

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549
FORM 10-Q

(Mark One)

☒ **QUARTERLY REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934**

For the quarterly period ended December 31, 2019
OR

☐ **TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934**

For the transition period from _____ to _____
Commission File Number: 1-34434

MSG Networks Inc.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware
(State or other jurisdiction of
incorporation or organization)

27-0624498
(I.R.S. Employer
Identification No.)

11 Pennsylvania Plaza
New York, NY 10001
(212) 465-6400

(Address, including zip code, and telephone number, including area code, of registrant's principal executive offices)

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act:

Title of each class	Trading Symbol(s)	Name of each exchange on which registered
Class A Common Stock	MSGN	New York Stock Exchange

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days. Yes ☒ No ☐

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted electronically every Interactive Data File required to be submitted and posted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T (§232.405 of this chapter) during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to submit such files). Yes ☒ No ☐

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, a smaller reporting company, or an emerging growth company. See the definitions of "large accelerated filer," "accelerated filer," "smaller reporting company," and "emerging growth company" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act.

Large accelerated filer ☒ Accelerated filer ☐ Non-accelerated filer ☐

Smaller reporting company ☐ Emerging growth company ☐

If an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 13(a) of the Exchange Act. ☐

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act). Yes ☐ No ☒

Number of shares of common stock outstanding as of January 31, 2020:

Class A Common Stock par value \$0.01 per share	—	46,577,807
Class B Common Stock par value \$0.01 per share	—	13,588,555

**MSG NETWORKS INC.
INDEX TO FORM 10-Q**

	<u>Page</u>
<u>PART I. FINANCIAL INFORMATION</u>	
<u>Item 1. Financial Statements</u>	
Consolidated Balance Sheets as of December 31, 2019 (unaudited) and June 30, 2019	1
Consolidated Statements of Operations for the three and six months ended December 31, 2019 and 2018 (unaudited)	2
Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Income for the three and six months ended December 31, 2019 and 2018 (unaudited)	3
Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows for the six months ended December 31, 2019 and 2018 (unaudited)	4
Consolidated Statements of Stockholders' Deficiency for the three and six months ended December 31, 2019 and 2018 (unaudited)	5
Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements (unaudited)	7
Item 2. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations	21
Item 3. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk	29
Item 4. Controls and Procedures	29
<u>PART II. OTHER INFORMATION</u>	
Item 1. Legal Proceedings	30
Item 2. Unregistered Sales of Equity Securities and Use of Proceeds	30
Item 6. Exhibits	30
Signature	31

PART I – FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Item 1. Financial Statements

MSG NETWORKS INC. CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS (in thousands, except per share data)

	December 31, 2019	June 30, 2019
	(unaudited)	
ASSETS		
Current Assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 115,914	\$ 226,423
Accounts receivable, net	107,477	108,349
Related party receivables, net	21,018	16,091
Prepaid income taxes	12,235	1,968
Prepaid expenses	6,161	2,003
Other current assets	4,449	5,286
Total current assets	267,254	360,120
Property and equipment, net	8,503	9,302
Amortizable intangible assets, net	32,013	33,743
Goodwill	424,508	424,508
Operating lease right-of-use assets	13,852	—
Other assets	38,631	39,226
Total assets	\$ 784,761	\$ 866,899
LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' DEFICIENCY		
Current Liabilities:		
Accounts payable	\$ 569	\$ 907
Related party payables	1,161	941
Current portion of long-term debt	26,237	111,789
Current portion of operating lease liabilities	4,689	—
Accrued liabilities:		
Employee related costs	9,490	15,466
Other accrued liabilities	11,485	13,898
Deferred revenue	826	185
Total current liabilities	54,457	143,186
Long-term debt, net of current portion	1,067,902	906,228
Long-term operating lease liabilities	11,438	—
Defined benefit and other postretirement obligations	24,480	25,834
Other employee related costs	4,981	4,713
Other liabilities	148	2,310
Deferred tax liability	244,367	243,396
Total liabilities	1,407,773	1,325,667
Commitments and contingencies (see Note 9)		
Stockholders' Deficiency:		
Class A Common Stock, par value \$0.01, 360,000 shares authorized; 46,578 and 61,287 shares outstanding as of December 31, 2019 and June 30, 2019, respectively	643	643
Class B Common Stock, par value \$0.01, 90,000 shares authorized; 13,589 shares outstanding as of December 31, 2019 and June 30, 2019	136	136
Preferred stock, par value \$0.01, 45,000 shares authorized; none outstanding	—	—
Additional paid-in capital	3,650	9,916
Treasury stock, at cost, 17,681 and 2,972 shares as of December 31, 2019 and June 30, 2019, respectively	(417,162)	(179,561)
Accumulated deficit	(202,982)	(282,414)
Accumulated other comprehensive loss	(7,297)	(7,488)
Total stockholders' deficiency	(623,012)	(458,768)
Total liabilities and stockholders' deficiency	\$ 784,761	\$ 866,899

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

MSG NETWORKS INC.
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS
(Unaudited) (in thousands, except per share data)

	Three Months Ended December 31,		Six Months Ended December 31,	
	2019	2018	2019	2018
Revenues	\$ 187,730	\$ 192,914	\$ 348,711	\$ 357,378
Direct operating expenses (including related party expenses of \$39,884 and \$38,211 for the three months ended December 31, 2019 and 2018, respectively, and \$78,887 and \$76,303 for the six months ended December 31, 2019 and 2018, respectively)	84,065	81,470	152,725	148,125
Selling, general and administrative expenses (including related party expenses of \$8,826 and \$8,645 for the three months ended December 31, 2019 and 2018, respectively, and \$12,017 and \$11,725 for the six months ended December 31, 2019 and 2018, respectively)	32,022	31,294	54,342	48,197
Depreciation and amortization	1,680	1,800	3,407	3,845
Operating income	69,963	78,350	138,237	157,211
Other income (expense):				
Interest income	906	1,422	2,834	3,014
Interest expense	(9,934)	(11,693)	(20,749)	(23,615)
Debt refinancing expense	(2,764)	—	(2,764)	—
Other components of net periodic benefit cost	(258)	(413)	(516)	(818)
	(12,050)	(10,684)	(21,195)	(21,419)
Income from operations before income taxes	57,913	67,666	117,042	135,792
Income tax expense	(17,949)	(23,828)	(34,011)	(45,024)
Net income	\$ 39,964	\$ 43,838	\$ 83,031	\$ 90,768
Earnings per share:				
Basic	\$ 0.66	\$ 0.58	\$ 1.23	\$ 1.21
Diluted	\$ 0.66	\$ 0.58	\$ 1.22	\$ 1.20
Weighted-average number of common shares outstanding:				
Basic	60,452	75,079	67,758	74,987
Diluted	60,825	75,737	68,144	75,715

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

MSG NETWORKS INC.
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME
(Unaudited) (in thousands)

	Three Months Ended December 31,		Six Months Ended December 31,	
	2019	2018	2019	2018
Net income	\$ 39,964	\$ 43,838	\$ 83,031	\$ 90,768
Other comprehensive income (loss) before income taxes:				
Pension plans and postretirement plan:				
Amounts reclassified from accumulated other comprehensive loss:				
Amortization of net actuarial loss included in net periodic benefit cost	134	119	268	238
Amortization of prior service credit included in net periodic benefit cost	(1)	(2)	(2)	(4)
Settlement gain	—	—	—	(8)
Other comprehensive income before income taxes	133	117	266	226
Income tax expense related to items of other comprehensive income	(39)	(32)	(75)	(64)
Other comprehensive income	94	85	191	162
Comprehensive income	\$ 40,058	\$ 43,923	\$ 83,222	\$ 90,930

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

MSG NETWORKS INC.
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS
(Unaudited) (in thousands)

	Six Months Ended December 31,	
	2019	2018
Cash flows from operating activities:		
Net income	\$ 83,031	\$ 90,768
Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities:		
Depreciation and amortization	3,407	3,845
Amortization of deferred financing costs	1,188	1,501
Debt refinancing expense	455	—
Share-based compensation expense	10,099	9,287
Provision for doubtful accounts	(104)	12
Change in assets and liabilities:		
Accounts receivable, net	969	1,672
Related party receivables, net	(4,920)	(8,675)
Prepaid expenses and other assets	(3,134)	(1,266)
Accounts payable	(338)	(838)
Related party payables, including payable to MSG	220	371
Prepaid/payable for income taxes	(10,267)	(5,379)
Accrued and other liabilities	(8,122)	(4,934)
Deferred revenue	641	(2,720)
Deferred income taxes	896	6,811
Net cash provided by operating activities	74,021	90,455
Cash flows from investing activities:		
Capital expenditures	(1,758)	(1,674)
Investment in nonconsolidated entity	—	(2,000)
Net cash used in investing activities	(1,758)	(3,674)
Cash flows from financing activities:		
Principal repayments on term loan facilities (see Note 7)	(21,250)	(112,500)
Proceeds from senior secured credit facilities (see Note 7)	100,000	—
Payments for financing costs	(3,969)	—
Share repurchase costs	(253,318)	—
Taxes paid in lieu of shares issued for share-based compensation	(4,235)	(5,000)
Net cash used in financing activities	(182,772)	(117,500)
Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents	(110,509)	(30,719)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period	226,423	205,343
Cash and cash equivalents at end of period	\$ 115,914	\$ 174,624

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

MSG NETWORKS INC.
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF STOCKHOLDERS' DEFICIENCY
FOR THE THREE AND SIX MONTHS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2019 AND 2018
(Unaudited) (in thousands)

	Common Stock Issued	Additional Paid-In Capital	Treasury Stock	Accumulated Deficit	Accumulated Other Comprehensive Loss	Total
Balance as of September 30, 2019	\$ 779	\$ —	\$ (417,691)	\$ (242,946)	\$ (7,391)	\$ (667,249)
Net income	—	—	—	39,964	—	39,964
Other comprehensive income	—	—	—	—	94	94
Comprehensive income						40,058
Share-based compensation expense	—	5,440	—	—	—	5,440
Repurchases of Class A Common Stock	—	—	115	—	—	115
Tax withholding associated with shares issued for share-based compensation	—	(1,376)	—	—	—	(1,376)
Shares issued upon distribution of Restricted Stock Units	—	(414)	414	—	—	—
Balance as of December 31, 2019	<u>\$ 779</u>	<u>\$ 3,650</u>	<u>\$ (417,162)</u>	<u>\$ (202,982)</u>	<u>\$ (7,297)</u>	<u>\$ (623,012)</u>

	Common Stock Issued	Additional Paid-In Capital	Treasury Stock	Accumulated Deficit	Accumulated Other Comprehensive Loss	Total
Balance as of September 30, 2018	\$ 779	\$ —	\$ (182,714)	\$ (421,666)	\$ (6,623)	\$ (610,224)
Net income	—	—	—	43,838	—	43,838
Other comprehensive income	—	—	—	—	85	85
Comprehensive income						43,923
Share-based compensation expense	—	5,611	—	—	—	5,611
Tax withholding associated with shares issued for share-based compensation	—	(1,342)	—	—	—	(1,342)
Shares issued upon distribution of Restricted Stock Units	—	(3,153)	3,153	—	—	—
Balance as of December 31, 2018	<u>\$ 779</u>	<u>\$ 1,116</u>	<u>\$ (179,561)</u>	<u>\$ (377,828)</u>	<u>\$ (6,538)</u>	<u>\$ (562,032)</u>

