

COMMUNITY CONNECTION



2022-2023

QUALITY PROFILE

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Letter from the SUPERINTENDENT

Forest Hills School District has a long history of academic excellence, guided by a student-centered approach to education. Our goal is to empower each student to exceed their own expectations and achieve personal success every day. All of our decisions and work as educators focuses on how we can better serve our students.

Once again, FHSD is among the top school districts in the state of Ohio and that's a testament to the hard work of our students, teachers, staff and administrators. Both high schools are ranked in the top 5% of all schools in the state of Ohio, according to U.S. News and World Report. All six of our elementary schools are now in an exclusive group as "Hall of Fame" schools in the eyes of the Ohio Association of Elementary School Administrators. Additionally, the 2023 Best School Districts rankings from Niche place FHSD as a Top 5 district in Hamilton County.

These accolades and recognitions are well-deserved. I'm fortunate to join such a high-achieving school district this year and I am committed to improving on this history of success. It is important to always focus on enhancing our approach to education, the ways in which we serve students and our organizational culture of leadership and excellence.

As the district continues to navigate financial challenges posed by inflation, an unconstitutional state funding model for schools and other factors, I want you to know that FHSD is doing everything to maintain our exemplary educational offerings while operating in a fiscally responsible manner.

It is an honor to serve as superintendent in Forest Hills. We provide a high-quality education and offer unmatched experiences for students, both in and out of the classroom, and this community is invested in and passionate about public education. I look forward to a successful year serving our students, parents and community.

Larry R. Hook
Superintendent

Award-Winning Performance



Summit Elementary and Sherwood Elementary Hall of Fame Award

Six "Hall of Fame" Elementary Schools

Summit Elementary and Sherwood Elementary have joined an exclusive list of over-achieving schools in the state of Ohio. OAESA awarded the schools with a Hall of Fame recognition this year for going "above and beyond meeting the needs of the students." Only five schools in the entire state were recognized this year and all six FHSD elementary schools have now received this honor.



Excellence in STEM



The Ohio Academy of Science announced this fall that Anderson High School and Turpin High School have been selected to receive the Governor's Thomas Edison Awards for Excellence in STEM Education and Student Research for their accomplishments during the 2021-2022 school year. AHS and THS were the only two schools in the Cincinnati area selected for this honor.



Anderson High School National Merit Scholars



Turpin High School National Merit Scholars

National Merit Scholars

Nearly two dozen students from Anderson High School and Turpin High School were recognized at the start of the 2022-2023 school year for earning either commended or semi-finalist honors in the National Merit Scholarship Program. These 23 students are among the top-performing high schoolers in the country.



Brooke Lovely



Lacy Walker

Educators Earn Mathematics Honors

Two FHSD teachers were recognized this fall by the Southwest Ohio Council of Teachers of Mathematics for their excellent work in the classroom. The organization selected Brooke Lovely (Summit) and Lacy Walker (Wilson) to receive its prestigious awards.

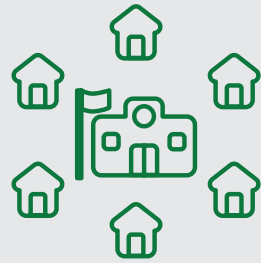
Learning by the Numbers



Top 5 School District
in Hamilton County



Top 5% of All High
Schools in Ohio – AHS
and THS



6 Community-
Centered Elementary
Schools



28 AP Courses
Offered



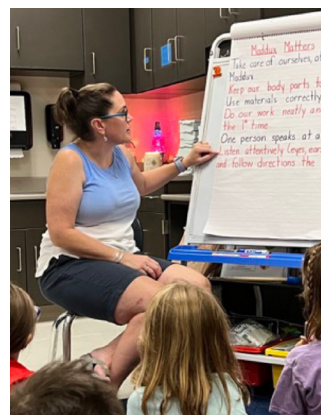
96.5% Graduation
Rate (ODE)

Superior Student Services



PBIS District-Wide Excellence

Forest Hills School District is once again the recipient of a prestigious recognition from the Ohio PBIS Network. This is the third year in a row that FHSD received district recognition for its work involving Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports. Only 15 other school districts in the entire state were recognized in this area for the 2021-2022 school year.



