age and 12 years of service. The General Fund typically liquidates the Liability related to OPEB.

Additionally, the District provides certain classes of employees retiring at age 55 with 12 to 15 years of service a contribution to a Health Care Savings Plan account in the amount of \$125 to \$475 per year of service.

Principals receive full single dental coverage and full life insurance premium for face value of \$150,000 until Medicare eligible.

**NOTE 7 – POST EMPLOYMENT HEALTH CARE PLAN (CONTINUED)**

**C. Members**

As of July 1, 2017, the following were covered by the benefit terms:

Inactive employees or beneficiaries currently receiving benefits	26
Active employees	163
<b>Total</b>	<b>189</b>

**D. Contributions**

Retirees contribute to the health care plan at the same rate as District employees. This results in the retirees receiving an implicit rate subsidy. Contribution requirements are established by the District, based on the contract terms. The required contributions are based on projected pay-as-you-go financing requirements. For the year 2018, the District contributed \$212,999 to the plan.

**E. Actuarial Assumptions**

The total OPEB liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of July 1, 2017, using the following actuarial assumptions, applied to all periods included in the measurement, unless otherwise specified:

**Key Methods and Assumptions Used in Valuation of Total OPEB Liability**

Discount rate	3.40%
Salary increases	3.00%
Inflation	2.50%
Healthcare cost trend increases	6.25% decreasing to 5.00% over five years
Dental trend rate	4.00%
Mortality assumption	RP-2014 White Collar Mortality Tables with MP-2016 Generational Improvement Scale

The actuarial assumptions used in the July 1, 2017 valuation were based on the results of an actuarial experience study for the period July 1, 2016 – June 30, 2017.

The discount rate used to measure the total OPEB liability was 3.4% based on 20-Year Municipal Bond Yield.

**F. Total OPEB Liability**

The District's total OPEB liability of \$1,952,487 was measured as of July 1, 2018, and was determined by an actuarial valuation as of July 1, 2017.

**NOTE 7 – POST EMPLOYMENT HEALTH CARE PLAN (CONTINUED)**

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

Changes in the total OPEB liability are as follows:

Balances at July 1, 2017	Total OPEB Liability	\$ 2,011,033
Changes for the year		
Service cost	86,720	
Interest	67,733	
Benefit payments	(212,999)	
Net changes	(58,546)	
Balances at July 1, 2018		\$ 1,952,487

**G. OPEB Liability Sensitivity**

The following presents the District's total OPEB liability calculated using the discount rate of 3.4% as well as the liability measured using 1% lower and 1% higher than the current discount rate.

	1% decrease (2.4%)	Current (3.4%)	1% increase (4.4%)
Total OPEB liability	\$ 2,066,293	\$ 1,952,487	\$ 1,842,146

The following presents the total OPEB liability of the District, as well as what the District's total OPEB liability would be if it were calculated using healthcare cost trend rates that are 1% lower and 1% higher than the current healthcare cost trend rates.

	1% decrease (5.25%) decreasing to 4.0%	Current (6.25%) decreasing to 5.0%	1% increase (7.25%) decreasing to 6.0%
Total OPEB liability	\$ 1,782,643	\$ 1,952,487	\$ 2,151,546

**NOTE 7 – POST EMPLOYMENT HEALTH CARE PLAN (CONTINUED)**

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

For the year ended June 30, 2019, the District recognized OPEB expense of \$154,453. At June 30, 2019, the District reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB from the following sources:

	Deferred Outflows of Resources	Deferred Inflows of Resources
Contributions made subsequent to measurement date	\$ 200,314	\$ -

\$200,314 reported as deferred outflows of resources related to OPEB resulting from District contributions subsequent to the measurement date will be recognized as a reduction of the total OPEB liability in the year ended June 30, 2020.

**NOTE 8 – JOINT POWERS AGREEMENT**

The District entered in to a joint powers agreement in February 1998 with Wright Technical Center No. 966 (WTC), a cooperative center for vocational education, between and among eight other independent school districts and to finance the acquisition and betterment of the addition to the existing WTC facilities.

The addition is being financed through capital lease agreements. Each participating district annually authorizes a leading levy to cover their allocated portion of the lease payment based on the formula set out in the joint powers agreement. Participating districts will also be apportioned operating costs and continuing costs for the addition based on the current cost.

Separately issued financial statements can be obtained from Wright Technical Center, 1400 Highway 25, North Buffalo, Minnesota 55313-1936.

**NOTE 9 – GASB STANDARDS ISSUED BUT NOT YET IMPLEMENTED**

GASB Statement No. 84, Fiduciary Activities establishes criteria for identifying fiduciary activities of all state and local governments. The focus of the criteria generally is on (1) whether a government is controlling the assets of the fiduciary activity and (2) the beneficiaries with whom a fiduciary relationship exists. Separate criteria are included to identify fiduciary component units and postemployment benefit arrangements that are fiduciary activities. This statement will be effective for the year ending June 30, 2020.

**NOTE 9 – GASB STANDARDS ISSUED BUT NOT YET IMPLEMENTED (CONTINUED)**

GASB Statement No. 87, Leases establishes a single model for lease accounting based on the foundational principle that leases are financings of the right to use an underlying asset. Under this statement, a lessee is required to recognize a lease liability and an intangible right-to-use lease asset, and a lessor is required to recognize a lease receivable and a deferred inflow of resources, thereby enhancing the relevance and consistency of information about governments' leasing activities. This statement will be effective for the year ending June 30, 2021.

Independent School District No. 876  
Schedule of Changes in Total OPEB Liability  
and Related Ratios

	June 30, 2018	June 30, 2017
Total OPEB Liability		
Service cost	\$ 86,720	\$ 84,194
Interest	67,733	69,897
Benefit payments	(212,999)	(227,407)
Net change in total OPEB liability	(58,546)	(73,316)
Beginning of year	2,011,033	2,084,349
End of year	<u>\$ 1,952,487</u>	<u>\$ 2,011,033</u>
Covered payroll	\$ 9,454,828	\$ 9,179,445
Total OPEB liability as a percentage of covered-employee payroll	20.7%	21.9%

Note: Schedule is intended to show ten year trend. Additional years will be reported as they become available.

**REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**

**Independent School District No. 876**  
**Schedule of District Contributions**  
**General Employees Retirement Fund**  
**Last Ten Years**

Fiscal Year Ending June 30,	Statutorily Required Contribution	Contributions in Relation to the Statutorily Required Contributions	Contribution Deficiency (Excess)	District's Covered Payroll	Contributions as a Percentage of Covered Payroll
2014	\$ 171,135	\$ 171,135	\$ -	\$ 2,360,483	7.25%
2015	183,946	183,946	-	2,452,613	7.50%
2016	201,326	201,326	-	2,684,347	7.50%
2017	214,520	214,520	-	2,860,267	7.50%
2018	222,142	222,142	-	2,961,893	7.50%
2019	238,541	238,541	-	3,180,547	7.50%

Note: Schedule is intended to show ten year trend. Additional years will be reported as they become available.

**Schedule of District Contributions**  
**TRA Retirement Fund**  
**Last Ten Years**

Fiscal Year Ending June 30,	Statutorily Required Contribution	Contributions in Relation to the Statutorily Required Contributions	Contribution Deficiency (Excess)	District's Covered Payroll	Contributions as a Percentage of Covered Payroll
2014	\$ 519,536	\$ 519,536	\$ -	\$ 7,421,943	7.00%
2015	572,518	572,518	-	7,633,573	7.50%
2016	600,291	600,291	-	8,003,880	7.50%
2017	635,490	635,490	-	8,473,200	7.50%
2018	664,732	664,732	-	8,863,093	7.50%
2019	708,101	708,101	-	9,184,189	7.71%

Note: Schedule is intended to show ten year trend. Additional years will be reported as they become available.

**Independent School District No. 876**  
**Schedule of District's and Non-Employer**  
**Proportionate Share of Net Pension Liability**  
**Last Ten Years General Employees Retirement Fund**

For Plan's Fiscal Year Ended June 30,	District's Proportion of the Net Pension Liability (Asset)	District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability (Asset)	District's Proportionate Share of State of Minnesota's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability (Asset)	District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability (Asset)	District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability (Asset)	District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability (Asset)	Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total Pension Liability
2014	0.0450%	\$ 2,113,875	\$ -	\$ 2,113,875	\$ 2,360,483	\$ 2,360,483	78.8%
2015	0.0424%	2,197,388	-	2,197,388	2,452,613	2,452,613	76.8%
2016	0.0433%	3,515,745	45,848	3,561,593	2,684,347	2,684,347	68.9%
2017	0.0448%	2,834,467	35,660	2,870,127	2,860,267	2,860,267	73.9%
2018	0.0441%	2,466,487	80,167	2,526,654	2,961,893	2,961,893	79.5%

Note: Schedule is intended to show ten year trend. Additional years will be reported as they become available.

**Schedule of District's and Non-Employer**  
**Proportionate Share of Net Pension Liability**  
**Last Ten Years TRA Retirement Fund**

For Plan's Fiscal Year Ended June 30,	District's Proportion of the Net Pension Liability (Asset)	District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability (Asset)	District's Proportionate Share of State of Minnesota's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability (Asset)	District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability (Asset)	District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability (Asset)	District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability (Asset)	Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total Pension Liability
2014	0.1626%	\$ 7,492,491	\$ 526,970	\$ 8,019,461	\$ 7,421,943	\$ 7,421,943	81.5%
2015	0.1504%	9,303,727	1,140,867	10,444,594	7,633,573	7,633,573	76.8%
2016	0.1539%	36,708,822	3,683,573	40,392,395	8,003,880	8,003,880	44.9%
2017	0.1574%	31,419,895	3,036,990	34,456,885	8,473,200	8,473,200	51.6%
2018	0.1604%	10,074,621	946,703	11,021,324	8,863,093	8,863,093	78.1%

Note: Schedule is intended to show ten year trend. Additional years will be reported as they become available.

