



**Liberty-Benton Local Schools**  
9190 Co Rd 9  
Findlay, OH 45840



**Liberty-Benton Local Schools**

# QUALITY PROFILE

— 2020-2021 —



Niche.com ranks  
**Liberty-Benton #1**  
in Hancock County for...

**Best  
Place to  
Teach**

**Best  
District**

**Best  
District  
for  
Athletes**

**Safest  
School  
District**

**Best  
Teachers**



I never imagined I would still be talking about COVID-19 when reflecting on the 2020-2021 school year. Alas, here we are. I am continually amazed by the resilience and perseverance our

students, staff, and community show day in and day out. Our students continue to endure and thrive despite challenges out of our control.

Throughout this Quality Profile, I hope you'll enjoy reliving some of Liberty-Benton's best moments from the 2020-2021 school year. From our return to all-in learning to our sports conference championships and celebrating new facilities. Our focus remains on our return to normal – even if “normal” has new meaning.

I'm privileged to be part of a district and community that lifts students up in the face of adversity. Through innovative ideas, our district has been fortunate to return to the activities they love sooner. Liberty-Benton continues to equip students with the tools needed to reach their potential in academics, good character, American citizenship, independent living, and critical thinking.

You each play a part in Liberty-Benton's overall success. So thank you for your efforts and for celebrating our accomplishments alongside us.

Respectfully,

**Mark Kowalski**, Superintendent



**Liberty-Benton School District** exists so that its students graduate equipped to reach their potential in academics, good character, American citizenship, independent living, and critical thinking at a cost that is financially supported by the community taxpayers.



# ACADEMICS

76%

of the Class of 2021 is attending 24 universities across 10 states, while 24% went to work, an apprenticeship, or joined the military.

19

College Credit Plus courses were offered at the high school.

83%

of the Class of 2021 earned college credit while attending Liberty-Benton High School totaling 1,986 hours.

5 members

of the Class of 2021 earned a 30 or higher on the ACT.

17%

of seniors earned an honors level of 26 or higher on their ACT.

40.4%

of the graduating class received scholarship money totaling

\$541,086

for their first year and

\$1,971,844

over their four years of college

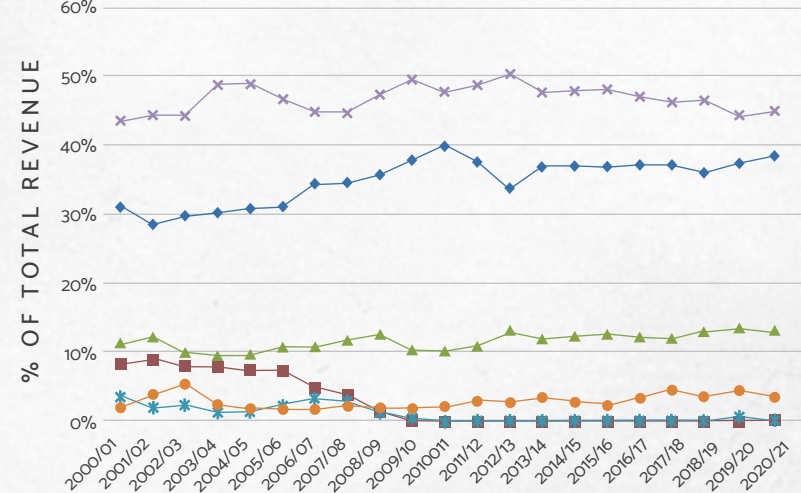
Top 30%

Liberty-Benton Elementary received a ranking of 172 out of 1898 by US News & World Report placing it in the top 30% of elementary schools in Ohio