Special Education Rating

According to the 2022 Ohio Special Education Rating, FHSD scored 24 out of 24 points while being rated on six different compliance indicators. The district's compliance rating is a perfect 4.0. FHSD 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.

Exceptional Extracurriculars

Performing Arts



FHSD was once again recognized as one of the Best Communities for Music Education by the National Association of Music Merchants Foundation (NAMM). The district has regularly earned this designation over the years and is proud of its commitment to music education with choir, band, orchestra and other offerings. Our theater programs regularly put on professional quality performances that promote student creativity, develop artistic talents and serve as part of a well-rounded educational experience.



Clubs and Organizations

All students in FHSD have access to a wide variety of clubs and organizations that allow students to explore their passions and interests outside of class. These opportunities include everything from community service, leadership organizations, fine arts, technology, mechanics, cooking, and much, much more.

Athletics

Every grade level at FHSD is provided athletic opportunities. Athletics provide students with opportunities to discover passions and talents and learn key skills like teamwork, collaboration, and resilience. The district offers an extensive number of competitive options at the secondary level, including 36 teams for 12 sports at Nagel and 30 athletics programs at both Anderson and Turpin.

Partnerships Make All the Difference



FHFE

The Forest Hills Foundation for Education is a key partner for FHSD, focused on raising money and support to improve the academic and social experiences of all students in the district. This non-profit organization hosts events throughout the year to collect donations and bring the community together, including the annual Fall Soiree and the Forest Hills 5K each spring. The organization works to improve educational outcomes and prepare students to compete successfully now and in the future.



Adopt-A-Roadway

Beginning this fall, all FHSD elementary schools are partnering with Anderson Township to “Adopt-A-Roadway” and clean up litter throughout the community. This effort is meant to educate students about the importance of giving back to their community and also provides an additional opportunity for FHSD schools to continue building connections with the various neighborhoods they serve.



9 United

9United is a service-focused organization, whose mission is to provide the students and families of FHSD with authentic service opportunities that impact the lives of their fellow students, families, neighbors, and community. Among other projects, 9United organizes Shop & Share each fall to provide help to families in need during the holidays.



IPM Food Pantry

Forest Hills families donated more than 50,000 meals to IPM Food Pantry this fall, in cooperation with the Forest Hills Foundation for Education. This is the MOST ever collected in 10 years of hosting this donation drive.



Financial Focus

Letter from the TREASURER



The recognitions and accolades described in the Quality Profile are the result of our incredibly hard-working students, passionate teachers and dedicated staff. They are also made possible by support from our entire community, including taxpayers who have supported Forest Hills School District over the years.

Our district, like many in the state of Ohio and across the country, is dealing with significant financial challenges related to inflation. As the cost for gasoline, diesel fuel, electricity and other items are increasing, our revenue continues to stay the same. Under an Ohio Law, known as House Bill 920, taxpayers only pay what has been voted upon.

Another financial challenge FHSD has dealt with for many years is our status, according to state standards, as a “wealthy” school district. Essentially, this caps the amount of funding we can expect to receive from the state of Ohio and in turn creates a larger burden on local taxpayers to fund the type of education we desire in our communities.

Even in this fiscal environment, we continue to operate across all departments in a fiscally responsible manner, stretching each dollar to maximize our impact on learning and student growth. It is our duty to residents and taxpayers to follow sound financial practices and constantly look for ways to do business more efficiently.

Alana Cropper, CPA
Treasurer



FHSD Financial Fast Facts

Promoting Smart Fiscal Stewardship of Tax Dollars

Return on Investment ✓

Forest Hills School District offers high-level performance with a cost per pupil and residential tax rate below the county average. In fact, of the five schools with a higher performance index rating, all of them spend more money per pupil than FHSD.

COST PER PUPIL

Hamilton County Average	\$14,068
State Average	\$13,387
Forest Hills School District	\$12,470

Source: ODE CUPP Report FY21

RESIDENTIAL TAX RATE

Hamilton County Average	43.45
Forest Hills School District	38.89

Source: Hamilton County Auditor Tax Year 2022



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Communications Department
7946 Beechmont Ave.
Cincinnati, OH 45255



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