MSG NETWORKS INC.
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF STOCKHOLDERS' DEFICIENCY (continued)
FOR THE THREE AND SIX MONTHS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2019 AND 2018
(Unaudited) (in thousands)

	Common Stock Issued	Additional Paid-In Capital	Treasury Stock	Accumulated Deficit	Accumulated Other Comprehensive Loss	Total
Balance as of June 30, 2019	\$ 779	\$ 9,916	\$ (179,561)	\$ (282,414)	\$ (7,488)	\$ (458,768)
Net income	—	—	—	83,031	—	83,031
Other comprehensive income	—	—	—	—	191	191
Comprehensive income						83,222
Share-based compensation expense	—	10,099	—	—	—	10,099
Repurchases of Class A Common Stock	—	—	(253,330)	—	—	(253,330)
Tax withholding associated with shares issued for share-based compensation	—	(4,235)	—	—	—	(4,235)
Shares issued upon distribution of Restricted Stock Units	—	(12,130)	15,729	(3,599)	—	—
Balance as of December 31, 2019	<u>\$ 779</u>	<u>\$ 3,650</u>	<u>\$ (417,162)</u>	<u>\$ (202,982)</u>	<u>\$ (7,297)</u>	<u>\$ (623,012)</u>

	Common Stock Issued	Additional Paid-In Capital	Treasury Stock	Accumulated Deficit	Accumulated Other Comprehensive Loss	Total
Balance as of June 30, 2018	\$ 779	\$ 4,067	\$ (195,881)	\$ (460,007)	\$ (6,700)	\$ (657,742)
Net income	—	—	—	90,768	—	90,768
Other comprehensive income	—	—	—	—	162	162
Comprehensive income						90,930
Share-based compensation expense	—	9,287	—	—	—	9,287
Tax withholding associated with shares issued for share-based compensation	—	(4,879)	—	—	—	(4,879)
Shares issued upon distribution of Restricted Stock Units	—	(7,359)	16,320	(8,961)	—	—
Cumulative effect of adoption of ASC 606	—	—	—	372	—	372
Balance as of December 31, 2018	<u>\$ 779</u>	<u>\$ 1,116</u>	<u>\$ (179,561)</u>	<u>\$ (377,828)</u>	<u>\$ (6,538)</u>	<u>\$ (562,032)</u>

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

MSG NETWORKS INC.
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (UNAUDITED)

All amounts included in the following Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements are presented in thousands, except per share data or as otherwise noted.

Note 1. Description of Business and Basis of Presentation

Description of Business

MSG Networks Inc. (together with its subsidiaries, the “Company”), incorporated on July 29, 2009, owns and operates two regional sports and entertainment networks, MSG Network and MSG+. On September 30, 2015, the Company distributed to its stockholders all of the outstanding common stock of The Madison Square Garden Company (“MSG”) (the “Distribution”).

The Company operates and reports financial information in one segment. Substantially all revenues and assets of the Company are attributed to or located in the United States and are primarily concentrated in the New York City metropolitan area.

Unaudited Interim Financial Statements

The accompanying interim consolidated unaudited financial statements have been prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles in the United States (“GAAP”) for interim financial information and the instructions to Rule 10-01 of Regulation S-X, and should be read in conjunction with the Company’s Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended June 30, 2019. The financial statements as of December 31, 2019 and for the three and six months ended December 31, 2019 and 2018 presented in this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q are unaudited; however, in the opinion of management such financial statements reflect all adjustments, consisting solely of normal recurring adjustments, necessary for a fair presentation of the results for the interim periods presented. The results of operations for the periods presented are not necessarily indicative of the results that might be expected for future interim periods or for the full year.

Note 2. Accounting Policies

Principles of Consolidation

The consolidated financial statements of the Company include the accounts of MSG Networks Inc. and its subsidiaries. All significant intercompany transactions and balances have been eliminated in consolidation.

Use of Estimates

The preparation of the accompanying consolidated financial statements in conformity with GAAP requires management to make estimates and assumptions about future events. These estimates and the underlying assumptions affect the amount of assets and liabilities reported, disclosures about contingent assets and liabilities, and reported amount of revenues and expenses. Such estimates include the valuation of accounts receivable, investments, goodwill, other long-lived assets, pension and other postretirement benefit obligations and the related net periodic benefit cost, tax accruals, and other liabilities. In addition, estimates are used in revenue recognition, income tax expense, performance and share-based compensation, depreciation and amortization, litigation matters, and other matters. Management believes its use of estimates in the consolidated financial statements to be reasonable.

Management evaluates its estimates on an ongoing basis using historical experience and other factors, including the general economic environment and actions it may take in the future. The Company adjusts such estimates when facts and circumstances dictate. However, these estimates may involve significant uncertainties and judgments and cannot be determined with precision. In addition, these estimates are based on management’s best judgment at a point in time and as such, these estimates may ultimately differ from actual results. Changes in estimates resulting from weakness in the economic environment or other factors beyond the Company’s control could be material and would be reflected in the Company’s financial statements in future periods.

Investment in Nonconsolidated Entity

The Company’s investment in a nonconsolidated entity, which is included in other assets in the accompanying consolidated balance sheets, does not have a readily determinable fair value. As such, the Company has elected to account for it at cost, which would be adjusted for impairment and changes resulting from observable price fluctuations in orderly transactions for an identical or a similar investment of the same issuer (referred to as the measurement alternative method). Investments accounted for under the measurement alternative method are classified within Level III of the fair value hierarchy. As of December 31, 2019, the carrying amount of the Company’s equity investment in the nonconsolidated entity was \$2,000, and the Company did not identify any potential adjustments to the cost of its investment.

MSG NETWORKS INC.
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (UNAUDITED)
(Continued)

Recently Adopted Accounting Pronouncements

The Company adopted Financial Accounting Standards Board (“FASB”) Accounting Standards Codification (“ASC”) *Topic 842, Leases*, on July 1, 2019 (“Adoption Date”), which superseded the lease recognition requirements in ASC *Topic 840, Leases*. The Company applied the modified retrospective approach and effective date method. The Company elected the package of practical expedients, permitted under the transition guidance in the new standard, which among other things allowed for the carry forward of the historical classification of leases. The adoption of ASC 842 resulted in the recognition of operating lease liabilities of approximately \$18,700 and operating lease right-of-use assets of the same amount. The historical net lease liabilities balances as of Adoption Date were eliminated as an offset to the operating lease right-of-use assets, resulting in net lease assets of approximately \$16,300. The new standard did not impact the Company’s consolidated net income or cash flows. See Note 8 for further discussion regarding leases.

Recently Issued Accounting Pronouncements Not Yet Adopted

In June 2016, the FASB issued Accounting Standards Update (“ASU”) No. 2016-13, *Financial Instruments — Credit Losses*, and subsequent ASUs that amended the application of ASU No. 2016-13, which introduces a new impairment model for most financial assets and certain other instruments. For trade and other receivables, the Company will be required to use a forward-looking “expected loss” model that will replace the current “incurred loss” model and generally will result in earlier recognition of allowances for losses. This standard will be effective for the Company beginning in the first quarter of fiscal year 2021, with early adoption permitted. The Company is currently evaluating the impact this standard will have on its consolidated financial statements.

In August 2018, the FASB issued ASU No. 2018-14, *Compensation — Retirement Benefits — Defined Benefit Plans — General (Topic 715-20): Disclosure Framework — Changes to the Disclosure Requirements for Defined Benefit Plans*, which removes, adds, or clarifies disclosure requirements relating to defined benefit plans to improve disclosure effectiveness. This standard will be effective for the Company beginning in the fourth quarter of fiscal year 2021, with early adoption permitted. The standard is to be applied retroactively to all periods presented. The adoption of this standard is not expected to have a material impact on the Company’s consolidated financial statements.

In March 2019, the FASB issued ASU No. 2019-02, *Entertainment-Films-Other Assets-Film Costs (Subtopic 926-20) and Entertainment-Broadcasters-Intangibles-Goodwill and Other (Subtopic 920-350): Improvements to Accounting for Costs of Films and License Agreements for Program Materials*, which amends ASC Subtopic 920-350 to align the accounting for production costs of an episodic television series with that for the costs of producing films. This standard will be effective for the Company beginning in the first quarter of fiscal year 2021, with early adoption permitted. The standard is to be applied prospectively to all periods presented. The Company is currently evaluating the impact this standard will have on its consolidated financial statements.

In December 2019, the FASB issued ASU No. 2019-12, *Income Taxes (Topic 740): Simplifying the Accounting for Income Taxes*. This ASU eliminates certain exceptions to the general approach in ASC Topic 740 and includes methods of simplification to the existing guidance. This standard will be effective for the Company beginning in the first quarter of fiscal year 2022, with early adoption permitted. The standard is to be applied prospectively to all periods presented. The Company is currently evaluating the impact this standard will have on its consolidated financial statements.

Note 3. Revenue Recognition

The Company generates revenues principally from affiliation fees charged to cable, satellite, telephone and other platforms (“Distributors”) for the right to carry its networks, as well as from the sale of advertising. The Company’s advertising revenue is largely derived from the sale of inventory in its live professional sports programming, as such, a disproportionate share of this revenue has historically been earned in the Company’s second and third fiscal quarters. The Company’s revenue recognition policies that describe the nature, amount, timing and uncertainty associated with each major source of revenue from contracts with customers are summarized below.

Affiliation Fee Revenue

Affiliation fee revenue is earned from Distributors for the right to carry the Company’s networks under contracts, commonly referred to as “affiliation agreements.” The Company’s performance obligation under its affiliation agreements is satisfied as the Company provides its programming over the term of the affiliation agreement.

Affiliation fee revenue constituted at least 90% of the Company’s consolidated revenues for the six months ended December 31, 2019, however, given the timing of advertising revenue as stated above, affiliation fee revenue constituted less

MSG NETWORKS INC.
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (UNAUDITED)
(Continued)

than 90% of consolidated revenues for the three months ended December 31, 2019. Substantially all of the Company's affiliation agreements are sales-based and usage-based royalty arrangements, which are recognized as the sale or usage occurs. The transaction price is represented by affiliation fees that are generally based upon contractual rates applied to the number of the Distributor's subscribers who receive or can receive the Company's programming. Such subscriber information is generally not received until after the close of the reporting period, and in these cases, the Company estimates the number of subscribers. Historical adjustments to recorded estimates have not been material.

The Company's payment terms vary and are generally within 30-60 days after revenue is earned.

Advertising Revenue

The Company primarily earns advertising revenue through the sale of commercial time and other advertising inventory during its programming. In general, these advertising arrangements either do not exceed one year or are primarily multi-year media banks, the elements of which are agreed upon each year. Advertising revenue is recognized as advertising is aired. In certain advertising arrangements, the Company guarantees specified viewer ratings for its programming. In such cases, the promise to deliver the guaranteed viewer ratings by airing the advertising represents the Company's performance obligation. A contract liability is recognized as deferred revenue to the extent any guaranteed viewer ratings are not met and the customer is expected to exercise any right for additional advertising time, and is subsequently recognized as revenue either when the Company provides the required additional advertising time, or additional performance requirements become remote, which may be at the time the guarantee obligation contractually expires.

The Company's payment terms vary by the type of customer. Generally, payment terms are 30-60 days after revenue is earned.

Principal versus Agent Revenue Recognition

The Company has an advertising sales representation agreement with MSG that provides for MSG to act as its advertising sales representative and includes the exclusive right and obligation to sell certain advertising availabilities on the Company's behalf for a commission. The Company reports advertising revenue on a gross basis as it is primarily responsible for the fulfillment of advertising orders.