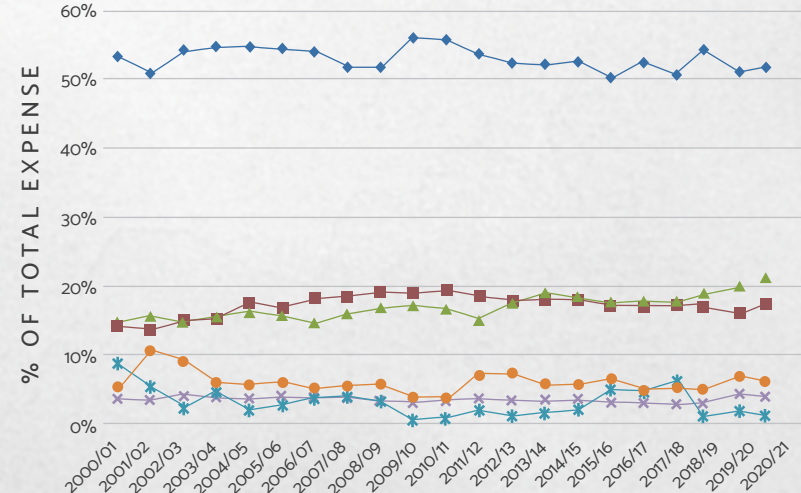


# FINANCES

Where Each Dollar of Revenue Comes From



Where Each Dollar Goes



Graduation rate:  
**97.9%**

Cost per Pupil:  
**\$8,375**

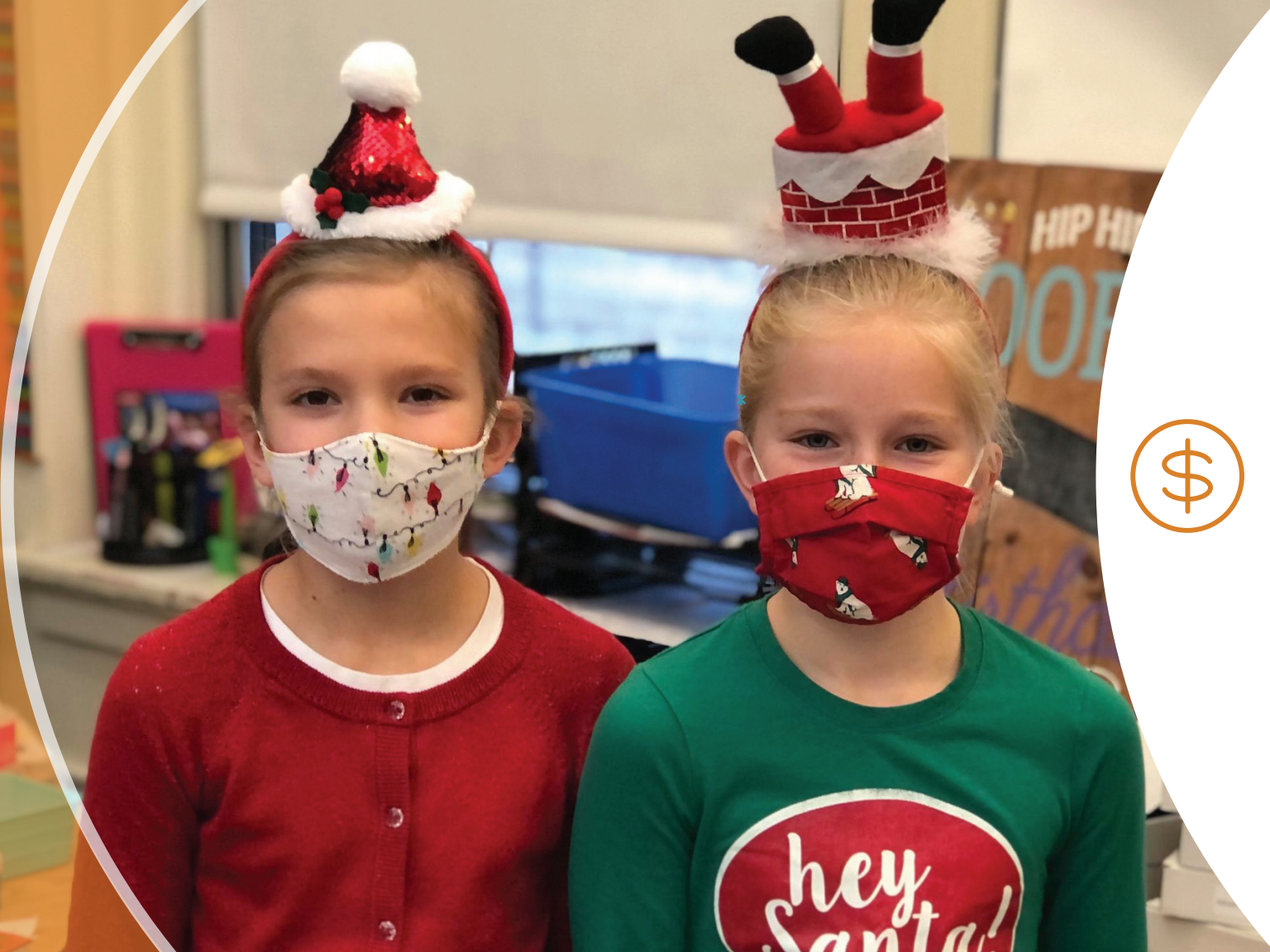
**67.2%**  
of the district budget  
is spent directly on  
classroom instruction



