Forest Hills School District

ENGAGE • EMPOWER • EXCEL

COMMUNITY CONNECTION

QUALITY PROFILE

2024-2025

A MESSAGE FROM

SUPERINTENDENT HOOK

Everything we do at Forest Hills School District is guided by what we consider the most important piece of public education: the students.

Our teachers, staff and administrators are fully committed to providing a world-class education to each and every student who comes through our doors and empowering all students to achieve personal success every day.

In this 2024-2025 Quality Profile, you will learn about many impressive student achievements, important data that is used to continually adjust and improve programs, how the FHSD Strategic Plan and Portrait of a Learner set high standards of success, and how we prioritize connections, ownership and growth.

This annual publication expands on the valuable data and measurements included in the School Report Cards released by the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce each fall. We hope it offers you a more detailed and thorough snapshot of the district's educational outcomes.

I am reminded each day how special our community is for the many ways we come together to support students and prioritize quality education. Thank you for trusting us to deliver an unmatched educational experience to all students in our community.

Larry Hook
Superintendent

Board of Education

Bob Bibb
President

Wendy Strickler
Vice President

Mark Bell

Sara Jonas

Jason Simmons

DELIVERING

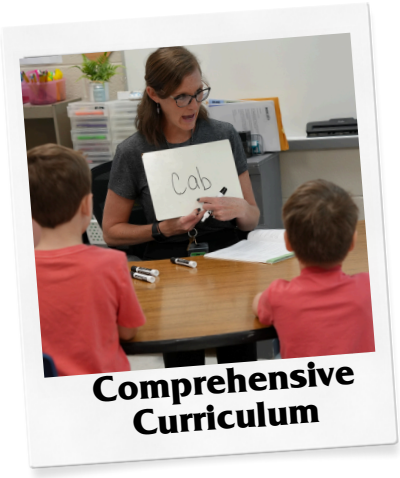
EXCELLENT ACADEMICS

Top-Rated Performance

- Top 5% of All OH High Schools (U.S. News and World Report)
- 6 "Hall of Fame" Elementary Schools (OAESA)
- A+ Teachers, 11th Best in Ohio (2026 Niche Ratings)
- Gold Rating from AP Honor Roll for Anderson and Turpin

High-Achieving Students

- 17 Semifinalist and Commended National Merit Scholars (Class of 2025)
- 96.8% four-year graduation rate (ODEW Report Card)
- 1,173 Dual Enrollment College Credits Earned by the Class of 2025



Comprehensive Curriculum

- 150+ Unique Course Offerings
- 15 Robust, Challenging Academic Courses of Study
- 28 AP Courses Available to Students
- A+ Academics (2026 Niche Ratings)

Ohio School Report Card 24-25

FHSD Ranks in the Top 12% of all Public School Districts in Ohio

Overall Rating of 4.5 Stars
Exceeds State Standards
Only four Hamilton County districts received a higher star rating.

Academic Achievement Rating of 5 Stars
Significantly Exceeds State Standards

Graduation Rate Component Rating of 5 Stars
Significantly Exceeds State Standards

Educational Gap Closing Rating of 5 Stars
Significantly Exceeds State Standards

PREPARING

FUTURE-READY GRADUATES

XCL
EXPERIENTIAL CAREER LEARNING
FOREST HILLS EXCELS WITH XCL

Career Exploration

- Job Shadowing & Workplace Visits
- Networking with Professionals
- School-Based Opportunities

Aspire Youth Discovery Initiative

- Ongoing Leadership & Professional Development
- "Community Classrooms" with Local Experts

Industry-Specific Field Trips

- UC IT Expo for Computer Science Students
- Christ Hospital Robotic Surgery
- Construction Career Days

The XCL Program is the center point for connecting high school students to real-world career exploration opportunities through partnerships with local businesses and organizations. Serving students in grades 9-12, XCL engages students in hands-on workforce development and empowers them with tools and confidence to excel in their future endeavors.

District Learning Walks

FHSD administrators from all buildings regularly participate in learning walks to observe the incredible work happening in our schools. These visits are intended to share ideas, teaching strategies and innovative lessons across buildings to ensure we truly embody our vision of striving to ensure success for all students.

Early Literacy Success

Students Demonstrating 3rd Grade Reading Proficiency

Source: 24-25 Ohio School Report Cards

85.7%	**Forest Hills**
65.9%	**State Average** *(607 public school districts)*
63%	**Hamilton Co. Average** *(22 public school districts)*

Helping students demonstrate reading comprehension and literacy at a young age is a critical priority at FHSD. Early literacy forms the foundation for academic success that allows students to succeed across all subject areas and into later grade levels.

FHSD's Portrait of a Learner

From preschool through graduation, all students in FHSD receive intentional instruction, programming and learning opportunities designed to help them develop the following key skills—empowering them to excel as lifelong learners and setting them up for long-term success.

Critical Thinker • Empathetic Communicator • Creative Problem Solver
Engaged Collaborator • Adaptable Learner

ENHANCING

STUDENT WELLNESS

BEHAVIORAL SUPPORTS

Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) is an evidence-based, tiered framework for supporting students' behavioral, academic, social, emotional and mental health. PBIS is not just a curriculum or program or one-day training. It is an ongoing commitment to supporting students, educators and families through systems change. When schools implement PBIS well, students experience improved behavioral, social, emotional and academic outcomes. Evidence shows effective PBIS efforts also reduce the use of exclusionary discipline practices and improve the overall climate.