Noncash Consideration

The Company enters into nonmonetary transactions, primarily with its Distributors, that involve the exchange of products or services, such as advertising and promotional benefits, for the Company's services. For arrangements that are subject to sales-based and usage-based royalty guidance, the Company measures noncash consideration that it receives at fair value as the sale or usage occurs. For other arrangements, the Company measures the estimated fair value of the noncash consideration that it receives at contract inception. If the Company cannot reasonably estimate the fair value of the noncash consideration, the Company measures the fair value of the consideration indirectly by reference to the standalone selling price of the services promised to the customer in exchange for the consideration.

Transaction Price Allocated to Future Performance Obligations

Substantially all of the Company's affiliation agreements are licenses of functional intellectual property where revenue is derived from sales-based and usage-based royalty arrangements, and generally the Company's advertising arrangements either do not exceed one year or are primarily multi-year media banks, the elements of which are agreed upon each year. For these types of arrangements, the Company applies a practical expedient that allows it to omit disclosure of the aggregate amount of consideration the Company expects to receive in exchange for transferring services to a customer (transaction price) that is allocated to performance obligations that have not yet been satisfied. As of December 31, 2019, the aggregate amount of transaction price allocated to remaining performance obligations, other than for contracts that the Company has applied the practical expedient, was \$12,567, of which \$11,191 will be recognized through fiscal year 2023 and \$1,376 thereafter.

Contract Balances from Contracts with Customers

An account receivable is recorded when there is an unconditional right to consideration based on a contract with a customer. When consideration is received from a customer prior to transferring services to the customer under the terms of a contract, a contract liability (deferred revenue) is recorded.

For certain types of contracts with customers, the Company may recognize revenue in advance of the contractual right to invoice the customer, resulting in an amount recorded to contract assets. Once the Company has an unconditional right to consideration under these contracts, the contract assets are reclassified to accounts receivable.

MSG NETWORKS INC.
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (UNAUDITED)
(Continued)

Deferred revenue is recognized as revenue when, or as, control of the services is transferred to the customer and all revenue recognition criteria have been met.

The following table provides information about current contract balances from contracts with customers:

	December 31, 2019	June 30, 2019
Accounts receivable (including advertising receivable included in related party receivables, net)	\$ 135,382	\$ 130,422
Contract asset, short-term (included in other current assets)	—	839
Deferred revenue, short-term	826	185
Deferred revenue, long-term (included in other liabilities)	150	230

The amount of revenue recognized for the six months ended December 31, 2019 related to deferred revenue (contract liability) recorded as of June 30, 2019 was approximately \$25.

Note 4. Computation of Earnings per Common Share

Basic earnings per common share (“EPS”) is based upon net income available to common stockholders divided by the weighted-average number of common shares outstanding during the period. Diluted EPS reflects the effect of the assumed vesting of restricted stock units (“RSUs”) and exercise of stock options only in the periods in which such effect would have been dilutive.

The following table presents a reconciliation of the weighted-average number of shares used in the calculations of basic and diluted EPS:

	Three Months Ended December 31,		Six Months Ended December 31,	
	2019	2018	2019	2018
Weighted-average number of shares for basic EPS	60,452	75,079	67,758	74,987
Dilutive effect of shares issuable under share-based compensation plans	373	658	386	728
Weighted-average number of shares for diluted EPS	60,825	75,737	68,144	75,715
Anti-dilutive shares	2,981	316	2,602	444

Note 5. Goodwill and Amortizable Intangible Assets

During the first quarter of fiscal year 2020, the Company performed its annual impairment test of goodwill. As the Company’s one reporting unit had a negative carrying value of net assets, there was no impairment of goodwill identified.

The Company’s intangible assets subject to amortization are as follows:

	December 31, 2019	June 30, 2019
Affiliate relationships	\$ 83,044	\$ 83,044
Less: accumulated amortization	(51,031)	(49,301)
	<u>\$ 32,013</u>	<u>\$ 33,743</u>

Affiliate relationships have an estimated useful life of 24 years. Amortization expense for intangible assets was \$865 for the three months ended December 31, 2019 and 2018, and \$1,730 for the six months ended December 31, 2019 and 2018.

MSG NETWORKS INC.
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (UNAUDITED)
(Continued)

Note 6. Property and Equipment

As of December 31, 2019 and June 30, 2019, property and equipment consisted of the following assets:

	December 31, 2019	June 30, 2019
Equipment	\$ 37,280	\$ 35,642
Furniture and fixtures	1,726	1,726
Leasehold improvements	18,624	18,505
Construction in progress	179	1,058
	57,809	56,931
Less: accumulated depreciation and amortization	(49,306)	(47,629)
	\$ 8,503	\$ 9,302

Depreciation and amortization expense on property and equipment was \$815 and \$935 for the three months ended December 31, 2019 and 2018, respectively, and \$1,677 and \$2,115 for the six months ended December 31, 2019 and 2018.

Note 7. Debt*Former Senior Secured Credit Facilities*

On September 28, 2015, MSGN Holdings L.P. (“MSGN L.P.”), an indirect wholly-owned subsidiary of the Company through which the Company conducts substantially all of its operations, MSGN Eden, LLC, an indirect subsidiary of the Company and the general partner of MSGN L.P., Regional MSGN Holdings LLC, a direct subsidiary of the Company and the limited partner of MSGN L.P. (collectively with MSGN Eden, LLC, the “Holdings Entities”), and certain subsidiaries of MSGN L.P. entered into a credit agreement (the “Former Credit Agreement”) with a syndicate of lenders. The Former Credit Agreement provided MSGN L.P. with senior secured credit facilities (the “Former Senior Secured Credit Facilities”) that consisted of: (a) an initial \$1,550,000 term loan facility (the “Former Term Loan Facility”) and (b) a \$250,000 revolving credit facility (the “Former Revolving Credit Facility”).

Amended and Restated Senior Secured Credit Facilities

On October 11, 2019, MSGN L.P., the Holdings Entities and certain subsidiaries of MSGN L.P. amended and restated the Former Credit Agreement in its entirety (the “Credit Agreement”). The Credit Agreement provides MSGN L.P. with senior secured credit facilities (the “Senior Secured Credit Facilities”) consisting of: (i) an initial \$1,100,000 term loan facility (the “Term Loan Facility”) and (ii) a \$250,000 revolving credit facility (the “Revolving Credit Facility”), each with a term of five years. Proceeds from the Term Loan Facility were used by MSGN L.P. to repay outstanding indebtedness under the Former Credit Agreement. Up to \$35,000 of the Revolving Credit Facility is available for the issuance of letters of credit. Subject to the satisfaction of certain conditions and limitations, the Credit Agreement allows for the addition of incremental term and/or revolving loan commitments and incremental term and/or revolving loans.

Borrowings under the Credit Agreement bear interest at a floating rate, which at the option of MSGN L.P. may be either (i) a base rate plus an additional rate ranging from 0.25% to 1.25% per annum (determined based on a total net leverage ratio) (the “Base Rate”), or (ii) a Eurodollar rate plus an additional rate ranging from 1.25% to 2.25% per annum (determined based on a total net leverage ratio) (the “Eurodollar Rate”), provided that for the period following the effective date of the Credit Agreement until the delivery of the compliance certificate for the second full fiscal quarter of MSGN L.P. following the effective date, the additional rate used in calculating the floating rate will be (i) 0.50% per annum for borrowings bearing the Base Rate, and (ii) 1.50% per annum for borrowings bearing the Eurodollar Rate. Upon a payment default in respect of principal, interest or other amounts due and payable under the Credit Agreement or related loan documents, default interest will accrue on all overdue amounts at an additional rate of 2.00% per annum. The Credit Agreement requires that MSGN L.P. pay a commitment fee ranging from 0.225% to 0.30% (determined based on a total net leverage ratio) in respect of the average daily unused commitments under the Revolving Credit Facility. MSGN L.P. will also be required to pay customary letter of credit fees, as well as fronting fees, to banks that issue letters of credit.

MSG NETWORKS INC.
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (UNAUDITED)
(Continued)

The Credit Agreement generally requires the Holdings Entities and MSGN L.P. and its restricted subsidiaries on a consolidated basis to comply with a maximum total leverage ratio of 5.50:1.00, subject, at the option of MSGN L.P. to an upward adjustment to 6.00:1.00 during the continuance of certain events. In addition, the Credit Agreement requires a minimum interest coverage ratio of 2.00:1.00 for the Holdings Entities and MSGN L.P. and its restricted subsidiaries on a consolidated basis. As of December 31, 2019, the Holdings Entities and MSGN L.P. and its restricted subsidiaries on a consolidated basis were in compliance with the applicable financial covenants. All borrowings under the Credit Agreement are subject to the satisfaction of customary conditions, including absence of a default and accuracy of representations and warranties. As of December 31, 2019, there were no letters of credit issued and outstanding under the Revolving Credit Facility, which provides full borrowing capacity of \$250,000.

The Term Loan Facility amortizes quarterly in accordance with its terms beginning March 31, 2020 through September 30, 2024 with a final maturity date on October 11, 2024.

As of December 31, 2019, the principal repayments required under the Term Loan Facility are as follows:

Remainder of fiscal year ending June 30, 2020	\$ 13,750
Fiscal year ending June 30, 2021	38,500
Fiscal year ending June 30, 2022	49,500
Fiscal year ending June 30, 2023	66,000
Fiscal year ending June 30, 2024	82,500
Thereafter	849,750
	\$ 1,100,000

All obligations under the Credit Agreement are guaranteed by the Holdings Entities and MSGN L.P.'s existing and future direct and indirect domestic subsidiaries that are not designated as excluded subsidiaries or unrestricted subsidiaries (the "Subsidiary Guarantors," and together with the Holdings Entities, the "Guarantors"). All obligations under the Credit Agreement, including the guarantees of those obligations, are secured by certain assets of MSGN L.P. and each Guarantor (collectively, "Collateral"), including, but not limited to, a pledge of the equity interests in MSGN L.P. held directly by the Holdings Entities and the equity interests in each Subsidiary Guarantor held directly or indirectly by MSGN L.P.

Subject to customary notice and minimum amount conditions, MSGN L.P. may voluntarily prepay outstanding loans under the Credit Agreement at any time, in whole or in part, without premium or penalty (except for customary breakage costs with respect to Eurodollar loans). MSGN L.P. is required to make mandatory prepayments in certain circumstances, including without limitation from the net cash proceeds of certain sales of assets (including Collateral) or casualty insurance and/or condemnation recoveries (subject to certain reinvestment, repair or replacement rights) and the incurrence of certain indebtedness, subject to certain exceptions.

In addition to the financial covenants discussed above, the Credit Agreement and the related security agreement contains certain customary representations and warranties, affirmative covenants, and events of default. The Credit Agreement contains certain restrictions on the ability of MSGN L.P. and its restricted subsidiaries to take certain actions as provided in (and subject to various exceptions and baskets set forth in) the Credit Agreement, including the following: (i) incurring additional indebtedness and contingent liabilities; (ii) creating liens on certain assets; (iii) making investments, loans or advances in or to other persons; (iv) paying dividends and distributions or repurchasing capital stock; (v) changing their lines of business; (vi) engaging in certain transactions with affiliates; (vii) amending specified material agreements; (viii) merging or consolidating; (ix) making certain dispositions; and (x) entering into agreements that restrict the granting of liens. The Holdings Entities are also subject to customary passive holding company covenants.

