



A successful school district places a high degree of importance on ensuring that all children have the opportunity to reach their full potential inside and outside of the classroom. This profile helps characterize the overall educational value of Riverside Local Schools in areas that matter most in our community.



2022 Quality profile



*One Community
Pursuing Greatness
Getting Better Every Day*





message from the **Superintendent**

Welcome to the Riverside Local School District's 2022 Quality Profile.

The Quality Profile is a more comprehensive, community-oriented companion piece to the State Report Card. This document helps evaluate the effectiveness of a school district beyond standardized testing and other statistical measures.

Throughout this document, you'll learn more about the District's academics, arts, student leadership and activities, fiscal stewardship, parent and community involvement, student services and staff leadership.

Because the State Report Card focuses primarily on how well students perform on state mandated assessments, we feel it is important to showcase the entire educational experience a student may have while enrolled in the Riverside Local School District.

To enhance that educational experience, our administration has been working hard on a new Strategic Plan. A Strategic Plan helps school districts set goals and focus on areas to improve upon. For this process, we enlisted the help of Educational Partnerships Institute (EPI). This organization has been working with school districts all over the state of Ohio for more than 30 years.

Since the beginning of 2021, we have conducted surveys and focus groups with students, staff, board members, parents and community members to help define our priorities for the next several years. Through these surveys and focus groups, stakeholders were given the opportunity to share their thoughts on the District and what their experience has been like with our schools.

Once we gathered all the information, we were able to determine four key focus areas: Teaching & Learning; Fiscal Sensibility; Safety, Climate and Wellness and lastly, Advocacy, Partnerships and Engagement. With the help of Strategic Plan Committees, we will continue to create workplans and action steps to achieve goals among the four key focus areas throughout the next several years. To learn more about our Strategic Plan, visit our website and select the 'Strategic Plan' link underneath the Community tab.

As always, we are extremely grateful for all the support from our community. Many variables determine how well a school district performs, but nothing has a more positive impact than community support.

Thank you!

Dr. James Kalis
Superintendent

Our District

Our District serves approximately 4,300 students residing in Painesville Township, Concord Township, Leroy Township, Grand River, and a small section of Painesville City and northern Chardon.



Our Schools

Riverside Campus

Riverside High School &
John R. Williams Jr. High
585 Riverside Drive
Painesville Township
440.352.3341

Principal: William A. Mayer, Jr.
Assistant Principals: Dr. Christopher Basich, Rich Frimel, Teresa Gerboth, Rebecca Rowell-Malinas

LaMuth Middle School

6700 Auburn Road
Concord Township
440.354.4394
Principal: Michael Lewis
Assistant Principal: Alison Hardy

Buckeye Elementary

175 Buckeye Road
Painesville Township
440.352.2191
Principal: Cassie Smolen

Melridge Elementary

6689 Melridge Road
Concord Township
440.352.3854
Principal: Gretchen Wakim

Parkside Elementary

12428 Concord-Hambden Road
Concord Township
440.358.8750
Principal: Timothy St. Clair
Assistant Principal: Julie Weber

Riverview Elementary

845 Madison Avenue
Painesville Township
440.357.6171
Principal: Traci Shantery
Assistant Principal: Debra Long

Riverside Preschool

56 Hale Road
Painesville Township
Supervisor: Shyanna Lindberg

Our Board of Education



(left to right) Scott Fishel, Thomas Hach, Lori Krenisky, Belinda Grassi, Jennifer Harden

Our Central Office Administrators

Superintendent: Dr. James Kalis
Assistant Superintendent: Charles Schlick
Treasurer: Gary Platko
Assistant Treasurer: Michael Patrizi
Director of Curriculum and Instruction: Dr. Melissa Mlakar
Director of Student Services: Cheryl Lanning
Director of Marketing and Communications: Nick Carrabine
Director of Human Resources: Mallory Aliff

Our District Department Directors

Athletics: Dave Bors
Health Services: Heidi Perry
Maintenance: Richard Arlesic
Nutrition: Michelle Gifford
Registration: Crystal DiFranco
Technology: John Renwick
Transportation: Christine Illner



Academics

Our District's academic programs provide opportunities for all students to reach their full potential.

