





LIBERTY-BENTON LOCAL SCHOOLS



2024-2025











Dear Liberty-Benton Community,

The 2024-2025 school year was truly exceptional for Liberty-Benton Local Schools. Together, we celebrated accomplishments that showcase the strength of our students, staff, families, and community.

We are proud to continue our legacy of excellence, highlighted by earning an overall 4.5-Star Rating on the Ohio School Report Card. This recognition affirms the dedication and commitment of our entire district. Financially, Liberty-Benton remains a strong steward of taxpayer investment, ensuring that our community's support is matched by excellence in academics, the arts, and student experiences.

Our students distinguished themselves in many ways. Ten varsity athletic teams captured league championships, while dozens of student-athletes earned all-conference honors. In the arts, the L-B Brass Quartet and Sax Trio received "Superior" ratings at the OMEA Solo and Ensemble, and several students achieved their FFA degree—each accomplishment reflecting their talent and hard work.

The Class of 2025 also marked a historic milestone as the largest graduating class in Liberty-Benton's history with 134 students. Among them, 21 students achieved valedictorian status—a testament to their dedication and the support of their families, teachers, and community.

This year was also filled with meaningful traditions and community milestones. In fall 2024, we dedicated a POW/MIA stadium chair at Military Appreciation Night. In November, we honored local veterans with a breakfast and assembly, reminding us of the importance of service and sacrifice. In March, thanks to the generosity of local businesses, supportive families, and our Athletic Boosters, we proudly opened the newly renovated softball field.

As we reflect on a year of achievement and celebration. I am filled with gratitude for the students, families, staff, and community partners who make Liberty-Benton such a special place. I invite you to continue reading this Quality Profile to learn more about the many ways Liberty-Benton continues to thrive.

Fly Higher! Bruce Otlev Superintendent

LIBERTY-BENTON AT A GLANCE



Total Student Enrollment



Graduation Rate



Attendance Rate



Open Enrollment

OUR STAFF 175 Total Number of Staff

LETTER FROM THE TREASURER



At Liberty-Benton, we are committed to using taxpayer dollars wisely while keeping our focus firmly on student learning. Our district consistently ranks among the top 20% of school districts in Ohio for academic

achievement, all while operating with one of the lowest per-pupil expenditures in the state—\$10,630 compared to the state average of \$12,723. This balance reflects our dedication to both efficiency and excellence.

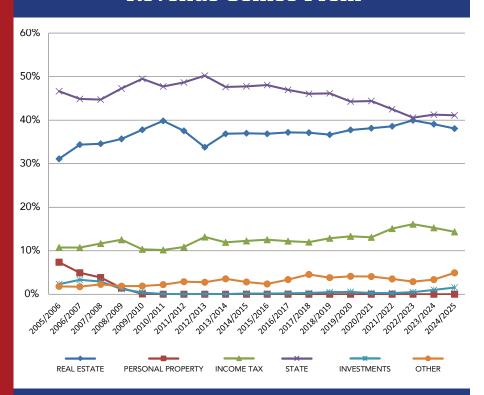
Our financial strength comes from a variety of sources. The majority of our funding is generated locally (46%) and through the state (41.6%), with an additional 4.1% provided by federal funds. The remaining 8.3% comes from non-tax sources. Every dollar we receive is managed with the highest level of care and accountability.

Just as important as how funds are collected is how they are spent. A significant portion of our budget—66.8%—is directed to classroom instruction. The majority of our operating spending supports teachers and staff through salaries and benefits, underscoring their essential role in guiding and supporting students every day.

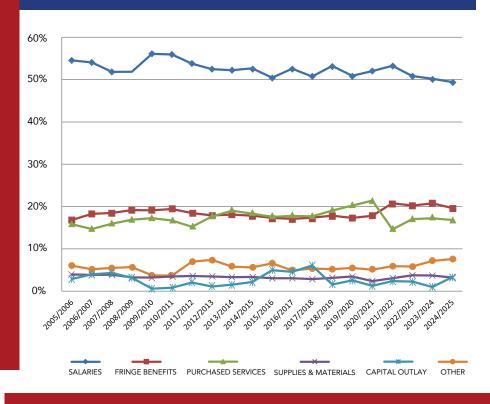
Our priority is to deliver an exceptional education that provides lasting value for every student and every taxpayer.

Lisa Dobbins Treasurer

Where Each Dollar of Revenue Comes From



Where Each Dollar Goes



Highlights:

COST PER PUPIL

\$10,630



The district is among the **20% of public districts**

with the lowest expenses per pupil and the highest academic performance index scores 66.8%

of the district budget is spent directly on classroom instruction

Liberty-Benton Continues to Exceed State Standards

Each year, the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce releases State Report Cards, which highlight the achievements of school districts across the state and their efforts to prepare students for the future. Districts are given an overall rating of 1-5 stars, with five being the highest.