MSG NETWORKS INC.
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (UNAUDITED)
(Continued)

The Company is amortizing deferred financing costs of the Term Loan Facility using the effective interest method over its five-year term. The following table summarizes the presentation of the Term Loan Facility and the Former Term Loan Facility, and the related deferred financing costs, in the accompanying consolidated balance sheets as of December 31, 2019 and June 30, 2019:

	Term Loan Facilities	Deferred Financing Costs	Net
December 31, 2019			
Current portion of long-term debt	\$ 27,500	\$ (1,263)	\$ 26,237
Long-term debt, net of current portion	1,072,500	(4,598)	1,067,902
Total	<u>\$ 1,100,000</u>	<u>\$ (5,861)</u>	<u>\$ 1,094,139</u>
June 30, 2019			
Current portion of long-term debt	\$ 114,375	\$ (2,586)	\$ 111,789
Long-term debt, net of current portion	906,875	(647)	906,228
Total	<u>\$ 1,021,250</u>	<u>\$ (3,233)</u>	<u>\$ 1,018,017</u>

In addition, the Company has recorded deferred financing costs related to the Revolving Credit Facility and the Former Revolving Credit Facility in the accompanying consolidated balance sheets as summarized in the following table:

	December 31, 2019	June 30, 2019
Other current assets	\$ 344	\$ 417
Other assets	1,289	104

Total amortization expense was \$1,188 and \$1,501 during the six months ended December 31, 2019 and 2018, respectively, and is included in interest expense in the accompanying consolidated statements of operations.

The Company made interest payments under the Credit Agreement and Former Credit Agreement of \$19,405 and \$22,243 during the six months ended December 31, 2019 and 2018, respectively.

Note 8. Leases

The Company has various operating leases for office and studio space, as well as equipment, expiring at various dates through 2024. The Company currently has no finance leases. Some leases include options to extend the lease term or terminate the lease prior to the end of the lease term. The exercise of lease renewal options is generally at the Company's discretion. The depreciable life of leasehold improvements are limited by the expected lease term unless there is a transfer of title or purchase option reasonably certain of exercise.

The leases generally provide for fixed annual rentals plus certain other costs. Certain leases include variable payments based on the Company's use of the respective assets. The Company's lease agreements do not include any material residual value guarantees or material restrictive covenants. Since the Company's leases do not provide an implicit interest rate, the Company used its incremental borrowing rate as of Adoption Date to determine the present value of future lease payments for all operating leases that commenced prior to that date.

Operating lease cost consists of the following:

	Three Months Ended December 31, 2019	Six Months Ended December 31, 2019
Operating lease cost	\$ 1,372	\$ 2,744
Variable lease cost	728	781
Total operating lease cost	<u>\$ 2,100</u>	<u>\$ 3,525</u>

MSG NETWORKS INC.
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (UNAUDITED)
(Continued)

The following table summarizes the weighted-average remaining lease term and discount rate for operating leases:

	December 31, 2019
Weighted-average discount rate for operating leases	3.29%
Weighted-average remaining operating lease term in years	3.82

As of December 31, 2019, the maturities of the Company's operating lease liabilities are as follows:

Remainder of fiscal year ending June 30, 2020	\$ 2,919
Fiscal year ending June 30, 2021	4,374
Fiscal year ending June 30, 2022	3,672
Fiscal year ending June 30, 2023	3,379
Fiscal year ending June 30, 2024	2,816
Thereafter	—
Total undiscounted operating lease payments	17,160
Less: imputed interest	1,033
Total operating lease liabilities	16,127
Less: current portion of operating lease liabilities	4,689
Non-current operating lease liabilities	\$ 11,438

Supplemental cash flow information related to operating leases:

	Six Months Ended December 31, 2019
Cash paid for amounts included in the measurement of operating lease liabilities	\$ 2,830
Cash paid for variable lease payments not included in measurement of operating lease liabilities	481
Total	\$ 3,311

Note 9. Commitments and Contingencies

Commitments

As more fully described in Note 9 to the consolidated financial statements included in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended June 30, 2019, the Company's contractual obligations not reflected on the consolidated balance sheets consist primarily of its obligations under media rights agreements.

In addition, see Note 7 for the principal repayments required under the Company's Term Loan Facility.

Legal Matters

The Company is a defendant in various lawsuits. Although the outcome of these matters cannot be predicted with certainty, management does not believe that resolution of these lawsuits will have a material adverse effect on the Company.

Note 10. Fair Value Measurements

The fair value hierarchy is based on inputs to valuation techniques that are used to measure fair value that are either observable or unobservable. Observable inputs are developed using market data, such as publicly available information about actual events or transactions, and reflect the assumptions that market participants would use when pricing the asset or liability. Unobservable inputs are inputs for which market data is not available and that are developed using the best information available about the assumptions that market participants would use when pricing the asset or liability.

MSG NETWORKS INC.
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (UNAUDITED)
(Continued)

The fair value hierarchy consists of the following three levels:

- Level I — Quoted prices for identical instruments in active markets.
- Level II — Quoted prices for similar instruments in active markets; quoted prices for identical or similar instruments in markets that are not active; and model-derived valuations whose inputs are observable or whose significant value drivers are observable.
- Level III — Instruments whose significant value drivers are unobservable.

The following table presents for each of these hierarchy levels, the Company's assets that are measured at fair value on a recurring basis, which include cash equivalents:

	Level I	Level II	Level III	Total
December 31, 2019				
Assets:				
Money market accounts	\$ 17,817	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 17,817
Time deposits	96,452	—	—	96,452
Total assets measured at fair value	<u>\$ 114,269</u>	<u>\$ —</u>	<u>\$ —</u>	<u>\$ 114,269</u>
June 30, 2019				
Assets:				
Money market accounts	\$ 17,619	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 17,619
Time deposits	201,524	—	—	201,524
Total assets measured at fair value	<u>\$ 219,143</u>	<u>\$ —</u>	<u>\$ —</u>	<u>\$ 219,143</u>

Money market accounts and time deposits are classified within Level I of the fair value hierarchy as they are valued using observable inputs that reflect quoted prices for identical assets in active markets. The carrying amount of the Company's money market accounts and time deposits approximates fair value due to their short-term maturities.

Other Financial Instruments

The fair value of the Company's long-term debt (see Note 7) was approximately \$1,089,000 as of December 31, 2019. The Company's long-term debt is classified within Level II of the fair value hierarchy as it is valued using quoted prices of such securities for which fair value can be derived from inputs that are readily observable.

Note 11. Pension Plans and Other Postretirement Benefit Plan

As more fully described in Note 12 to the consolidated financial statements included in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended June 30, 2019, the Company sponsors (i) a non-contributory, qualified defined benefit pension plan covering certain of its union employees, (ii) an unfunded non-contributory, non-qualified frozen excess cash balance plan covering certain employees who participated in an underlying qualified plan, and (iii) an unfunded non-contributory, non-qualified frozen defined benefit pension plan for the benefit of certain employees who participated in an underlying qualified plan (collectively the "Pension Plans"). The Company also sponsors a contributory welfare plan which provides certain postretirement healthcare benefits to certain employees hired prior to January 1, 2001 (the "Postretirement Plan").

Components of net periodic benefit cost for the three and six months ended December 31, 2019 and 2018 are as follows:

	Pension Plans		Postretirement Plan	
	Three Months Ended		Three Months Ended	
	December 31,		December 31,	
	2019	2018	2019	2018
Service cost	\$ 121	\$ 111	\$ 13	\$ 18
Other components of net periodic benefit cost:				
Interest cost	354	402	15	38
Expected return on plan assets	(244)	(144)	—	—
Recognized actuarial loss ^(a)	134	119	—	—
Amortization of unrecognized prior service credit ^(a)	—	—	(1)	(2)
Net periodic benefit cost	<u>\$ 365</u>	<u>\$ 488</u>	<u>\$ 27</u>	<u>\$ 54</u>

MSG NETWORKS INC.
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (UNAUDITED)
(Continued)

	Pension Plans		Postretirement Plan	
	Six Months Ended		Six Months Ended	
	December 31,		December 31,	
	2019	2018	2019	2018
Service cost	\$ 242	\$ 222	\$ 26	\$ 36
Other components of net periodic benefit cost:				
Interest cost	708	804	30	76
Expected return on plan assets	(488)	(288)	—	—
Recognized actuarial loss ^(a)	268	238	—	—
Amortization of unrecognized prior service credit ^(a)	—	—	(2)	(4)
Settlement gain ^(a)	—	(8)	—	—
Net periodic benefit cost	\$ 730	\$ 968	\$ 54	\$ 108

(a) Reflects amounts reclassified from accumulated other comprehensive loss to other components of net periodic benefit cost in the accompanying consolidated statements of operations.

In addition, as more fully described in Note 12 to the consolidated financial statements included in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended June 30, 2019, the Company sponsors the MSGN Holdings, L.P. Excess Savings Plan and participates in The Madison Square Garden 401(k) Savings Plan, formerly the MSG Holdings, L.P. 401(k) Savings Plan, a multiple employer plan (together, the "Savings Plans"). Expenses related to the Savings Plans included in the accompanying consolidated statements of operations were \$284 and \$279 for the three months ended December 31, 2019 and 2018, respectively, and \$529 and \$508 for the six months ended December 31, 2019 and 2018, respectively.

Note 12. Share-based Compensation

See Note 13 to the consolidated financial statements included in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended June 30, 2019 for more information regarding (i) the MSG Networks Inc. 2010 Employee Stock Plan, as amended (the "Employee Stock Plan"), and (ii) the MSG Networks Inc. 2010 Stock Plan For Non-Employee Directors (the "Non-Employee Director Plan"), as amended. On December 6, 2019, the Company's stockholders amended the Non-Employee Director Plan to increase the shares available for issuance thereunder to 400 and to extend the expiration date to December 6, 2029.

Share-based compensation expense, presented within selling, general and administrative expenses and direct operating expenses, was \$5,440 and \$5,611 for the three months ended December 31, 2019 and 2018, respectively, and \$10,099 and \$9,287 for the six months ended December 31, 2019 and 2018, respectively.

Non-Qualified Stock Options ("NQSOs") Award Activity

The following table summarizes activity relating to holders of the Company's NQSOs for the six months ended December 31, 2019:

	Number of		Weighted-Average Exercise Price Per Share	Weighted-Average Remaining Contractual Term (In Years)	Aggregate Intrinsic Value
	Nonperformance Based Vesting NQSOs	Performance Based Vesting NQSOs			
Balance as of June 30, 2019	1,277	1,277	\$ 20.87	5.52	\$ 3,132
Granted ^(a)	556	557	14.33		
Balance as of December 31, 2019	1,833	1,834	18.88	5.67	3,422
Exercisable as of December 31, 2019	924	536	\$ 19.07	4.54	\$ —

(a) Includes incremental shares of performance based NQSOs that were historically reported at a target payout of 100%. Upon meeting the performance objective, the number of performance based NQSOs vested at a payout of 100.3% of target.

Nonperformance based vesting NQSOs granted under the Employee Stock Plan during the six months ended December 31, 2019 are subject to three-year ratable vesting. Performance based vesting NQSOs granted under the Employee Stock Plan

MSG NETWORKS INC.
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (UNAUDITED)
(Continued)

during the six months ended December 31, 2019 are subject to three-year cliff vesting and the achievement of certain Company performance criteria. These NQSOs have an expiration period of 7.5 years. The Company calculated the fair value of these NQSOs on the date of grant using the Black-Scholes option pricing model, which resulted in a grant date fair value of \$4.32 per NQSO.

