

WEST BOLIVAR SCHOOL DISTRICT
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2003

The discussion and analysis of West Bolivar School District's financial performance provides an overall narrative review of the School District's financial activities for the year ended June 30, 2003. The intent of this discussion and analysis is to look at the School District's performance as a whole; readers should also review the notes to the basic financial statements and the financial statements to enhance their understanding of the School District's financial performance. Information contained in this section is qualified by the more detailed information contained elsewhere in this district's financial statements, notes to financial statements and any accompanying materials. To the extent this discussion contains any forward-looking statements of the district's plans, objectives, expectations and prospects, the actual results could differ materially from those discussed herein.

This discussion and analysis is a new element of Required Supplementary Information specified in the Governmental Accounting Standards Board's (GASB) Statement No. 34 – *Basic Financial Statements – and Management's Discussion and Analysis – for State and Local Governments* issued June 1999. Certain comparative information between the current year and the prior year is required to be presented. However, since this is the first year of implementation of the new reporting model contained in GASB Statement No. 34, the Statement permits the omission of prior year data in the year of implementation. The School District has elected not to present comparative data.

West Bolivar School District is one of two school districts that serve the west side of Bolivar County. At the end of the 2002-2003 school year the enrollment was 1167. A comparison of the 2001 and 2002 fiscal years indicates a decline in enrollment of 144 students. This decline in enrollment is attributed to the fact that the West Bolivar School District no longer serves students from Benoit School District during that period. The 2002 and 2003 years had a decrease of 29 students.

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

- Total net assets increased \$353,109, which represents (50%) increase from fiscal year 2002.
- General revenues account for \$5,891,343 in revenue, or 63% of all revenues. Program specific revenues in the form of charges for services and grants and contributions accounted for \$3,447,034 or 37% of total revenues.
- The District had \$9,119,468 in expenses; only \$3,447,034 of these expenses was offset by program specific charges for services, grants and contributions. General revenues of \$5,891,343 were adequate to provide for these programs.

- Among major funds, the General Fund had \$5,365,901 in revenues and \$5,014,926 in expenditures. The General Fund's fund balance increased \$102,189 over the prior year. This increase is due to increased MAEP funding.
- Capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation, *decreased* by \$568,232.
- Long-term debt *decreased* by \$160,622.

OVERVIEW OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

This discussion and analysis is intended to serve as an introduction to the District's basic financial statements. The District's basic financial statements comprise three components: 1) government-wide financial statements, 2) fund financial statements, and 3) notes to the financial statements. This report also contains other supplementary information in addition to the basic financial statements themselves.

Government-wide financial statements. The government-wide financial statements are designed to provide readers with a broad overview of the District's finances, in a manner similar to a private-sector business. These statements are prepared using the accrual basis of accounting and include all assets and liabilities.

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

The Statement of Activities presents information showing how the District's net assets changed during the most recent fiscal year. All changes in net assets are reported as soon as the underlying event giving rise to the change occurs, regardless of the timing of related cash flows. Thus, revenues and expenses are reported in this statement for some items that will only result in cash flows in future fiscal years.

The government-wide financial statements outline functions of the District that are principally supported by property taxes and intergovernmental revenues (governmental activities). The governmental activities of the District include instruction, support services, non-instructional, sixteenth section and interest on long-term liabilities.

Fund financial statements. A fund is a grouping of related accounts that is used to maintain control over resources that have been segregated for specific activities or objectives. The District uses fund accounting to ensure and demonstrate compliance with finance-related legal requirements. All of the funds of the District can be divided into two categories: governmental funds and fiduciary funds.

Governmental funds. Governmental funds are used to account for essentially the same functions reported as governmental activities in the government-wide financial statements. However, unlike the government-wide financial statements, governmental fund financial statements focus on current spendable resources, as well as on balances of spendable resources available at the end of the fiscal year. Such information may be useful in evaluating the District's current financing requirements. Governmental Funds are reported using modified accrual accounting. This method of accounting measures cash and other assets that can be easily converted to cash. The Governmental Funds Statements provide a detailed short-term view of the school district's operations.

