



Indian Hill School District

Financial
Prospectus
2019



#IHPromise

A message from Treasurer Mick Davis

Building a Brave future – at the Indian Hill School District, that is the work we are engaged in with you, our investor. As such, on behalf of the Board of Education, I'm pleased to present to you our second-annual Financial Prospectus. We have a mission of Enduring Excellence in Learning, Leadership, Innovation, and Service; we also strive to be excellent stewards of the financial investment our taxpayers make in our District. This publication offers you a view of the investments we make in education to ensure the excellence in fiscal operations match our educational excellence. As your treasurer, I will continue to provide you timely financial updates. As always, I thank you for your continued support of the excellent educational services we provide within the Indian Hill School District. Should you have any questions about our District's finances, please contact me directly.

Sincerely,

Mick.Davis@indianhillschools.org





An investment in excellence

Small class sizes for more individualized instruction



An experienced and award-winning teaching staff



Spanish instruction beginning in first grade, with French and Latin language options in grades 6 through 12 and global learning expeditions



319 student-musicians from Middle School and High School who perform with orchestra and band as part of our nationally recognized music education program



27 Advanced Placement courses and Indian Hill High School is one of an elite number of high schools approved to offer the challenging AP Capstone



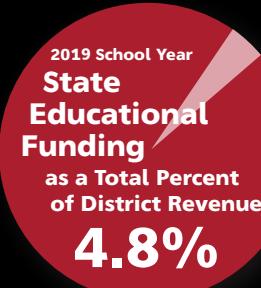
An award-winning team of counselors supporting our Braves through the college application process

Excellent stewards of taxpayer investment

Homeowner taxes to school went down in 2019

The District did an excellent job managing the last bond issue – structuring the refinancing of bonds to achieve **taxpayer savings of \$8.5 million**. That savings for residents comes in the form of reduced millage paid toward the bonds. Effective this year, a significant share of what residents pay on this bond expired – reducing the bond debt by 1.74 mills. That means an annual reduction of \$304 on a \$500,000 home, and an annual savings of \$609 on a \$1 million home.

It's important to note our last operating levy, which funds the District's day-to-day expenses, was passed more than 25 years ago, and it was not renewed by the Board of Education in 1998. The Board, in being respectful to the community, determined that they would not seek a renewal of the issue, and they would instead allow the funding to expire. During this time, our schools have had to absorb funding cuts, changes in tax laws, and inflationary cost increases. This continues to strain our District's ability to maintain current educational services, facilities, and learning opportunities that are key to the mission of our District. **The majority of our revenue comes from property tax – more than 90 percent. We continue to operate from levies passed in the 1980s and earlier with a near-zero inflationary increase.**



Additionally, Indian Hill receives minimal state education funding – in fact, less than five percent of our revenue is from this source. This is something we do not anticipate ever increasing but we hope to maintain going forward.

Tax Year 2018 Collection 2019		
Rank	District	Rate
1	St. Bernard - Elmwood Pl	65.35
2	Finneytown	62.74
3	Mariemont	62.64
4	Winton Woods	59.74
5	Cincinnati	52.98
6	Wyoming	52.37 (1-1/4% Income Tax)
7	Madeira	51.99
8	Deer Park	51.42
9	Mount Healthy	49.53
10	Reading	47.17
11	Norwood	47.04
Average		45.25
12	Loveland	45.04
13	North College Hill	41.82
14	Milford	41.19
15	Lockland	39.44
16	Forest Hills	38.71
17	Princeton	37.83
18	Sycamore	35.78
19	Oak Hills	35.65
20	Three Rivers	35.75
21	Northwest	35.35
22	Southwest	27.1 (.75% Earned Income Tax)
23	Indian Hill	24.03

The Indian Hill School District is an excellent value; our District's tax rate is the lowest in Hamilton County.

School building facilities assessment underway



To continue to follow the latest news on the process, visit the [“Facilities Assessment”](#) page of the District website within the “About” section.



School updates needed

As we communicated with you last year, we are diverting funds from the operating budget to pay for needed building improvements and emergency repairs. Due to this demand on our budget, the District launched a Facilities Assessment Task Force comprised of community members, parents, and staff members in 2018.

