

ROAR



Every Student, Every Day, Every Opportunity!

Black Tiger News

January 2023

Thank You, Cuyahoga Falls Voters!

Thanks to you, our Emergency Levy passed and we are able to continue to provide an excellent education and services to our students. The most exciting news is that air conditioning in all of our elementary buildings will become a reality for our staff and students over the course of this levy cycle! We appreciate the support and on behalf of the Cuyahoga Falls Board of Education and staff, thank you!

There are many outstanding things happening in our schools every day. Rather than trying to put some of those exciting stories into my very limited amount of real estate on this page, I welcome you to view my presentation on my first 100 days in the school district as superintendent. The recording of my presentation can be found on the Cuyahoga Falls City School District's YouTube channel under the "live" tab. It's hard to believe we can pack in so many exciting events. I hope you enjoy our publication and learning about, just a handful, of the experiences we are providing for our students and families.

Please contact me with any questions, ideas, or concerns you may have or suggestions on how we can improve our ROAR publication. I value your input and appreciate your support and understanding.

Our future is bright in the Cuyahoga Falls City School District!



Andrea Celico, Ph.D.
Superintendent

UPCOMING EVENTS

February

- 10 Early Release Day
- 17 PD Day
No school for students
- 20 President's Day
No school for students

March

- 17 End of the 3rd Quarter
No school for students
- 27-31 Spring Break
No school for students

April

- 3 School resumes
- 7 Good Friday
No school for students
- 10 Comp Day
No school for students
- 14-15 CFHS Spring Musical
- 19 All City Art Walk
- 21 Early Release Day



Congratulations to the CFHS eSports Team for winning the State Valorant Championship!



Congratulations to Jacob Norton, State Qualifier for Cross Country!



On October 26th, Cuyahoga Falls staff, students and community members gathered to celebrate the past, present and future of the district. This same day also marked the grand opening of the high school exactly 100 years ago. The public event included speakers from the school district, the State of Ohio, ThenDesign Architecture, and Hammond Construction. Ohio Representative Casey Weinstein attended the event and read a resolution from the Ohio State House congratulating the school on its anniversary. "Nothing is more foundational than education, and strong education and strong public education creates the foundation for strong communities," said Weinstein. The celebration concluded with a 3D animation providing a virtual tour of the future 6-12 campus. This video can now be viewed on the district's YouTube channel.

6-12 Campus Construction

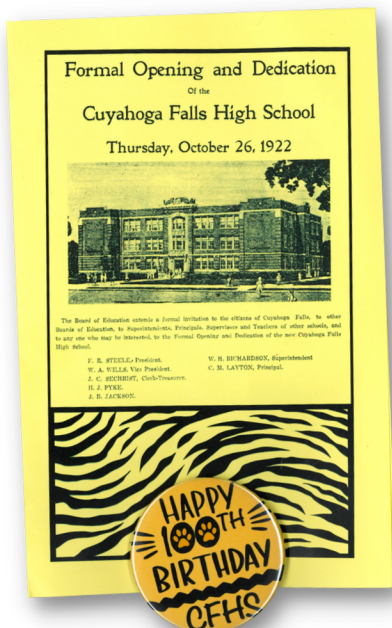


Since the groundbreaking ceremony in September, the 6-12 school building site has begun a massive transformation. Hammond Construction, the construction manager, has mobilized onsite to start the early site earthwork. Construction activities include installing storm water controls, adding silt fencing, piping, and catch basins to maintain drainage onsite. Heavy machinery has been working up to 6 days a week to strip the topsoil and grade the site to accommodate the future building footprint. Over the last three months, more than 126,000 cubic yards of dirt has been displaced. This is the equivalent of moving 40 Olympic size pools of dirt! Some of the topsoil will be stockpiled onsite for later use in the final grading, and the remainder will be permanently removed.

Another notable event this fall was the demolition of Newberry Elementary School. The 66-year-old building came down during the month of October. Bricks from the Newberry were placed outside the construction fence for community members to collect as a keepsake.

Perimeter fencing and signage has also been installed around the campus as a part of Hammond Construction's site safety plan. Hammond Construction is committed to providing a safe and secure environment for students and staff throughout the building process.

Construction progress and execution has always been dependent on weather conditions. Hammond Construction has developed a detailed schedule incorporating winter weather provisions while also maintaining important project milestones. The construction site may appear to be dormant at times throughout the winter; however, this is all a part of the master schedule. The construction site will become very active again in the spring after the winter weather has passed.



