

# Liberty-Benton

State of the Schools



Superintendent Mark Kowalski

March 11, 2019

*“There are no secrets to success. It is the result of preparation, hard work, and learning from failure.”*

Our goal is that each Liberty-Benton graduate is equipped to reach his or her potential in:

Good Character

American Citizenship

Independent Living

Academics

Critical Thinking



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# Last School Year in Review

#1 Place to Teach in Hancock County\*

#1 Safest School District in Hancock County\*

#1 School District for Athletes in Hancock County\*

Bronze Medal Recipient\* \*

Top 1,000 School Districts in the Country \* \*

\* According to niche.com

\* \* According to the U.S. News & World Report



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# Last School Year in Review

Class of 2018:

- 2% entered the military
- 86% enrolled in college/university
- Over \$1.6 million in scholarships accepted
- 68% earned a total of 1,466 college credit hours during high school
- 100% took the ACT and averaged 22.6 (state average 20.3)



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# Last School Year in Review

## Athletics:

- 59% of students participated in athletics
- 7 teams were league/district champions
- 2 teams made state semi-finals
- 1 state champ – Chloe Miller (discus)
- Girls track -4<sup>th</sup> in state, boys – 6<sup>th</sup>
- 5 LBHS students named Athlete of the Year
- 3 LBHS coaches named Coach of the Year



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# Last School Year in Review

## Arts:

- 1,150 district students displayed work at the 2018 Arts Festival
- 1<sup>st</sup> time in district history - both high school choirs advanced to the state competition
- We held 45 performances throughout the school year – including 1 TV recording session



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DREAMWORKS  
THEATRICALS

# SHREK

## The Musical



# Report Card Highlights

- District overall grade is a B (new in 2018)
- Our Performance Index (PI) went from 80% to 82.1%
  - Out of 608 public school districts in Ohio, we are in the top 20% with the highest academic PI rating
- Indicators met: 17 out of 24
  - Improved from a D to C (50% to 70.8%)



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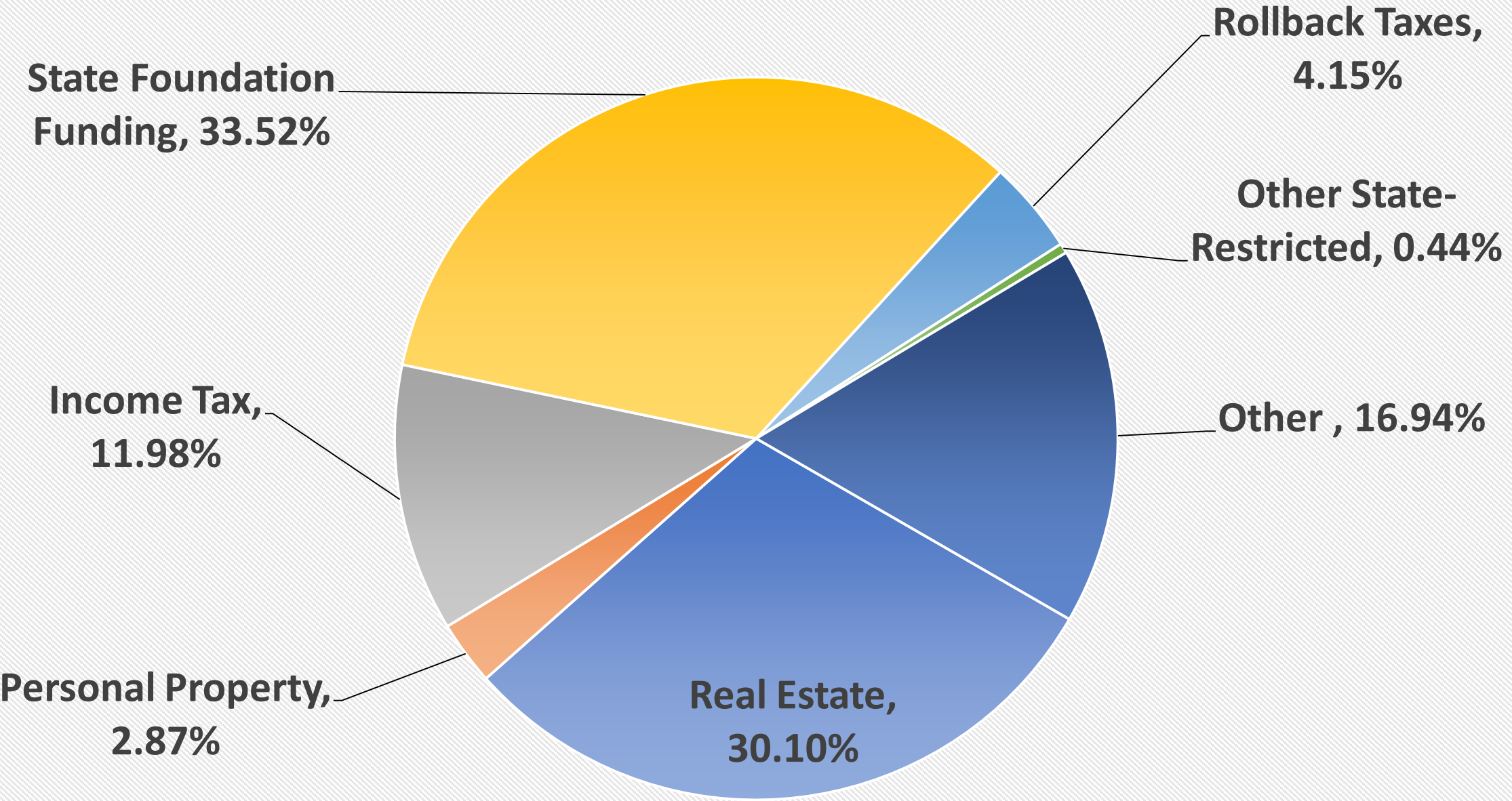
# Let's Talk Finances

