

Fiscal Year  
**2025**  
May

**Five Year  
Forecast  
Report**



**LORAIN  
CITY SCHOOLS**

Prepared By:  
**Treasurer/CFO**  
**Lorain City School District**

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## Forecast Purpose/Objectives

Ohio Department of Education and Workforce's purposes/objectives for the five-year forecast are:

1. To engage the local board of education and the community in the long range planning and discussions of financial issues facing the school district.
2. To serve as a basis for determining the school district's ability to sign the certificate required by O.R.C. §5705.412, commonly known as the "412 certificate."
3. To provide a method for the Department of Education and Auditor of State to identify school districts with potential financial problems.

## Forecast Methodology

This forecast is prepared based upon historical trends and current factors. This information is then extrapolated into estimates for subsequent years. The forecast variables can change multiple times throughout the fiscal year, and while cash flow monitoring helps to identify unexpected variances, no process is guaranteed. The intent is to provide the district's financial trend over time and a roadmap for decisions aimed at encouraging financial sustainability and stability.

## Forecast Summary

Lorain City School District

### Financial Forecast Summary

	<b>Fiscal Year 2025</b>	<b>Fiscal Year 2026</b>	<b>Fiscal Year 2027</b>	<b>Fiscal Year 2028</b>	<b>Fiscal Year 2029</b>
Beginning Balance	32,928,629	23,664,184	18,193,929	10,372,334	<b>(6,938,123)</b>
+ Revenue	107,077,728	100,953,599	97,669,077	91,169,974	91,138,359
+ Proposed Renew/Replacement Levies	-	-	2,994,217	8,984,373	15,000,112
- Expenditures	<b>(116,342,174)</b>	<b>(106,423,855)</b>	<b>(105,490,671)</b>	<b>(108,480,431)</b>	<b>(111,423,357)</b>
= Revenue Surplus or Deficit Spending	<b>(9,264,445)</b>	<b>(5,470,255)</b>	<b>(4,827,377)</b>	<b>(8,326,084)</b>	<b>(5,284,886)</b>
- Estimated Encumbrances	<b>(1,500,000)</b>	<b>(1,500,000)</b>	<b>(1,500,000)</b>	<b>(1,500,000)</b>	<b>(1,500,000)</b>
Ending Cash Balance with renewal levies	22,164,184	16,693,929	11,866,551	546,250	<b>(13,723,008)</b>

#### Analysis Without Renewal Levies Included:

Revenue Surplus or Deficit w/o Levies	<b>(9,264,445)</b>	<b>(5,470,255)</b>	<b>(7,821,594)</b>	<b>(17,310,457)</b>	<b>(20,284,998)</b>
-Estimated Encumbrances	<b>(1,500,000)</b>	<b>(1,500,000)</b>	<b>(1,500,000)</b>	<b>(1,500,000)</b>	<b>(1,500,000)</b>
Ending Cash Balance w/o Levies	22,164,184	16,693,929	8,872,334	<b>(8,438,123)</b>	<b>(28,723,120)</b>

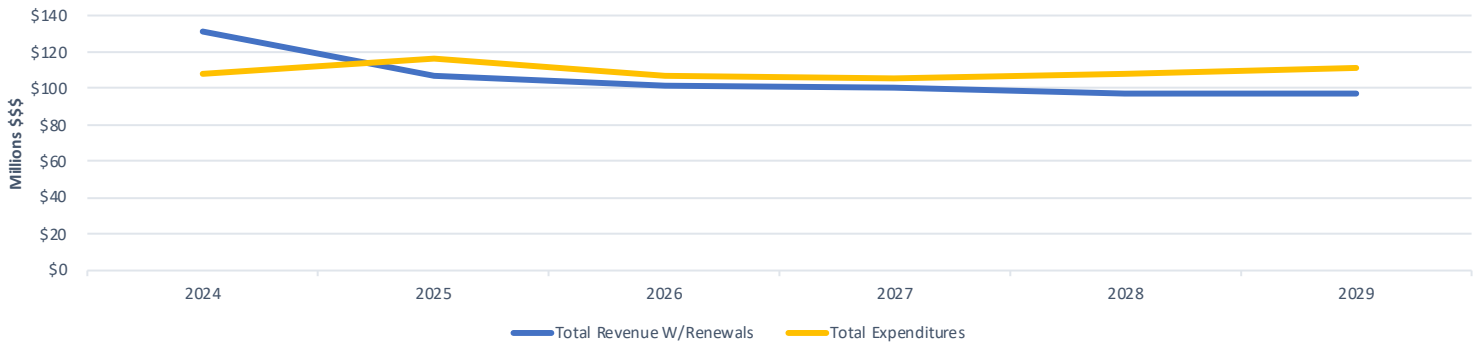
### Financial Summary Notes

The forecast projects a downward trend in the General Fund's financial position, with expenditures outpacing revenues throughout the period.

- Beginning Balance: The fund starts with \$32.9 million in FY2025 but steadily declines each year.
- Revenue vs. Expenditures: Revenues are projected to decrease over time, while expenditures continue to rise, leading to ongoing annual deficits.
- With Proposed Levies: Based on current property tax laws, if renewal/replacement levies are approved, they will help offset the shortfall, but the fund is still projected to end FY2029 with a deficit of approximately \$13.7 million.
- Without Proposed Levies: Without this additional revenue, the financial outlook worsens significantly, with cash balance deficits projected at \$8.4 million by FY2028 and \$28.7 million by FY2029.