Riverside Campus offers more than 130 courses for students in grades 8-12 including but not limited to:

10	Art Classes
5	Business Education Classes
18	English Classes
6	Health and Physical Classes
11	Applied Technology Classes
9	World Language Classes
5	Family and Consumer Science Classes
16	Math Classes
5	Band Classes
9	Choir Classes
20	Science Classes
16	Social Studies Classes

Riverside High School currently offers

13	Honors courses
12	Advanced Placement courses
6	Dual Credit courses
3	Pre-Advanced Placement courses



LaMuth Middle School offers courses in art, technology, physical education, band, choir, math, science, English language arts, social studies and advisory. In addition, honors courses are offered in math, English language arts and advanced math.

Riverside Campus and LaMuth Middle School each offer more than 30 school-sponsored athletic programs and extra-curricular activities.

Our four elementary schools offer core subjects of English, math, science and social studies, as well as four electives: art, physical education, music and technology.

AP Courses include:

U.S. History	English Literature & Composition	Chemistry
U.S. Government	Calculus BC	Physics
Psychology	Statistics	Calculus AB
English Language & Composition	Biology	Environmental Science

Academics *(continued)*

College & Career Readiness

Students in 11th and 12th grade at Riverside High School have the opportunity to attend one of the leading career and technical schools in the area, Auburn Career Center.

Auburn Career Center was the first joint vocational school to open in Ohio, and has been offering classes since 1965. Students also have the opportunity to earn college credits at **Lakeland Community College** while still in high school at no cost through the College Credits Plus program.

To gain real-life experience, 10th and 11th graders are encouraged to participate in **College and Career Shadow Day**, when students visit local businesses and organizations to learn about various professions. Seniors are encouraged to participate in **Senior Project**, which allows students to shadow a career of their choice for two weeks.

We are committed to preparing students for **life after graduation** by implementing several programs that help students determine careers they are interested in exploring.

Students at LaMuth Middle School and Riverside Campus use **Naviance**, which is a comprehensive college and career readiness solution that helps schools align student strengths and interests to post-secondary goals.

Staff members also developed a **Riverside Road Map**, which is a guide for students in grades 4-12 that helps prepare students for their future. The Riverside Road Map focuses on students bettering themselves, pursuing achievement and developing leadership qualities.



21st Century Learner

Students in grades 6 through 12 are given a Chromebook to use at school and at home as part of the District's **1:1 Initiative** to provide tools and resources for the 21st Century Learner. Elementary students also have access to Chromebooks in the classroom.

AP SCHOLARS

We are pleased to announce that in the 2021-2022 school year, Riverside High School saw the highest number of students enrolled in AP courses and the highest number of AP tests taken by students in the history of the school. In addition, 50 students were named AP Scholars, which is also the most in school history.

16	AP Scholar with Distinction
11	AP Scholar with Honor
23	AP Scholars

RHS Class of 2022

330	Graduated
39	Graduated with a 4.0 GPA or higher
74	Earned an Honors Diploma
61	Earned a Community Service Honor Cord



Arts



Participation in performing and visual arts inspires students' creativity, problem solving and critical thinking skills.

At Riverside Campus, students have the opportunity to participate in band, choir, art and theatre.

Band and choir students, at both Riverside Campus and LaMuth Middle School, perform throughout the year at various events including local and professional sports games, the Chamber Music Festival, our elementary schools, community concerts, Severance Hall and more.

Each year, the Riverside Theatre students perform a Fall Play and a Spring Musical. This past school year, the Fall Play was *Clue: On Stage* and the Spring Musical was *Mamma Mia*.