Career Technical Education

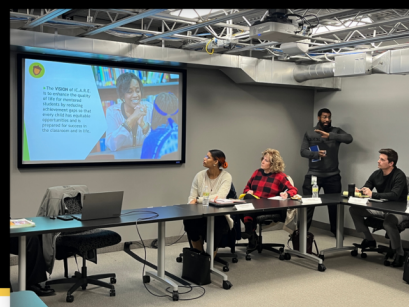


This year marks the 53rd year of the Six District Educational Compact. Cuyahoga Falls City School District joins the local districts of Hudson, Kent, Stow-Munroe Falls, Tallmadge, and Woodridge to offer twenty-eight career technical education programs to high school students. Cuyahoga Falls High School houses seven of the twenty-eight CTE programs with an eighth program scheduled to debut next school year at CFHS. Beginning the 2023-2024 school year, CFHS will introduce Urban Agriculture to the CTE programming. Our district currently hosts The Academy of Medical Office and Business Management, Auto Technology, Criminal Justice, Interactive Marketing and Design, IT Academy with Cisco Cyber Security, Modern Communication Through Media Production, and Cosmetology programs. A total of 152 Cuyahoga Falls High School students are currently enrolled in a CTE program within the Six District Educational Compact. Programs such as the IT Academy with Cisco Cyber Security offer students the opportunity to earn certifications that are required for careers in technology. In addition, six of the CTE programs offered at Cuyahoga Falls High School partner with Kent State University and The University of Akron to earn college credit for their CTE education. These programs provide opportunities for students to enter the workforce with skills needed for in-demand careers upon graduation from high school.



Business Alliance Council

Having met monthly since September, the Cuyahoga Falls City School District's Business Alliance Council (BAC) is off to an exciting start this school year. The BAC provides support and insight into the school district's educational issues. Members serve as advisors who assist the district in identifying industry trends and ensuring our students exit Cuyahoga Falls High School with key skill sets to succeed in tomorrow's employment world. This fall, Mary Jane Stanchina, Executive Director of the Six District Educational Compact, shared the Six District Educational Compact program with the BAC, highlighting the history of the program and the current coursework available to our high school students in career technical education. Members of the BAC began working with school district officials to identify strategies to strengthen the relationship among businesses, the community, and education. The BAC meets monthly and welcomes new members at any time. Please contact Chris Jones at cf_jonesc@cftigers.org if you wish to join the BAC.




Veteran's Day Programs

Students at DeWitt, Lincoln, and Richardson Elementary Schools honored veterans by presenting special programs highlighting the armed services, recognizing the valor of the men and women who have served, and performing patriotic music for Veteran's Day. DeWitt Elementary students sang various patriotic songs for the school and guests in the audience. In addition, students listened to local VFW members while they demonstrated proper flag-folding protocols and the significance of each fold. Students at Lincoln performed the songs of each armed service and invited veterans to stand when their military branch was sung. Richardson Elementary, recognized as a Purple Heart School, invited three veterans who are current employees of the Cuyahoga Falls City School District to participate in a panel discussion and answer students' questions regarding their experiences in the Army, Navy, and Marines. Veterans were also invited to this program and were honored for their service. After the program, guests enjoyed lunch in the "mess hall" AKA the library.



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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. The purpose of the forecast is to engage the Board of Education and the community in long-range planning and discussions of financial issues facing the school district, to serve as a basis for determining the school district's ability to sign contracts associated with continued operations, and to provide a method for the Department of Education and Auditor of State to identify school districts with potential financial problems. The information and data used in preparing the five-year forecast is conservative in nature. 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 84.45% 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. The four components are Student Population and Demographics, Property Valuation, Personal Income of District Residents, and Historical Funding. State funding for the FY2024 - FY2027 will depend on two new State biennium budgets.

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. Inflation in June 2022 hit a 40-year high of 9.1% before falling to 8.3% in August. Increased inflation affecting district costs is expected to continue in FY2023; 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 76.70% of total expenditures. Capital improvements continue to be made possible by the passage of the \$3,600,000 Emergency Levy. FY2023 through FY2025 show significant increases due to the proposed installation of air conditioning at five of the District's elementary buildings. Expenditures as a result of the Emergency Levy remain part of the forecast through FY2027. These expenditures include roofs (repair/replacement), trucks/trailer/vans, technology, parking lot (repairs/new), boilers, buses, and equipment. Major projects during FY2023 include repairs to the roof at Roberts, updates to the High School weight room, and parking lot paving/repairs district wide. November's forecast shows a positive cash balance throughout FY2027. The District will need to remain diligent in assessing the need for any additional expenditures.

Each additional expenditure raises expenses with no offsetting revenue. This hastens the decline of each fiscal year's cash balance. A declining cash balance can erode the District's financial stability over time. 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	\$ 19,191,701	\$ 17,466,835	\$ 14,294,264	\$ 11,475,876
+ Revenue	\$ 61,004,661	\$ 58,629,448	\$ 59,222,175	\$ 56,632,867	\$ 50,477,589
+ Proposed Renew/Replacement Levies	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,956,624	\$ 9,646,789
+ Proposed New Levies	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
- Expenditures	\$ (59,004,719)	\$ (60,354,314)	\$ (62,394,745)	\$ (62,407,879)	\$ (64,412,847)
= Revenue Surplus or Deficit	\$ 1,999,942	\$ (1,724,866)	\$ (3,172,570)	\$ (2,818,388)	\$ (4,288,468)



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