See notes to Required Supplementary Information.

See notes to Required Supplementary Information.



**TRA Retirement Fund**

**2018 Changes**

Changes in Actuarial Assumptions

- The discount rate was increased to 7.5% from 5.12%.
- The cost of living adjustment (COLA) was reduced from 2.0% each January 1 to 1.0%, effective January 1, 2019, Beginning January 1, 2024, the COLA will increase 0.1% each year until reaching the ultimate rate of 1.5% on January 1, 2028.
- Beginning July 1, 2024, eligibility for the first COLA changes to normal retirement age (age 65 to 66, depending on date of birth). However, members who retire under Rule of 90 and members who are at least age 62 with 30 years of service credit are exempt.
- The COLA trigger provision, which would have increased the COLA to 2.5% if the funded ratio was at least 90% for two consecutive years, was eliminated.
- Augmentation in the early retirement reduction factors is phased out over a five-year period beginning July 1, 2019, and ending July 1, 2024 (this reduces early retirement benefits). Members who retire and are at least age 62 with 30 years of service are exempt.
- Augmentation on deferred benefits will be reduced to zero percent beginning July 1, 2019. Interest payable on refunds to members was reduced from 4.0% to 3.0%, effective July 1, 2018. Interest due on payments and purchases from members, employers was reduced from 8.5% to 7.5%, effective July 1, 2018.
- The employer contribution rate is increased each July 1 over the next 6 years (7.71% in 2018, 7.92% in 2019, 8.13% in 2020, 8.34% in 2021, 8.55% in 2022, and 8.75% in 2023). In addition, the employee contribution rate will increase from 7.50% to 7.75% on July 1, 2023. The state provides funding for the higher employer contribution rate through an adjustment in the school aid formula.

**2017 Changes**

Changes in Actuarial Assumptions

- The discount rate was increased to 5.12% from 4.66%.
- The cost of living adjustment (COLA) was assumed to increase from 2.0% annually to 2.5% annually on July 1, 2045.
- The COLA was not assumed to increase to 2.5% but remain at 2.0% for all future years.
- Adjustments were made to the combined service annuity loads. The active load was reduced from 1.4% to 0.0%, the vested inactive load increased from 4.0% to 7.0% and the non-vested inactive load increased from 4.0% to 9.0%.
- The investment return assumption was changed from 8.0% to 7.5%.
- The price inflation assumption was lowered from 2.75% to 2.5%.
- The payroll growth assumption was lowered from 2.5% to 3.0%.
- The general wage growth assumption was lowered from 3.5% to 2.85% for ten years followed by 3.25% thereafter.
- The salary increase assumption was adjusted to reflect the changes in the general wage growth assumption.

**TRA Retirement Fund (Continued)**

**2016 Changes**

Changes in Actuarial Assumptions

- The discount rate was decreased to 4.66% from 8.0%.
- The COLA was not assumed to increase for funding or the GASB calculation. It remained at 2% for all future years.
- The price inflation assumption was lowered from 3% to 2.75%.
- The general wage growth and payroll growth assumptions were lowered from 3.75% to 3.5%.
- Minor changes as some durations for the merit scale of the salary increase assumption.
- The pre-retirement mortality assumption was changed to the RP 2014 white collar employee table, male rates set back six years and female rates set back five years. Generational projection uses the MP 2015 scale.
- The post-retirement mortality assumption was changed to the RP 2014 white collar annuitant table, male rates set back three years and female rates set back three years, with further adjustments of the rates. Generational projection uses the MP 2015 scale.
- The post-disability mortality assumption was changed to the RP 2014 disabled retiree mortality table, without adjustment.
- Separate retirement assumptions for members hired before or after July 1, 1989, were created to better reflect each group's behavior in light of different requirements for retirement eligibility.
- Assumed termination rates were changed to be based solely on years of service in order to better fit the observed experience.
- A minor adjustment and simplification of the assumption regarding the election of optional form of annuity payment at retirement were made.

**2015 Changes**

Changes of Benefit Terms

- The DIRFA was merged into TRA on June 30, 2015.

Changes in Actuarial Assumptions

- The annual COLA for the June 30, 2015, valuation assumed 2%. The prior year valuation used 2% with an increase to 2.5% commencing in 2034. The discount rate used to measure the total pension liability was 8.0%. This is a decrease from the discount rate at the prior measurement date of 8.25%.

**Independent School District No. 876**  
**Notes to the Required Supplementary Information**

**Independent School District No. 876**  
**Notes to the Required Supplementary Information**

**General Employees Fund**

**2018 Changes**

Changes in Actuarial Assumptions:

- The mortality projection scale was changed from MP-2015 to MP-2017.
- The assumed benefit increase was changed from 1.0% per year through 2044 and 2.5% per year thereafter to 1.25% per year.

Changes in Plan Provisions:

- The augmentation adjustment in early retirement factors is eliminated over a five-year period starting July 1, 2019, resulting in actuarial equivalence after June 30, 2024.
- Interest credited on member contributions decreased from 4.0% to 3.0%, beginning July 1, 2018.
- Deferred augmentation was changed to 0.0%, effective January 1, 2019. Augmentation that has already accrued for deferred members will still apply.
- Contribution stabilizer provisions were repealed.
- Post-retirement benefit increases were changed from 1.0% per year with a provision to increase to 2.5% upon attainment of 90% funding ratio to 50% of the Social Security Cost of Living Adjustment, not less than 1.0% and not more than 1.5%, beginning January 1, 2019.
- For retirements on or after January 1, 2024, the first benefit increase is delayed until the retiree reaches Normal Retirement Age. Does not apply to Rule of 90 retirees, disability benefit recipients, or survivors.
- Actuarial equivalent factors were updated to reflect revised mortality and interest assumptions.

**2017 Changes**

Changes in Actuarial Assumptions

- The CSA loads were changed from 0.8% for active members and 60% for vested and non-vested deferred members. The revised CSA loads are now 0.0% for active member liability, 15% for vested deferred member liability and 3% for non-vested deferred member liability.
- The assumed post-retirement benefit increase rate was changed from 1.0% per year for all years to 1.0% per year through 2044 and 2.5% per year thereafter.

**2016 Changes**

Changes in Actuarial Assumptions

- The assumed post-retirement benefit increase rate was changed from 1.0% per year through 2035 and 2.5% per year thereafter to 1.0% per year for all future years.
- The assumed investment return was changed from 7.9% to 7.5%. The single discount rate was changed from 7.9% to 7.5%.

Other assumptions were changed pursuant to the experience study dated June 30, 2015. The assumed future salary increases, payroll growth, the inflation were decreased by 0.25% to 3.25% for payroll growth and 2.50% for inflation.

**General Employees Fund (Continued)**

**2015 Changes**

Changes in Plan Provisions

- On January 1, 2015, the Minneapolis Employees Retirement Fund was merged into the General Employees Fund, which increased the total pension liability by \$1.1 billion and increased the fiduciary plan net position by \$892 million. Upon consolidation, state and employer contributions were revised.

Changes in Actuarial Assumptions

- The assumed post-retirement benefit increase rate was changed from 1.0% per year through 2030 and 2.5% per year thereafter to 1.0% per year through 2035 and 2.5% per year thereafter.

Independent School District No. 876  
 Combining Balance Sheet -  
 Nonmajor Governmental Funds  
 June 30, 2019

	Special Revenue Funds			Total Nonmajor Funds
	Food Service	Community Service	Capital Project	
<b>Assets</b>				
Cash and investments	\$ 270,484	\$ 917,536	\$ 157,077	\$ 1,345,097
Current property taxes receivable	-	76,014	-	76,014
Delinquent property taxes receivable	-	1,135	-	1,135
Accounts receivable	-	26,800	-	26,800
Interest receivable	-	-	847	847
Due from Department of Education	-	12,396	-	12,396
Due from other Minnesota school districts	-	8,668	-	8,668
Due from federal government through department of education	18,398	-	-	18,398
Inventory	28,241	-	-	28,241
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>\$ 317,123</b>	<b>\$ 1,042,549</b>	<b>\$ 157,924</b>	<b>\$ 1,517,596</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>				
Accounts and contracts payable	\$ 13,708	\$ 16,235	\$ 29,943	\$ 62,773
Salaries and benefits payable	23,388	72,929	96,317	96,317
Due to other Minnesota school districts	-	85,441	-	85,441
Unearned revenue	13,986	1,775	15,761	15,761
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>51,082</b>	<b>176,409</b>	<b>32,830</b>	<b>260,321</b>
<b>Deferred Inflows of Resources</b>				
Unavailable revenue - property taxes levied for subsequent year's expenditures	-	163,247	-	163,247
Unavailable revenue - delinquent property taxes	-	1,135	-	1,135
<b>Total deferred inflows of resources</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>164,382</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>164,382</b>
<b>Fund Balances</b>				
Nonspendable	28,241	-	-	28,241
Restricted	237,800	701,758	125,094	1,064,652
<b>Total fund balances</b>	<b>266,041</b>	<b>701,758</b>	<b>125,094</b>	<b>1,092,893</b>
<b>Total liabilities, deferred inflows of resources, and fund balances</b>	<b>\$ 317,123</b>	<b>\$ 1,042,549</b>	<b>\$ 157,924</b>	<b>\$ 1,517,596</b>

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**

**Independent School District No. 876  
Combining Statement of Revenues, Expenditures,  
and Changes in Fund Balances -  
Nonmajor Governmental Funds  
Year Ended June 30, 2019**