The following were the key assumptions used to calculate the fair value of this award:

Risk-free interest rate	1.4%
Expected term	5.25 years
Expected volatility	30.68%

The Company's computation of expected term was calculated using the simplified method (the average of the vesting period and option term) as prescribed in ASC Topic 718-10-S99. The Company's computation of expected volatility was based on historical volatility of its common stock.

The aggregate intrinsic value is calculated for in-the-money NQSOs as the difference between (i) the exercise price of the underlying award and (ii) the quoted price of the Company's Class A common stock, par value \$0.01 per share ("Class A Common Stock") at December 31, 2019 and June 30, 2019, as applicable.

Restricted Share Units Award Activity

The following table summarizes activity relating to holders of the Company's RSUs for the six months ended December 31, 2019:

	Number of		
	Nonperformance Based Vesting RSUs	Performance Based Vesting RSUs	Weighted-Average Fair Value Per Share At Date of Grant
Unvested award balance as of June 30, 2019	541	836	\$ 23.08
Granted ^(a)	388	316	14.51
Vested	(328)	(279)	20.62
Forfeited	(2)	(3)	19.14
Unvested award balance as of December 30, 2019	599	870	\$ 20.00

(a) Includes incremental shares of performance based RSUs that were historically reported at a target payout of 100%. Upon meeting the performance objective, the number of performance based RSUs vested at a payout of 100.3% of target.

Nonperformance based vesting RSUs granted under the Employee Stock Plan during the six months ended December 31, 2019 are subject to three-year ratable vesting and RSUs granted under the Non-Employee Director Plan vest upon date of grant. Performance based vesting RSUs granted under the Employee Stock Plan during the six months ended December 31, 2019 are subject to three-year cliff vesting. RSUs granted under the Employee Stock Plan and Non-Employee Director Plan will settle in shares of the Company's Class A Common Stock (either from treasury or with newly issued shares), or, at the option of the Compensation Committee of the Board of Directors, in cash. RSUs granted under the Non-Employee Director Plan will settle on the first business day after ninety days from the date the director's service on the Board of Directors (the "Board") ceases or, if earlier, upon the director's death.

The fair value of RSUs that vested during the six months ended December 31, 2019 was \$9,659. Upon delivery, RSUs granted under the Employee Stock Plan were net share-settled to cover the required statutory tax withholding obligations and the remaining number of shares were issued from the Company's treasury shares. To fulfill the employees' statutory tax withholding obligations for the applicable income and other employment taxes, 264 of these RSUs, with an aggregate value of \$4,235 were retained by the Company and the taxes paid during the six months ended December 31, 2019 are reflected as a financing activity in the accompanying consolidated statement of cash flows.

Note 13. Stock Repurchase Program

On December 7, 2017, the Company's Board authorized the repurchase of up to \$150,000 of the Company's Class A Common Stock. On August 29, 2019, the Board authorized a \$300,000 increase to the stock repurchase authorization, which had

MSG NETWORKS INC.
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (UNAUDITED)
(Continued)

\$136,165 of availability remaining, bringing the total available repurchase authorization for Class A Common Stock to \$436,165 as of that date. Under the authorization, shares of Class A Common Stock may be purchased from time to time in open market or private transactions, block trades or such other manner as the Company may determine, in accordance with applicable insider trading and other securities laws and regulations. The timing and amount of purchases will depend on market conditions and other factors.

On October 3, 2019, the Company settled its modified Dutch auction tender offer (the “Tender Offer”) and repurchased 14,980 shares of its Class A Common Stock, at a price of \$16.70 per share, for an aggregate purchase price of \$250,168. The purchase price of these shares, and the fees relating to the Tender Offer, have been classified as Treasury stock in the accompanying consolidated balance sheet as of December 31, 2019. As of December 31, 2019, the Company had \$185,997 of availability remaining under its stock repurchase authorization.

Note 14. Related Party Transactions

As of December 31, 2019, members of the Dolan family group, for purposes of Section 13(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, including trusts for the benefit of the Dolan family group (collectively, the “Dolan Family Group”), collectively beneficially own all of the Company’s outstanding Class B common stock, par value \$0.01 per share (“Class B Common Stock”) and own approximately 6.3% of the Company’s outstanding Class A Common Stock (inclusive of options exercisable within 60 days of the date hereof). Such shares of the Company’s Class A Common Stock and Class B Common Stock, collectively, represent approximately 76.1% of the aggregate voting power of the Company’s outstanding common stock. The Dolan Family Group also controls MSG and AMC Networks Inc. (“AMC Networks”).

The Company had an arrangement with the Dolan Family Office, LLC (“DFO”), MSG, and AMC Networks providing for the sharing of certain expenses associated with executive office space which is available to Charles F. Dolan (a director of the Company and MSG, and the Executive Chairman and a director of AMC Networks), James L. Dolan (the Executive Chairman and a director of the Company, the Executive Chairman, Chief Executive Officer, and a director of MSG, and a director of AMC Networks), and the DFO, which is controlled by Charles F. Dolan. Effective September 2018, the Company is no longer party to this arrangement.

The Company shares certain executive support costs, including office space, executive assistants, security and transportation costs for (i) the Company’s Executive Chairman with MSG and (ii) the Company’s Vice Chairman with MSG and AMC Networks.

The Company and MSG are also party to aircraft time sharing agreements, pursuant to which MSG has agreed from time to time to make certain aircraft available to the Company for use on a “time sharing” basis. Additionally, the Company, MSG and AMC Networks have agreed on an allocation of the costs of certain other aircraft, including helicopter, use by shared executives.

The Company has various agreements with MSG, including media rights agreements covering the New York Knicks (the “Knicks”) and the New York Rangers (the “Rangers”) games, an advertising sales representation agreement, a trademark license agreement, a tax disaffiliation agreement, and certain other arrangements, including a services agreement (the “Services Agreement”) pursuant to which the Company outsources certain business functions to MSG. These services currently include information technology, accounts payable, payroll, tax, certain legal functions, human resources, insurance and risk management, investor relations, corporate communications, benefit plan administration and reporting and, internal audit, as well as certain executive support services described above. The Company provides certain services to MSG pursuant to the Services Agreement. The Services Agreement expired on June 30, 2019. The Company entered into an interim agreement with MSG, pursuant to which each party provides the other with the services on the same terms. The Company expects to enter into a new services agreement which will be retroactive to July 1, 2019.

The Company has also entered into various agreements with AMC Networks with respect to a number of ongoing commercial relationships.

Related Party Transactions

Rights Fees

The Company’s media rights agreements with the Knicks and the Rangers, effective as of July 1, 2015, provide the Company with exclusive media rights to the teams’ games in their local markets. Rights fees included in the accompanying consolidated statements of operations for the three months ended December 31, 2019 and 2018 were \$38,611 and \$37,094, respectively, and \$76,631 and \$73,652 for the six months ended December 31, 2019 and 2018, respectively.

MSG NETWORKS INC.
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (UNAUDITED)
(Continued)

Origination, Master Control and Technical Services

AMC Networks provides certain origination, master control, and technical services to the Company. Amounts incurred by the Company for the three months ended December 31, 2019 and 2018 were \$1,161 and \$790, respectively, and \$2,322 and \$2,310 for the six months ended December 31, 2019 and 2018, respectively.

Commission

The Company's advertising sales representation agreement with MSG, which has a term through June 30, 2022, provides for MSG to act as the Company's advertising sales representative and includes the exclusive right and obligation to sell certain advertising availabilities on the Company's behalf for a commission. The amounts incurred by the Company for the three months ended December 31, 2019 and 2018 were \$6,088 and \$6,038, respectively, and \$6,424 and \$6,445 for the six months ended December 31, 2019 and 2018, respectively.

General and Administrative Expenses

Amounts incurred by the Company for expenses associated with the Services Agreement, net, amounted to \$2,657 and \$2,573 for the three months ended December 31, 2019 and 2018, respectively, and \$5,314 and \$5,145 for the six months ended December 31, 2019 and 2018, respectively.

Other Operating Expenses

The Company and its related parties enter into other transactions with each other in the ordinary course of business. Net amounts incurred by the Company for other related party transactions amounted to \$193 and \$361 for the three months ended December 31, 2019 and 2018, respectively, and \$213 and \$476 for the six months ended December 31, 2019 and 2018, respectively.

Note 15. Income Taxes

Income tax expense for the three months ended December 31, 2019 of \$17,949 differs from the income tax expense derived from applying the statutory federal rate of 21% to pre-tax income due principally to the impact of state and local income taxes (net of federal benefit) of \$4,988.

Income tax expense for the three months ended December 31, 2018 of \$23,828 differs from the income tax expense derived from applying the statutory federal rate of 21% to pre-tax income due principally to the impact of state and local income taxes (net of federal benefit) of \$5,950, changes in the applicable state rate used to measure deferred taxes of \$2,069, and a return to provision adjustment in connection with the filing of the Company's prior year's state and local income tax returns of \$1,450.

Income tax expense for the six months ended December 31, 2019 of \$34,011 differs from the income tax expense derived from applying the statutory federal rate of 21% to pre-tax income due principally to the impact of state and local income taxes (net of federal benefit) of \$9,828, partially offset by excess tax benefit related to share-based payment awards of \$1,590.

Income tax expense for the six months ended December 31, 2018 of \$45,024 differs from the income tax expense derived from applying the statutory federal rate of 21% to pre-tax income due principally to the impact of state and local income taxes (net of federal benefit) of \$11,552, changes in the applicable state rate used to measure deferred taxes of \$2,069, and a return to provision adjustment in connection with the filing of the Company's state and local income tax returns of \$1,450.

The Company made cash income tax payments (net) of \$43,387 and \$43,595 for the six months ended December 31, 2019 and 2018, respectively.

The Company was notified during the fourth quarter of fiscal year 2017 that the State of New York was commencing an examination of the Company's New York State income tax returns as filed for the tax years ended December 31, 2013 and 2014. In January 2020, the Company closed the examination with no material changes to the tax returns as filed.

The Company was notified during the first quarter of fiscal year 2019 that the City of New York was commencing an examination of the Company's New York City general corporate income tax returns as filed for the tax years ended December 31, 2015 and 2016. The Company does not expect the examination, when finalized, to result in material changes to the tax returns as filed.

The Company was notified during the fourth quarter of fiscal year 2019 that the City of New York was commencing an examination of the Company's Unincorporated Business Tax Returns as filed for the tax years ended December 31, 2016 and

MSG NETWORKS INC.
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (UNAUDITED)
(Continued)

2017, and June 30, 2018. In October 2019, the Company closed the examination with no material changes to the tax returns as filed.

The Company was notified during the fourth quarter of fiscal year 2019 that the State of New Jersey initiated an examination of the Company's income tax returns for the tax years ended December 31, 2015 through December 31, 2017. The Company does not expect the examination, when finalized, to result in material changes to the tax returns as filed.

The federal and state statute of limitations are currently open on the Company's tax returns for 2016 and 2013, respectively, and forward.