# Forecast Analysis

## Revenue Compared to Expenditures

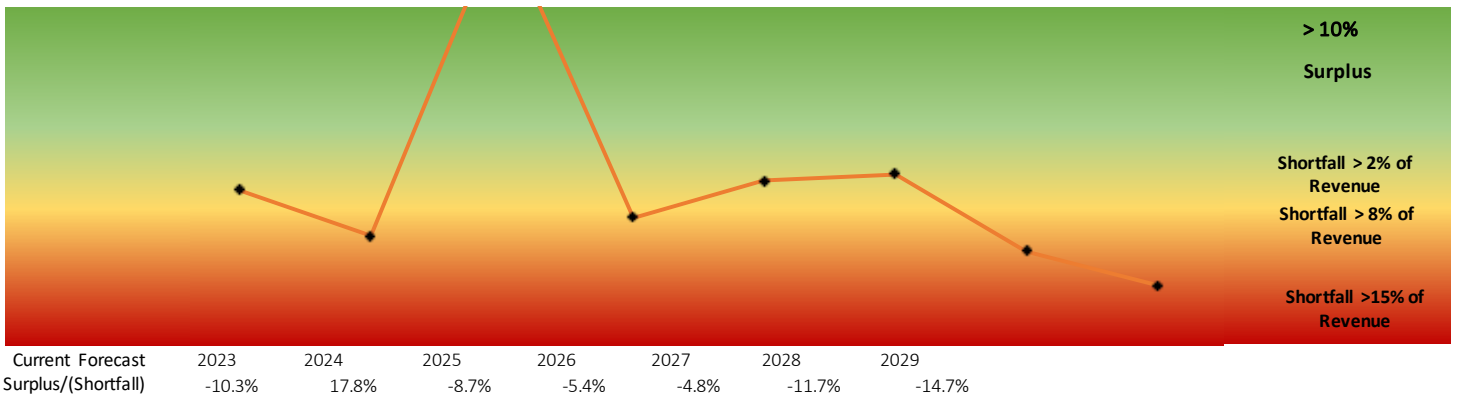


From 2025 to 2029, total revenues are projected to change by -5.58%

Expenditure change is expected to outpace

From 2025 to 2029, total expenses are projected to change by 0.80%

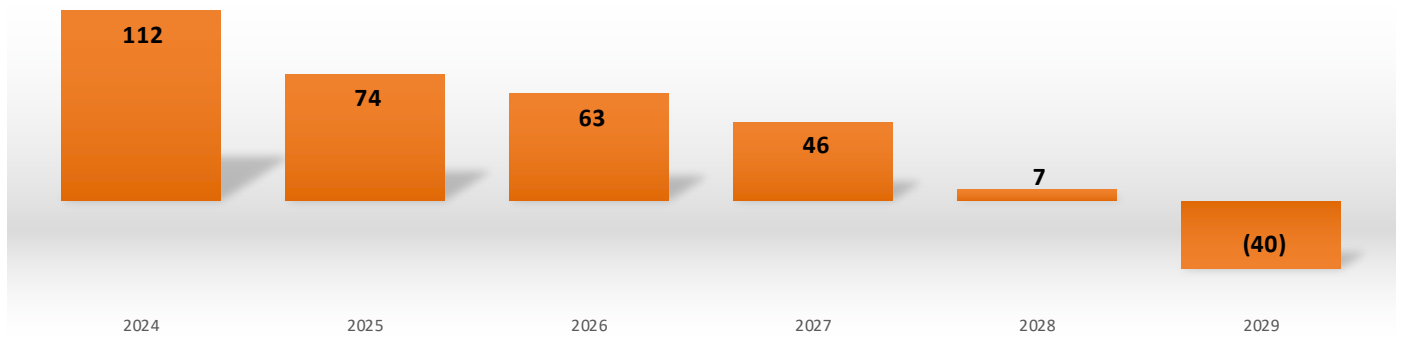
## Revenue Surplus/(Shortfall) as a Percentage of Revenue



The district is trending toward revenue shortfall with the expenditures growing faster than revenue. A revenue increase of 14.69% is needed to balance the budget in fiscal year 2029, or a \$14,269,259 reduction in expenditures.

- The largest contributor to the projected revenue trend is the change in Other Sources.
- The expenditure most impacting the changing trend is Other Uses.