Highlights from the 2024-2025 PBIS Evaluation and Outcomes Report

13% Decrease in Office Discipline Referrals

90+% Students Can Identify School's Behavioral Expectations

108 Recovered Hours of Instructional Time

76% Tier 2 Effectiveness (Exceeds 70% National Benchmark)

SCAN TO READ THE FULL 24-25 PBIS REPORT

SCHOOL-BASED MENTAL HEALTH PARTNERS

FHSD is committed to providing a holistic academic experience where students are supported in and out of the classroom. A crucial piece of that overall strategy includes partnerships with highly respected organizations to offer access to school-based mental health services, reducing barriers for families that feel this resource is a good fit for their child's needs. Therapists from Necco and Cincinnati Children's Hospital work on-site to support students at the elementary and secondary buildings, respectively.

BELONGING & INVOLVEMENT

By cultivating a school environment that supports each student and encourages them to explore their passions and interests, FHSD hopes all students are able to feel a sense of belonging and involvement. In order to better understand the needs of students and how they feel about their overall school experience, FHSD conducts regular feedback surveys. More than 80% of elementary students report feeling "welcome and connected" at school. Similarly at the high school level, more than 80% of students responded with a 4 or 5 to the same question, when provided with a scale of 1-5 with 5 being the highest connection.

EMPOWERING

MEANINGFUL CONNECTIONS

CLUBS & ORGANIZATIONS

Students are able to choose from a wide array of clubs and organizations that provide unique opportunities outside of the classroom. These activities empower students to discover new passions and interests, while encouraging them to build relationships with fellow classmates. These opportunities include community service, leadership organizations, technology, cooking and more.

VISUAL & PERFORMING ARTS

The talents of students are able to shine across a robust offering of courses, co-curricular and extracurricular opportunities in the visual and performing arts. Visual arts, theater, film and music programs regularly put on high-quality displays and performances that promote creativity and artistic expression to enrich students' educational experiences. FHSD was once again named one of the Best Communities for Music Education in the country for its commitment to providing music access and education to all students through band, choir, orchestra and more.

ATHLETICS

FHSD athletic programs allow students at the middle and high school levels to discover and explore their passions and talents in a setting that promotes physical well-being. Athletics also teach valuable skills, including teamwork, leadership, responsibility and resilience, that can apply to many other areas of life. FHSD offers 36 teams for 14 sports at Nagel Middle School and 30 high school athletic programs.

COMMUNITY AT THE CORE

FHSD thanks all of our valuable partners who support public education and work collaboratively to build a stronger community, including Forest Hills Foundation for Education, 9United, Forest Hills Council of PTOs, Anderson Township, Anderson Park District, Anderson Area Chamber of Commerce, The Christ Hospital, OrthoCincy and many more.

DEMONSTRATING

FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY

STRATEGIC PLANNING FOR A BRIGHT FUTURE

By working each and every day to prioritize resources to maximize classroom impact, evaluate the efficiency and effectiveness of existing programs and collect important data to inform facility and operational plans, FHSD is making every effort to protect taxpayer investments in our schools.

Five-Year Capital Improvement Plan: This detailed plan, which is based on a comprehensive third-party assessment of district properties, provides a road map for how FHSD will spend vital Permanent Improvement funds. By tackling critical projects first and following a preventive maintenance plan, FHSD is being proactive about extending the life of all district buildings.

Enrollment Projection Report: Recently completed enrollment projections offer valuable insight into potential changes in student enrollment. Based on this external report, FHSD could potentially see a 5% drop in enrollment over ten years, which is slightly less than the 7% drop expected across Ohio. District leaders are using this new data to inform facility planning, create projections for staffing levels and guide other financial and operational discussions.

SCAN TO LEARN ABOUT BOTH INITIATIVES AND THE FHSD STRATEGIC PLAN

74 CENTS OF EVERY DOLLAR *SPENT IN CLASSROOMS*

Forest Hills.....74.1%
Hamilton Co. Avg.....70.0%
Ohio Avg.....67.3%

Source: ODEW Report Cards FY25 Percentage of Funds Spent on Classroom Instruction

HIGH PERFORMANCE *AT A LOW COST*

Forest Hills.....$14,701
Hamilton Co. Avg.....$17,273
Ohio Avg.....$16,311

Source: ODEW District Profile (CUPP) Report FY24 Cost Per Pupil

FHSD once again received the coveted Auditor of State award in January 2025 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.

Alana Cropper
Treasurer, CFO
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Forest Hills School District truly understands and deeply appreciates our responsibility to be effective stewards of public dollars. We work tirelessly to provide a high-quality education to all students at a reasonable cost to taxpayers. Our district outperforms both Hamilton County and State of Ohio averages for the percentage of dollars spent directly in the classroom, and we maintain a lower-than-average cost per pupil. It is a testament to our dedicated staff that these benchmarks can be met while still delivering a very highly-rated education to students.

Our goal is to provide open, accurate and transparent information about the district's finances and operational spending. I encourage all community members to visit the district website, www.foresthills.edu, to stay up-to-date on the latest information and to understand how it impacts our community.

Alana

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#EveryMomentMatters **#WeAreFHSD**

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