Note 16. Concentrations of Risk

Accounts receivable, net on the accompanying consolidated balance sheets as of December 31, 2019 and June 30, 2019 include amounts due from the following individual customers, which accounted for the noted percentages of the gross balance:

	December 31, 2019	June 30, 2019
Customer A	25%	25%
Customer B	24%	25%
Customer C	24%	23%
Customer D	13%	14%

Revenues in the accompanying consolidated statements of operations for the three and six months ended December 31, 2019 and 2018 include amounts from the following individual customers, which accounted for the noted percentages of the total:

	Three Months Ended December 31,		Six Months Ended December 31,	
	2019	2018	2019	2018
Customer 1	24%	23%	26%	24%
Customer 2	22%	21%	23%	23%
Customer 3	20%	19%	21%	21%
Customer 4	8%	10%	9%	11%

The accompanying consolidated balance sheets as of December 31, 2019 and June 30, 2019 include the following approximate amounts that are recorded in connection with the Company's license agreement with the New Jersey Devils:

Reported in	December 31, 2019	June 30, 2019
Prepaid expenses	\$ 3,000	\$ 1,000
Other current assets	4,000	4,000
Other assets	35,000	36,000
	<u>\$ 42,000</u>	<u>\$ 41,000</u>

As of December 31, 2019, approximately 490 full-time and part-time employees, who represent approximately 73% of the Company's workforce, are subject to collective bargaining agreements ("CBAs"). As of December 31, 2019, approximately 48% of the Company's workforce that is subject to a CBA is covered by a CBA that has expired. In addition, as of December 31, 2019, approximately 18% of the Company's workforce that is subject to a CBA is covered by a CBA that expires within the next year.

Item 2. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations

This Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations, or MD&A, may contain forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Words such as "expects," "anticipates," "believes," "estimates," "may," "will," "should," "could," "potential," "continue," "intends," "plans," and similar words and terms used in the discussion of future operating and financial performance and plans identify forward-looking statements. Investors are cautioned that such forward-looking statements are not guarantees of future performance, results or events and involve risks and uncertainties, and that actual results or developments may differ materially from the forward-looking statements as a result of various factors. Factors that may cause such differences to occur include, but are not limited to:

- the demand for our programming among cable, satellite, telephone and other platforms ("Distributors") and the subscribers thereto, and our ability to enter into and renew affiliation agreements with Distributors, as well as the impact of consolidation among Distributors;
- the level of our revenues, which depends in part on the popularity and competitiveness of the sports teams whose games are broadcast on our networks and the popularity of other content aired on our networks;
- the ability of our Distributors to maintain, or minimize declines in, subscriber levels;
- the impact of subscribers selecting Distributors' packages that do not include our networks or Distributors that do not carry our networks at all;
- the security of our program signal and electronic data;
- general economic conditions especially in the New York City metropolitan area where we conduct the majority of our operations;
- the on-ice and on-court performance of the professional sports teams whose games we carry;
- the demand for advertising and sponsorship arrangements and viewer ratings for our networks;
- competition, for example, from other regional sports networks;
- the relocation or insolvency of professional sports teams with which we have a media rights agreement;
- our ability to maintain, obtain or produce content, together with the cost of such content;
- our ability to renew or replace our media rights agreements with professional sports teams;
- the acquisition or disposition of assets and/or the impact of, and our ability to successfully pursue, acquisitions or other strategic transactions;
- the costs associated with, and the outcome of, litigation and other proceedings to the extent uninsured;
- the impact of governmental regulations or laws and changes in such regulations or laws, including with respect to the legalization of sports gaming;
- the impact of sports league rules, regulations and/or agreements and changes thereto;
- our dependence on The Madison Square Garden Company, AMC Networks Inc., and other third-party providers for the provision of certain services;
- cybersecurity and similar risks which could result in the disclosure of confidential information, disruption of our business or damage to our brands and reputation;
- our substantial debt;
- any reduction in our access to capital and credit markets or significant increases in costs to borrow;
- financial community perceptions of our business, operations, financial condition and the industry in which we operate;
- the tax-free treatment of the Distribution; and
- the factors described under "Item 1A. Risk Factors" in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended June 30, 2019.

[Table of Contents](#)

The Company disclaims any obligation to update or revise the forward-looking statements contained herein, except as otherwise required by applicable federal securities laws.

All dollar amounts included in the following MD&A are presented in thousands, except as otherwise noted.

Introduction

MD&A is provided as a supplement to, and should be read in conjunction with, the unaudited consolidated financial statements and notes thereto included in this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q, as well as our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended June 30, 2019 to help provide an understanding of our financial condition, changes in financial condition and results of operations. Unless the context otherwise requires, all references to “we,” “us,” “our,” or the “Company” refer collectively to MSG Networks Inc., a holding company, and its direct and indirect subsidiaries through which substantially all of our operations are conducted. The Company owns and operates two regional sports and entertainment networks, MSG Network and MSG+. The Company operates and reports financial information in one segment.

This MD&A is organized as follows:

Results of Operations. This section provides an analysis of our unaudited consolidated results of operations for the three and six months ended December 31, 2019 as compared with the three and six months ended December 31, 2018.

Liquidity and Capital Resources. This section provides a discussion of our financial condition and liquidity, as well as an analysis of our cash flows for the six months ended December 31, 2019 as compared with the six months ended December 31, 2018.

Recently Issued Accounting Pronouncements Not Yet Adopted and Critical Accounting Policies. This section discusses recently issued accounting pronouncements not yet adopted, as well as the results of the Company’s annual impairment testing of goodwill performed during the first quarter of fiscal year 2020. This section should be read together with our critical accounting policies, which are discussed in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended June 30, 2019 under “Item 7. Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations — Recently Issued Accounting Pronouncements Not Yet Adopted and Critical Accounting Policies — Critical Accounting Policies” and in the notes to the consolidated financial statements included therein.

Results of Operations

Comparison of the Three Months Ended December 31, 2019 versus the Three Months Ended December 31, 2018

The table below sets forth, for the periods presented, certain historical financial information and the percentage that those items bear to revenues.

	Three Months Ended December 31,				Increase (Decrease) in Net Income
	2019		2018		
	Amount	% of Revenues	Amount	% of Revenues	
Revenues	\$ 187,730	100 %	\$ 192,914	100 %	\$ (5,184)
Direct operating expenses	84,065	45 %	81,470	42 %	(2,595)
Selling, general and administrative expenses	32,022	17 %	31,294	16 %	(728)
Depreciation and amortization	1,680	1 %	1,800	1 %	120
Operating income	69,963	37 %	78,350	41 %	(8,387)
Other income (expense):					
Interest income	906	NM	1,422	1 %	(516)
Interest expense	(9,934)	(5)%	(11,693)	(6)%	1,759
Debt refinancing expense	(2,764)	(1)%	—	NM	(2,764)
Other components of net periodic benefit cost	(258)	NM	(413)	NM	155
	(12,050)	(6)%	(10,684)	(6)%	(1,366)
Income from operations before income taxes	57,913	31 %	67,666	35 %	(9,753)
Income tax expense	(17,949)	(10)%	(23,828)	(12)%	5,879
Net income	\$ 39,964	21 %	\$ 43,838	23 %	\$ (3,874)

NM – Percentage is not meaningful

Revenues

Revenues for the three months ended December 31, 2019 decreased \$5,184, or 3%, to \$187,730 as compared with the prior year period. The net decrease was attributable to the following:

Decrease in affiliation fee revenue	\$ (3,071)
Decrease in advertising revenue	(1,406)
Other net decreases	(707)
	<u>\$ (5,184)</u>

The decrease in affiliation fee revenue was primarily due to the impact of a decrease in subscribers of approximately 8%, partially offset by the impact of higher affiliation rates and, to a lesser extent, a favorable \$2,300 affiliate adjustment recorded in the current year quarter.

The decrease in advertising revenue was primarily due to a lower net decrease in deferred revenue related to ratings guarantees and the impact of fewer live professional sports telecasts as compared with the prior year period, partially offset by higher per-game sales from the telecast of live professional sports programming and other net advertising increases, primarily from the Company's non-ratings based advertising initiatives.

Other net decreases were largely due to the absence in the current year quarter of revenues associated with certain services provided to Fuse Media, Inc.

Direct operating expenses

Direct operating expenses for the three months ended December 31, 2019 increased \$2,595, or 3%, to \$84,065 as compared with the prior year period due to higher rights fees expense of \$2,407, principally as a result of contractual rate increases under the Company's media rights agreements with professional sports teams.

[Table of Contents](#)

Selling, general and administrative expenses

Selling, general and administrative expenses for the three months ended December 31, 2019 increased \$728, or 2%, to \$32,022 as compared with the prior year period due to higher advertising and marketing costs, as well as higher professional fees and other cost increases, partially offset by lower employee compensation and related benefits (including share-based compensation expense). The overall increase includes \$600 in expenses in the current year quarter that are not indicative of the Company's core expense base.

Operating income

Operating income for the three months ended December 31, 2019 decreased \$8,387, or 11%, to \$69,963 as compared with the prior year period primarily due to (as discussed above) the decrease in revenues, higher direct operating expenses and, to a lesser extent, higher selling, general and administrative expenses (including share-based compensation expense).

Interest expense

Interest expense for the three months ended December 31, 2019 decreased \$1,759, or 15%, to \$9,934 as compared with the prior year period primarily due to lower average interest rates for the three months ended December 31, 2019 (3.3% as compared with 3.8% in the prior year).

Debt refinancing expense

Debt refinancing expense was approximately \$2,764 for the three months ended December 31, 2019 related to refinancing of the Company's senior secured credit facilities. See Note 7 to the consolidated financial statements included in "Part I — Item 1. Financial Statements" of this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for more information on the refinancing of the Company's senior secured credit facilities.

Income taxes

See Note 15 to the consolidated financial statements included in "Part I — Item 1. Financial Statements" of this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for more information on income taxes.

Adjusted operating income

The Company evaluates performance based on several factors, of which the key financial measure is adjusted operating income. Adjusted operating income is defined as operating income before (i) depreciation, amortization and impairments of property and equipment and intangible assets, (ii) share-based compensation expense or benefit, (iii) restructuring charges or credits and (iv) gains or losses on sales or dispositions of businesses. Because it is based upon operating income, adjusted operating income also excludes interest expense (including cash interest expense) and other non-operating income and expense items. We believe that the exclusion of share-based compensation expense or benefit allows investors to better track the performance of the Company without regard to the settlement of an obligation that is not expected to be made in cash. We believe adjusted operating income is an appropriate measure for evaluating the operating performance of our Company. Adjusted operating income and similar measures with similar titles are common performance measures used by investors and analysts to analyze our performance. Internally, we use revenues and adjusted operating income measures as the most important indicators of our business performance, and evaluate management's effectiveness with specific reference to these indicators. Adjusted operating income should be viewed as a supplement to and not a substitute for operating income, net income, cash flows from operating activities, and other measures of performance and/or liquidity presented in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles ("GAAP"). Since adjusted operating income is not a measure of performance calculated in accordance with GAAP, this measure may not be comparable to similar measures with similar titles used by other companies.

The Company has presented the components that reconcile operating income, a GAAP measure, to adjusted operating income:

	Three Months Ended		Decrease in Adjusted Operating Income
	December 31, 2019	2018	
Operating income	\$ 69,963	\$ 78,350	\$ (8,387)
Share-based compensation	5,440	5,611	(171)
Depreciation and amortization	1,680	1,800	(120)
Adjusted operating income	<u>\$ 77,083</u>	<u>\$ 85,761</u>	<u>\$ (8,678)</u>

[Table of Contents](#)

Adjusted operating income for the three months ended December 31, 2019 decreased \$8,678, or 10%, to \$77,083 as compared with the prior year period primarily due to (as discussed above) the decrease in revenues, higher direct operating expenses and, to a lesser extent, higher selling, general and administrative expenses (excluding share-based compensation expense).

Results of Operations

Comparison of the Six Months Ended December 31, 2019 versus the Six Months Ended December 31, 2018

The table below sets forth, for the periods presented, certain historical financial information and the percentage that those items bear to revenues.