Achievement



Progress



Gap Closing



Graduation



Early Literacy



College, Career, Workforce, and Military Readiness



Thank you to our staff and students for your hard work!

COLLEGE CREDIT PLUS (CCP)

College Credit Plus (CCP) is Ohio's dual enrollment program that allows students in grades 8-12 to earn both college and high school credits by taking designated courses.

Benefits



Provides early access to college-level coursework



Enables students to earn college credits at NO cost



Reduces the number of credits needed to complete college, allowing them to graduate and join the workforce earlier, saving money on college tuition

Highlights

Number of CCP classes of L-B students earned offered at L-B, taught by our instructors

college credit

L-B's ranking in the state for percentage of students enrolled with college credit

Total number of CCP hours earned by L-B students during the 2024-2025 school year

at Liberty-Benton at Millstream at a college

Most hours earned by an L-B student

Average hours earned per student who chose to participate in CCP



Class of

By the Numbers

Graduates

The largest class in LBHS history

Valedictorians

Most Popular

Colleges



1. Bowling Green **State University**



2. The Ohio State **University &** University of **Findlay** (9)



3. University of Cincinnati



4. Ohio Northern **University & University of** Toledo (7)

Scholarship Money

\$1,155,716

Awarded for 2025-2026 academic year

\$4,280,154

Awarded over the next four years

Plans After High School

68% 4 Year College

7% 2 Year College

18% Directly to :3.5% Entering Workforce :3.5% U.S. Military

3.5% Apprenticeship

Most Popular Majors



Engineering



+ Nursing



Education



Business



••• Accounting & Finance

ATHICS

Liberty-Benton accepts invitation to join Northern Lakes League

The Eagles will compete in the Cardinal Division of the NLL starting in the 2026-27 school year.

—Offerings &= Participation

- Sports offered across 29 teams
- of students in grades 7-12 participated in athletics

= Athletic = Highlights

- League Championship Teams
- All-Conference Awards: (1st, 2nd, or Honorable Mention)
 - League Players of the Year
 - League Coaches of the Year
- Student athletes recognized at the state level
 - 1 Basketball 1st Team All-Ohio
 - 5 Football/Baseball 2nd Team All-Ohio
 - Football 3rd Team All-Ohio
 - **3** Soccer All-State Recognitions
 - Track & Field/Wrestling State Qualifiers

PERFORMING ARTS

- 7 High School Opportunities
 - 2 Mixed choirs
 - Concert band
 - Marching band
 - Jazz band
 - Pop a cappella group
 - Annual musical

- Middle School Opportunities
 - 3 Grade level bands
 - 🚓 3 Grade level choirs
 - 1 Pop a cappella group
- 45 Students in choir (grades 5-12)
- Students in band (grades 5-12)
- Students participated in the school musical All Shook Up

EXTRACURRICULARS

- High School Student Future Farmers of America (FFA) members
 - 4 Students received their State FFA Degree
 - Received the American FFA Degree, the highest honor awarded by the National FFA Organization
- 34 Students in the Support Our Soldiers (SOS) Club

HIGHLIGHTS AND RECOGNITIONS



L-B Singers earned a Superior rating at the Ohio Music Education Association (OMEA) District Adjudicated Event



Excellent rating at OMEA State Adjudicated Event

FACILITY UPGRADES



SOFTBALL FIELD RENOVATION

Made possible by \$250,000 raised in just 60 days and a generous \$300,000 gift from 1958 graduate Mary Danchuck Coolev.

COMMEMORATIVE WALL

Built with bricks from the original campus, this wall honors our school's legacy. A bronze plaque shares the district's history, preserving LB heritage for future generations of Eagles.





TRANSPORTATION & MAINTENANCE FACILITY

A new 18.000-square-foot facility ensures buses and equipment stay in top condition supporting safe, reliable transportation for all students for years to come.



SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL SIDEWALK PROJECT

The district secured a Safe Routes to School grant that fully funded critical safety improvements to school sidewalks across the district.

COMMUNITY & LEADERSHIP



MILITARY APPRECIATION

The SOS Club fundraised for a dedicated POW/MIA stadium chair, unveiled during our Military Appreciation Night in honor of those who served.



GRANDPARENTS DAY

Grandparents Day welcomed more than 1,200 visitors to connect and celebrate with our students.



LEADER IN ME ACTION TEAM SUMMIT

Our middle school hosted the Leader in Me Summit, with 200+ attendees from across Ohio. Centered on Habit 8-Find Your Voice: Spark Greatness, Ignite Change, students shared how they demonstrate leadership in their schools.









Liberty-Benton Local Schools BOARD OF EDUCATION

With gratitude, we recognize the Liberty-Benton Board of Education members for their dedication and service to our school community.



Jim Mace
President

Brian Christiansen
Vice-President

A.J. Granger
Member

Steve Benson

Heather Franks
Member

Member