## Days Cash on Hand at Fiscal Year-end

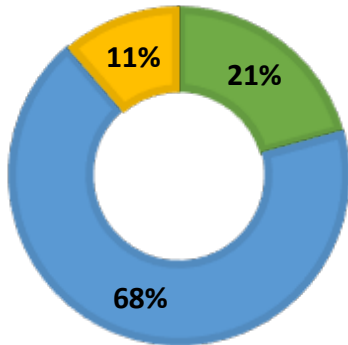


\*based on 365 days

## Revenue Overview

Lorain City School District

### Revenue Sources



#### Local Taxes

Real Estate Tax	19.01%
Public Utility Tax	1.72%
Income Tax	0.00%

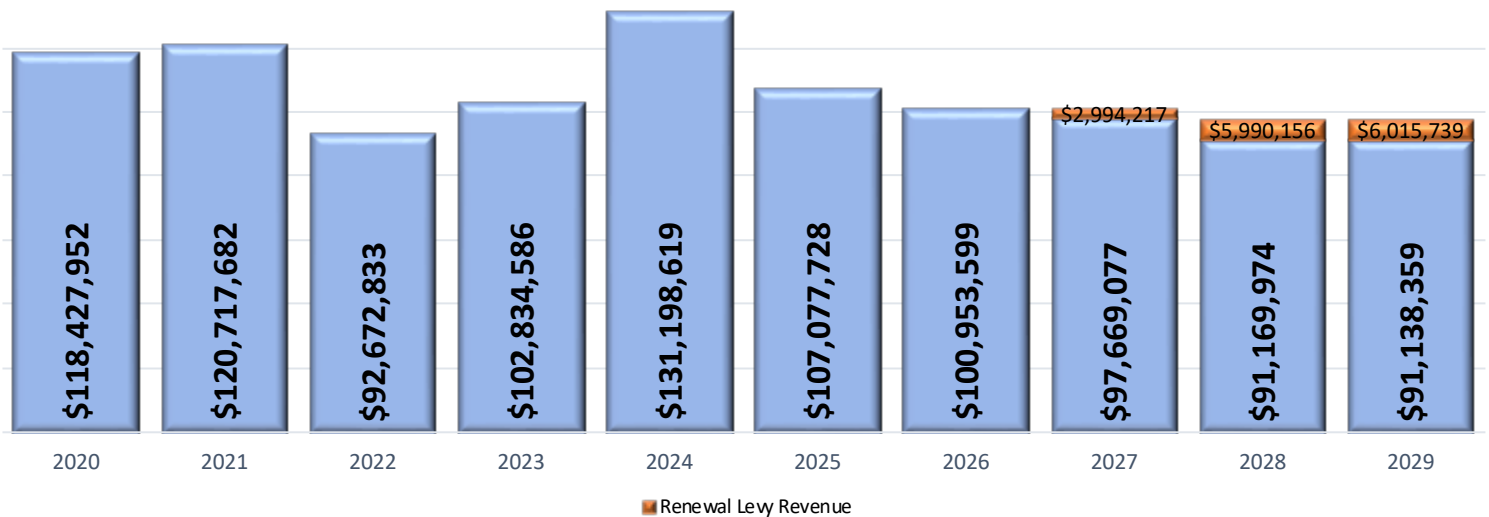
#### State Sources

State Funding	56.31%
Restricted Aid	9.24%
State Share of Local Tax	2.44%

#### All Other Revenue

Other Revenue	3.79%
Other Sources	7.49%

### Annual Revenue Actual + Projected



### Historic Revenue Change versus Projected Revenue Change

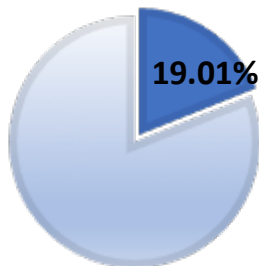
	Historical Average Annual \$\$ Change	Projected Average Annual \$\$ Change	Projected Compared to Historical Variance	
Real Estate	\$48,263	\$638,279	\$590,016	Over the past five years, revenue increased by 3.52% (\$2,640,164 annually). However, it is projected to decrease by -5.58% (-\$6,808,904 annually) through fiscal year 2029. Notably, Other Sources, is expected to be \$12,716,480 less per year compared to history, and is the biggest driver of trend change on the revenue side.
Public Utility	\$226,480	\$8,546	(\$217,935)	
Income Tax	\$0	\$0	\$0	
State Funding	(\$4,448,727)	(\$677,793)	\$3,770,935	
State Share of Property Tax	(\$42,886)	\$99,533	\$142,419	
All Othr Op Rev	\$539,807	(\$478,216)	(\$1,018,023)	
Other Sources	\$6,317,228	(\$6,399,252)	(\$12,716,480)	
<b>Total Average Annual Change</b>	<b>\$2,640,164</b> 3.52%	<b>(\$6,808,904)</b> -5.58%	<b>(\$9,449,069)</b> -9.10%	

For Comparison:  
Expenditure average annual change is projected to be >

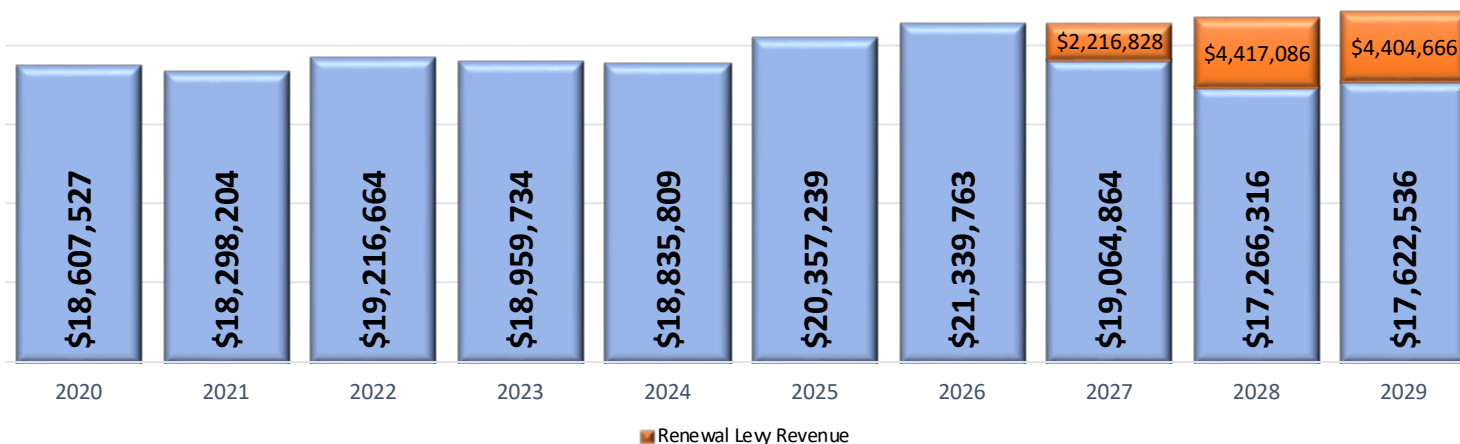
\$707,639 On an annual average basis, expenditures are projected to grow faster than revenue.

### 1.010 - General Property Tax (Real Estate)

Revenue collected from taxes levied by a school district by the assessed valuation of real property using effective tax rates for class I (residential/agricultural) and class II (business).



Real estate property tax revenue accounts for 19.01% of total district general fund revenue.



#### Key Assumptions & Notes

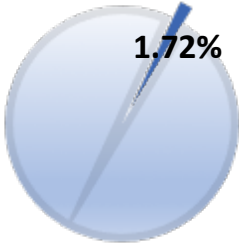
Values, Tax Rates and Gross Collections							Gross Collection Rate Including Delinquencies
Tax Yr	Valuation	Value Change	Class I Rate	Change	Class 2 Rate	Change	
2023	675,619,500	757,010	28.70	-	46.46	-	99.9%
2024	929,227,700	253,608,200	23.43	(5.27)	37.67	(8.79)	99.9%
2025	930,427,700	1,200,000	23.42	(0.01)	37.72	0.05	99.9%
2026	931,627,700	1,200,000	23.41	(0.01)	37.76	0.05	99.9%
2027	975,627,700	44,000,000	23.26	(0.15)	37.03	(0.73)	99.9%
2028	976,827,700	1,200,000	23.25	(0.01)	37.08	0.05	99.9%

Class I, or residential/agricultural taxes make up approximately 70.04% of the real estate property tax revenue. The Class I tax rate is 23.43 mills in tax year 2024. The district is modeling the renewal of real estate property taxes levies through 2024. The projections reflect an average gross collection rate of 99.9% annually through tax year 2028. The revenue changed at an average annual historical rate of 0.29% and is projected to change at an average annual rate of 3.22% through fiscal year 2029.

