

Reynoldsburg City Schools Expenditure Reductions, January 9, 2025 Empowering leaders who impact the NOW and innovate the FUTURE

Work Session Goals



- Share with the BOE current proposed reductions of expenditures (There will be additional reductions to meet the goal of \$8.5 million).
- 2. Provide data to support proposed reductions and possible implications.
- **3.** Solicit feedback and questions from board members to inform proposed reductions now and future reductions.





Overview of Current Financial Landscape: Angele Latham, Treasurer

Immediate Response to the Levy's Failure and FAQ: Dr. Tracy R. Reed, Superintendent

Proposed Expenditure Reductions:

- Valerie Wunder, Executive Director of Communications & Outreach
- Andre Rudolph, Assistant Superintendent of Human Capital Management
- Kelley Brazeau, Executive Director of Diverse Learners and Whole Child
- Naim Sanders, Assistant Superintendent of Leadership & Learning
- Tim Wagner, Executive Director of Business & Operations

Boundary, Feeder Patterns and Transportation: Dr. Tracy R. Reed

Financial Landscape



Voters last passed an operating levy in 2010

• Additional funds in 2011, 2012, 2013

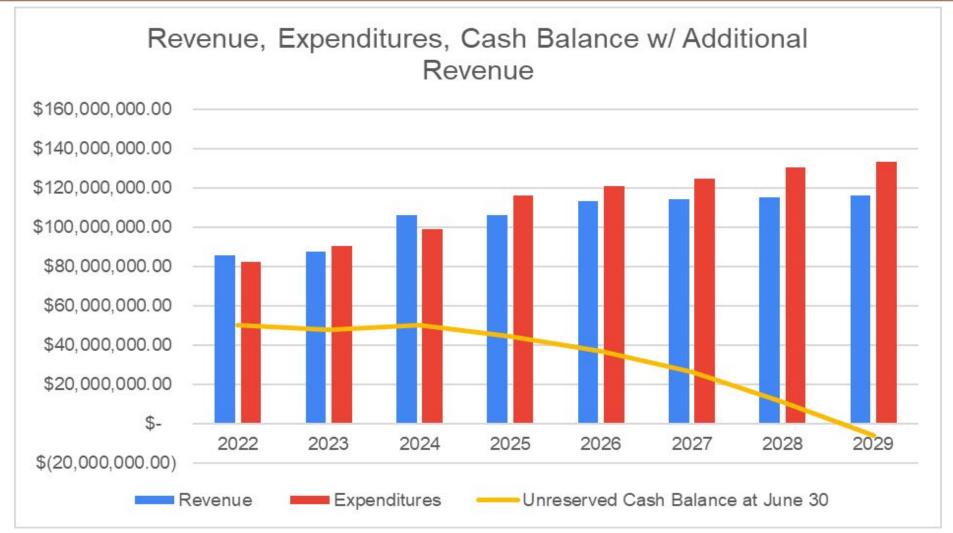
Prior forecast showed that the District would enter a period of deficit spending in 2021:

- COVID Relief Funds
- Fair School Funding Plan

Current forecast shows that District began deficit spending in 2023 and is projected to continue throughout the forecast without additional revenue or a decrease in expenses

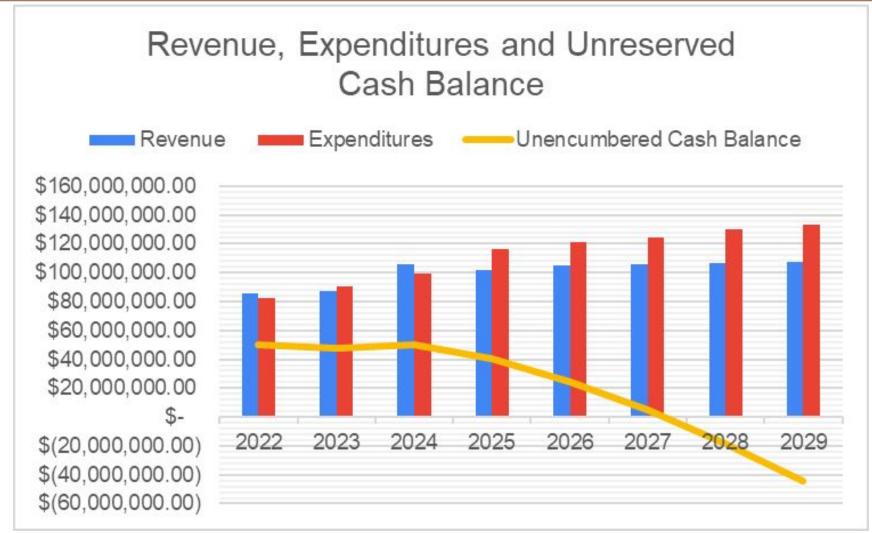
Financial Landscape - Revenues and Expenditures