- Thank you, residents!
- 8<sup>th</sup> consecutive year receiving the Auditor of the State Award
- 67% - percent of district funds spent on classroom instruction
- Among the 20% of public districts with the lowest operating expenses per pupil
  - \$8,304 (state average - \$9,353)

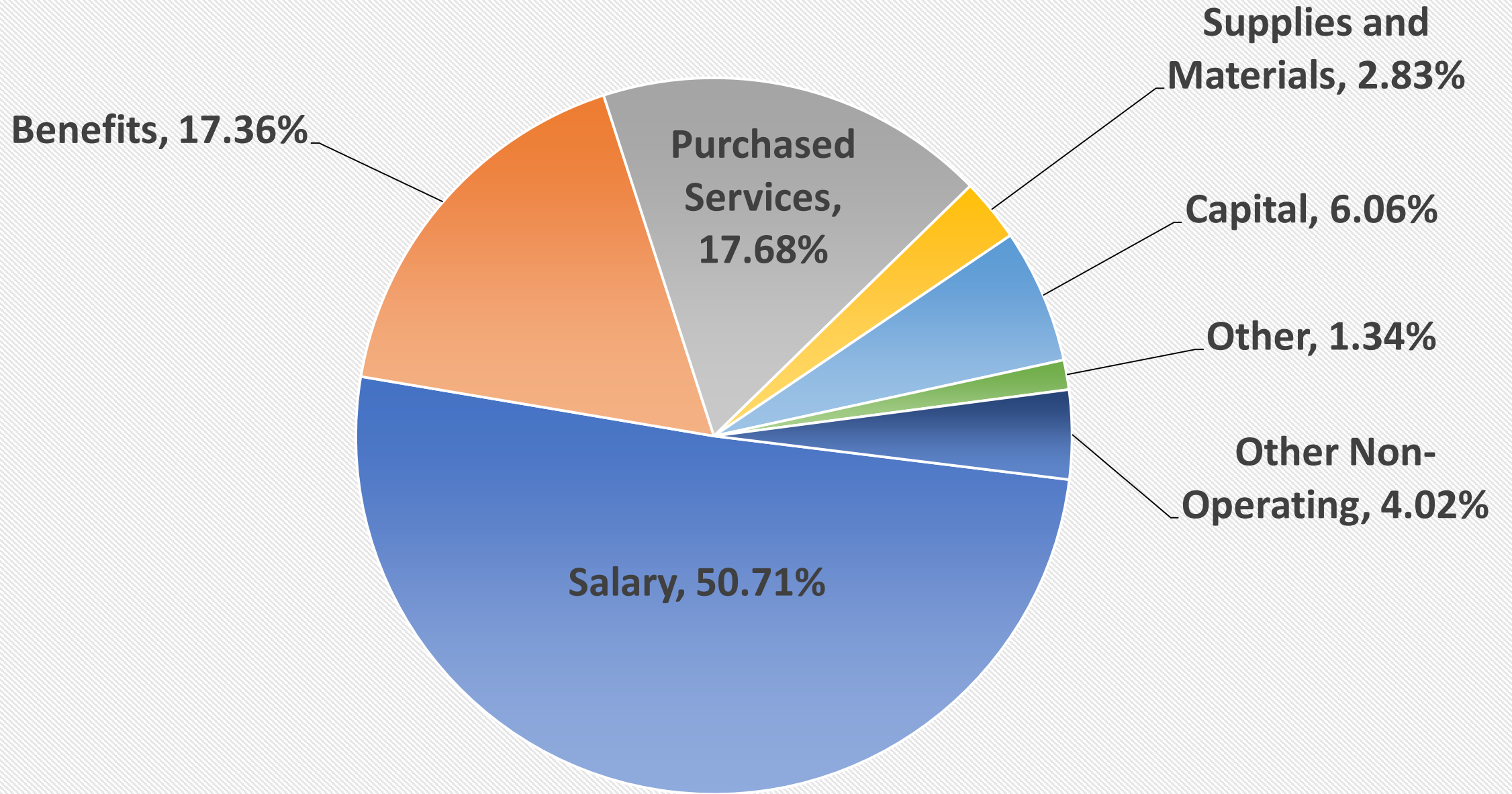


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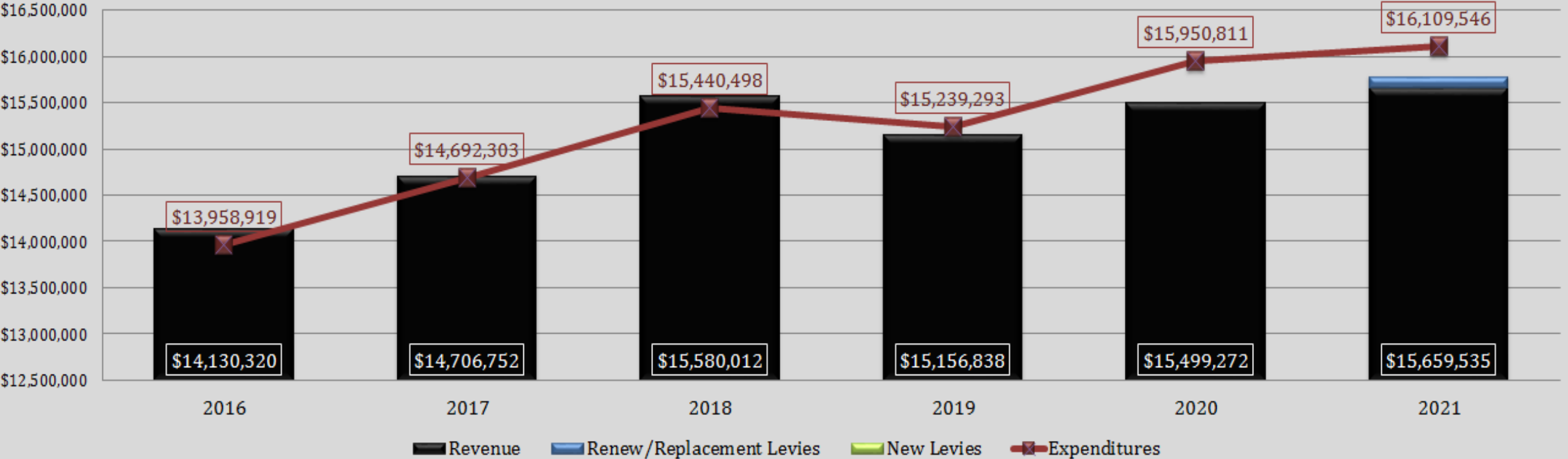
# Revenue



# Expenses



Revenue vs. Expenditures



# Highlights & Accomplishments

So far this year:

- State Superintendent DeMaria visit
- Virtual Learning Academy
- Robotics Class
- New and improved Website
- 8<sup>th</sup> grade marching band



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# Highlights & Accomplishments

So far this year:

- Grandparents Day
- Additional classroom for SWD
- Middle School Vo Ag experience
- Administrative Realignment
- Model Schools PD Initiative



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# Highlights & Accomplishments

So far this year:

- The Nutrition Group FSMC
- Newsletter and Quality Profile mailings
- LBTA Negotiations
- Kindergarten Screening
- Master Planning led by  
Community Advisory Team



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# What Does This Mean for Our Community?

- In January, the district completed an 18-month long, community-driven master planning process, which was led by the Community Advisory Team
- This team's goal was to decide what to do with the State's \$19,981,455 available funding
- Their recommendation? Liberty-Benton should accept the offer from the state to pay for 57% of the following improvements



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## WHAT'S THE PLAN?