	Six Months Ended December 31,				Increase (Decrease) in Net Income
	2019		2018		
	Amount	% of Revenues	Amount	% of Revenues	
Revenues	\$ 348,711	100 %	\$ 357,378	100 %	\$ (8,667)
Direct operating expenses	152,725	44 %	148,125	41 %	(4,600)
Selling, general and administrative expenses	54,342	16 %	48,197	13 %	(6,145)
Depreciation and amortization	3,407	1 %	3,845	1 %	438
Operating income	138,237	40 %	157,211	44 %	(18,974)
Other income (expense):					
Interest income	2,834	1 %	3,014	1 %	(180)
Interest expense	(20,749)	(6)%	(23,615)	(7)%	2,866
Debt refinancing expense	(2,764)	(1)%	—	NM	(2,764)
Other components of net periodic benefit cost	(516)	NM	(818)	NM	302
	(21,195)	(6)%	(21,419)	(6)%	224
Income from operations before income taxes	117,042	34 %	135,792	38 %	(18,750)
Income tax expense	(34,011)	(10)%	(45,024)	(13)%	11,013
Net income	\$ 83,031	24 %	\$ 90,768	25 %	\$ (7,737)

NM – Percentage is not meaningful

Revenues

Revenues for the six months ended December 31, 2019 decreased \$8,667, or 2%, to \$348,711 as compared with the prior year period. The net decrease was attributable to the following:

Decrease in affiliation fee revenue	\$ (5,183)
Decrease in advertising revenue	(2,044)
Other net decreases	(1,440)
	<u>\$ (8,667)</u>

The decrease in affiliation fee revenue was primarily due to the impact of a decrease in subscribers of approximately 8%, partially offset by the impact of higher affiliation rates and, to a lesser extent, a net favorable \$1,700 affiliate adjustment recorded in the current year period.

The decrease in advertising revenue was primarily due to a lower net decrease in deferred revenue related to ratings guarantees and the impact of fewer live professional sports telecasts as compared with the prior year period, partially offset by higher per-game sales from the telecast of live professional sports programming and other net advertising increases, primarily from the Company's non-ratings based advertising initiatives.

Other net decreases were largely due to the absence in the current year period of revenues associated with certain services provided to Fuse Media, Inc.

[Table of Contents](#)

Direct operating expenses

Direct operating expenses for the six months ended December 31, 2019 increased \$4,600, or 3%, to \$152,725 as compared with the prior year period due to higher rights fees expense of \$4,251, principally as a result of contractual rate increases under the Company's media rights agreements with professional sports teams.

Selling, general and administrative expenses

Selling, general and administrative expenses for the six months ended December 31, 2019 increased \$6,145 or 13%, to \$54,342 as compared with the prior year period primarily due to higher advertising and marketing costs and professional fees. The overall increase includes approximately \$1,600 in expenses in the current year period that are not indicative of the Company's core expense base.

Operating income

Operating income for the six months ended December 31, 2019 decreased \$18,974, or 12%, to \$138,237 as compared with the prior year period primarily due to (as discussed above) the decrease in revenues, higher selling, general and administrative expenses (including share-based compensation expense) and, to a lesser extent, higher direct operating expenses.

Interest expense

Interest expense for the six months ended December 31, 2019 decreased \$2,866, or 12%, to \$20,749 as compared with the prior year period primarily due to a lower average principal balance under the Company's senior secured credit facilities (see "Financing Agreements"), as well as lower average interest rates for the six months ended December 31, 2019 (3.5% as compared with 3.7% in the prior year).

Debt refinancing expense

Debt refinancing expense was approximately \$2,764 for the six months ended December 31, 2019 related to refinancing of the Company's senior secured credit facilities. See Note 7 to the consolidated financial statements included in "Part I — Item 1. Financial Statements" of this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for more information on the refinancing of the Company's senior secured credit facilities.

Income taxes

See Note 15 to the consolidated financial statements included in "Part I — Item 1. Financial Statements" of this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for more information on income taxes.

Adjusted operating income

The Company has presented the components that reconcile operating income, a GAAP measure, to adjusted operating income:

	Six Months Ended December 31,		Increase (Decrease) in Adjusted Operating Income
	2019	2018	
Operating income	\$ 138,237	\$ 157,211	\$ (18,974)
Share-based compensation	10,099	9,287	812
Depreciation and amortization	3,407	3,845	(438)
Adjusted operating income	<u>\$ 151,743</u>	<u>\$ 170,343</u>	<u>\$ (18,600)</u>

Adjusted operating income for the six months ended December 31, 2019 decreased \$18,600, or 11%, to \$151,743 as compared with the prior year period primarily due to (as discussed above) the decrease in revenues, higher selling, general and administrative expenses (excluding share-based compensation expense) and, to a lesser extent, higher direct operating expenses.

Liquidity and Capital Resources

Overview

Our primary sources of liquidity are cash and cash equivalents, cash flows from the operations of our business and available borrowing capacity under our revolving credit facility. The Company amended and restated its prior credit agreement, dated September 28, 2015 (the "Former Credit Agreement"), in its entirety on October 11, 2019. See "Financing Agreements" below. Our principal uses of cash are expected to include working capital-related items, capital spending, taxes, debt service, and the repurchase of shares of the Company's Class A common stock, par value \$0.01 per share ("Class A Common Stock"). The

[Table of Contents](#)

Company's use of its available liquidity will be based upon the ongoing review of the funding needs of the business, the optimal allocation of cash resources, and the timing of cash flow generation.

We believe we have sufficient liquidity, including \$115,914 in cash and cash equivalents, as of December 31, 2019, as well as the available borrowing capacity under our revolving credit facility and our anticipated operating cash flows, to fund our business operations, repurchase shares of the Company's Class A Common Stock and service our outstanding term loan facility (see "Financing Agreements" below) during the next twelve months. However, potential subscriber reductions of our Distributors, changes in the demand for our programming, advertising revenue declines, our ability to maintain or obtain content, and other factors could adversely impact our business and results of operations, which might require that we seek alternative sources of funding through the capital and credit markets that may or may not be available to us.

On December 7, 2017, the Company's Board of Directors (the "Board") authorized the repurchase of up to \$150,000 of the Company's Class A Common Stock. On August 29, 2019, the Board authorized a \$300,000 increase to the stock repurchase authorization, which had \$136,165 of availability remaining, bringing the total available repurchase authorization for Class A Common Stock to \$436,165 as of that date. Under the authorization, shares of Class A Common Stock may be purchased from time to time in open market or private transactions, block trades or such other manner as the Company may determine, in accordance with applicable insider trading and other securities laws and regulations. The timing and amount of purchases will depend on market conditions and other factors. On October 3, 2019, the Company settled its modified Dutch auction tender offer and repurchased approximately 15 million shares of its Class A Common Stock, at a price of \$16.70 per share, for an aggregate purchase price of \$250,168. As of December 31, 2019, the Company had \$185,997 of availability remaining under its stock repurchase authorization.

Financing Agreements

On September 28, 2015, MSGN Holdings, L.P. ("MSGN L.P."), an indirect wholly-owned subsidiary of the Company through which the Company conducts substantially all of its operations, MSGN Eden, LLC, an indirect subsidiary of the Company and the general partner of MSGN L.P., Regional MSGN Holdings LLC, a direct subsidiary of the Company and the limited partner of MSGN L.P. (collectively with MSGN Eden, LLC, the "Holdings Entities"), and certain subsidiaries of MSGN L.P. entered into the Former Credit Agreement with a syndicate of lenders.

MSGN L.P., the Holdings Entities and certain subsidiaries of MSGN L.P. amended and restated the Former Credit Agreement effective October 11, 2019 (the "Credit Agreement"). The Credit Agreement provides MSGN L.P. with senior secured credit facilities consisting of: (i) an initial \$1,100,000 term loan facility (the "Term Loan Facility") and (ii) a \$250,000 revolving credit facility (the "Revolving Credit Facility"), each with a term of five years. As of December 31, 2019, there was \$1,100,000 outstanding under the Term Loan Facility, and no borrowings under the Revolving Credit Facility. As of December 31, 2019, the Holdings Entities and MSGN L.P. and its restricted subsidiaries on consolidated basis were in compliance with the financial covenants of the Credit Agreement.

See Note 7 to the consolidated financial statements included in "Part I — Item 1. Financial Statements" of this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for more information on the Credit Agreement and the Former Credit Agreement.

Contractual Obligations

As more fully described in Note 9 to the consolidated financial statements included in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended June 30, 2019, the Company's contractual obligations not reflected on the consolidated balance sheets consist primarily of its obligations under media rights agreements.

In addition, see Note 7 to the consolidated financial statements included in "Part I — Item 1. Financial Statements" of this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the principal repayments required under the Company's Term Loan Facility.

Cash Flow Discussion

Operating Activities

Net cash provided by operating activities for the six months ended December 31, 2019 decreased by \$16,434 to \$74,021 as compared with the prior year period. This decrease was primarily driven by lower income from operations before taxes, partially offset by other net increases as compared with the prior year period.

Investing Activities

Net cash used in investing activities for the six months ended December 31, 2019 decreased by \$1,916 to \$1,758 as compared with the prior year period primarily due to an investment made in a nonconsolidated entity in the prior year period.

[Table of Contents](#)

Financing Activities

Net cash used in financing activities for the six months ended December 31, 2019 increased by \$65,272 to \$182,772 as compared with the prior year period. This increase was primarily due to repurchases of the Company's Class A Common Stock, partially offset by the proceeds received from borrowings under the Company's senior secured credit facilities during the current year period, as well as lower principal repayments on the Company's term loan facilities made in the current year period.

Recently Issued Accounting Pronouncements Not Yet Adopted and Critical Accounting Policies

Recently Issued Accounting Pronouncements Not Yet Adopted

In June 2016, the Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB") issued Accounting Standards Update ("ASU") No. 2016-13, *Financial Instruments — Credit Losses*, and subsequent ASUs that amended the application of ASU No. 2016-13, which introduces a new impairment model for most financial assets and certain other instruments. For trade and other receivables, the Company will be required to use a forward-looking "expected loss" model that will replace the current "incurred loss" model and generally will result in earlier recognition of allowances for losses. This standard will be effective for the Company beginning in the first quarter of fiscal year 2021, with early adoption permitted. The Company is currently evaluating the impact this standard will have on its consolidated financial statements.

In August 2018, the FASB issued ASU No. 2018-14, *Compensation — Retirement Benefits — Defined Benefit Plans — General (Topic 715-20): Disclosure Framework — Changes to the Disclosure Requirements for Defined Benefit Plans*, which removes, adds, or clarifies disclosure requirements relating to defined benefit plans to improve disclosure effectiveness. This standard will be effective for the Company beginning in the fourth quarter of fiscal year 2021, with early adoption permitted. The standard is to be applied retroactively to all periods presented. The adoption of this standard is not expected to have a material impact on the Company's consolidated financial statements.

In March 2019, the FASB issued ASU No. 2019-02, *Entertainment-Films-Other Assets-Film Costs (Subtopic 926-20) and Entertainment-Broadcasters-Intangibles-Goodwill and Other (Subtopic 920-350): Improvements to Accounting for Costs of Films and License Agreements for Program Materials*, which amends Accounting Standards Codification ("ASC") Subtopic 920-350 to align the accounting for production costs of an episodic television series with that for the costs of producing films. This standard will be effective for the Company beginning in the first quarter of fiscal year 2021, with early adoption permitted. The standard is to be applied prospectively to all periods presented. The Company is currently evaluating the impact this standard will have on its consolidated financial statements.