	Special Revenue Funds			Total Nonmajor Funds
	Food Service	Community Service	Total Special Revenue	
<b>Revenues</b>				
Local property taxes	\$ -	\$ 173,626	\$ 173,626	\$ 173,626
Other local and county revenues	3,334	988,049	991,383	1,043,419
Revenue from state sources	55,046	128,597	183,643	183,643
Revenue from federal sources	436,005	-	436,005	436,005
Sales and other conversion of assets	709,088	-	709,088	709,088
Total revenues	1,203,473	1,290,272	2,493,745	2,545,781
<b>Expenditures</b>				
Current				
Sites and buildings	-	-	-	7,917
Food service	1,115,206	-	1,115,206	1,115,206
Community education and services	-	1,117,223	1,117,223	1,117,223
Capital outlay	-	-	-	285,140
Sites and buildings	2,955	-	2,955	2,955
Food service	-	9,372	9,372	9,372
Community education and services	-	-	-	293,057
Total expenditures	1,118,161	1,126,595	2,244,756	2,437,813
Excess of revenues over (under) expenditures	85,312	163,677	248,989	7,968
<b>Other financing sources</b>				
Proceeds from sale of capital assets	3,643	-	3,643	3,643
Net change in fund balances	88,955	163,677	252,632	11,611
<b>Fund Balances</b>				
Beginning of year	177,086	538,081	715,167	1,081,282
End of year	\$ 266,041	\$ 701,758	\$ 967,799	\$ 1,092,893

**Independent School District No. 876  
Uniform Financial Accounting and Reporting Standards  
For the Year Ended June 30, 2019**

	Audit	IFARS	Audit-IFARS	06 Building Construction Fund	Audit	IFARS	Audit-IFARS
<b>01 General Fund</b>	\$ 31,059,536	\$ 21,485,285	\$ 9,574,251	(0)	\$ 21,485,285	\$ 51,536	\$ 51,536
Nonexpendable:	21,452,232	21,442,223	10,010	(0)	29,435	29,435	29,435
Total expenditures	114,906	114,907	(1)	Nonexpendable	-	-	-
Reinvested/retained:	113,405	113,405	-	407 Capital Projects Levy	-	-	-
403 Staff Development	-	-	-	413 Project Funded by COPPLP	-	-	-
408 Cooperative Programs	-	-	-	464 Restrictd	-	-	-
411 Project Funded by COP	-	-	-	463 Unassigned	-	-	-
413 Project Funded by COP	-	-	-	07 Debt Service Fund	-	-	-
416 Levy Reduction	-	-	-	Total expenditures	\$ 2,385,502	\$ 2,385,502	\$ -
423 Certain Teacher Programs	-	-	-	Nonexpendable:	2,374,399	2,374,398	\$ 1
426 52.5 Teacher	1,038,317	1,038,317	-	Reinvested/retained:	-	-	-
434 Adult Learning Development	-	-	-	425 Bond Refundings	-	-	-
435 Continued Alternative Programs	-	-	-	451 OZAB Payments	-	-	-
438 Gift Approved Alternative Program	-	-	-	463 Unassigned	-	-	-
441 Basic Skills Programs	-	-	-	08 Total Fund	-	-	-
442 Career and Technical Education	-	-	-	Total revenue	\$ 81,831	\$ 81,832	\$ (1)
448 Achievement and Integration Revenue	-	-	-	Total expenditures	114,910	114,910	-
449 Site School Crite	-	-	-	09 OZAB Payments	-	-	-
451 OZAB Payments	-	-	-	422 Net position	-	-	-
452 OPEB Liabilities not Held in Trust	-	-	-	20 Internal Service Fund	-	-	-
453 Unfunded Liabilities and Evaluation	-	-	-	Total revenue	162,179	162,179	-
459 Basic Skills Excluded Time	(610,135)	(610,135)	-	Total expenditures	-	-	-
472 Long-Term Facilities Maintenance	-	-	-	Unassigned	-	-	-
475 Title VI - Impact Aid	-	-	-	422 Net position	-	-	-
476 Payments in Lieu of Taxes	-	-	-	25 OPEB Reversible Trust	-	-	-
464 Restrictd	-	-	-	Total expenditures	-	-	-
Commitment	-	-	-	Unassigned	-	-	-
418 Separation benefits	469,514	469,514	-	45 OPEB Irreversible Trust	-	-	-
462 Assigned	518,211	518,212	(1)	Total expenditures	-	-	-
463 Unassigned	3,867,727	3,867,726	1	Total revenue	-	-	-
422 Unassigned fund balance	-	-	-	Total expenditures	-	-	-
08 Food Services Fund	-	-	-	423 Net position	-	-	-
Total revenue	\$ 1,202,473	\$ 1,202,471	\$ 2	47 OPEB Debt Service	-	-	-
Total expenditures	1,138,161	1,138,163	(2)	Total expenditures	-	-	-
Nonexpendable:	28,241	28,240	1	465 Nonexpendable	-	-	-
460 Nonexpendable	-	-	-	466 Nonexpendable	-	-	-
452 OPEB Liabilities not Held in Trust	-	-	-	467 Nonexpendable	-	-	-
Reinvested/retained:	237,800	237,796	4	468 Nonexpendable	-	-	-
463 Unassigned	-	-	-	469 Nonexpendable	-	-	-
04 Community Services Fund	-	-	-	470 Nonexpendable	-	-	-
Total revenue	\$ 1,290,272	\$ 1,290,268	\$ 4	471 Nonexpendable	-	-	-
Total expenditures	1,126,595	1,126,592	3	472 Nonexpendable	-	-	-
Nonexpendable:	-	-	-	473 Nonexpendable	-	-	-
460 Nonexpendable	-	-	-	474 Nonexpendable	-	-	-
431 Community Education	280,119	280,117	2	475 Nonexpendable	-	-	-
432 ECCE	29,060	29,060	-	476 Nonexpendable	-	-	-
433 Development and Evaluation	392,579	392,579	-	477 Nonexpendable	-	-	-
444 School Readiness	-	-	-	478 Nonexpendable	-	-	-
447 Adult Basic Education	-	-	-	479 Nonexpendable	-	-	-
452 OPEB Liabilities not Held in Trust	-	-	-	480 Nonexpendable	-	-	-
464 Restrictd	-	-	-	481 Nonexpendable	-	-	-
Unassigned:	-	-	-	482 Nonexpendable	-	-	-
463 Unassigned	-	-	-	483 Unassigned	-	-	-

**Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Based on an Audit of Financial Statements Performed in Accordance with Government Auditing Standards**

**Independent Auditor's Report**

To the School Board  
Independent School District No. 876  
Annandale, Minnesota

We have audited, in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Independent School District No. 876, Annandale, Minnesota, as of and for the year ended June 30, 2019, and the related notes to financial statements, which collectively comprise the District's basic financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated November 21, 2019.

**Internal Control over Financial Reporting**

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

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

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies and therefore, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified. We did identify a certain deficiency in internal control, described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings and Corrective Action Plans on Legal Compliance and Internal Control to be a material weakness, Audit Finding 2019-001.

**Compliance and Other Matters**

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

**District's Response to the Findings**

The District's response to the finding identified in our audit is described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings and Corrective Action Plans on Legal Compliance and Internal Control. The District's response was not subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and, accordingly, we express no opinion on it.

**Purpose of this Report**

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the District'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 District's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.



St. Cloud, Minnesota  
November 21, 2019

Minnesota Legal Compliance  
Independent Auditor's Report

To the School Board  
Independent School District No. 876  
Annandale, Minnesota

We have audited, in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Independent School District No. 876, Annandale, Minnesota, as of and for the year ended June 30, 2019, and the related notes to financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated November 21, 2019.

The *Minnesota Legal Compliance Audit Guide for School Districts* promulgated by the State Auditor pursuant to *Minnesota Statutes* § 6.65, contains seven categories of compliance to be tested: contracting and bidding, deposits and investments, conflicts of interest, public indebtedness, claims and disbursements, miscellaneous provisions, and uniform financial accounting and reporting standards for school districts. Our audit considered all of the listed categories.

In connection with our audit, nothing came to our attention that caused us to believe that the District failed to comply with the provisions of the *Minnesota Legal Compliance Audit Guide for School Districts*. However, our audit was not directed primarily toward obtaining knowledge of such noncompliance. Accordingly, had we performed additional procedures, other matters may have come to our attention regarding the District's noncompliance with the above referenced provisions.

The purpose of this report is to describe the scope of our testing of compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.



St. Cloud, Minnesota  
November 21, 2019

Independent School District No. 876  
Schedule of Finding and Corrective Action Plans  
on Legal Compliance and Internal Control

**CURRENT AND PRIOR YEAR INTERNAL CONTROL FINDING:**

**Audit Finding 2019-001 – Lack of Segregation of Accounting Duties**

The District had a lack of segregation of accounting duties due to a limited number of office employees. Segregation of accounting duties relates to four key areas: initiation/authorization, processing/recording, reconciling/reporting of financial data, and custody of assets. The lack of adequate segregation of accounting duties could adversely affect the District's ability to initiate, record, process, and report financial data consistent with the assertions of management in the financial statements. This lack of segregation can be demonstrated in the following areas, which is not intended to be an all-inclusive list:

- The Business Manager reconciles state and federal receivables and revenues and initiates entries to the general ledger to adjust them.
- The Business Manager initiates bank wires and the entries to record them, with the exception of payroll.
- The Business Manager has the previously stated responsibilities and reconciles cash, which is not reviewed by another employee.
- The Payroll Manager has access to setup a new employee, cut checks, complete wire transfers, and manually make adjustments to the system.
- Office secretaries at each school collect cash, count cash, prepare deposit slips, and take deposits to the bank.