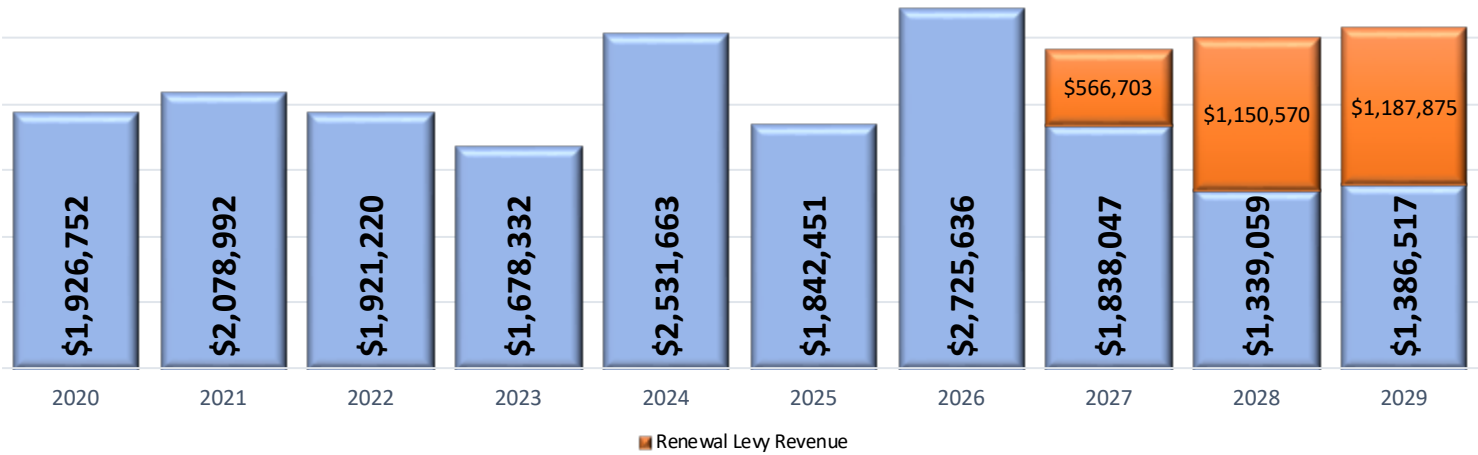
Property values are projected to experience significant growth from FY24 to FY28, increasing from \$712.7 million in FY23 to an estimated \$1.021 billion. A major surge happened in FY24, (due to Ohio's sexennial reappraisal), reaching \$967.8 million, followed by continued strong appreciation in FY25 (\$970.5 million) and sustained growth in FY26 (\$975.2 million). Values are expected to near \$1 billion in FY27 (\$1.019 billion) with further incremental gains in FY28. The overall trend indicates an initial period of accelerated growth transitioning to more stable, incremental expansion, with FY29 likely seeing a marginal increase based on extrapolation. Future revenue projections are based on current property tax laws. However, proposed legislation in the House and Senate could affect the district's property tax revenue. If any of these proposals are passed and impact the millage rate or tax collections, the district will need to update its real estate revenue projections accordingly.

### 1.020 - Public Utility Personal Property

Revenue generated from public utility personal property valuations multiplied by the district's full voted tax rate.



Public Utility Personal Property tax revenue accounts for 1.72% of total district general fund revenue.



#### Key Assumptions & Notes

Values and Tax Rates					Gross Collection Rate Including Delinquencies	
Tax Year	Valuation	Value Change	Full Voted Rate	Change		
2023	37,073,640	1,993,070	60.15	(0.03)	146.6%	
2024	38,573,640	1,500,000	58.92	(1.23)	100.0%	
2025	40,073,640	1,500,000	58.91	(0.01)	100.0%	
2026	41,573,640	1,500,000	58.90	(0.01)	100.0%	
2027	43,073,640	1,500,000	58.75	(0.15)	100.0%	
2028	44,573,640	1,500,000	58.74	(0.01)	100.0%	

The public utility personal property tax revenue is generated from the personal property values, additions, and depreciation reported by the utility companies. The property is taxed at the full voted tax rate which in tax year 2024 is 58.92 mills. The forecast is modeling an average gross collection rate of 100.00%. The revenue changed historically at an average annual dollar amount of \$226,480 and is projected to change at an average annual dollar amount of \$8,546 through fiscal year .

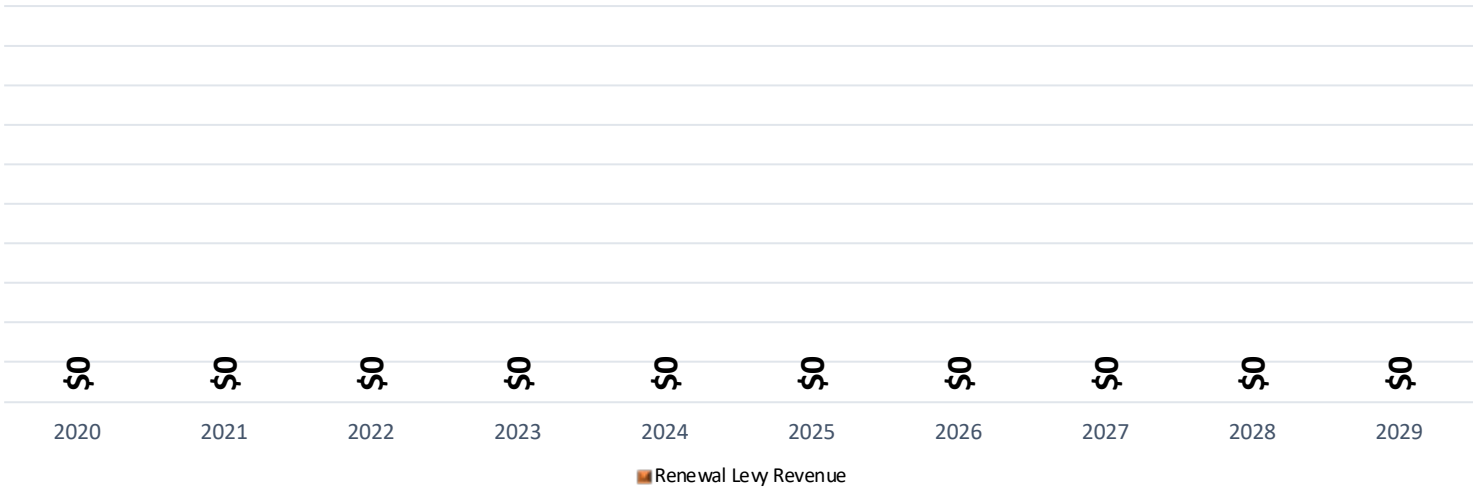
Future revenue projections are based on current property tax laws. However, proposed legislation in the House and Senate could affect the district's property tax revenue. If any of these proposals are passed and impact the millage rate or tax collections, the district will need to update its real estate revenue projections accordingly.

**1.030 - School District Income Tax**

Revenue collected from income tax earmarked specifically to support schools with a voter approved tax by residents of the school district; separate from federal, state and municipal income taxes.



The district does not have a School District Income Tax levy.