1

### NEW PK-8 SCHOOL

Located near the current LBHS with improved site access, parking and modern learning environments.

2

### NEW AUDITORIUM

Available to all grade levels and built to support our growing commitment to the performing arts.

3

### LIMITED LBHS RENOVATION

Upgrades to systems that the State of Ohio has deemed necessary to extend the life of the building.



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7.3

**NEW MILLAGE**  
FOR CONSTRUCTION  
AND RENOVATION

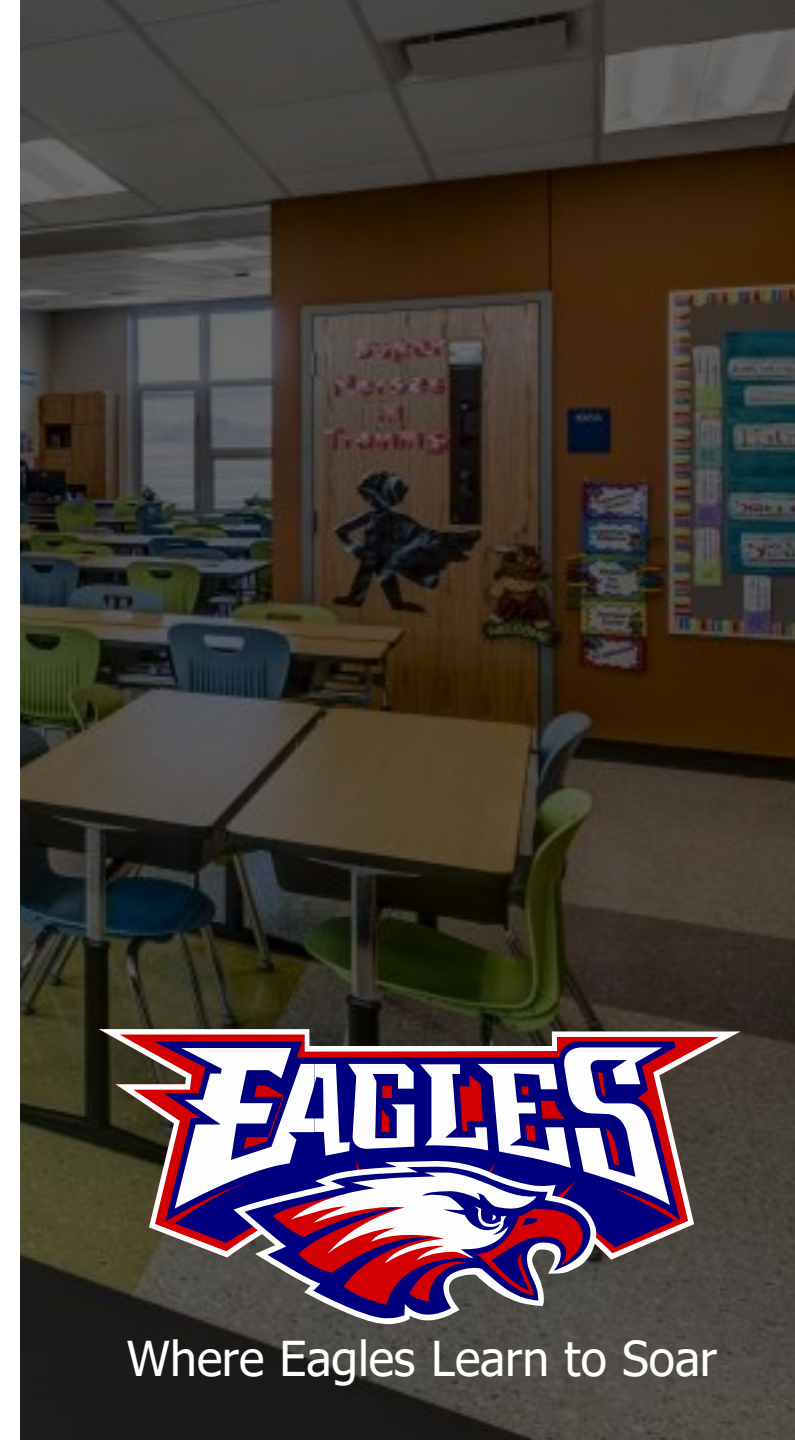
-1.8

**EXPIRING MILLAGE**  
FROM HIGH SCHOOL  
CONSTRUCTION

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5.5 **MILLS**

**TRUE TAX IMPACT**  
FOR MAY 7<sup>TH</sup>  
BOND ISSUE



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# Our Facilities – the Need is Now