In December 2019, the FASB issued ASU No. 2019-12, *Income Taxes (Topic 740): Simplifying the Accounting for Income Taxes*. This ASU eliminates certain exceptions to the general approach in ASC Topic 740 and includes methods of simplification to the existing guidance. This standard will be effective for the Company beginning in the first quarter of fiscal year 2022, with early adoption permitted. The standard is to be applied prospectively to all periods presented. The Company is currently evaluating the impact this standard will have on its consolidated financial statements.

Critical Accounting Policies

The following discussion has been included to provide the results of the Company's annual impairment testing of goodwill performed during the first quarter of fiscal year 2020. There have been no other material changes to the Company's critical accounting policies from those set forth in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended June 30, 2019.

Goodwill

The goodwill balance reported on the Company's consolidated balance sheet as of December 31, 2019 is \$424,508. Goodwill is tested annually for impairment as of August 31st and at any time upon the occurrence of certain events or substantive changes in circumstances. The Company has the option to perform a qualitative assessment to determine if an impairment is more likely than not to have occurred. If the Company can support the conclusion that it is not more likely than not that the fair value of a reporting unit is less than its carrying amount, the Company does not need to perform the quantitative goodwill impairment test for that reporting unit. If the Company cannot support such a conclusion or the Company does not elect to perform the qualitative assessment then the Company would perform the quantitative goodwill impairment test. The quantitative goodwill impairment test, used to identify both the existence of impairment and the amount of impairment loss, compares the fair value of a reporting unit with its carrying amount, including goodwill. If the fair value of a reporting unit exceeds its carrying amount, goodwill of the reporting unit is considered not impaired. If the carrying amount of a reporting unit exceeds its fair value, an impairment loss shall be recognized in an amount equal to that excess, limited to the total amount of goodwill allocated to that reporting unit.

The Company has one reporting unit for evaluating goodwill impairment. During the first quarter of fiscal year 2020, the Company performed its annual impairment test of goodwill by comparing the fair value of its reporting unit with its carrying value. As the Company's reporting unit had a negative carrying value of net assets, there was no impairment of goodwill identified.

Item 3. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk

In October 2019, the Company amended and restated its prior credit agreement, dated September 28, 2015, in its entirety. As such, we are providing an update to the disclosures made in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K regarding quantitative and qualitative disclosures about market risk affected by this refinancing.

Our market risk exposure to interest rate risk relates to any borrowings we may incur.

Borrowings under our Credit Agreement bear interest, based on our election, at a floating rate based upon LIBOR, the New York Fed Bank Rate or the U.S. Prime Rate, plus, in each case, an additional rate which is fixed for an initial period of time and thereafter dependent upon our total leverage ratio at the time. Accordingly, we are subject to interest rate risk with respect to the tenor of any borrowings we may incur under the Credit Agreement. The effect of a hypothetical 100 basis point increase in floating interest rates prevailing at December 31, 2019 and continuing for a full year would increase interest expense related to the amount outstanding under our \$1.1 billion term loan facility provided under the Credit Agreement by \$10,823. If appropriate, we may seek to reduce such exposure through the use of interest rate swaps or similar instruments that qualify for hedge accounting treatment. See "Item 2. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations - Liquidity and Capital Resources - Financing Agreements" for more information on our Credit Agreement.

There were no other material changes to the disclosures made in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K regarding quantitative and qualitative disclosures about market risk for the year ended June 30, 2019.

Item 4. Controls and Procedures

An evaluation was carried out under the supervision and with the participation of the Company's management, including our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, of the effectiveness of the design and operation of our disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Exchange Act")) as of the end of the period covered by this report. Based upon that evaluation, the Company's Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer concluded that as of December 31, 2019 the Company's disclosure controls and procedures were effective.

There were no changes in the Company's internal control over financial reporting (as such term is defined in Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f) under the Exchange Act) during the fiscal quarter ended December 31, 2019 that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, the Company's internal control over financial reporting.

PART II—OTHER INFORMATION

Item 1. Legal Proceedings

The Company is a defendant in various lawsuits. Although the outcome of these matters cannot be predicted with certainty, management does not believe that resolution of these lawsuits will have a material adverse effect on the Company.

Item 2. Unregistered Sales of Equity Securities and Use of Proceeds

The following table presents information about the Company's repurchases of Class A Common Stock that were made during the three months ended December 31, 2019 (amounts are presented in thousands except per share data):

Period	Total Number of Shares Purchased (a)	Average Price Paid per Share (b)	Total Number of Shares Purchased as Part of Publicly Announced Plans or Programs	Approximate Dollar Value of Shares That May Yet Be Purchased Under the Plans or Programs (b)
October 1, 2019 - October 31, 2019	14,980	\$ 16.70	14,980	\$ 185,997
November 1, 2019 - November 30, 2019	—	\$ —	—	\$ —
December 1, 2019 - December 31, 2019	—	\$ —	—	\$ —
	<u>14,980</u>	<u>\$ 16.70</u>	<u>14,980</u>	

(a) On December 7, 2017, the Board authorized the repurchase of up to \$150,000 of the Company's Class A Common Stock. On August 29, 2019, the Board authorized a \$300,000 increase to the stock repurchase authorization, which had \$136,165 of availability remaining, bringing the total available repurchase authorization for Class A Common Stock to \$436,165 as of that date. As of December 31, 2019, the Company had remaining authorization of \$185,997 for future repurchases. Under the authorization, shares of Class A Common Stock may be purchased from time to time in open market or private transactions, block trades or such other manner as the Company may determine, in accordance with applicable insider trading and other securities laws and regulations, with the timing and amount of purchases depending on market conditions and other factors. The Company has been funding and expects to continue to fund stock repurchases through a combination of cash on hand and cash generated by operations. The Company may also choose to fund its stock repurchase program through other funding sources including utilizing its revolving credit facility. Total number of shares purchased are determined based on the settlement date of such trades.

(b) The amounts do not give effect to any fees, commissions or other costs associated with repurchases of shares.

Item 6. Exhibits

(a) Index to Exhibits

EXHIBIT NO.	DESCRIPTION
31.1	Certification by the Chief Executive Officer Pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
31.2	Certification by the Chief Financial Officer Pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
32.1	Certification by the Chief Executive Officer Pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
32.2	Certification by the Chief Financial Officer Pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
101.INS	XBRL Instance Document — the instance document does not appear in the Interactive Data File because its XBRL tags are embedded within the Inline XBRL document.
101.SCH	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Schema.
101.CAL	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Calculation Linkbase.
101.DEF	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Definition Linkbase.
101.LAB	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Label Linkbase.
101.PRE	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Presentation Linkbase.
104	The cover page from the Company's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended December 31, 2019, formatted in Inline XBRL and contained in Exhibit 101.

SIGNATURE

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, the Registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized on the 4th day of February, 2020.

MSG Networks Inc.

By: /s/ BRET RICHTER

Name: Bret Richter

Title: Executive Vice President,
Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer

Certification

I, Andrea Greenberg, certify that:

1. I have reviewed this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q of MSG Networks Inc.;
2. Based on my knowledge, this report does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which such statements were made, not misleading with respect to the period covered by this report;
3. Based on my knowledge, the financial statements, and other financial information included in this report, fairly present in all material respects the financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of the registrant as of, and for, the periods presented in this report;
4. The registrant's other certifying officer(s) and I are responsible for establishing and maintaining disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e)) and internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f)) for the registrant and have:
 - a. Designed such disclosure controls and procedures, or caused such disclosure controls and procedures to be designed under our supervision, to ensure that material information relating to the registrant, including its consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to us by others within those entities, particularly during the period in which this report is being prepared;
 - b. Designed such internal control over financial reporting, or caused such internal control over financial reporting to be designed under our supervision, to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles;
 - c. Evaluated the effectiveness of the registrant's disclosure controls and procedures and presented in this report our conclusions about the effectiveness of the disclosure controls and procedures, as of the end of the period covered by this report based on such evaluation; and
 - d. Disclosed in this report any change in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the registrant's most recent fiscal quarter (the registrant's fourth fiscal quarter in the case of an annual report) that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the registrant's internal control over financial reporting; and
5. The registrant's other certifying officer(s) and I have disclosed, based on our most recent evaluation of internal control over financial reporting, to the registrant's auditors and the audit committee of the registrant's board of directors (or persons performing the equivalent functions):
 - a. All significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in the design or operation of internal control over financial reporting which are reasonably likely to adversely affect the registrant's ability to record, process, summarize and report financial information; and
 - b. Any fraud, whether or not material, that involves management or other employees who have a significant role in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting.

Date: February 4, 2020

/s/ Andrea Greenberg

Andrea Greenberg

President and Chief Executive Officer

Certification

I, Bret Richter, certify that:

1. I have reviewed this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q of MSG Networks Inc.;
2. Based on my knowledge, this report does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which such statements were made, not misleading with respect to the period covered by this report;
3. Based on my knowledge, the financial statements, and other financial information included in this report, fairly present in all material respects the financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of the registrant as of, and for, the periods presented in this report;
4. The registrant's other certifying officer(s) and I are responsible for establishing and maintaining disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e)) and internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f)) for the registrant and have:
 - a. Designed such disclosure controls and procedures, or caused such disclosure controls and procedures to be designed under our supervision, to ensure that material information relating to the registrant, including its consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to us by others within those entities, particularly during the period in which this report is being prepared;
 - b. Designed such internal control over financial reporting, or caused such internal control over financial reporting to be designed under our supervision, to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles;
 - c. Evaluated the effectiveness of the registrant's disclosure controls and procedures and presented in this report our conclusions about the effectiveness of the disclosure controls and procedures, as of the end of the period covered by this report based on such evaluation; and
 - d. Disclosed in this report any change in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the registrant's most recent fiscal quarter (the registrant's fourth fiscal quarter in the case of an annual report) that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the registrant's internal control over financial reporting; and
5. The registrant's other certifying officer(s) and I have disclosed, based on our most recent evaluation of internal control over financial reporting, to the registrant's auditors and the audit committee of the registrant's board of directors (or persons performing the equivalent functions):
 - a. All significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in the design or operation of internal control over financial reporting which are reasonably likely to adversely affect the registrant's ability to record, process, summarize and report financial information; and
 - b. Any fraud, whether or not material, that involves management or other employees who have a significant role in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting.

Date: February 4, 2020

/s/ Bret Richter

Bret Richter

Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer

Certification

Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. §1350, the undersigned officer of MSG Networks Inc. (the “Company”), hereby certifies, to such officer's knowledge, that the Company's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the Quarter ended December 31, 2019 (the “Report”) fully complies with the requirements of §13(a) or §15(d), as applicable, of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and that the information contained in the Report fairly presents, in all material respects, the financial condition and results of operations of the Company.

Date: February 4, 2020

/s/ Andrea Greenberg

Andrea Greenberg

President and Chief Executive Officer

The foregoing certification is being furnished solely pursuant to 18 U.S.C. §1350 and is not being filed as part of the Report or as a separate disclosure document.

Certification

Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. §1350, the undersigned officer of MSG Networks Inc. (the “Company”), hereby certifies, to such officer's knowledge, that the Company's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the Quarter ended December 31, 2019 (the “Report”) fully complies with the requirements of §13(a) or §15(d), as applicable, of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and that the information contained in the Report fairly presents, in all material respects, the financial condition and results of operations of the Company.

Date: February 4, 2020

/s/ Bret Richter

Bret Richter

Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer

The foregoing certification is being furnished solely pursuant to 18 U.S.C. §1350 and is not being filed as part of the Report or as a separate disclosure document.