

COMMUNITY CONNECTION



2023



QUALITY PROFILE

A MESSAGE FROM THE

SUPERINTENDENT

Thank you for taking a moment to read the 2023 Quality Profile of Forest Hills School District. This annual publication details some of the achievements of our talented students and dedicated staff members to provide the community with a vibrant picture of the educational experience offered at FHSD.



In this edition, you will read about award-winning academic performance, a wide-variety of extracurricular activities, invaluable partnerships with the broader community and so much more that helps students in Forest Hills receive a well-rounded education. FHSD's student-centered approach to education is the foundation of our commitment to academic excellence and student growth. Our goal in Forest Hills is to provide a strong foundation that helps students find success both in and out of the classroom.

I am so appreciative of this community's generous support of the combination levy, which provides fiscal stability to enable FHSD to continue providing a stellar education to students. As you will see in this profile, the district is delivering the highest level of education while maintaining a strong commitment to fiscal responsibility. For example, 74% of all district funds are spent directly on classroom instruction, which exceeds the state and county average.

We are thrilled to report some of the accolades and recognitions in this Quality Profile. But rest assured, all of us at Forest Hills School District are focused on continuing to improve our approach to education and finding ways to offer a rewarding and beneficial learning experience to every student who walks through our doors.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Larry Hook". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

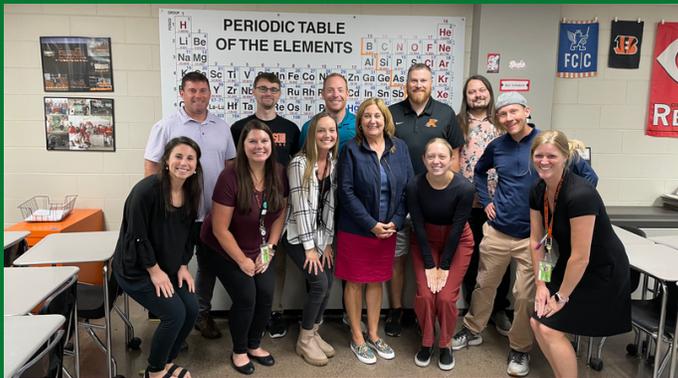
Larry R. Hook
Superintendent





Leading the Way in STEM

Anderson and Turpin High Schools have once again received the Governor's Thomas Edison Award for Excellence in STEM Education and Student Research. Awarded by the Ohio Academy of Science, this recognition acknowledges the science teachers' accomplishments and their commitment to encouraging STEM research outside of the classroom during the 2022-2023 academic year. AHS (pictured below) and THS (pictured above) were the only schools in the Cincinnati area selected for this honor.



Standout Niche Rankings

In the 2024 Best Schools rankings from Niche, a company that ranks and reviews K-12 schools across the country, FHSD earned an overall grade of A. The district also received stellar results in Academics, Teachers and Administration with an A+. Of 606 school districts Niche evaluated in Ohio, FHSD was ranked 6th for Best Teachers in the state.



AWARD-WINNING ACADEMICS

"Striving to ensure success for all students."

Five-Star State Report Card

FHSD earned a Five-Star Overall Rating on the 2023 Ohio School Report Card. Only 75 of 607 school districts in the state received the five-star overall rating, which is the highest possible result. The district also earned five-star ratings in the key components of Achievement, Early Literacy, Graduation Rates and Gap Closing. Use your smartphone camera to scan the QR code below for a detailed breakdown!

SCAN ME!



National Merit Scholars



Fifteen Anderson High School and Turpin High School students were recognized in Fall 2023 for achieving either commended or semifinalist status in the National Merit Scholarship Program. Their academic rigor places them among the top high schoolers in the country.

SUPPORTING STUDENTS

Excellence in PBIS

All nine schools in Forest Hills School District were individually recognized for their efforts in Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports. The Ohio Department of Education and the Ohio PBIS Network granted five schools with gold ratings, two with silver and two with bronze ratings in the 2023 Ohio PBIS Showcase.

Additionally, FHSD is one of only 17 districts in the state of Ohio to be recognized at the district level for excellence in PBIS efforts. PBIS is a preventative and systematic approach that emphasizes the high-quality implementation of evidence-based practices, use of data-based decision-making and organization of supports to help all students experience success. PBIS has been shown to improve student achievement, student behavior and school climate.

Perfect Special Education Rating

Forest Hills School District received a perfect score on the 2023 Ohio Special Education Ratings. The Ohio Department of Education reviews a variety of factors to determine a district's implementation of federal requirements, also called compliance measures, as well as results for students with disabilities.

FHSD earned a perfect rating of 4.0 according to the state's review of the relevant data and information. The district is proud of the hard work that went into earning this rating and is committed to continue providing quality services for students in the most need. Appropriate instructional supports and accommodations can help ensure students with disabilities are able to achieve at high levels.