Riverside Campus offers a robust art program that showcase student artwork not only in the classroom, but also throughout the entire community. Highlights every year include:

- Painting the Painesville Township snow plows, which are then displayed at local festivals, community parades and used to plow snow during the winter time.
- Participating in the Lake & Geauga Educational Assistance Foundation's The Umbrella Project, where students design and paint umbrellas to be judged by community artists and displayed at the Great Lakes Mall.
- Participating in the Cleveland Clinic Expressions Program, where students create artwork based off science and medical research.

- Hosting art shows at First Federal of Lakewood Bank and Stella's Art Gallery.
- Decorating the sidewalks surrounding Riverside Campus during the annual Chalk Festival.
- Creating ceramic bowls to donate to the Northeast Ohio Empty Bowls Project, which is a program that focuses on fighting hunger in the community.
- Displaying student artwork at community festivals throughout the year.
- Participating in the Vans Custom Culture Contest, which is an initiative coordinated by the popular shoe company.

At the elementary level, students host various plays, musicals and programs for family members throughout the year. Elementary choir concerts are also held at Riverside High School.



Student Leadership and Activities

A well-rounded education includes a wide variety of opportunities

Our students throughout the District are committed to leadership and giving back to the community in the following ways:

- Students at Riverside Campus and LaMuth Middle School manage Care Closets, which is a designated room at each building that is an open resource for students who may need personal items, school supplies, snacks, clothing or other basic needs items.
- Riverside Campus students combine to raise thousands of dollars every year for the annual Day of Caring to help families in need.
- Students routinely volunteer for community service projects through Riverside High School's Community Service Honor Cord program.
- Students of all ages across the District raise money and organize food drives for many local nonprofits.
- Riverside High School hosts two blood drives for American Red Cross every year.
- Riverside High School students participate in the Best Buds Club, which is a club created to encourage friendships between regular-ed and special-ed students.
- Many students at Riverside High School participate in the Student Initiative for Developing Excellence (SIDE) Leadership Program. The group focuses on developing leaders while mentoring younger students.
- 37 students were inducted into the Riverside High School National Honor Society during the 2021-2022 school year.



Eight 2022 Graduating Seniors

enlisted in the military.



Fiscal Stewardship

Financial responsibility ensures that the majority of funding is spent on classroom instruction.

The District received the **Auditor of State Award**

for filing timely financial reports in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles as well as receiving a 'clean' audit report.

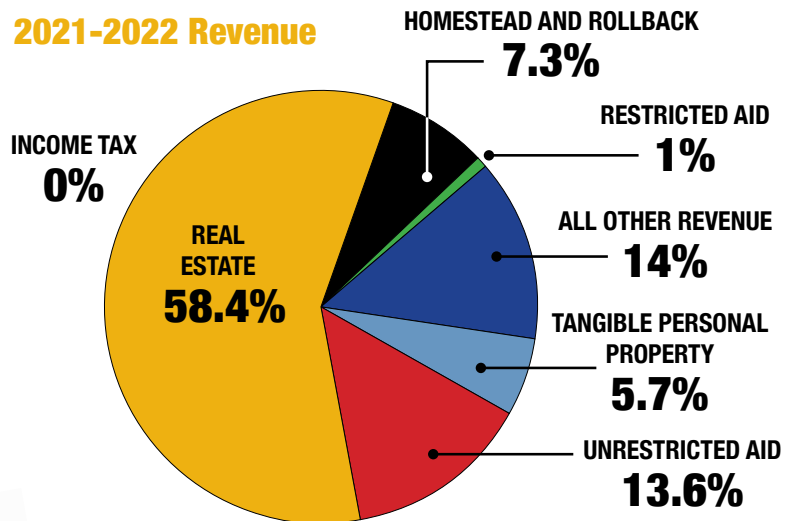
We participate in **The Ohio Checkbook**

which serves as a trusted resource for Ohioans to obtain both local and state financial information and enhances government transparency. Visit OhioCheckBook.gov for more information.