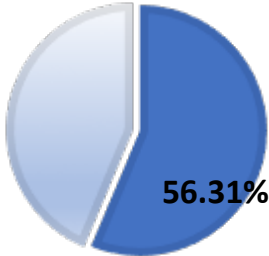


Key Assumptions & Notes

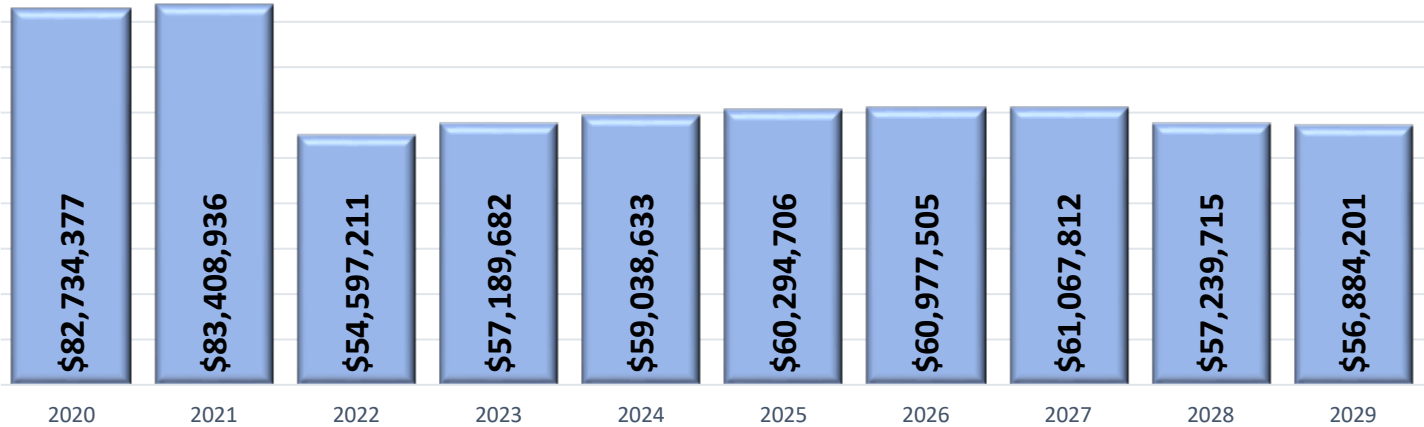
The district does not have an income tax levy.

**1.035 - Unrestricted Grants-in-Aid**

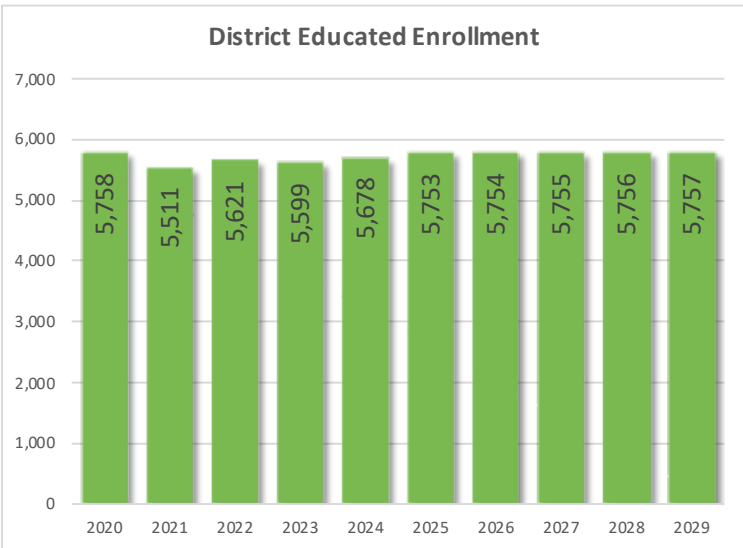
Funds received through the State Foundation Program with no restriction.



Unrestricted State Aid revenue accounts for 56.31% of total district general fund revenue.



**Key Assumptions & Notes**

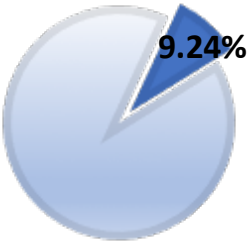


Beginning in fiscal year 2022, Ohio adopted the Fair School Funding Plan (FSFP). Funding is driven by a base cost methodology that incorporates the four components identified as necessary to the education process. The Base Cost is currently calculated for two years using a statewide average from historical actual data.

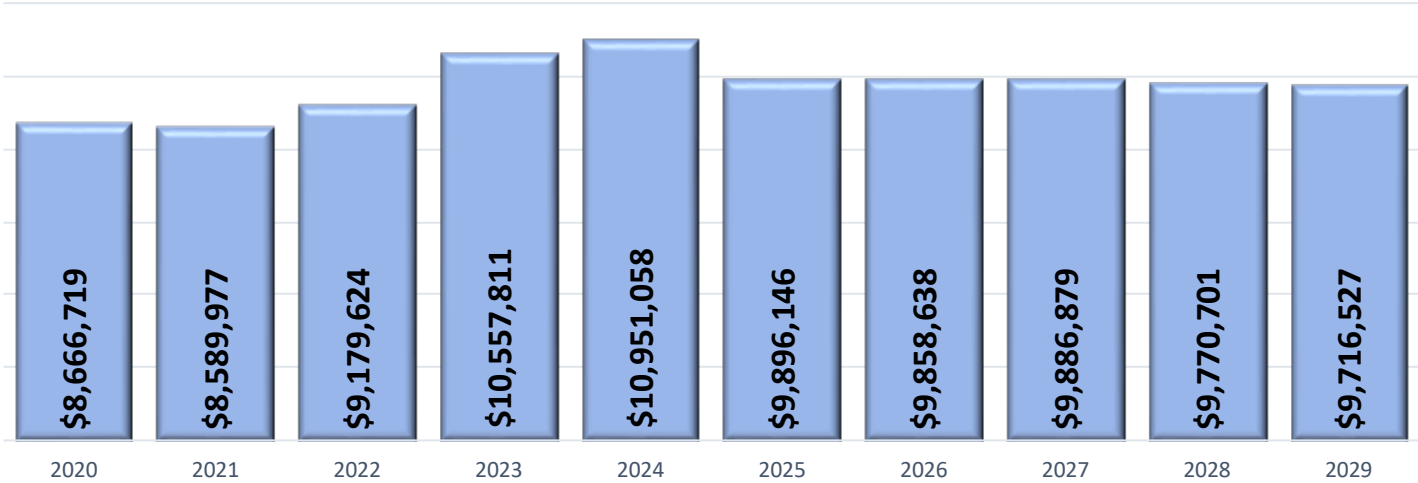
The State of Ohio is currently in the process of approving the 2026–2027 biennial budget. As of the time this forecast was prepared, both the Governor’s and the House’s proposed budgets have been released. The district is now awaiting the Senate’s proposal and the final version of the budget, which is expected to become law on July 1. These projections are based on the House’s proposed budget for FY2026 and FY2027. For FY2028 and FY2029, the forecast assumes state funding will remain at the 2027 levels (“guaranteed”), with decreasing guarantees, as the funding formula for those years is not yet known. Please refer to the back of this forecast for a comparison of the different funding proposals and their potential impact on the district.

### 1.040 & 1.045 - Restricted Grants-in-Aid

Funds received through the State Foundation Program or other allocations that are restricted for specific purposes.



Restricted State Aid revenue accounts for 9.24% of total district general fund revenue.