- Significant needs in the elementary & middle schools
- Diverting funds to make fixes
- Serious mechanical and structural issues
- Traffic issues
- Inadequate performing spaces



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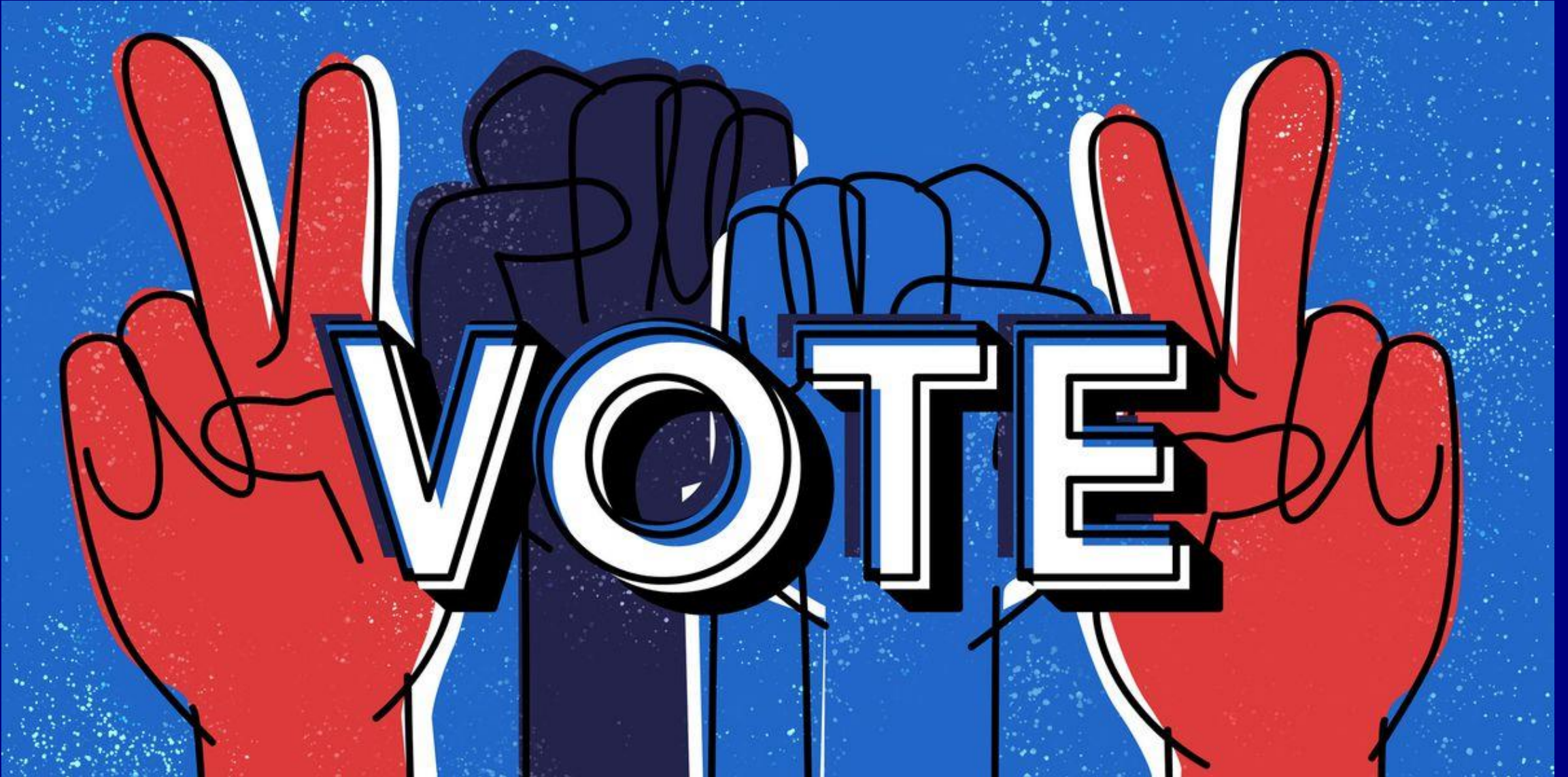
# The Future (and Present!) of Education

- Collaborative & flexible learning spaces
- Infusion of technology
- Safety & security
- Effective site logistics (i.e. ample parking, accessibility)
- Updated mechanics and infrastructure



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Your Voice Matters! Vote on May 7!



“The sure way to miss  
success is to miss the  
opportunity.”

**Mark Kowalski**

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