Management is aware of this condition and will take certain steps to compensate for the lack of segregation. However, due to the number of staff needed to properly segregate all of the accounting duties, the cost of obtaining desirable segregation of accounting duties can often exceed benefits which could be derived. Due to this reason, management has determined a complete segregation of accounting duties is impractical to correct.

**CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN (CAP):**

1. **Explanation of Disagreement with Audit Finding**  
There is no disagreement with the audit finding.
2. **Actions Planned in Response to Finding**  
The District will continue to segregate duties as much as possible, based upon an analysis of costs and benefits.
3. **Official Responsible for Ensuring CAP**  
Rick Pullen, Business Manager, is the official responsible for ensuring corrective action of the deficiency by communicating with staff the new procedures.

Independent School District No. 876  
Schedule of Finding and Corrective Action Plans  
on Legal Compliance and Internal Control

**CURRENT AND PRIOR YEAR INTERNAL CONTROL FINDING (CONTINUED):**

**Audit Finding 2019-001 – Lack of Segregation of Accounting Duties (Continued)**

**CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN (CAP): (CONTINUED)**

4. Planned Completion Date for CAP  
The planned completion date for the CAP is ongoing.
5. Plan to Monitor Completion of CAP  
Tim Prom, Superintendent, will be monitoring this CAP by supervising the Business Manager. The School Board will monitor the cost benefit analysis annually during the budgeting process.

**PRIOR YEAR LEGAL COMPLIANCE FINDINGS:**

**Public Purpose Expenditures**

According to Attorney General Publications 59a-3, May 21 1948; 59a-22, November 23, 1966; and 174E, a district must refrain from donating money to people, nonprofit organizations and charities unless allowed by specific authority.

During 2018, the District made gift card donations to individuals who were volunteers.

**CORRECTIVE ACTION TAKEN:**

The District has refrained from making gift card donations in 2019.

**Closed Meetings**

*Minnesota Statutes* 13D.01 states if a meeting was closed the governing board must state on the record the specific grounds permitting the meeting to be closed and describe the subject to be discussed.

Per the meeting minutes for the May 29, 2018, board meeting, there was no reason given for the board moving into a closed session. Also, the meeting was not recorded.

**CORRECTIVE ACTION TAKEN:**

The District has provided reasoning for closed meetings and has kept electronic recordings of the closed meetings in 2019.

**FORM OF LEGAL OPINION**

(See following pages)





**KNUTSON, FLYNN & DEANS, P.A.**

1155 Centre Pointe Drive, Suite 10  
Mendota Heights, MN 55120

651.222.2811 fax 651.225.0600

[www.kfdmn.com](http://www.kfdmn.com)

**\$16,030,000\***

**GENERAL OBLIGATION SCHOOL BUILDING REFUNDING BONDS, SERIES 2020A  
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 876  
(ANNANDALE)  
WRIGHT, STEARNS AND MEEKER COUNTIES, MINNESOTA**

We have acted as Bond Counsel in connection with the issuance by Independent School District No. 876 (Annandale), Wright, Stearns and Meeker Counties, Minnesota (the "District"), of its General Obligation School Building Refunding Bonds, Series 2020A (the "Bonds"), in the aggregate principal amount of \$16,030,000\*, bearing a date of original issue of November 5, 2020. The Bonds are fully registered as to principal and interest and are originally issued using a global book-entry system.

We have not been engaged or undertaken to review the accuracy, completeness, or sufficiency of the Official Statement or other offering material relating to the Bonds (except to the extent, if any, stated in the Official Statement) and we express no opinion relating thereto (excepting only the matters set forth as our opinion in the Official Statement).

We have examined the law and such certified proceedings and other documents as we have deemed necessary to render this opinion. As to questions of fact material to our opinion, we have relied upon the certified proceedings and other affidavits and certificates of public officials furnished to us without undertaking to verify such facts by independent investigation.

Based upon our examination of these materials, assuming the authenticity of all documents submitted to us as originals, the conformity to original documents of all documents submitted to us as certified or photostatic copies and the authenticity of the originals of such documents, and based upon present Minnesota and federal laws, regulations, rulings and decisions, it is our opinion that:

(1) The Bonds are in due form and the proceedings show lawful authority for their issuance according to their terms under the Constitution and laws of the State of Minnesota now in force.

(2) The Bonds are valid and binding general obligations of the District enforceable in accordance with their terms except to the extent to which enforceability thereof may be limited by the exercise of judicial discretion in accordance with general principles of equity, by the constitutional powers of the United States of America and by bankruptcy, insolvency, reorganization, moratorium and other similar laws affecting creditors' rights heretofore or hereafter enacted. All of the taxable property in the District is subject to the levy of ad valorem taxes to pay the principal and interest on the Bonds, which taxes are without limitation as to rate or amount.

(3) Interest on the Bonds is not includable in gross income for federal income tax purposes or in taxable net income of individuals, estates or trusts for Minnesota income tax purposes. Interest on the Bonds is includable in taxable income of corporations and financial institutions for purposes of the Minnesota franchise tax measured by income. Interest on the Bonds is not an item of tax preference required to be included in the computation of "alternative minimum taxable income" for purposes of the federal alternative minimum tax applicable to individuals and other taxpayers under Section 55 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, (the "Code") or for purposes of the Minnesota alternative minimum tax applicable to individuals, trusts and estates. Interest on the Bonds is not includable in adjusted current earnings of corporations in determining alternative minimum taxable income for purposes of the federal and Minnesota alternative minimum taxes applicable to corporations.

(4) The opinion set forth in paragraph (3) above is subject to the condition that the District comply with all the requirements of the Code that must be satisfied subsequent to the issuance of the Bonds in order that interest thereon be, or continue to be, excluded from gross income for federal and state income tax purposes. The District has covenanted in the resolution authorizing the issuance of the Bonds to comply with these continuing requirements. Noncompliance with these covenants by the District following the issuance of the Bonds may result in inclusion of interest on the Bonds in federal gross income and Minnesota taxable net income for federal and Minnesota income tax purposes retroactive to the date of issuance of the Bonds. Except as stated in this opinion, we express no opinion regarding federal, state or other tax consequences caused by the receipt or accrual of interest on or arising with respect to ownership of the Bonds.

(5) The Bonds have not been designated as "qualified tax-exempt obligations" for the purposes of Section 265 of the Code relating to the deduction of interest expenses allocable to the Bonds by financial institutions.

DATED at Mendota Heights, Minnesota, this 5<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2020.

KNUTSON, FLYNN & DEANS  
Professional Association

### BOOK-ENTRY-ONLY SYSTEM

1. The Depository Trust Company ("DTC"), New York, New York, will act as securities depository for the securities (the "Securities"). The Securities will be issued as fully-registered securities registered in the name of Cede & Co. (DTC's partnership nominee) or such other name as may be requested by an authorized representative of DTC. One fully-registered Security certificate will be issued for [each issue of] the Securities, [each] in the aggregate principal amount of such issue, and will be deposited with DTC. [If, however, the aggregate principal amount of [any] issue exceeds \$500 million, one certificate will be issued with respect to each \$500 million of principal amount, and an additional certificate will be issued with respect to any remaining principal amount of such issue.]
2. DTC, the world's largest securities depository, is a limited-purpose trust company organized under the New York Banking Law, a "banking organization" within the meaning of the New York Banking Law, a member of the Federal Reserve System, a "clearing corporation" within the meaning of the New York Uniform Commercial Code, and a "clearing agency" registered pursuant to the provisions of Section 17A of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. DTC holds and provides asset servicing for over 3.5 million issues of U.S. and non-U.S. equity issues, corporate and municipal debt issues, and money market instruments (from over 100 countries) that DTC's participants ("Direct Participants") deposit with DTC. DTC also facilitates the post-trade settlement among Direct Participants of sales and other securities transactions in deposited securities, through electronic computerized book-entry transfers and pledges between Direct Participants' accounts. This eliminates the need for physical movement of securities certificates. Direct Participants include both U.S. and non-U.S. securities brokers and dealers, banks, trust companies, clearing corporations, and certain other organizations. DTC is a wholly-owned subsidiary of The Depository Trust & Clearing Corporation ("DTCC"). DTCC is the holding company for DTC, National Securities Clearing Corporation and Fixed Income Clearing Corporation, all of which are registered clearing agencies. DTCC is owned by the users of its regulated subsidiaries. Access to the DTC system is also available to others such as both U.S. and non-U.S. securities brokers and dealers, banks, trust companies, and clearing corporations that clear through or maintain a custodial relationship with a Direct Participant, either directly or indirectly ("Indirect Participants"). DTC has a Standard & Poor's rating of AA+. The DTC Rules applicable to its Participants are on file with the Securities and Exchange Commission. More information about DTC can be found at [www.dtcc.com](http://www.dtcc.com).
3. Purchases of Securities under the DTC system must be made by or through Direct Participants, which will receive a credit for the Securities on DTC's records. The ownership interest of each actual purchaser of each Security ("Beneficial Owner") is in turn to be recorded on the Direct and Indirect Participants' records. Beneficial Owners will not receive written confirmation from DTC of their purchase. Beneficial Owners are, however, expected to receive written confirmations providing details of the transaction, as well as periodic statements of their holdings, from the Direct or Indirect Participant through which the Beneficial Owner entered into the transaction. Transfers of ownership interests in the Securities are to be accomplished by entries made on the books of Direct and Indirect Participants acting on behalf of Beneficial Owners. Beneficial Owners will not receive certificates representing their ownership interests in Securities, except in the event that use of the book-entry system for the Securities is discontinued.
4. To facilitate subsequent transfers, all Securities deposited by Direct Participants with DTC are registered in the name of DTC's partnership nominee, Cede & Co., or such other name as may be requested by an authorized representative of DTC. The deposit of Securities with DTC and their registration in the name of Cede & Co. or such other DTC nominee do not effect any change in beneficial ownership. DTC has no knowledge of the actual Beneficial Owners of the Securities; DTC's records reflect only the identity of the Direct Participants to whose accounts such Securities are credited, which may or may not be the Beneficial Owners. The Direct and Indirect Participants will remain responsible for keeping account of their holdings on behalf of their customers.

