

ROAR



Every Student, Every Day, Every Opportunity!

Black Tiger News

July 2023

Greetings,

It's hard to believe I have completed my first year as Superintendent in the Cuyahoga Falls City School District. It has gone quickly and there has been no shortage of events in the city we call home. I appreciate the support I've received from our city leaders, businesses, community members, and families. Each day I come to work I am reminded of the great people of this town and grateful for having been chosen as the leader of our district.

One highlight from the school year occurred a few short weeks ago when our graduates proudly walked across the stage to receive their diplomas and start the next chapter of their lives. I wish them all the best as they begin their journey.

Sometimes I am asked what a superintendent does during the summer months. June was an unusually busy month that was filled with professional development opportunities, the start of summer school, the continuation of negotiations, and many meetings to plan for the upcoming school year. We are pleased to share that we will have many new initiatives, ideas, and changes to our practices that we are confident will improve achievement, communications, safety, and parent and community engagement.

Beginning this Fall, we will launch ParentSquare, a simple and unified school-to-home communication platform to reach and engage families, to ensure they have the opportunity to actively participate in their children's education. By unifying multiple tools into one communications app and service, ParentSquare provides a seamless experience for families and staff. Families will be able to keep track of news, activities, and events from all their children's schools in one place. We hope that ParentSquare's two-way platform will foster greater communication and family involvement. Families can engage in both one-to-one and group messaging with real-time language translation.

We are also proud to share some of the strategies we will use to address school security. The first item to report is that we hired a security consultant who retired from law enforcement and also has extensive experience in school safety. He has been instrumental in helping us create a Crisis Management Handbook that addresses various types of emergencies and that will guide the professional development for our staff when we return in the Fall. He has spent countless hours touring our buildings in order to form individualized training sessions for each school that takes into account the intricacies of each building. We will also be training our staff on the expansion of our crisis communications, which takes shape in various means and ways. We recognize the importance of school safety and are going to be even more attentive and diligent in protecting our students and staff. To meet the day-to-day security needs, we are also hiring a security supervisor that will help address our operations. We will also be hiring hall monitors at the high school who will serve as additional support for school security. This is all in addition to the dedicated Student Resource Officer and police officers that are already in place in our schools.

Now for some fun news... Please mark your calendars for the first "Tiger TAILgate" which is set to take place at our first home football game on Friday, August 18 from 5:00-6:30 P.M. We will have music, food trucks, face painting, games and the revealing of our new Black Tiger mascots! The football game will begin at 7:00 P.M. Please come support our team and our new head coach, Mr. Kevin Pask! When you enter the stadium, you will notice improvements to the stadium, as well as a new entrance tunnel and the reversion to the home side stands. We know many people have asked for this and we are going to honor that request! Wishing you all a peaceful and enjoyable summer.



Andrea Celico, Ph.D.
Superintendent

UPCOMING EVENTS

July

- 04 Holiday-Offices are Closed
- 12 Board of Education Meeting

August

- 09 Bolich MS Jump Start
- 09 Board of Education Meeting
- 10 Roberts MS Jump Start
- 14 Convocation for Staff
- 16 Elementary Open House (tentative)
- 17 First Day of School for grades 1-6, and 9
- 18 First Day of School for grades 7-8, and 10-12
- 18 Tiger TAILgate
First Home Football Game
- 21 First Day of School for All Kindergarten
- 23 Board of Education Meeting



BUILDING



SCHEDULE

2022 - 2026

September 2022 - June 2023

May 2023 - May 2024

June 2023 - April 2024

June 2023 - August 2024

December 2023 - December 2024

August 2023 - November 2024

September 2023 - December 2024

November 2023 - May 2025

December 2023 - January 2025

February 2024 - February 2025

April 2024 - April 2025

July 2024 - August 2025

March 2025 - August 2025

April 2025 - August 2025

August 2025 - November 2025

November 2025

January 2026 - May 2026

May 2026 - September 2026



Early Site Work

Foundations

Masonry Bearing / Fire Walls

Underground Utilities / Building Slabs

Interior Non-Bearing Masonry Walls

Structural Steel Construction

Exterior Walls, Windows and Roofing

Brick Veneer

Interior Stud Walls and Rough-Ins

Drywall

Interior Trim, Painting and Ceilings

Interior Finishes

Stadium Bleacher & Turf Installation

Portage Trail Road Widening

Punch List, Furniture and Cleaning

Substantial Completion / Occupancy

Demolition of Bolich Middle School Final

Site Work Complete

Grand Opening during the 2025-26 School Year



267

**Class of 2023
Graduation Seals
Earned**



40 **Honors
Diplomas**



5
**Military
Enlisted**



\$1.3
**Million in
Scholarships**



64
**Career
Passports**



**OUR CUYAHOGA
FALLS GRADS ARE
HEADING TO...**

Arizona State University
Baldwin Wallace University
Bowling Green State University
Cleveland State University
Cuyahoga Community College
Fortis College
Kent State University
Malone College
Marietta College
Ohio Northern University




Ohio University
St. Vincent College
Stark State College
Terra State Community College
The Ohio State University
The University of Akron
The University of Toledo
Walsh University
Youngstown State University

PLUS: OUR GRADS EARNED 762 COLLEGE CREDITS

The Cuyahoga Falls High School graduating Class of 2023 is a testament to the power of perseverance and resilience. These students have demonstrated an unwavering determination throughout their high school career. Congratulations to our graduates as they begin a new journey!



