



Sept. 19, 2025

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL ONLY

Springfield Local School District Board of Education C/O
Cynthia Frola, Board President
Shelley Monachino, Superintendent
Christopher Adams, Treasurer
2141 Pickle Road
Akron, OH 44312

RE: FY25 Fiscal Watch Financial Recovery Plan Amendment Approved

Springfield Local School District Board of Education and Administrators:

Thank you for submitting the attached financial recovery plan (FRP) amendment dated Sept. 19, 2025 (Exhibit A). The Ohio Department of Education and Workforce reviewed the workbook and accompanying narrative and it is hereby approved. **In accordance with Ohio law, please update the district's initial required financial forecast to be consistent with the approved FRP ([Ohio Revised Code 3316.043](#)) and submit the forecast to the Department no later than Oct. 15, 2025.**

The board of education may increase revenues or reduce expenditures beyond the approved FRP, as these actions are favorable to the FRP budgets and will further facilitate fiscal recovery. Otherwise, the financial recovery plan is required to be implemented as approved. This means the district is required to spend at or below the projected forecast amounts for each forecast line. Savings on one forecast line may not be used to offset overspending on another forecast line. Implementation of management practices to comply with the FRP established spending levels is critical to avoid a declaration of fiscal emergency ([ORC 3316.03\(B\)\(3\)](#)) and to restore fiscal solvency sufficient to obtain release from fiscal watch.

If the board desires to change components of the approved FRP, it may be amended with the approval of the Director of the Department of Education and Workforce; however, be advised, "no school district board shall implement a financial plan submitted to the director ... unless the director has approved the plan" ([ORC 3316.04\(A\)](#)). For purposes of FRP amendments, please allow at least 15 business days for review and approval to be issued.

As a fiscal oversight district, Springfield Local School District is required to provide the Department with a fiscal monitoring workbook and a variety of financial reports prior to the district's regular board meeting. The Department uses the monitoring workbook, which includes a comparison of the

district's monthly and year-to-date actual performance to the approved FRP budget for the current fiscal year, to determine if the board of education is implementing the FRP. Likewise, the Department requires some of the monitoring workbook and reports provided to the Department to also be included in the monthly financial documentation provided to the board of education. These “best practice” reports will assist the board in discerning the effectiveness of the FRP and enable the board to timely amend the FRP if additional or different actions are necessary.

Should the district have any questions concerning implementation of the FRP or the fiscal oversight process, please contact Aaron Rausch at (614) 995-9936 or Kim Richard at (614) 387-0295.

Sincerely,



Stephen D. Dackin
Director

CC: David Thompson, Chief of Local Government Services, Auditor of State
Nicole Smith, Deputy Director, Ohio Performance Team, Auditor of State
Aaron Rausch, Chief of Staff and Chief of Budget and School Funding
Kim Richard, Assistant Administrator, Financial Analysis and Oversight
Dorothy Pietrykowski, Fiscal Consultant, Financial Analysis and Oversight
Leanne Sidley, Area Coordinator