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Immediate Response



- Pause on hiring
- Redistribution of duties
- Review of staffing levels across the District
- Intense review of expenditures
 - Analysis of restricted fund expenditures
- Review of negotiated agreements and contracts

Future Levy Considerations



Will there be a levy on the May ballot?

Currently, <u>there is no recommendation</u> to the BOE for a May levy. The total amount needed remains to be \$40 million.

A larger millage request would be needed. Engaging and building trust with the community is our priority.

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Proposed Expenditure Reductions:

- Open Position: Family Liaison (\$40,000)
- Reduce/eliminate expenditures for recognitions and RCS branded items, such as the RCS calendar and retirement gifts (\$10,000)
- Reduce printing and mailing communications pieces (\$14,000)
- Reduce overhead and costs associated with livestreaming events, except graduation (\$4,000 hard costs + \$2,000 in OT)
- Absorb the Athletic website into reyn.org, reducing overhead and hosting costs (\$5,500)
- Discontinue use of Archive Social (\$7,500)

Estimated Total: \$83,000

Office of Human Capital Management



Proposed Expenditure Reductions:

- Reduce one departmental FTE (\$75,000)
- Reduce departmental budget by a minimum of 10% (\$22,000)
- Reduce recruitment and retention budget (\$5,000)

Estimated Total: \$102,000

Office of Diverse Learners and Whole Child



Proposed Expenditure Reductions:

- Reduce contracted service programs, curriculum supports, and digital resources (~\$230,000)
- Reduce DLWC department staff and contracted staff by 11 (~\$770,000)

Estimated Total: \$1 million

Office of Leadership & Learning

Proposed Expenditure Reductions:

Proposed Reductions In Program Spending

- Contracted Foreign Language Courses (\$450,000)
- Contracted Program Offerings (\$325,000)

Proposed Reduction in Staffing

- Do not fill Coordinator positions (Math Coordinators -2, ELA Coordinator-2)
- Reduce a significant number of assistant principals in elementary schools, (~\$600,000)
- Reduction in general education paras (Unknown)

Reduced Estimated Total: \$1 million

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Athletic Programing

Income:

- Ticket Sales, Pay to Participate
- District pays \$165 per athlete, per season

Expenses

- Coaches, refs, game days support staff, security, trainers, uniforms, equipment, rentals and entrance fees
- Transportation Paid by the District

How to evaluate where to make cuts:

- What is the CPP?: Income-expenses/# of participants = Cost Per Participant (CPP)
- Is there an opportunity for the student to participate in the sport outside of school?
- What has the least negative impact?
- What is financial impact on transportation?



Proposed Expenditure Reductions - Technology

- Delayed purchase of Chromebooks (\$1.2 million)
 - Chrome OS on old machines is now good through 2027 and 2029

Estimated Total: \$1.2 million



Proposed Expenditure Reductions - Security

- Bring SRO's in house and eliminate two SRO's positions (\$240,000)
- Reduce software and miscs expenses (\$9,000)

Estimated Total: \$250,000



Proposed Expenditure Reductions - Transportation

- Reduce buses, each cost \$82,000 in 2022-23 to operate (\$820,000)
 - No transportation zones, up to 1.5 miles with a goal of 1 mile
 - Board to approve final no transportation zones
 - Students walk up to a half mile to their stop
- Bring van services in house (\$400,000)
 - In 2024, a SPED student cost \$8,087 to transport while typical students cost \$780 each
 - We spent \$1.3 million for outside transportation services
- Reduced replacement of new buses (\$140,000)
- Reduce ESCCO contract (\$65,000)