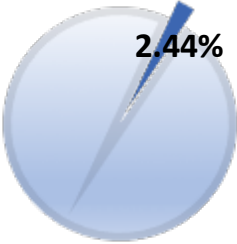
#### Key Assumptions & Notes

Restricted aid is the portion of state per pupil funding that must be classified as restricted use. Historically the district's restricted state aid changed annually on average by \$787,027 and is projected to change annually on average by -\$246,906. Restricted funds represent 9.24% of the district's total revenue. Starting in fiscal year 2022, the district's Success & Wellness funding became restricted; the state's share of this funding recorded as restricted is \$1,580,299. This funding has implications on general fund expenditures in that certain spending now occurring in a fund external to the general fund could shift to the general fund. The expenditures in this forecast are adjusted to reflect this change.

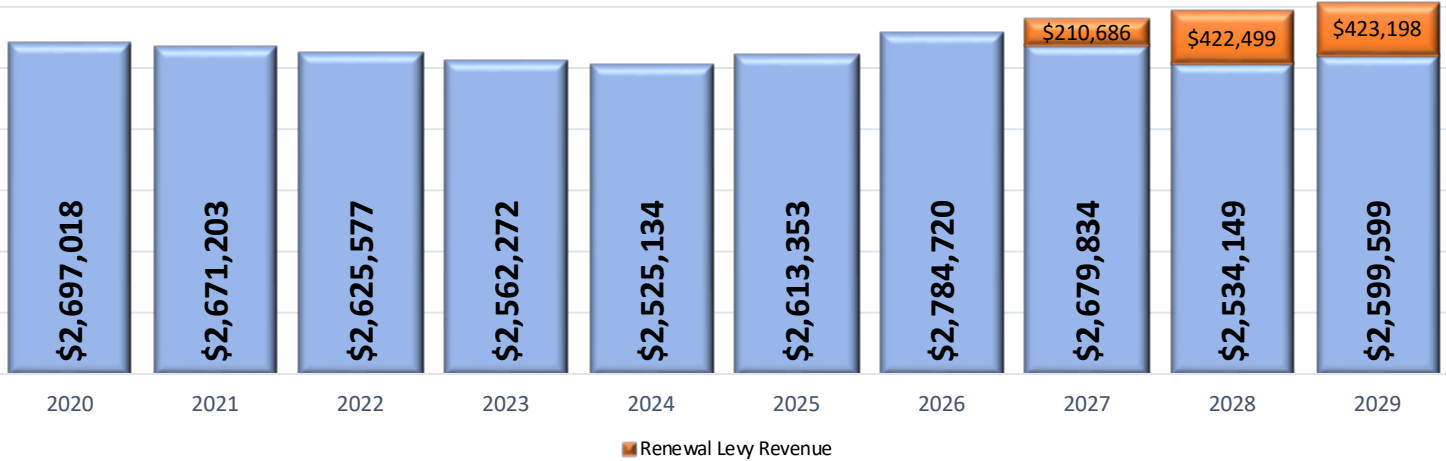
Both the Governor and the House budget proposals include funding for the Disadvantaged Pupil Impact Aid (DPIA) through the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP), a federal program that provides free meals to all students in eligible schools. This funding is currently factored into each year of this forecast's five-year financial projections. However, if the final state budget does not utilize CEP for DPIA, our revenue forecasts will require a significant downward adjustment.

**1.050 - State Share of Local Property Taxes**

Includes funds received for Tangible Personal Property Tax Reimbursement, Electric Deregulation, Homestead and Rollback.



State Share of Local Property tax revenue accounts for 2.44% of total district general fund revenue.



**Key Assumptions & Notes**

State Share of Local Property Taxes primarily consists of reimbursements from the state of Ohio for local taxpayer credits or reductions to their tax bill. The state reduces the local taxpayer's tax bill with a 10% rollback credit, and 2.5% owner-occupied rollback credit, plus a homestead credit for qualifying taxpayers. In fiscal year 2025, approximately 11.5% local residential property taxes will be reimbursed by the state in the form of rollback credits and approximately 4.7% will be reimbursed in the form of qualifying homestead exemption credits.

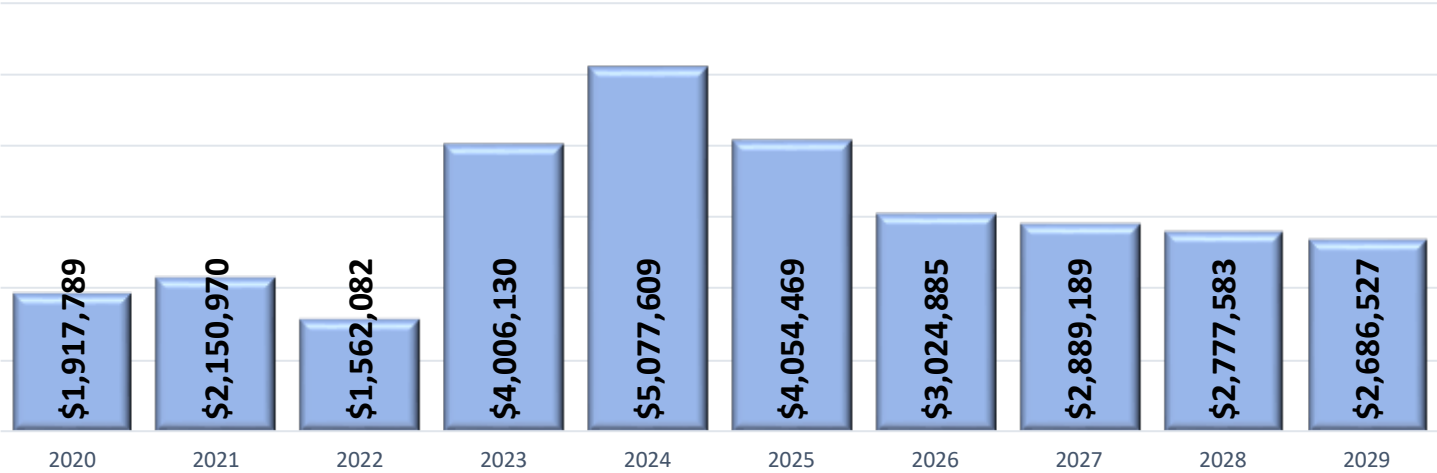
As noted in the real estate assumptions, Homestead and Rollback projections are based on current law. If any legislation changes, these projections will be updated to reflect the new law.

**1.060 - All Other Operating Revenues**

Operating revenue sources not included in other lines; examples include tuition, fees, earnings on investments, rentals, and donations.



All Other Revenue accounts for 3.79% of total district general fund revenue.