5. Conveyance of notices and other communications by DTC to Direct Participants, by Direct Participants to Indirect Participants, and by Direct Participants and Indirect Participants to Beneficial Owners will be governed by arrangements among them, subject to any statutory or regulatory requirements as may be in effect from time to time. [Beneficial Owners of Securities may wish to take certain steps to augment the transmission to them of notices of significant events with respect to the Securities, such as redemptions, tenders, defaults, and proposed amendments to the Security documents. For example, Beneficial Owners of Securities may wish to ascertain that the nominee holding the Securities for their benefit has agreed to obtain and transmit notices to Beneficial Owners. In the alternative, Beneficial Owners may wish to provide their names and addresses to the registrar and request that copies of notices be provided directly to them.]
6. Redemption notices shall be sent to DTC. If less than all of the Securities within an issue are being redeemed, DTC's practice is to determine by lot the amount of the interest of each Direct Participant in such issue to be redeemed.
7. Neither DTC nor Cede & Co. (nor any other DTC nominee) will consent or vote with respect to Securities unless authorized by a Direct Participant in accordance with DTC's MMI Procedures. Under its usual procedures, DTC mails an Omnibus Proxy to District as soon as possible after the record date. The Omnibus Proxy assigns Cede & Co.'s consenting or voting rights to those Direct Participants to whose accounts Securities are credited on the record date (identified in a listing attached to the Omnibus Proxy).
8. Redemption proceeds, distributions, and dividend payments on the Securities will be made to Cede & Co., or such other nominee as may be requested by an authorized representative of DTC. DTC's practice is to credit Direct Participants' accounts upon DTC's receipt of funds and corresponding detail information from the District or Agent, on payable date in accordance with their respective holdings shown on DTC's records. Payments by Participants to Beneficial Owners will be governed by standing instructions and customary practices, as is the case with securities held for the accounts of customers in bearer form or registered in "street name," and will be the responsibility of such Participant and not of DTC, Agent, or the District, subject to any statutory or regulatory requirements as may be in effect from time to time. Payment of redemption proceeds, distributions, and dividend payments to Cede & Co. (or such other nominee as may be requested by an authorized representative of DTC) is the responsibility of the District or Agent, disbursement of such payments to Direct Participants will be the responsibility of DTC, and disbursement of such payments to the Beneficial Owners will be the responsibility of Direct and Indirect Participants.
9. A Beneficial Owner shall give notice to elect to have its Securities purchased or tendered, through its Participant, to [Tender/Remarketing] Agent, and shall effect delivery of such Securities by causing the Direct Participant to transfer the Participant's interest in the Securities, on DTC's records, to [Tender/Remarketing] Agent. The requirement for physical delivery of Securities in connection with an optional tender or a mandatory purchase will be deemed satisfied when the ownership rights in the Securities are transferred by Direct Participants on DTC's records and followed by a book-entry credit of tendered Securities to [Tender/Remarketing] Agent's DTC account.
10. DTC may discontinue providing its services as depository with respect to the Securities at any time by giving reasonable notice to the District or Agent. Under such circumstances, in the event that a successor depository is not obtained, Security certificates are required to be printed and delivered.
11. The District may decide to discontinue use of the system of book-entry-only transfers through DTC (or a successor securities depository). In that event, Security certificates will be printed and delivered to DTC.
12. The information in this section concerning DTC and DTC's book-entry system has been obtained from sources that the District believes to be reliable, but the District takes no responsibility for the accuracy thereof.

**APPENDIX D**

**FORM OF CONTINUING DISCLOSURE CERTIFICATE**

(See following pages)

## CONTINUING DISCLOSURE CERTIFICATE (Full Disclosure)

This Continuing Disclosure Certificate (the "Disclosure Certificate") is executed and delivered by Independent School District No. 876 (Annandale), State of Minnesota (the "District"), in connection with the issuance of its General Obligation School Building Refunding Bonds, Series 2020A (the "Bonds"). The Bonds are being issued pursuant to a Resolution adopted by the School Board on October 8, 2020 (the "Resolution"). The District has covenanted and obligated itself to be bound by the provisions of Minnesota Statutes, Section 126C.55 (the "State Payment Law" described in the Official Statement for the Bonds) which provides for payment by the State of Minnesota in the event of a potential default of a District obligation. The District covenants and agrees as follows:

**SECTION 1. Purpose of the Disclosure Certificate.** This Disclosure Certificate is being executed and delivered by the District for the benefit of the Bondholders or beneficial owners, if different, and in order to assist the Participating Underwriters in complying with SEC Rule 15c2-12(b)(5). This Disclosure Certificate constitutes the written Undertaking required by the Rule.

**SECTION 2. Definitions.** In addition to the definitions set forth in the Resolution, which apply to any capitalized term used in this Disclosure Certificate unless otherwise defined in this Section, the following capitalized terms shall have the following meanings:

"Annual Report" shall mean any Annual Report provided by the District pursuant to, and as described in Sections 3 and 4 of this Disclosure Certificate.

"Audited Financial Statements" shall mean the District's financial statements which are currently prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) for governmental units as prescribed by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) or as otherwise required by Minnesota law for the preceding Fiscal Year, including a balance sheet and statement of revenues, expenditures and changes in fund balances, which the District intends to continue to prepare in substantially the same form.

"Dissemination Agent" shall mean the District, or any successor Dissemination Agent which has been designated in writing by the District and which has filed with the District a written acceptance of such designation.

"EMMA" shall mean the Electronic Municipal Market Access system: [www.emma.msrb.org](http://www.emma.msrb.org), established by the MSRB and which contains a component that includes a continuing disclosure service for the receipt and public availability of continuing disclosure documents and related information to be submitted by issuers, obligated persons, and their agents pursuant to continuing disclosure undertakings entered into consistent with the Rule.

"Financial Obligation" shall mean a: (i) debt obligation; (ii) derivative entered into in connection with, or pledged as security or a source of payment for, an existing or planned debt obligation; or (iii) guarantee of (i) or (ii). The term Financial Obligation shall not include municipal securities as to which a final official statement has been provided to the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board consistent with this Rule.

"Fiscal Year" shall mean the fiscal year of the District.

"Listed Events" shall mean any of the events listed in Section 5(a) of this Disclosure Certificate.

"MSRB" shall mean the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board.

"Participating Underwriter" shall mean any of the original underwriters of the Bonds required to comply with the Rule in connection with the offering of the Bonds.

"Rule" shall mean Rule 15c2-12(b)(5) adopted by the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC") under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as the same may be amended from time to time, and including written interpretations thereof by the Securities and Exchange Commission.

### **SECTION 3. Provision of Annual Reports.**

(a) The District shall provide, or shall cause the Dissemination Agent to provide, not later than June 30, 2021, and twelve (12) months after the end of each Fiscal Year during which the Bonds are outstanding, to the MSRB, in an electronic format through the use of EMMA, an Annual Report which is consistent with the requirements of Section 4 of this Disclosure Certificate. The Annual Report may be submitted as a single document or as separate documents comprising a package, and may cross-reference other information as provided in Section 4 of this Disclosure Certificate. If audited financial statements are not available by the date specified above, the District shall submit unaudited financial statements by that date to the MSRB and will submit the audited financial statements as soon as they are available.

(b) If the District is unable or fails to provide to the MSRB an Annual Report by the date required in subsection (a) above, the District shall send a timely notice to the MSRB in the format prescribed by the MSRB.

(c) The Dissemination Agent shall:

(i) determine each year prior to the date for providing the Annual Report the required method of submission to the MSRB and (if the Dissemination Agent is other than the District)

(ii) file a report with the District certifying that the Annual Report has been provided pursuant to this Disclosure Certificate and stating the date it was provided.

**SECTION 4. Content of Annual Reports.** The District's Annual Report shall contain or incorporate by reference the following:

1. An annual Audited Financial Statement.
2. Updates of the operating and financial data included in the Official Statement under headings substantially similar to the following or containing financial information directly relating to the following: "Current Property Valuations", "Tax Levies & Collections", "Student Body", "Direct Debt", and "Employment/Unemployment."

All documents provided to the MSRB shall be accompanied by identifying information as prescribed by the MSRB.

Any or all of the items listed above may be incorporated by reference from other documents, including official statements of debt issues of the District or related public entities, which have been submitted to the MSRB or the Securities and Exchange Commission. If the document incorporated by reference is a final official statement, it must also be available from the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board (MSRB). The District shall clearly identify each such other document so incorporated by reference.