For the 11th consecutive  
year, the district received  
the Auditor of State Award

**The district is  
among the 20%**

of public districts with the lowest operating  
expenses per pupil and the highest academic  
performance index scores.



# FINANCES

The district utilized \$419,044 of federal dollars to respond to the impact of COVID-19 during the 2020-2021 school year. The funds helped address the additional expenses in student technology and connectivity, virtual learning, PPE, sanitizing, and transportation. While these short term funds will go away, we continue to develop toward long term strategies for investing the remaining funds that directly address academic, health, social and emotional support for all students.

|                                                                     | AWARDED        | SPENT        |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|--------------|
| Corona Relief Funds (CRF)                                           | \$67,286.77    | \$67,286.77  |
| Elementary and Secondary School<br>Emergency Relief (ESSER) ESSER I | \$77,621.21    | \$77,621.21  |
| ESSER II                                                            | \$259,724.30   | \$259,724.30 |
| ESSER III                                                           | \$720,722.12   | —            |
| Broadband Ohio Connectivity                                         | \$14,411.70    | \$14,411.70  |
| TOTAL                                                               | \$1,139,766.10 | \$419,043.98 |

# ATHLETICS

**62%**

of high school students participated  
in athletics

**68%**

of 7th grade students participated  
in athletics

**73%**

of 8th grade students participated  
in athletics

## New School Record

Madi Gaerke broke the Junior High  
School record in the 800 meter:  
2:27.19



## BVC Tournament Champs

Boys + Girls 7th grade basketball teams

## League Champs

12 teams

## State Level Competition

### 5 teams + 17 athletes

Izzy granger, 1st in state in discus and All-Ohio Volleyball;  
Alexis Rickenbacher, 1st in state in pole vault and All-  
Ohio Soccer; Karis Willow, 8th in state in high jump and  
All-Ohio Volleyball; Boys Golf Team; All-Ohio Football:  
Conner Claag, Nathaniel DiRe, Dylan Schimmoeller,  
Mason Richards, Cason Doolittle.

## The District won the BVC All-Sports Award



# ARTS

**1200 students displayed  
over 2000 pieces**

of artwork at the Liberty-Benton Arts  
Festival.

**15 students**

students participated in the 2021  
Hancock County Student Showcase:  
Advanced Student Art Exhibition.



**Marissa Green,**

an LBHS junior, earned both 1st and 3rd  
place honors for her paintings in the  
2-D category.



**Kylie Gioffredo and  
Jaden Wadding**

won the prestigious Rieck's Gallery  
Award. The seniors both earned cash  
awards and their fantastic artwork was  
placed on permanent display at the  
Hancock County ESC.



## LBHS Z-Club

**\$700**  
scholarships  
to 3 seniors

**138**  
Baked + delivered  
138 dozen cookies  
for first  
responders

**291**  
Valentine's cards  
for nursing  
homes

**306**  
Christmas cards  
for nursing  
homes

**830**  
service hours

**Breakfast**  
provided on Teacher  
Appreciation  
Day



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# STUDENT EXPERIENCES

Kindergarten classrooms collected various items for Open Arms.

1st graders collected items for the Women's Resource Center.

## Donation

Z-Club collected food and items of need for the City Mission and The Salvation Army.

## 60 coats

were donated by the Middle School for the annual Coats for Christmas campaign.

## Over 200

Toys for Tots packages were made at Salvation Army for local children by our Middle School Student Council.

## 35 large boxes

of non-perishable food items were donated by the Middle School for the annual food drive.

2nd grade students mailed Christmas cards to our Troops.

3rd graders conducted a pajama drive to donate new pajamas to Hancock Family Job and Family Services.

4th grade students collected tabs and other needed supplies for the Ronald McDonald House.

5th grade students participated in the "Daryl the Barrel" drive to collect items for the City Mission.