Follow Us on Social Media

 Cuyahoga Falls City Schools
 @CFallsSchools
 @CuyahogaFallsCSD
#BlackTigerPride

Five Year Forecast Report from Treasurer Kristy Stoicoiu

The Five-Year Forecast is completed twice a year, in November and May, and submitted to the Ohio Department of Education (ODE) following approval by the Board of Education. Taking a conservative approach allows flexibility when unexpected situations arise. While the forecast is a numbers document, it is driven by assumptions.

Revenue Overview: The District's two largest revenue sources, Real Estate and Unrestricted Grants-in-Aid, account for approximately 87% of total revenues. The District has two levies that will need to be renewed during this Five-Year Forecast. The 7.9 mill levy, originally approved in 2005, will expire in calendar year 2025. The 9.97 mill levy, originally approved in 1991, will expire in calendar year 2026. Beginning in FY2022 Ohio adopted the Fair School Funding Plan (FSFP). Funding is driven by a base cost methodology that incorporates the four components identified as necessary to the education process. State funding for the FY2024 - FY2027 will depend on two new State biennium budgets. The current proposed state budget for FY2024-FY2025, HB33 was introduced by the Governor in February 2023 and proposes to continue the implementation of the Fair School Funding Plan (FSFP). Certainty surrounding these and other significant funding components will not likely be known until late June 2023, after the filing of this forecast. We will be closely monitoring the progress of HB33 as it works its way through the legislative process. In FY2021 and FY2022 interest income fell due to the pandemic; however, in FY2023 rates have begun to rise quickly due to the Federal Reserve's strategy to combat inflation. We will closely monitor our investments to capitalize on these increased rates while they continue.

Expenditures Overview: The effects of the pandemic have lessened, but several supply chain concerns and high inflation continue to impact our state, country, and broader globalized economy. Increased inflation affecting district costs is expected to continue; it remains to be seen if these costs are transitory or will last over the next few years, which could significantly impact our forecast and adversely affect state and local funding.

The District's two largest expenditure categories, Salaries and Benefits, account for 80% of total expenditures. The District is currently in negotiations with all three unions at the time of this forecast. Health insurance premiums will increase 7.8% in FY2024.

Capital improvements continue to be made possible by the passage of the \$3,600,000 Emergency Levy. FY2024 through FY2026 show significant increases due to the proposed installation of air conditioning at five of the District's elementary buildings. Other Emergency Levy expenditures include roofs (repair/replacement), maintenance vehicles, technology, parking lot repairs/paving, boilers, buses, and equipment. Major projects this year include repairs to the roof at Roberts, Preston, and Price, updates to the High School weight room, and parking lot paving/repairs district wide. In April 2023 the District issued approximately \$19.5 million in debt through certificates of participation (COPs) to cover increasing costs for the new 6-12 building construction due to inflation and labor shortages. Repayment on this debt out of the general fund is approximately \$1.2 million dollars per year beginning in FY2026.

May's forecast shows a positive cash balance throughout FY2027. While increased inflation impacting District costs are expected to continue over the next few years the economy is also expected to continue to grow as the recovery from the pandemic continues. The full Five-Year Forecast and presentation can be found on our website under the Treasurer's page. Thank you for your continued support and as always, Go Black Tigers!

Financial Forecast	Fiscal Year 2023	Fiscal Year 2024	Fiscal Year 2025	Fiscal Year 2026	Fiscal Year 2027
Beginning Balance (Line 7.010) Plus Renewal/New Levies Modeled	17,191,759	21,191,790	19,661,986	15,402,798	10,327,007
+ Revenue	61,525,601	58,993,550	59,492,059	56,846,930	50,797,002
+ Proposed Renew/Replacement Levies	-	-	-	2,957,166	9,706,471
+ Proposed New Levies	-	-	-	-	-
- Expenditures	(57,525,570)	(60,523,355)	(63,751,247)	(64,879,887)	(64,992,627)
= Revenue Surplus or Deficit	4,000,031	(1,529,805)	(4,259,187)	(5,075,791)	(4,489,154)
Line 7.020 Ending Balance with renewal/new levies	21,191,790	19,661,986	15,402,798	10,327,007	5,837,853
Analysis Without Renewal Levies Included:					
Revenue Surplus or Deficit w/o Levies	4,000,031	(1,529,805)	(4,259,187)	(8,032,957)	(14,195,625)
Ending Balance w/o Levies	21,191,790	19,661,986	15,402,798	7,369,841	(6,825,784)