**SECTION 5. Reporting of Significant Events.**

(a) This Section 5 shall govern the giving of notices of the occurrence of any of the following events, with respect to the Bonds:

1. Principal and interest payment delinquencies;
2. Non-payment related defaults, if material;
3. Unscheduled draws on debt service reserves reflecting financial difficulties;
4. Unscheduled draws on credit enhancements reflecting financial difficulties;
5. Substitution of credit or liquidity providers, or their failure to perform;
6. Adverse tax opinions, the issuance by the Internal Revenue Service of proposed or final determinations of taxability, Notices of Proposed Issue (IRS Form 5701-TEB) or other material notices or determinations with respect to the tax status of the security, or other material events affecting the tax status of the security;
7. Modifications to rights of security holders, if material;
8. Bond calls, if material, and tender offers;
9. Defeasances;



10. Release, substitution, or sale of property securing repayment of the securities, if material;

11. Rating changes;

12. Bankruptcy, insolvency, receivership or similar event of the obligated person;

13. The consummation of a merger, consolidation, or acquisition involving an obligated person or the sale of all or substantially all of the assets of the obligated person, other than in the ordinary course of business, the entry into a definitive agreement to undertake such an action or the termination of a definitive agreement relating to any such action, other than pursuant to its terms, if material;

876. Appointment of a successor or additional trustee or the change of name of a trustee, if material.

15. Incurrence of a Financial Obligation of the obligated person, if material, or agreement to covenants, events of default, remedies, priority rights, or other similar terms of a Financial Obligation of the obligated person, any of which affect security holders, if material; and

16. Default, event of acceleration, termination event, modification of terms, or other similar events under the terms of a Financial Obligation of the obligated person, any of which reflect financial difficulties.

(b) Whenever a Listed Event occurs, the District shall in a timely manner not in excess of ten business days after the occurrence of the Listed Event file a notice of such occurrence with the MSRB.

**SECTION 6. Termination of Reporting Obligation.** The District's obligations under this Disclosure Certificate shall terminate upon the legal defeasance, prior redemption or payment in full of all the Bonds.

**SECTION 7. Dissemination Agent.** The District may, from time to time, appoint or engage a Dissemination Agent to assist it in carrying out its obligations under this Disclosure Certificate, including but not limited to its duties under Sections 3 and 5 hereof, and may discharge any such Agent, with or without appointing a successor Dissemination Agent.

**SECTION 8. Amendment; Waiver.** Notwithstanding any other provision of this Disclosure Certificate, the District may amend this Disclosure Certificate, and any provision of this Disclosure Certificate may be waived, if such amendment or waiver is supported by an opinion of counsel expert in federal securities laws, to the effect that such amendment or waiver would not, in and of itself, cause the undertakings herein to violate the Rule if such amendment or waiver had been effective on the date hereof but taking into account any subsequent change in or official interpretation of the Rule.

If this Disclosure Certificate is amended, the District will disclose such amendment, together with a narrative explanation of that amendment, to the MSRB with its annual financial information disclosure.

**SECTION 9. Additional Information.** Nothing in this Disclosure Certificate shall be deemed to prevent the District from disseminating any other information, using the means of dissemination set forth in this Disclosure Certificate or any other means of communication, or including any other information in any Annual Report or notice of occurrence of a Listed Event, in addition to that which is required by this Disclosure Certificate. If the District chooses to include any information in any Annual Report or notice of occurrence of a Listed Event in addition to that which is specifically required by this Disclosure Certificate, the District shall have no obligation under this Disclosure Certificate to update such information or include it in any future Annual Report or notice of occurrence of a Listed Event.

**SECTION 10. Default.** In the event of a failure of the District to comply with any provision of this Disclosure Certificate, any Bondholder or beneficial owner may take such actions as may be necessary and appropriate, including seeking mandate or specific performance by court order, to cause the District to comply with its obligations under this Disclosure Certificate. A default under this Disclosure Certificate shall not be deemed an Event of Default under the Resolution or with respect to the Bonds, and the sole remedy under this Disclosure Certificate in the event of any failure of the District to comply with this Disclosure Certificate shall be an action to compel performance.

**SECTION 11. Duties, Immunities and Liabilities of Dissemination Agent.** The Dissemination Agent shall have only such duties as are specifically set forth in this Disclosure Certificate, and the District agrees, to the extent permitted by law, to indemnify and save the Dissemination Agent, its officers, directors, employees and agents, harmless against any loss, expense and liabilities which it may incur arising out of or in the exercise or performance of its powers and duties hereunder, including the costs and expenses (including attorney fees) of defending against any claim of liability, but excluding liabilities due to the Dissemination Agent's negligence or willful misconduct. The obligations of the District under this Section shall survive resignation or removal of the Dissemination Agent and payment of the Bonds.

**SECTION 12. Beneficiaries.** This Disclosure Certificate shall inure solely to the benefit of the District, the Dissemination Agent, the Participating Underwriters and Holders from time to time of the Bonds or the beneficial owners, if different, and shall create no rights in any other person or entity.

**SECTION 13. Reserved Rights.** The District reserves the right to discontinue providing any information required under the Rule if a final determination should be made by a court of competent jurisdiction that the Rule is invalid or otherwise unlawful or to modify the Undertaking under this Disclosure Certificate if the District determines that such modification is required by the Rule, or by a court of competent jurisdiction

**SECTION 14. District Contact Information.**

Title: Business Manger  
Name of District: Independent School District No. 876  
Address: 125 Cherry Avenue North, P.O. Box 190  
Annandale, Minnesota 55302  
Telephone No. (320) 274-0621

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This 5<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2020

INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 876  
(ANNANDALE)  
WRIGHT, STEARNS AND MEEKER COUNTIES  
STATE OF MINNESOTA

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Chair

And: \_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk

[Signature Page for Continuing Disclosure Certificate]

# APPENDIX E

## TERMS OF PROPOSAL

### **\$16,030,000\* GENERAL OBLIGATION SCHOOL BUILDING REFUNDING BONDS, SERIES 2020A INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 876 (ANNANDALE), MINNESOTA**

Proposals for the purchase of \$16,030,000\* General Obligation School Building Refunding Bonds, Series 2020A (the "Bonds") of Independent School District No. 876 (Annandale), Minnesota (the "District") will be received at the offices of Ehlers and Associates, Inc. ("Ehlers"), 3060 Centre Pointe Drive, Roseville, Minnesota 55113-1105, municipal advisors to the District, until 11:00 A.M., Central Time, and **ELECTRONIC PROPOSALS** will be received via **PARITY**, in the manner described below, until 11:00 A.M. Central Time, on October 8, 2020, at which time they will be opened, read and tabulated. The proposals will be presented to the Board of Education for consideration for award by resolution at a meeting to be held at 6:00 P.M., Central Time, on the same date. The proposal offering to purchase the Bonds upon the terms specified herein and most favorable to the District will be accepted unless all proposals are rejected.

### **PURPOSE**

The Bonds are authorized pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 475, and Section 475.67, by the District for the purpose of effecting a current refunding of certain outstanding general obligations of the District as more fully described herein. The Bonds will be general obligations of the District for which its full faith, credit and taxing powers are pledged.

### **DATES AND MATURITIES**

The Bonds will be dated November 5, 2020, will be issued as fully registered Bonds in the denomination of \$5,000 each, or any integral multiple thereof, and will mature on February 1 as follows:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Amount*</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Amount*</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Amount*</u>
2022	\$1,335,000	2026	\$1,395,000	2030	\$1,600,000
2023	1,245,000	2027	1,450,000	2031	1,635,000
2024	1,290,000	2028	1,505,000	2032	1,670,000
2025	1,340,000	2029	1,565,000		

### **ADJUSTMENT OPTION**

\* The District reserves the right to increase or decrease the principal amount of the Bonds on the day of sale, in increments of \$5,000 each. Increases or decreases may be made in any maturity. If any principal amounts are adjusted, the purchase price proposed will be adjusted to maintain the same gross spread per \$1,000.

### **TERM BOND OPTION**

Proposals for the Bonds may contain a maturity schedule providing for any combination of serial bonds and term bonds, subject to mandatory redemption, so long as the amount of principal maturing or subject to mandatory redemption in each year conforms to the maturity schedule set forth above. All dates are inclusive.

## **INTEREST PAYMENT DATES AND RATES**

Interest will be payable on February 1 and August 1 of each year, commencing August 1, 2021, to the registered owners of the Bonds appearing of record in the bond register as of the close of business on the 15th day (whether or not a business day) of the immediately preceding month. Interest will be computed upon the basis of a 360-day year of twelve 30-day months and will be rounded pursuant to rules of the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board. **The rate for any maturity may not be more than 2.00% less than the rate for any preceding maturity. (For example, if a rate of 4.50% is proposed for the 2022 maturity, then the lowest rate that may be proposed for any later maturity is 2.50%.)** All Bonds of the same maturity must bear interest from date of issue until paid at a single, uniform rate. Each rate must be expressed in an integral multiple of 5/100 or 1/8 of 1%.

## **BOOK-ENTRY-ONLY FORMAT**

Unless otherwise specified by the purchaser, the Bonds will be designated in the name of Cede & Co., as nominee for The Depository Trust Company, New York, New York ("DTC"). DTC will act as securities depository for the Bonds, and will be responsible for maintaining a book-entry system for recording the interests of its participants and the transfers of interests between its participants. The participants will be responsible for maintaining records regarding the beneficial interests of the individual purchasers of the Bonds. So long as Cede & Co. is the registered owner of the Bonds, all payments of principal and interest will be made to the depository which, in turn, will be obligated to remit such payments to its participants for subsequent disbursement to the beneficial owners of the Bonds.

## **PAYING AGENT**

The District has selected Bond Trust Services Corporation, Roseville, Minnesota, to act as paying agent (the "Paying Agent"). Bond Trust Services Corporation and Ehlers are affiliate companies. The District will pay the charges for Paying Agent services. The District reserves the right to remove the Paying Agent and to appoint a successor.

## **OPTIONAL REDEMPTION**

At the option of the District, the Bonds maturing on or after February 1, 2029 shall be subject to optional redemption prior to maturity on February 1, 2028 or any date thereafter, at a price of par plus accrued interest.

Redemption may be in whole or in part of the Bonds subject to prepayment. If redemption is in part, the selection of the amounts and maturities of the Bonds to be redeemed shall be at the discretion of the District. If only part of the Bonds having a common maturity date are called for redemption, then the District or Paying Agent, if any, will notify DTC of the particular amount of such maturity to be redeemed. DTC will determine by lot the amount of each participant's interest in such maturity to be redeemed and each participant will then select by lot the beneficial ownership interest in such maturity to be redeemed.