Because the focus of governmental funds is narrower than that of the government-wide financial statements, it is useful to compare the information presented for governmental funds with similar information presented for governmental activities in the government-wide financial statements. By doing so, readers may better understand the long-term impact of the District's current financing decisions. Both the governmental fund balance sheet and the governmental fund statement of revenues, expenditures, and changes in fund balances provide a reconciliation to facilitate this comparison between governmental funds and governmental activities.

The District maintains individual governmental funds in accordance with the *Financial Accounting Manual for Mississippi Public School Districts* issued by the Mississippi Office of the State Auditor. Information is presented separately in the governmental fund balance sheet and in the governmental fund statement of revenues, expenditures, and changes in fund balances for all major funds. All other non-major funds are combined together and presented in these reports as other governmental funds.

Fiduciary funds. Fiduciary funds are used to account for resources held for the benefit of parties outside the District. Fiduciary funds are not reflected in the government-wide financial statements because resources of those funds are not available to support the District's own programs. The accrual basis of accounting is used for fiduciary funds. The school district is responsible for ensuring that the assets reported in these funds are used for their intended purpose. The school district's fiduciary activities are presented in separate Statements of Fiduciary Net Assets.

Notes to the financial statements. The notes provide additional information that is essential to a full understanding of the data provided in the government-wide and fund financial statements.

Other information. In addition to the basic financial statements and accompanying notes, this report also presents certain required supplementary information concerning the District's budget process.

The District adopts an annual operating budget for all governmental funds. A budgetary comparison statement has been provided for the General Fund and each additional major fund.

Additionally, a schedule of expenditures of federal awards is required by OMB Cir. A-133.

GOVERNMENT-WIDE FINANCIAL ANALYSIS

Net assets. Net assets may serve over time as a useful indicator of a government's financial position. In the case of the District, assets exceeded liabilities by \$1,058,560 at June 30, 2003.

As illustrated in the chart below, the largest portion of the District's net assets is investment in capital assets (e.g., land, buildings, improvements other than buildings, mobile equipment, furniture and equipment, and leased property under capital leases), less any related debt used to acquire those assets that is still outstanding, cash and cash equivalents, and other receivables. The District will use these assets to provide current and future services to its students.

Assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	1,688,390	37.45%
Due from other governments	664,614	14.74%
Other receivables, net	3,171	0.07%
Inventories and prepaid items	12,844	0.28%
Restricted assets	69,446	1.54%
Capital assets, net	2,070,236	45.92%
 Total Assets	 4,508,701	 100.00%

The District's financial position is a product of several financial transactions including the net result of activities, the acquisition and payment of debt, the acquisition and disposal of capital assets and the depreciation of capital assets.

The following table presents a summary of the District's net assets for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2003.

	<u>Amount</u>
Current assets	\$ 2,438,465
Capital assets, net	<u>2,070,236</u>
Total assets	<u>4,508,701</u>
Current liabilities	872,610
Long-term debt outstanding	<u>2,577,531</u>
Total liabilities	<u>3,450,141</u>
Net assets:	
Invested in capital assets, net of related debt	(273,018)
Restricted	1,091,618
Unrestricted	<u>239,960</u>
Total net assets	<u>\$ 1,058,560</u>

The following are significant current year transactions that have had an impact on the Statement of Net Assets.

- The principal retirement of \$248,685 of long-term debt.
- The addition of \$1,163,400 in capital assets from the construction of the Jordan Goins Technology Center.

Changes in net assets. The District's total revenues for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2003 were \$9,338,377. The total cost of all programs and services was \$9,119,468. The following table presents a summary of the changes in net assets for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2003.