BY THE NUMBERS

4% Top 4% of All High Schools in Ohio
AHS & THS



6th 6th Ranked School District with
the Best Teachers in Ohio



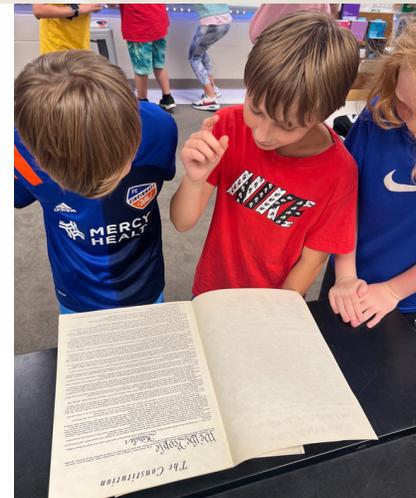
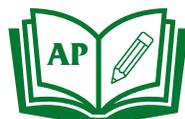
96.2% 96.2% Graduation Rate (ODE)



6 Six "Hall of Fame"
Elementary Schools (OAESA)



28 28 AP Courses Offered



EXTRACURRICULARS

EXPLORING PASSIONS



PERFORMING ARTS

FHSD has earned the distinguished recognition of being one of the Best Communities for Music Education by the National Association of Music Merchants Foundation (NAMM). The district consistently receives this high honor for its commitment to providing music access and education to all FHSD students through band, choir, orchestra and more. Additionally, the theater programs regularly put on top-quality performances that promote creativity and artistic expression to enrich students' educational experiences.

ATHLETICS

FHSD students of all grade levels have the opportunity to participate in athletics. These activities give students the chance to discover and explore their passions and talents in a setting that promotes physical wellbeing. Athletics also teach valuable skills, such as teamwork, responsibility and resilience, that can apply to many other areas of life. Students benefit from leadership opportunities. FHSD offers 36 teams for 12 sports at Nagel Middle School and 30 athletic programs at the high school level.



CLUBS & ORGANIZATIONS

FHSD has an array of clubs and organizations that provide unique opportunities outside of the classroom to every student. Students can discover and dive into their passions and interests with fellow classmates. These opportunities include visual and performing arts, community service, leadership organizations, athletics, technology, cooking and much more.

FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY

The Treasurer’s Office of Forest Hills School District understands the district’s duty to operate efficiently and in a fiscally responsible manner. My staff and I work diligently to ensure we remain strong stewards of public funds, to help protect the investment taxpayers are making in public education to benefit our community. Our efforts to honor that responsibility include FHSD’s participation in the Ohio Checkbook and our regular recognition with the Auditor of State Award for effective financial practices, which the district received again in January.

I want to thank our community for its passage of the May 2023 combination levy. These funds, which will support educational priorities and allow for vitally important repairs and improvements to district facilities, are helpful in providing a strong financial foundation for Forest Hills School District. Hamilton County does not start collecting funds until 2024 because the election was held in 2023, however the amount of this levy is matched with the 2023 tax value indicated on the ballot and does not adjust to any changes in property values for existing homes.

Our commitment to fiscal responsibility will continue to be clear in our usage of the new funds. As stated, part of the levy will support the permanent improvement fund. By law, those dollars are required to be used for capital improvement projects, maintenance and repairs of school property and certain equipment items that are designed to last five years or more. The district commissioned a comprehensive, full-facility assessment from an outside agency to better understand the specific needs for all schools and buildings in Forest Hills. This allows us to prioritize and plan for necessary repairs and improvements, ensuring every dollar is spent in the most effective and efficient way possible.

As always, FHSD will continue to find ways to reduce costs and increase operational efficiencies to ensure this investment from the community is stretched as many years as possible. This is an ongoing process that the district practices each and every year, focused on providing the best possible education at a reasonable cost.

**74 CENTS OF EVERY DOLLAR
SPENT IN CLASSROOMS**



Forest Hills.....74.0%
Hamilton County Average.....70.5%
Ohio Average.....67.5%

Source: ODE Report Cards FY23



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Treasurer, CFO**

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FHSD once again received the coveted Auditor of State award in January 2023 to recognize effective financial practices.



FHSD’s participation in the Ohio Checkbook, in partnership with the State Treasurer, provides another avenue for residents to see how tax dollars are being spent to serve students and the community.

PARTNERS IN EDUCATION



The Forest Hills Foundation for Education is a nonprofit organization dedicated to supporting and enhancing academic and social experiences for students in FHSD schools.

FHFE hosts events, including the Forest Hills 5K, to collect donations, bring the community together and support education throughout the school year in FHSD.



9United is a service-focused organization, whose mission is to provide FHSD students and families with authentic service opportunities that impact the lives of their classmates, families, neighbors and community.

Among other projects, 9United organizes Shop & Share each fall to provide help to families in need during the holidays.



Parents, families, staff and community members support FHSD in countless ways through a variety of passionate support organizations. PTAs, PTOs and booster groups go above and beyond to improve opportunities for students across FHSD. These groups have helped fund creative learning spaces, after-school programs and much more.



FHSD's Parent Academy series is an opportunity to connect with district families and discover ways our schools can work together with families to provide the best possible education to students. This program offers workshop-style sessions on topics relevant to families with students of all ages. Special thanks to FHFE for sponsoring the series.

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

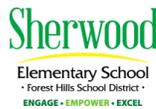
Forest Hills School District's Community Partnership Program offers high school students in-depth, comprehensive opportunities to learn more about their interests and gain knowledge of different career fields.

With the help of a vast network of local businesses and community organizations, the Community Partnership Program is designed to connect students to internships, job shadowing or workshop opportunities in a wide variety of career fields. As part of the Sports Medicine and Wellness Partnership with OrthoCincy Orthopaedics & Sports Medicine and The Christ Hospital Health Network, students are able to benefit from hands-on experience in medical fields. The Aspire Youth Discovery Initiative (pictured right) is offered in partnership with the Anderson Area Chamber of Commerce to 10th grade students at Anderson and Turpin High Schools. Many other partnerships connect students to work in legal fields, construction, engineering and more.





QUALITY PROFILE



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#WeAreFHSD

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