

# Community UPDATE



Bexley City Schools / Summer 2024



## Dear Bexley Community:

Congratulations to our students, staff, and families on another successful year. I am especially proud of the Class of 2024—your growth and aspirations inspire us all.

This year, we've made significant strides in our Championing the Future Strategic Plan focus areas: Culture, Teaching & Learning, and Facilities. While we include highlights in this update we cannot capture the magnitude of what our staff and students do on these pages alone.

Our mission to Learn with Curiosity, Demonstrate Kindness, and Embrace Equity continues to guide us. Initiatives like the Ability Bites Café, Be a Champion recognitions, as well as author and special guest visits only scratch the surface of how these values are playing out.

There's much work ahead! Please see the back cover for details on our next facility-planning discussions. Read page 2 for information about the incremental operating levy on the November 5 ballot. If approved, the levy will fund the daily operations of our current programs and services.

Our staff is committed to transparency and accessibility. Please reach out with any questions. Together, we will continue to champion the future of our district.

**Go Lions!**

**Dr. Jason Fine**  
Superintendent

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Class of 2024 Celebration

Facts on November 5  
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Our Future Continues





# BEXLEY CITY SCHOOLS FINANCE KEY FACTS

## November 5, 2024: Incremental Tax Levy

### COSTS TO RESIDENTS\*

<b>2025</b>	5 MILLS	\$175 PER \$100K
<b>2026</b>	2.5 MILLS	\$88 PER \$100K
<b>2027</b>	2.5 MILLS	\$88 PER \$100K
<b>2028</b>	2.5 MILLS	\$88 PER \$100K
<b>2029</b>	2.5 MILLS	\$88 PER \$100K

\*per \$100,000 of county auditor's appraised value.

An incremental levy is phased in gradually to reduce the immediate financial impact on taxpayers. Additional tax dollars are collected as we need them -- not upfront as a traditional levy would provide.



Scan to find your taxable value.



### WHAT IF IT PASSES?

Continuation of current programs and services with stable funding that keeps pace with increasing student needs and projected inflation.



### WHAT IF IT FAILS?

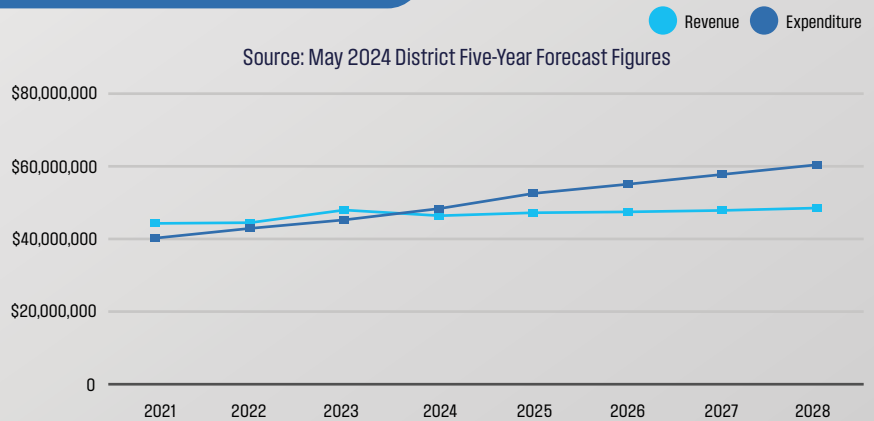
Cuts to operating will be necessary. 75% of district expenditures are wages and benefits. Because of that, the Board of Education would need to consider cuts and their impact on staffing and services to students.

## INSIDE OUR FINANCES

**Expenditures are expected to exceed revenue in FY 2024.** This is normal for Bexley's school-funding cycle.

**Effective tax rates decrease as property values increase over time.** State law, known as House Bill 920, ensures that only the voter-approved dollar amount of a levy can be collected annually.

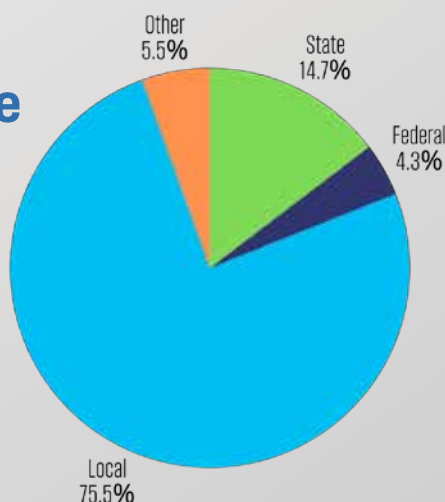
Source: May 2024 District Five-Year Forecast Figures



### Our Revenue

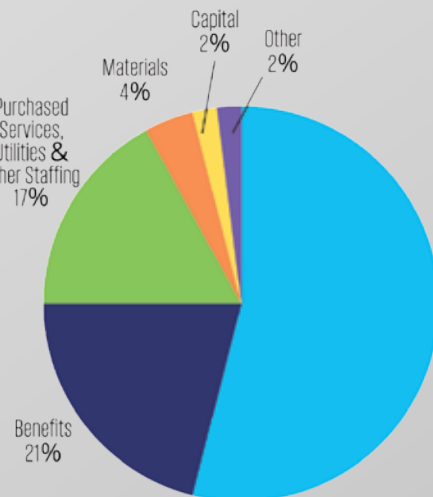
Source: Ohio Department of Education & Workforce

We qualify for **\$1,658/student** in state formula funding.