	<u>Amount</u>
Revenues:	
Program revenues	\$ 3,447,034
General revenues	<u>5,891,343</u>
Total revenues	<u>9,338,377</u>
Expenses:	
Instruction	4,039,208
Support services	4,282,819
Non-instructional	658,393
Sixteenth section	20,780
Interest on long-term liabilities	<u>118,268</u>
Total expenses	<u>9,119,468</u>
Increase in net assets	<u>\$ 218,909</u>

Governmental activities. The following table presents the cost of five major District functional activities: instruction, support services, non-instructional, sixteenth section and interest on long-term debt. The table also shows each function's net cost (total cost less charges for services generated by the activities and intergovernmental aid provided for specific programs). The net cost shows the financial burden that was placed on the State and District's taxpayers by each of these functions.

	Total Expense	Net (Expense) Revenue
Instruction	\$ 4,039,208	\$ (2,577,185)
Support Service	4,282,819	(2,956,597)
Non-instructional	658,393	396
Sixteenth Section	20,780	(20,780)
Interest on long-term liabilities	<u>118,268</u>	<u>(118,268)</u>
Total expenses	<u>9,119,468</u>	<u>(5,672,434)</u>

Net cost of governmental activities (\$5,672,434), was financed by general revenue, which is made up of primarily property taxes \$745,564 and state revenue \$4,721,040.

Investment earnings accounted for \$11,274 of funding.

FINANCIAL ANALYSIS OF THE DISTRICT'S FUNDS

As noted earlier, the District uses fund accounting to ensure and demonstrate compliance with finance-related legal requirements.

Governmental funds. The focus of the District's governmental funds is to provide information on current inflows, outflows and balances of spendable resources. Such information is useful in assessing the District's financing requirements. In particular, unreserved fund balance may serve as a useful measure of the District's net resources available for spending at the end of the fiscal year.

The financial performance of the District as a whole is reflected in its governmental funds. As the District completed the year, its governmental funds reported a combined fund balance of \$1,613,399, a decrease of \$186,236 due primarily to financing the completion of the Jordan Goins Technology Center. \$474,237 or 29% of the fund balance constitutes unreserved and undesignated fund balance, which is available for spending at the District's discretion.

The General Fund is the principal operating fund of the District. The increase in fund balance in the General Fund for the fiscal year was \$102,189. The fund balance of Other Governmental Funds showed a *decrease* of \$288,425, due primarily to the completion of the Barksdale Grant and the Americorp Program.

BUDGETARY HIGHLIGHTS

Over the course of the year, the District revised the annual operating budget. The primary reason for the revision of the budget was:

Budget amounts for revenue from state sources were increased to full funding for Mississippi Adequate Education. The original budgeted amounts underestimated for potential cuts by the Mississippi legislature. This was done upon suggestion of the Mississippi Department of Education.

The original budget reflected estimated allocations for Title projects. Revisions were made to incorporate actual allocations.

A schedule showing the original and final budget amounts compared to the District's actual financial activity for the General Fund and other major funds is provided in this report as required supplementary information.

CAPITAL ASSETS AND DEBT ADMINISTRATION

Capital Assets. As of June 30, 2003, the District's total capital assets were \$4,144,546 including school buildings, buses, other school vehicles, furniture and equipment and improvements other than buildings. This amount represents a decrease of \$454,851 from the previous year. Total accumulated depreciation as of June 30, 2003 was \$2,074,310 and total depreciation expense for the year was \$125,143, resulting in total net assets of \$2,070,236.

Debt Administration. At June 30, 2003, the District had \$2,577,531 in general obligation bonds and other long-term debt outstanding, of which \$186,613 is due within one year.

The District maintains an AA bond rating.

CURRENT ISSUES

The West Bolivar School District is financially stable. The District is proud of its community support of the public schools.

The District has committed itself to financial excellence for many years. The millage has decreased 4.61 over the past 3 years. In addition, the District system of financial planning, budgeting and internal financial controls are well regarded. The District plans to continue its sound fiscal management to meet the challenges of the future.

Latest enrollment figures indicate that student enrollment in the District will decline approximately 10 students. The budget for the next fiscal year has taken into account this reduction in both funding and staffing needs.

CONTACTING THE DISTRICT'S FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

If you have questions about this report, contact the Superintendent's Office of the West Bolivar School District, P. O. Box 189, Rosedale, MS 38769.