Estimated Total: \$1.425 Million



Proposed Expenditure Reductions - Facilities, Utilities Cost

- Last year we spent \$1.5 million in utilities
- A 10% reduction in uses could net **\$150,000** in savings
- Some options to reduce energy usage
 - Eliminate Personal Electric Appliances
 - Reduce Temps in buildings a half hour after school and on weekends
 - JV & Varsity games to be played at RHS Summit Campus, practices will be at RHS Livingston Campus

Estimated Total: \$150,000



Proposed Expenditure Reductions - Facilities - Cleaning Services

- Reduce contract with ABM, our 2nd shift cleaning company
 - Move to a time and material contract with a limit of \$1.6 million
 - No raises for 2025/26
 - Take over supply purchasing
 - Reduce the work day by half an hour, 7.5 hours plus .5 for lunch
 - Teaching staff will empty classroom trash into large trash receptacles in the hallways
 - Reduction of summer cleaning staff
 - Only cut 44 acres of lawn three times a year

Estimated Total: \$500,000



Proposed Expenditure Reductions - Facilities - Delayed Maintenance

- Postpone Waggoner Road Elementary School roof (\$800,000)
- Cancel parking lot sealing and striping at RHS Livingston Campus & Slate Ridge Elementary School **(\$100,000)**
- Postpone radon testing (\$250,000)
- Reduce furniture budget (\$50,000)
- Reduce parking lot replacement budget (\$250,000)

Estimated Total: \$1.45 million



Proposed Expenditure Reductions - Food Nutrition Service

Food Nutrition Service is self-funded

- No Cuts
- Collect Overdue Student Accounts -
 - We currently have \$358,000 in uncollected meal charges
 - In 2023/24 we had \$50,000 in unpaid accounts
 - This year we are already at \$70,000
 - Change Policy to allow for alternate meals



Estimated Total Savings from Operations: \$5.2 million

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Current Situation:

- Two buildings over utilized
- Three buildings at 90%+ utilization
- Growing enrollment of English learners (EL) and students with disabilities (SWD)
- Transportation efficiency is a concern

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Recommendation

Adjust boundaries and feeder patterns to:

- Reduce over utilization
- Support transportation efficiency
- Provide ninth grade at both RHS campuses



Things to Consider:

- The boundary options use the 2024-25 student data (most recent)
- This includes the Spring Hill Farm development geography between Taylor Road and Waggoner Road elementary schools
- Some scenarios selected may result in elementary schools with higher utilization by 2028-29
- Benefits of clean feeder patterns
- Middle school utilization is high in all scenarios



Goals central to modifying boundaries:

- As much as possible, maximize the utilization of buildings while reducing over utilization where needed
- Increase transportation efficiency and increase the number of students who attend their closest schools



Next Steps:

- Transportation simulations will be developed by Transportation for the board to review prior to a decision being made
- Simulations will indicate savings associated with changes

Transportation & Boundary Changes



The changes in boundaries and feeder patterns will result in the following:

- Improved bus utilization
 - Reduces the number of buses needed by eight to twelve
 - We average 24 student per bus, the new plan would average 43 kids per bus
 - Less miles will be driven as drivers will not be going back and forth in the District
 - Less idling and miles = Less fuel used
 - Routes limited to two hours, currently 86% of routes are above two hours
 - Eliminates waiting time a RHS Livingston Campus from the RHS Summit Campus shuttle
 - Pre-school picked up around 3:00pm instead of 4:30pm
 - Bus begin picking up later in the am and drop off all kids earlier in the pm



The changes in boundaries and feeder patterns will result in the following:

- Aligned school start and stop times to reduce the number of transportation tiers
 - We will still have four tiers, but no route will be longer than 30 minutes. We will no longer have five tier routes.
- Reduced number of bus routes needed (8 to 12 buses to be eliminated; each bus costing \$82k to operate)

Timeline for Stakeholder Engagement



January 2025: 1/16/25: BOE Work Session 1/21/25: January BOE Meeting TBD: Strategic Plan Focus Groups

February 2025: 2/5/25: Community & Staff Conversation 2/20/25: Strategic Plan Listening Session #1 (Principals, District Personnel, Teachers in the evening)

2/18/25: Regular BOE Meeting

Board Member Feedback



Wonderings?

Questions?

Feedback?

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