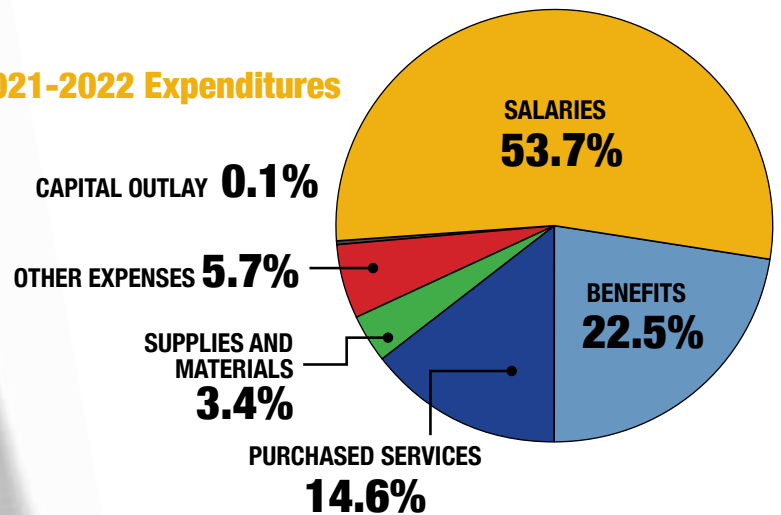
quick facts

- ✓ Based on projections in the May 2022 Five-Year Forecast, we should remain fiscally solvent through at least Fiscal Year 2026.
- ✓ Residential real estate taxes account for approximately 87% of the \$30.2 million tax revenue stream.
- ✓ The cost of personnel and benefits was 76.2% of the 2021-2022 expenditures.

2021-2022 Revenue



2021-2022 Expenditures



Fiscal Stewardship



- Our District received \$226,470 in Student Wellness and Success funds from the Ohio Department of Education to support students' academic achievement through mental health counseling, wraparound services, mentoring, and after-school programs.
- We are a member of the Ohio Schools Council and participate in several programs to obtain goods and services at highly competitive pricing including:
 - Competitive bidding for the purchase of school buses, diesel fuel, food products, and cafeteria items.
 - OSC Natural Gas Program
 - Power4Schools Electric Program
- Our District was awarded \$23,195.82 in safety grant funds from the Ohio Attorney General's Office. These funds were used to install camera systems in 16 school buses that did not have existing cameras. The camera systems included four interior cameras and two exterior cameras to capture school bus stop arm violations.
- We are currently assigned an A1 rating from Moody's Investors Service indicating the District's bonds are upper-medium grade and subject to low credit risk.
- The District was awarded \$3,690,769 from the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund as part of the American Rescue Plan. The District utilized \$1,227,856 of this funding during fiscal year 2022 for expenditures related to the COVID-19 pandemic and to address learning loss due to the pandemic.
- The District was awarded \$503,421 through the Emergency Connectivity Fund to provide funding to help schools keep students and staff connected during the COVID-19 pandemic. The District utilized these funds to purchase 1,571 Chromebooks and provide hotspots and internet service to students in need.
- The District received \$444,585 through the Innovative Workforce Incentive Program Grant. The funds covered nearly all of the construction costs associated with a newly renovated state-of-the-art welding lab at Riverside High School. This grant allows the District to offer a senior-only welding program intended to get students the necessary credentials in the welding field.

59.75

Gross Tax Rate

30.14

Effective Tax Rate

Out of nine school districts in Lake County,
Riverside Local Schools has the

**third lowest tax rate in
Lake County**



\$11,066
**Expenditure
Per Pupil**

which is the
second lowest in Lake County.