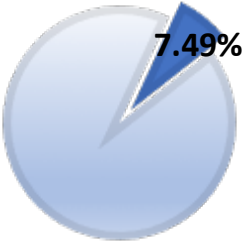


**Key Assumptions & Notes**

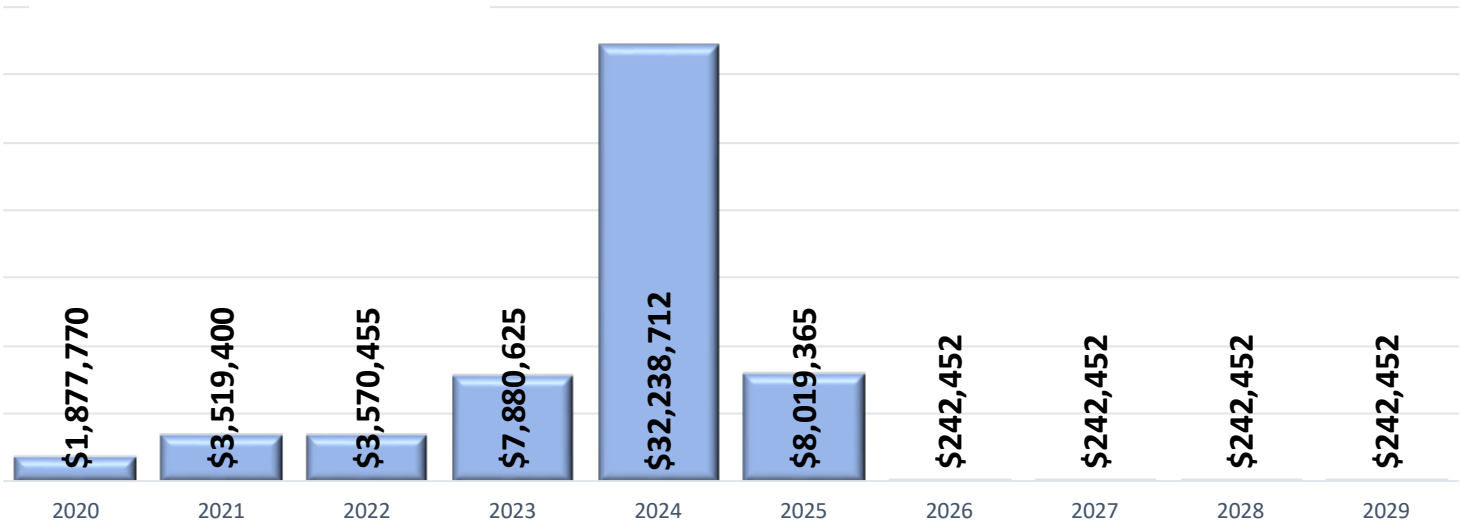
- Overall Revenue Trend: Total revenue is projected to peak around \$5.1 million in FY24 and then decline consistently to approximately \$2.8 million by FY29.
- Primary Driver of Decline (Unrestricted Grants-in-Aid): The substantial decrease in total revenue is largely attributed to a sharp drop in Unrestricted Grants-in-Aid (such as Medicaid Proceeds) (4100), which falls from over \$1.7 million in FY24 to about \$664,185 by FY29. The future year projections are based on the assumption that the Federal government will continue to fund this program.
  - Declining Local Receipts: Miscellaneous Receipts from Local Sources (ie. Indirect Costs, Background Checks, rentals) (1800) also show a significant reduction after FY24, although they stabilize in later years.
  - Stable Base Revenue (Tuition): Tuition (1200) is forecasted to remain relatively stable, providing a consistent base revenue stream throughout the period. Increases are expected due to inflationary growth and increased costs to educate.
  - Fluctuating Investment Income: Earnings on Investments (1400) experienced a temporary surge due to cash balance and market conditions to over \$2.1 million. This is followed by a steady decline through FY29, settling around \$645,523, due to expected declines in cash balance and market trends.
  - Other Revenue Sources (ie. Insurance proceeds) (1900) consistently is expected to remain stable at \$300,167 per year, throughout the life of the forecast.

**2.070 - Total Other Financing Sources**

Includes proceeds from sale of notes, state emergency loans and advancements, operating transfers-in, and all other financing sources like sale and loss of assets. and refund of prior year expenditures.



Other Sources of revenue accounts for 7.49% of total district general fund revenue.



**Key Assumptions & Notes**

	FORECASTED					
	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029
Transfers In	8,638	4,269	4,269	4,269	4,269	4,269
Advances In	15,341,957	238,375	238,375	238,375	238,375	238,375
All Other Financing Sources	16,888,117	7,776,721	(192)	(192)	(192)	(192)

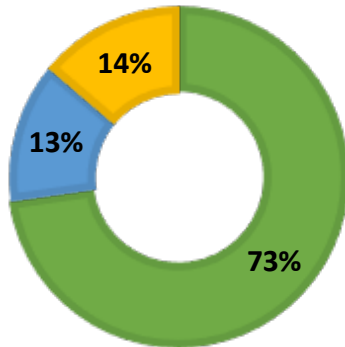
Other sources includes revenue that is generally classified as non-operating. Return advances-in are the most common revenue source. In 2024 the district receipted \$15,341,957 as advances-in and is projecting advances of \$238,375 in fiscal year 2025. The district also receives other financing sources such as refund of prior year expenditures in this category. The district is projecting that all other financing sources will be \$7,776,721 in 2025 and average \$0 annually through 2029.

The large increases in this section of the forecast are due to the continuity of services allowance under ESSER, which permitted the district to transfer funds from ESSER to the general fund. As the district finalized ESSER-funded projects and initiatives, additional transfers were made. These transfers were allowed under the ESSER provision for "other activities necessary to maintain operations and continuity of services" and were used to reimburse the general fund for salaries and benefits of staff employed during the 2020–2021 school year, when the district operated remotely due to the pandemic.