### Our Spending

Source: Ohio Department of Education & Workforce



**3/4** of all expenditures are for salaries and benefits.



## Learn with Curiosity

Creativity, innovation, and critical thinking are tied to relevant and authentic opportunities to explore and grow that keep students engaged and excited about learning.



**BMS Science Toy Challenge**



**Cassingham Living Museum**



**Maryland Difference Maker  
Kumi Walker**



**BHS Global Scholars**



## Demonstrate Kindness

Celebrating acts of empathy, respect, and integrity fosters a positive and supportive school environment, exemplifying our mission to Demonstrate Kindness.



**Be a Champion Recognition**



## Embrace Equity

Every student at Bexley should feel seen, heard, and empowered to succeed.



**BHS Ability Bites Cafe**



**BMPA Circle of Excellence  
Staff Award**

## Letter from the

# BOARD PRESIDENT

**Dear Bexley City Schools  
Community,**

Thank you for your continued interest in and support of our schools. I know the entire Board is proud of the hard work and tremendous accomplishments of our students, teachers, and staff this year, and shares my deep gratitude for the many ways in which our community partners with us. Your ongoing engagement is vital for the success of our district.

Throughout our 2023-2024 school year our district dedicated many hours to achieving the goals set out in our Strategic Plan and participated in meaningful community discussions about our facilities. That important and exciting work continues. As we look ahead to the 2024-2025 school year, we will strive toward further student successes and growth, guided by our mission, vision, and values each step of the way.

On page 2 of this Community Update you will find important information about the incremental operating levy that will be on the November 5 ballot. This levy, if passed, will fund the continuation of our current programs and services and the implementation of the Strategic Plan developed collaboratively with our community in 2023.

I believe all of our Board members take pride in being accessible and transparent in our roles. I encourage you to reach out with any questions you may have about our district and our efforts to champion our shared future.

Sincerely,

**Victoria Powers**

Board President



### **Bexley Schools Board of Education**

From left to right: Joanne Pickrell (Vice President), Mike Carter, Victoria Powers (President), Patrick King, and Dr. Jonathan Baker.

# CHAMPIONING OUR FUTURE

## District Acts On New Strategic Plan



### Culture

Fostering a sense of belonging and community, our schools work to ensure every student feels valued and supported, promoting overall well-being and aligning with our strategic goals.



BMS Model Students



Maryland Breakfast Buddies



Montrose Moose Gathering



### Teaching & Learning

Equitable and culturally responsive instruction by our expert staff is enriched by educational experiences designed to inspire and engage students in meaningful learning.



Digital Wellness Course



BHS Visiting Poet Writing Workshop



BEF Educator of the Year, Mary Young, Montrose kindergarten teacher



### Facilities

A dozen collaborative meetings were held to gather feedback, explore innovative learning environments, and work to ensure our schools meet the needs of all students for years to come.



Where We Champion Our Future Community Forums



Student Focus Group

# SEMESTER HIGHLIGHTS



## Athletics



Diving Championship: Freshman Jackson Monus clinched the state diving championship



Tennis: Henry Lessard wins the Division II Singles State Championship in his freshman year.



Field Hockey: Eight student-athletes named Academic All Americans by the National Field Hockey Coaches Association.



Wrestling: Marius Garcia, the first Bexley state wrestling champion since 1985, with an undefeated season.



7th Grade Boys Basketball took home the Central Buckeye League Championship.



## Arts



Descendants: The Musical, performed by BMS students, brought the classic characters to life on stage.



Xanadu, nominated for several CAPA Marquee Awards, was a thrilling and comedic rollerskating musical adventure performed by BHS students.



Arts Signing Day: Seven Bexley seniors committed to pursuing higher education in visual and performing arts.



Sammie Ross received the CAPA Marquee Award for Best Actress in a Supporting Role for her performance as Melpomene in Xanadu.

# Congratulations, CLASS OF 2024!



# WHERE WE CHAMPION OUR FUTURE



**You're Invited!**

## Refined District Facilities Plan Options

September 10, 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.  
September 11, 9 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

## Informational Meeting

November 19, 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.  
November 20, 9 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.



**CHECK OUT THE INITIAL  
BUILDING OPTIONS**



**Bexley Public  
Library Auditorium**



**Bexley City Schools**  
348 South Cassingham Road  
Bexley, OH 43209  
Phone: (614) 231-7611 | Fax: (614) 231-8448  
bexleyschools.org

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