Notice of redemption shall be sent by mail not more than 60 days and not less than 30 days prior to the date fixed for redemption to the registered owner of each Bond to be redeemed at the address shown on the registration books.

## **DELIVERY**

On or about November 5, 2020, the Bonds will be delivered without cost to the winning bidder at DTC. On the day of closing, the District will furnish to the winning bidder the opinion of bond counsel hereinafter described, an arbitrage certification, and certificates verifying that no litigation in any manner questioning the validity of the Bonds is then pending or, to the best knowledge of officers of the District, threatened. Payment for the Bonds must be received by the District at its designated depository on the date of closing in immediately available funds.

## LEGAL OPINION

An opinion as to the validity of the Bonds and the exemption from taxation of the interest thereon will be furnished by Knutson, Flynn & Deans, P.A., Mendota Heights, Minnesota, Bond Counsel to the District, and will be available at the time of delivery of the Bonds. The legal opinion will state that the Bonds are valid and binding general obligations of the District; provided that the rights of the owners of the Bonds and the enforceability of the Bonds may be limited by bankruptcy, insolvency, reorganization, moratorium, and other similar laws affecting creditors' rights and by equitable principles (which may be applied in either a legal or equitable proceeding). See "FORM OF LEGAL OPINION" found in Appendix B.

## SUBMISSION OF PROPOSALS

Proposals must not be for less than \$15,901,760 plus accrued interest on the principal sum of \$16,030,000 from date of original issue of the Bonds to date of delivery. Prior to the time established above for the opening of proposals, interested parties may submit a proposal as follows:

- 1) Electronically to [bondsale@ehlers-inc.com](mailto:bondsale@ehlers-inc.com); or
- 2) Electronically via **PARITY** in accordance with this Terms of Proposal until 11:00 A.M. Central Time, but no proposal will be received after the time for receiving proposals specified above. To the extent any instructions or directions set forth in **PARITY** conflict with this Terms of Proposal, the terms of this Terms of Proposal shall control. For further information about **PARITY**, potential bidders may contact Ehlers or i-Deal LLC at 1359 Broadway, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, New York, New York 10018, Telephone (212) 849-5021.

Proposals must be submitted to Ehlers via one of the methods described above and must be received prior to the time established above for the opening of proposals. Each proposal must be unconditional except as to legality. Neither the District nor Ehlers shall be responsible for any failure to receive a facsimile submission.

**A good faith deposit ("Deposit") in the amount of \$320,600 shall be made by the winning bidder by wire transfer of funds. Such Deposit shall be received by Ehlers no later than two hours after the proposal opening time. Wire transfer instructions will be provided to the winning bidder by Ehlers after the tabulation of proposals.** The District reserves the right to award the Bonds to a winning bidder whose wire transfer is initiated but not received by such time provided that such winning bidder's federal wire reference number has been received by such time. In the event the Deposit is not received as provided above, the District may award the Bonds to the bidder submitting the next best proposal provided such bidder agrees to such award. The Deposit will be retained by the District as liquidated damages if the proposal is accepted and the Purchaser fails to comply therewith.

The District and the winning bidder who chooses to so wire the Deposit hereby agree irrevocably that Ehlers shall be the escrow holder of the Deposit wired to such account subject only to these conditions and duties: 1) All income earned thereon shall be retained by the escrow holder as payment for its expenses; 2) If the proposal is not accepted, Ehlers shall, at its expense, promptly return the Deposit amount to the winning bidder; 3) If the proposal is accepted, the Deposit shall be returned to the winning bidder at the closing; 4) Ehlers shall bear all costs of maintaining the escrow account and returning the funds to the winning bidder; 5) Ehlers shall not be an insurer of the Deposit amount and shall have no liability hereunder except if it willfully fails to perform or recklessly disregards, its duties specified herein; and 6) FDIC insurance on deposits within the escrow account shall be limited to \$250,000 per bidder.

No proposal can be withdrawn after the time set for receiving proposals unless the meeting of the District scheduled for award of the Bonds is adjourned, recessed, or continued to another date without award of the Bonds having been made.

## **AWARD**

The Bonds will be awarded to the bidder offering the lowest interest rate to be determined on a True Interest Cost (TIC) basis. The District's computation of the interest rate of each proposal, in accordance with customary practice, will be controlling. In the event of a tie, the sale of the Bonds will be awarded by lot. The District reserves the right to reject any and all proposals and to waive any informality in any proposal.

## **BOND INSURANCE**

If the Bonds are qualified for any bond insurance policy, the purchase of such policy shall be at the sole option and expense of the winning bidder. Any cost for such insurance policy is to be paid by the winning bidder, except that, if the District requested and received a rating on the Bonds from a rating agency, the District will pay that rating fee. Any rating agency fees not requested by the District are the responsibility of the winning bidder.

Failure of the municipal bond insurer to issue the policy after the Bonds are awarded to the winning bidder shall not constitute cause for failure or refusal by the winning bidder to accept delivery of the Bonds.

## **CUSIP NUMBERS**

The District will assume no obligation for the assignment or printing of CUSIP numbers on the Bonds or for the correctness of any numbers printed thereon, but will permit such numbers to be printed at the expense of the winning bidder, if the winning bidder waives any delay in delivery occasioned thereby.

## **NON-QUALIFIED TAX-EXEMPT OBLIGATIONS**

The District will NOT designate the Bonds as "qualified tax-exempt obligations" pursuant to Section 265 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, which permits financial institutions to deduct interest expenses allocable to the Bonds to the extent permitted under prior law.

## **CONTINUING DISCLOSURE**

In order to assist the Underwriters in complying with the provisions of Rule 15c2-12 promulgated by the Securities and Exchange Commission under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 the District will enter into an undertaking for the benefit of the holders of the Bonds. A description of the details and terms of the undertaking is set forth in Appendix D of the Preliminary Official Statement.

## **NEW ISSUE PRICING**

The winning bidder will be required to provide, in a timely manner, certain information necessary to compute the yield on the Bonds pursuant to the provisions of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, and to provide a certificate which will be provided by Bond Counsel upon request.

(a) The winning bidder shall assist the District in establishing the issue price of the Bonds and shall execute and deliver to the District at closing an "issue price" or similar certificate satisfactory to Bond Counsel setting forth the reasonably expected initial offering price to the public or the sales price or prices of the Bonds, together with the supporting pricing wires or equivalent communications. All actions to be taken by the District under this Terms of Proposal to establish the issue price of the Bonds may be taken on behalf of the District by the District's municipal advisor identified herein and any notice or report to be provided to the District may be provided to the District's municipal advisor.



(b) The District intends that the provisions of Treasury Regulation Section 1.148-1(f)(3)(i) (defining "competitive sale" for purposes of establishing the issue price of the Bonds) will apply to the initial sale of the Bonds (the "competitive sale requirements") because:

- (1) The District shall disseminate this Terms of Proposal to potential underwriters in a manner that is reasonably designed to reach potential investors;
- (2) all bidders shall have an equal opportunity to bid;
- (3) the District may receive proposals from at least three underwriters of municipal bonds who have established industry reputations for underwriting new issuances of municipal bonds; and
- (4) the District anticipates awarding the sale of the Bonds to the bidder who submits a firm offer to purchase the Bonds at the highest price (or lowest interest cost), as set forth in this Terms of Proposal.

Any proposal submitted pursuant to this Terms of Proposal shall be considered a firm offer for the purchase of the Bonds, as specified in this proposal.

(c) If all of the requirements of a "competitive sale" are not satisfied, the District shall advise the winning bidder of such fact prior to the time of award of the sale of the Bonds to the winning bidder. In such event, any proposal submitted will not be subject to cancellation or withdrawal and the District agrees to use the rule selected by the winning bidder on its proposal form to determine the issue price for the Bonds. On its proposal form, each bidder must select one of the following two rules for determining the issue price of the Bonds: (1) the first price at which 10% of a maturity of the Bonds (the "10% test") is sold to the public as the issue price of that maturity or (2) the initial offering price to the public as of the sale date as the issue price of each maturity of the Bonds (the "hold-the-offering-price rule").

(d) If all of the requirements of a "competitive sale" are not satisfied and the winning bidder selects the hold-the-offering-price rule, the winning bidder shall (i) confirm that the underwriters have offered or will offer the Bonds to the public on or before the date of award at the offering price or prices (the "initial offering price"), or at the corresponding yield or yields, set forth in the proposal submitted by the winning bidder and (ii) agree, on behalf of the underwriters participating in the purchase of the Bonds, that the underwriters will neither offer nor sell unsold Bonds of any maturity to which the hold-the-offering-price rule shall apply to any person at a price that is higher than the initial offering price to the public during the period starting on the sale date and ending on the earlier of the following:

- (1) the close of the fifth (5<sup>th</sup>) business day after the sale date; or
- (2) the date on which the underwriters have sold at least 10% of that maturity of the Bonds to the public at a price that is no higher than the initial offering price to the public.

The winning bidder will advise the District promptly after the close of the fifth (5<sup>th</sup>) business day after the sale whether it has sold 10% of that maturity of the Bonds to the public at a price that is no higher than the initial offering price to the public.