- The District is part of a consortium that was awarded \$707,000 through the Innovative Workforce Incentive Program Implementation Grant 2. The District was allocated \$30,000 to create a high-quality pre-apprenticeship programming in the next several years that will enable students to demonstrate entrepreneurial mindset and innovation skills while learning critical technical skills to prepare them for in-demand jobs in their region.
- The District was awarded a \$60,000 grant through the United States EPA Diesel Emissions Reduction Act School Bus Rebate Program plus an additional \$135,000 through the State of Ohio School Bus Purchase Program, which were used towards the purchase of six new school buses.
- As a member of the Lake County Schools Council, a health consortium consisting of 11 school districts in Northeast Ohio, we are able to offer employees a competitive benefits package in a cost-efficient manner.



Parent and Community Involvement

Educational experiences are enhanced by partnerships between the school district and the community.

We are fortunate to have very involved **Parent Teacher Organizations** for each of our elementary schools and middle school as well as **Booster Clubs** for all of our high school athletic programs. In the summer of 2022, Riverside Campus launched its own PTA as well. These groups host a variety of events and fundraisers throughout the year to provide additional resources for our students, staff and athletes.

Community partnerships also allow for additional educational opportunities for all our students district-wide. Highlights include:

- Coordinating student-activities with local organizations such as Kids Love Musicals, Lake County YMCA, Lake County Metroparks, Morley Library, Great Lakes Theater, Just Run and more!
- Teaming up with local first responders, which allows fire fighters and law enforcement officials to visit the schools for Lunch with Law Enforcement, CPR Training, Fire Safety classes, Mock Crashes and more.
- Local business owners visiting schools to speak with students about career choices.
- Celebrating our Military community by bringing local veterans into our schools and honoring them through various programs and events.

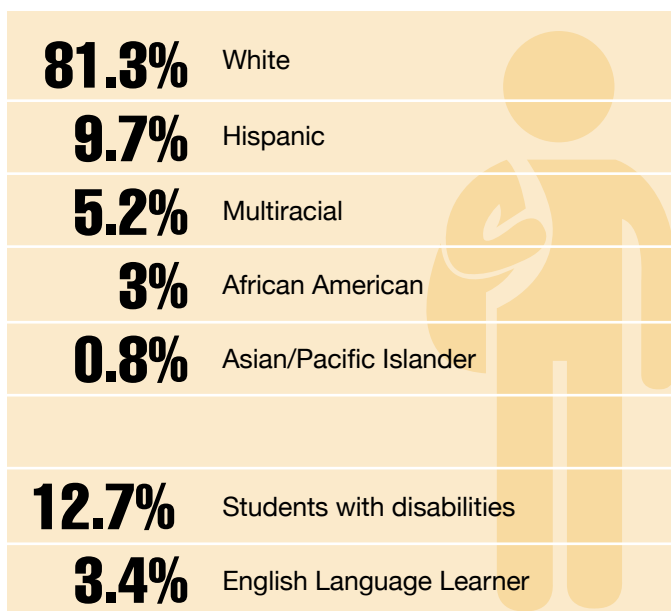
Community Events allow for families to visit our schools and participate in fun activities including:

- A Community Easter Egg Hunt hosted by the Riverside Parent Teacher Association every Spring.
- Halls of Holly, a holiday event coordinated by Riverside High School students.
- Senior Citizen Appreciation Nights, which include a free dinner and free preview of the high school's fall play and spring musical.
- An annual Community Tailgate Party prior to the first home varsity game
- A community-wide Homecoming Parade and Pep Rally at Riverside High School every September.
- All of our PTA and Booster groups host a variety of other family and community events including dances, restaurant nights, field days, carnivals, game and movie nights, auctions, book fairs, skating and bowling parties, and more!



Student Services

A variety of services provides options to ensure all students receive individualized instruction, enrichment and support.



- Our District provides services to meet the individual needs of ALL students. In addition to regular education services, Riverside offers identification of and services to gifted students, special needs students and students for whom English is their second language.

Student Services include, but are not limited to:

- School Counselors available for all students in grades 6-12.
- Mental health services provided by Crossroads and Signature Health for students, K-12, with social emotional needs.
- Reading tutors for students identified 'at-risk'.