District's community-based facility process to detail needs

Work and planning to fully assess the school facilities within the Indian Hill School District continue and remain on schedule. As a next step, the District's Steering Committee, a subcommittee of the overarching Facilities Assessment Task Force, launched the next phase of the work which includes an analysis of capital needs at all District school buildings and facilities.

District Finance Committee to play key role in facilities process

Additionally, Treasurer Mick Davis has convened a Finance Committee to review school funding processes and capital/operating funding options. The Steering and Finance Committees will join forces to draft potential scenarios for the Board of Education to consider late fall 2019.



District Steering Committee

Mission

Create and present two to four District capital improvement scenarios for the consideration of the Board of Education that provide learning excellence for students and staff.

Vision

We envision learning environments to enhance opportunities for each student to achieve his/her potential in academics, arts, and athletics. Proposed District capital improvement scenarios will:

- allow students and staff to thrive in safe, supportive, and collaborative learning environments;
- incorporate best practices in K-12 learning environments while providing flexibility to adapt to future needs; and
- optimize financial resources provided by our taxpayers to benefit students, staff, and community members.



Considerations

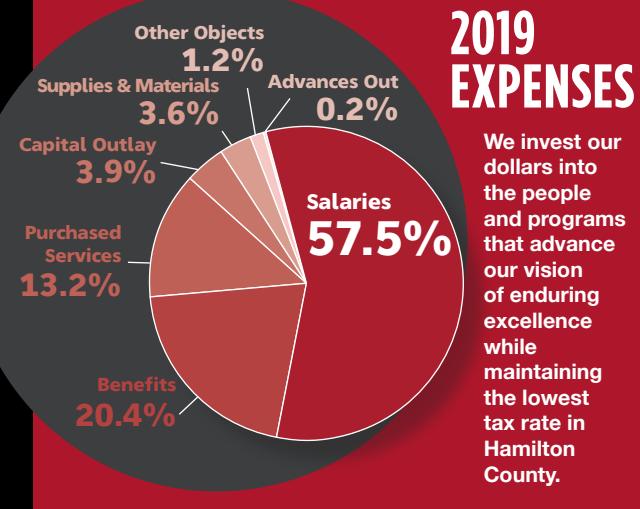
- Safety & Security
- Learning Environments (current & future)
- Accessibility
- Infrastructure & Energy

Home of the Braves

Public-Private Fundraising Project

Operational Efficiency and Effectiveness – at the Indian Hill School District this is a key focus area within our G.O.L.D. strategic plan for transformational excellence. Key to that is optimizing resource utilization. During 2018 the District – in partnership with the Indian Hill Foundation – launched a bold and visionary effort to complete an athletic complex to better serve our community and the most students possible.

The District saw the Home of the Braves public-private fundraising process as an opportunity to use money already allocated within our capital plan to address serious and substantial athletic facility needs within Indian Hill Middle School and Indian Hill High School, and partner with private donors through the Indian Hill Foundation to increase and expand our ability to create a better facility that will serve even more student-athletes. This effort marks the first-ever public-private partnership with the Indian Hill Foundation and private donors to complete a capital campaign.



Indian Hill Schools demonstrates the excellence in fiscal operations that match our educational excellence. We regularly earn the recognition from the state auditor's office for excellence in fiscal reporting, and recently earned recognition from the Ohio Senate for exemplary achievement in financial reporting.

Brave Achievement

An ACT composite score six points above the national average

27.0

21 students recognized by the National Merit program



A World Champion Mock Trial Team



Braves earned 46 Scholastic Art Awards, and two National Scholastic Medals



Student involvement in 80-plus clubs and activities with 94 percent student participation at High School



State Champion athletic teams





*Indian Hill Exempted Village School District Board of Education
Vice President of Operations Elizabeth Johnston, Member Lyle Fiore, President Kim
Martin Lewis, Member Eddie Hooker, Vice President of Finance Nancy Aichholz*

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It's News Braves Need!

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and select IH District:



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indianhillschools.org

Indian Hill Exempted Village School District

6855 Drake Road, Cincinnati, OH 45243
(513) 272-4500

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The Indian Hill Exempted Village School District serves students in the Village of Indian Hill, Kenwood, parts of Sycamore and Symmes Township, Camp Dennison and a small portion of Loveland.