The District acknowledges that in making the representation set forth above, the winning bidder will rely on:

(i) the agreement of each underwriter to comply with requirements for establishing issue price of the Bonds, including, but not limited to, its agreement to comply with the hold-the-price rule, if applicable to the Bonds, as set forth in an agreement among underwriters and the related pricing wires,

(ii) in the event a selling group has been created in connection with the initial sale of the Bonds to the public, the agreement of each dealer who is a member of the selling group to comply with the requirements for establishing issue price of the Bonds, including, but not limited to, its agreement to comply with the hold-the-offering-price rule, if applicable to the Bonds, as set forth in a selling group agreement and the related pricing wires, and

(iii) in the event that an underwriter or dealer who is a member of the selling group is a party to a third-party distribution agreement that was employed in connection with the initial sale of the Bonds to the public, the agreement of each broker-dealer that is party to such agreement to comply with the requirements for establishing issue price of the Bonds, including, but not limited to, its agreement to comply with the hold-the-offering-price rule, if applicable to the Bonds, as set forth in the third-party distribution agreement and the related pricing wires. The District further acknowledges that each underwriter shall be solely liable for its failure to comply with its agreement regarding the requirements for establishing issue price rule of the Bonds, including, but not limited to, its agreement to comply with the hold-the-offering-price rule, if applicable to the Bonds, and that no underwriter shall be liable for the failure of any other underwriter, or of any dealer who is a member of a selling group, or of any broker-dealer that is a party to a third-party distribution agreement to comply with its corresponding agreement to comply with the requirements for establishing issue price of the Bonds, including, but not limited to, its agreement to comply with the hold-the-offering-price rule as applicable to the Bonds.

(e) If all of the requirements of a "competitive sale" are not satisfied and the winning bidder selects the 10% test, the winning bidder agrees to promptly report to the District, Bond Counsel and Ehlers the prices at which the Bonds have been sold to the public. That reporting obligation shall continue, whether or not the closing date has occurred, until either (i) all Bonds of that maturity have been sold or (ii) the 10% test has been satisfied as to each maturity of the Bonds, provided that, the winning bidder's reporting obligation after the Closing Date may be at reasonable periodic intervals or otherwise upon request of the District or bond counsel.

(f) By submitting a proposal, each bidder confirms that:

(i) any agreement among underwriters, any selling group agreement and each third-party distribution agreement (to which the bidder is a party) relating to the initial sale of the Bonds to the public, together with the related pricing wires, contains or will contain language obligating each underwriter, each dealer who is a member of the selling group, and each broker-dealer that is party to such third-party distribution agreement, as applicable, to:

(A) report the prices at which it sells to the public the unsold Bonds of each maturity allocated to it, whether or not the Closing Date has occurred until either all securities of that maturity allocated to it have been sold or it is notified by the winning bidder that either the 10% test has been satisfied as to the Bonds of that maturity, provided that, the reporting obligation after the Closing Date may be at reasonable periodic intervals or otherwise upon request of the District or bond counsel.

(B) comply with the hold-the-offering-price rule, if applicable, in each case if and for so long as directed by the winning bidder and as set forth in the related pricing wires, and

(ii) any agreement among underwriters or selling group agreement relating to the initial sale of the Bonds to the public, together with the related pricing wires, contains or will contain language obligating each underwriter, each dealer who is a member of the selling group and each broker dealer that is a party to a third-party distribution agreement to be employed in connection with the initial sale of the Bonds to the public to require each broker-dealer that is a party to such third-party distribution agreement to:

(A) to promptly notify the winning bidder of any sales of Bonds that, to its knowledge, are made to a purchaser who is a related party to an underwriter participating in the initial sale of the Bonds to the public (each such term being used as defined below), and

(B) to acknowledge that, unless otherwise advised by the underwriter, dealer or broker-dealer, the winning bidder shall assume that each order submitted by the underwriter, dealer or broker-dealer is a sale to the public.

(g) Sales of any Bonds to any person that is a related party to an underwriter participating in the initial sale of the Bonds to the public (each term being used as defined below) shall not constitute sales to the public for purposes of this Terms of Proposal. Further, for purposes of this Terms of Proposal:

- (i) "public" means any person other than an underwriter or a related party,
- (ii) "underwriter" means (A) any person that agrees pursuant to a written contract with the District (or with the lead underwriter to form an underwriting syndicate) to participate in the initial sale of the Bonds to the public and (B) any person that agrees pursuant to a written contract directly or indirectly with a person described in clause (A) to participate in the initial sale of the Bonds to the public (including a member of a selling group or a party to a third-party distribution agreement participating in the initial sale of the Bonds to the public),
- (iii) a purchaser of any of the Bonds is a "related party" to an underwriter if the underwriter and the purchaser are subject, directly or indirectly, to (A) more than 50% common ownership of the voting power or the total value of their stock, if both entities are corporations (including direct ownership by one corporation of another), (B) more than 50% common ownership of their capital interests or profits interests, if both entities are partnerships (including direct ownership by one partnership of another), or (C) more than 50% common ownership of the value of the outstanding stock of the corporation or the capital interests or profit interests of the partnership, as applicable, if one entity is a corporation and the other entity is a partnership (including direct ownership of the applicable stock or interests by one entity of the other), and
- (iv) "sale date" means the date that the Bonds are awarded by the District to the winning bidder.

### **PRELIMINARY OFFICIAL STATEMENT**

Bidders may obtain a copy of the Preliminary Official Statement relating to the Bonds prior to the proposal opening by request from Ehlers at [www.ehlers-inc.com](http://www.ehlers-inc.com) by connecting to the Bond Sales link. The Syndicate Manager will be provided with an electronic copy of the Final Official Statement within seven business days of the proposal acceptance. Up to 10 printed copies of the Final Official Statement will be provided upon request. Additional copies of the Final Official Statement will be available at a cost of \$10.00 per copy.

Information for bidders and proposal forms may be obtained from Ehlers at 3060 Centre Pointe Drive, Roseville, Minnesota 55113-1105, Telephone (651) 697-8500.

By Order of the Board of Education

Independent School District No. 876 (Annandale),  
Minnesota

# PROPOSAL FORM

**The Board of Education  
Independent School District No. 876 (Annandale), Minnesota**

**October 8, 2020**

**RE: \$16,030,000\* General Obligation School Building Refunding Bonds, Series 2020A (the "Bonds")**  
**DATED: November 5, 2020**

For all or none of the above Bonds, in accordance with the Terms of Proposal and terms of the Global Book-Entry System (unless otherwise specified by the Purchaser) as stated in this Official Statement, we will pay you \$\_\_\_\_\_ (not less than \$15,901,760) plus accrued interest to date of delivery for fully registered Bonds bearing interest rates and maturing in the stated years as follows:

_____ % due	2022	_____ % due	2026	_____ % due	2030
_____ % due	2023	_____ % due	2027	_____ % due	2031
_____ % due	2024	_____ % due	2028	_____ % due	2032
_____ % due	2025	_____ % due	2029		

\* The District reserves the right to increase or decrease the principal amount of the Bonds on the day of sale, in increments of \$5,000 each. Increases or decreases may be made in any maturity. If any principal amounts are adjusted, the purchase price proposed will be adjusted to maintain the same gross spread per \$1,000.

**The rate for any maturity may not be more than 2.00% less than the rate for any preceding maturity. (For example, if a rate of 4.50% is proposed for the 2022 maturity, then the lowest rate that may be proposed for any later maturity is 2.50%.)** All Bonds of the same maturity must bear interest from date of issue until paid at a single, uniform rate. Each rate must be expressed in an integral multiple of 5/100 or 1/8 of 1%.

**A good faith deposit ("Deposit") in the amount of \$320,600 shall be made by the winning bidder by wire transfer of funds. Such Deposit shall be received by Ehlers no later than two hours after the proposal opening time. Wire transfer instructions will be provided to the winning bidder by Ehlers after the tabulation of proposals.** The District reserves the right to award the Bonds to a winning bidder whose wire transfer is initiated but not received by such time provided that such winning bidder's federal wire reference number has been received by such time. In the event the Deposit is not received as provided above, the District may award the Bonds to the bidder submitting the next best proposal provided such bidder agrees to such award. The Deposit will be retained by the District as liquidated damages if the proposal is accepted and the Purchaser fails to comply therewith. We agree to the conditions and duties of Ehlers and Associates, Inc., as escrow holder of the Deposit, pursuant to the Terms of Proposal. This proposal is for prompt acceptance and is conditional upon delivery of said Bonds to The Depository Trust Company, New York, New York, in accordance with the Terms of Proposal. Delivery is anticipated to be on or about November 5, 2020.

This proposal is subject to the District's agreement to enter into a written undertaking to provide continuing disclosure under Rule 15c2-12 promulgated by the Securities and Exchange Commission under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 as described in the Preliminary Official Statement for the Bonds.

We have received and reviewed the Official Statement, and any addenda thereto, and have submitted our requests for additional information or corrections to the Final Official Statement. As Syndicate Manager, we agree to provide the District with the reoffering price of the Bonds within 24 hours of the proposal acceptance.

This proposal is a firm offer for the purchase of the Bonds identified in the Terms of Proposal, on the terms set forth in this proposal form and the Terms of Proposal, and is not subject to any conditions, except as permitted by the Terms of Proposal.

By submitting this proposal, we confirm that we are an underwriter and have an established industry reputation for underwriting new issuances of municipal bonds. YES: \_\_\_ NO: \_\_\_.

If the competitive sale requirements are not met, we elect to use the (circle one): 10% test / hold-the-offering-price rule to determine the issue price of the Bonds.

Account Manager: \_\_\_\_\_ By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Account Members: \_\_\_\_\_

**Award will be on a true interest cost basis.** According to our computations (the correct computation being controlling in the award), the total dollar interest cost (including any discount or less any premium) computed from November 5, 2020 of the above proposal is \$\_\_\_\_\_ and the true interest cost (TIC) is \_\_\_\_\_%.

-----  
The foregoing offer is hereby accepted by and on behalf of the Board of Education of Independent School District No. 876 (Annandale), Minnesota, on October 8, 2020.

By: \_\_\_\_\_ By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_