- Positive Behavior Intervention Supports (PBIS) programs used in all buildings K-12 to promote positive and school appropriate behaviors.
- Intervention Specialists, school psychologists, speech and language pathologists, occupational therapists and physical therapists staffed in all buildings to help and identify students with special needs in grades K-12.
- Health aides or nurses staffed in all buildings.
- Opportunities for students with disabilities to participate in prevocational work experiences and special events throughout the year.

We manage our own inclusive preschool program, which serves both typically developing children as well as children with disabilities.

We partner with the Educational Service Center to offer vocational programming for high school students with disabilities. The RAVE Program (Reaching to Achieve Vocational Excellence) is aligned with Ohio's Employment First Initiative.

Alternative Online Schooling Options are available through the Educational Service Center of the Western Reserve. Students can gain new credits, recoup lost credits and receive help from experienced teachers through the ESCWR Online Learning Academy.

Staff Leadership

Student growth and achievement are facilitated by high quality staff members.



- Our School Resource Officers visit all of our schools frequently to interact with staff and students.
- Staff members are continuously learning and staying current through professional development opportunities.
- More than 70% of our teachers have a Master's Degree or higher.
- Our Transportation staff is committed to providing the highest level of transportation while pledging safety as top priority.
- Our Technology staff works closely with all departments and buildings to ensure that students and staff have access to current technology and its applications.
- Our Latchkey staff provides a safe, fun and dependable child care for elementary students before and after school.
- Our Maintenance staff maintains safe, clean and attractive facilities across the District.

- Our Nutrition Services staff provides high quality meals to students for breakfast and lunch and serves more than 3,000 meals every day.

**100% of our teachers
and substitute teachers
are certified.**



Each summer, we host our annual

Community Kindness Day

where staff members volunteer for one day to give back to the community. Staff members are divided into teams and visit local businesses, parks and organizations to hand out gift certificates, candy, water bottles and school supplies. Many of the teams complete many random acts of kindness outside of the giveaways, such as bringing lunch to a local fire department or donating books to a child care.



One Community Pursuing Greatness and Getting Better Every Day

Safety, Climate, and Wellness

- Make Riverside a safe, healthy and happy place to work and learn through the development of healthy organizational habits.

Advocacy, Partnerships, and Engagement

- Engage the Riverside community through communication, educational advocacy and development of purposeful partnerships with businesses and alumni.

Fiscal Sensibility

- Maximize return on investment for all funding sources, seek new revenue streams for facilities plan implementations, improve physical safety, and financially support District priorities and strategies.

Teaching and Learning

- Expand program options and delivery to meet the needs of each student and grow teacher capacity and efficacy.



We are
RIVERSIDE!



Riverside Local School District
585 Riverside Drive
Painesville, OH 44077

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage

PAID

Painesville OH 438
Permit No.

Board of Education

Lori Krenisky, *President*
Thomas Hach, *Vice-President*
Scott Fishel
Belinda Grassi
Jennifer Harden

Superintendent

Dr. James Kalis
440.358.8202

Treasurer

Gary A. Platko, CPA
440.352.0668

Assistant Treasurer

Michael Patrizi
440.358.8229

Curriculum and Instruction

Dr. Melissa Mlakar
440.358.8205

Assistant

Superintendent

Charles Schlick
440.358.8206

Student Services

Cheryl Lanning
440.358.8208

Communications

Nick Carrabine
440.358.8216

Human Resources

Mallory Aliff
440.358.8223

Riverside Local Schools Directory

Board of Education Office	440.352.0668
Riverside Campus	440.352.3341
Henry F. LaMuth Middle School	440.354.4394
Buckeye Elementary	440.352.2191
Melridge Elementary	440.352.3854
Parkside Elementary	440.358.8750
Riverview Elementary	440.357.6171

www.riversidelocalschools.com

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