## Expenditure Overview

Lorain City School District

### Expenditure Categories



#### Personnel Costs

Salaries	53.61%
Benefits	19.14%

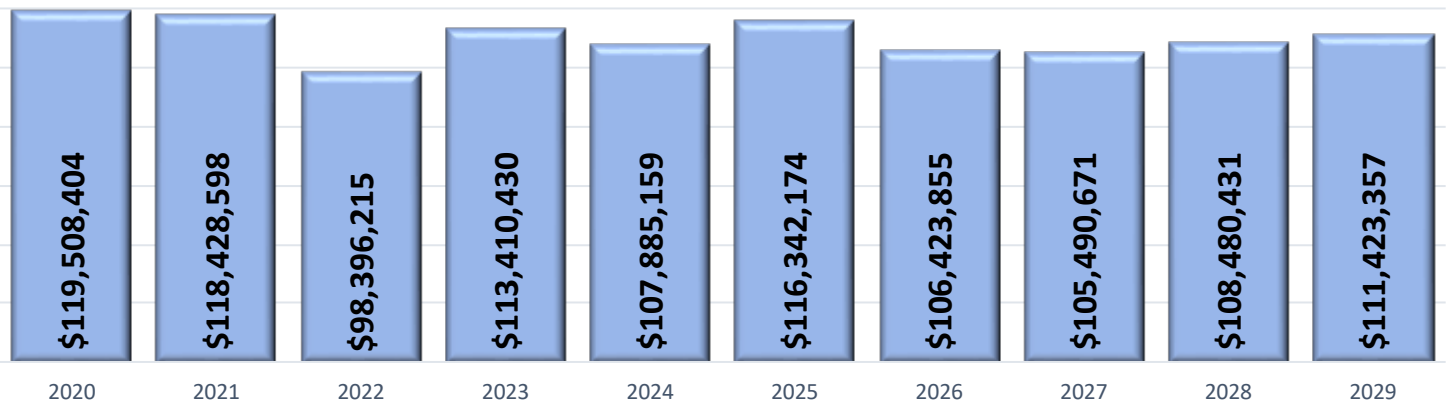
#### Purchased Services

13.40%

#### All Other Expenditures

Supplies, Capital, Debt, Other Obj	6.45%
Other Uses	7.40%

### Annual Expenditures Actual + Projected



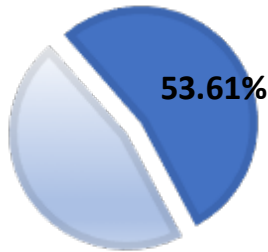
### Historic Expenditures Change versus Projected Expenditures Change

	Historical Average Annual \$\$ Change	Projected Average Annual \$\$ Change	Projected Compared to Historical Variance	Expenditures decreased by 0.56% (\$1,262,841 annually) during the past 5-year period, and are projected to increase by 0.80% (\$707,639 annually) through 2029. The forecast line with the most change on the expense side, Other Uses, is anticipated to be \$8,172,358 more per year in the projected period compared to historical averages.
Salaries	\$7,985,306	\$442,230	(\$7,543,076)	
Benefits	\$2,692,248	\$550,675	(\$2,141,573)	
Purchased Services	(\$5,275,228)	\$97,426	\$5,372,653	
Supplies & Materials	\$556,512	(\$146,652)	(\$703,164)	
Capital Outlay	\$824,112	(\$250,735)	(\$1,074,847)	
Intergov & Debt	\$1,469	(\$1,469)	(\$2,938)	
Other Objects	\$113,322	\$4,390	(\$108,933)	
Other Uses	(\$8,160,582)	\$11,775	\$8,172,358	
<b>Total Average Annual Change</b>	<b>(\$1,262,841)</b>	<b>\$707,639</b>	<b>\$1,970,480</b>	
	-0.56%	0.80%	1.35%	

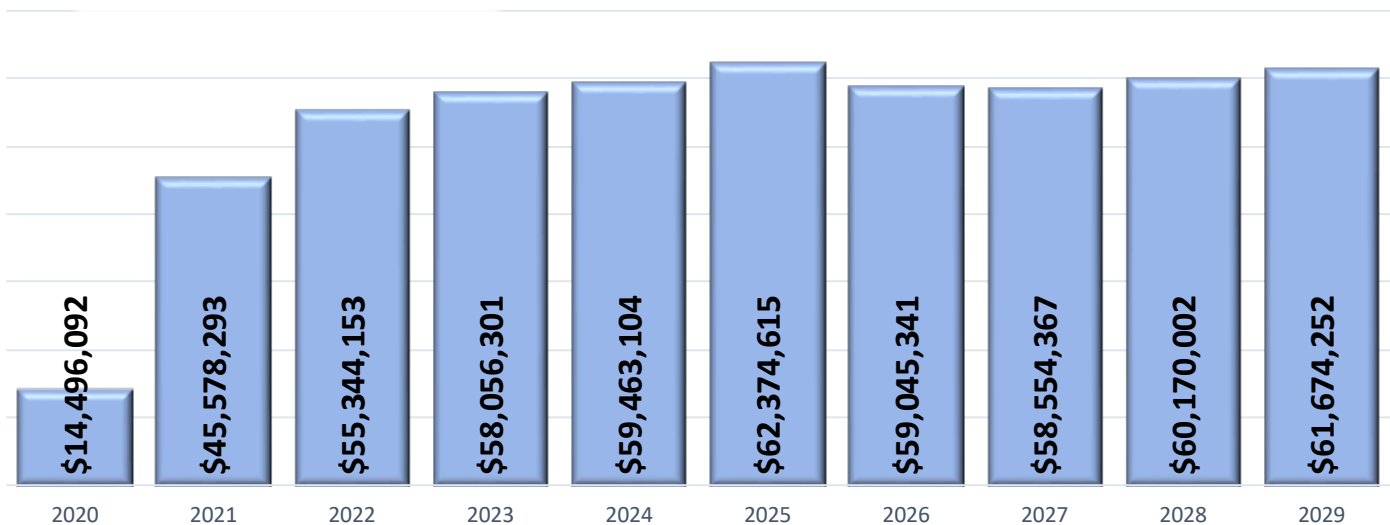
For Comparison:  
 Revenue average annual change is projected to be > **(\$6,808,904)** On an annual average basis, revenues are projected to contract while expenditures grows

### 3.010 - Personnel Services

Employee salaries and wages, including extended time, severance pay, supplemental contracts, etc.



Salaries account for 53.61% of the district's total general fund spending.



#### Key Assumptions & Notes

Salaries represent 53.61% of total expenditures and increased at a historical average annual rate of 43.47% (or \$7,985,306). This category of expenditure is projected to grow at an annual average rate of 0.80% (or \$442,230) through fiscal year 2029. The projected average annual rate of change is 42.68% less than the five year historical annual average.

In the current fiscal year, the district's salary expenses reflect an almost \$1.2M decrease from November's projections due to unfilled positions for FY25.

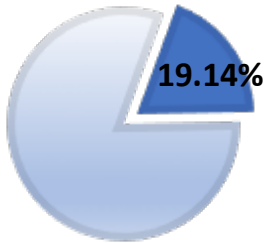
Looking ahead to FY26-29, the district is projecting additional savings of \$13,157,659 due to its' current plan to reduce expenses related to personnel. This includes not filling almost 30 positions through attrition as well as an early retirement/severance plan for 47 (at the time of this forecast) certified employees.

Current and future salary estimates include increases in base wages and longevity steps per the terms of the Collective Bargaining Agreements. For years outside of the Collective Bargaining Agreement, wage increases are included which are within market trends and within the financial capabilities of the district.

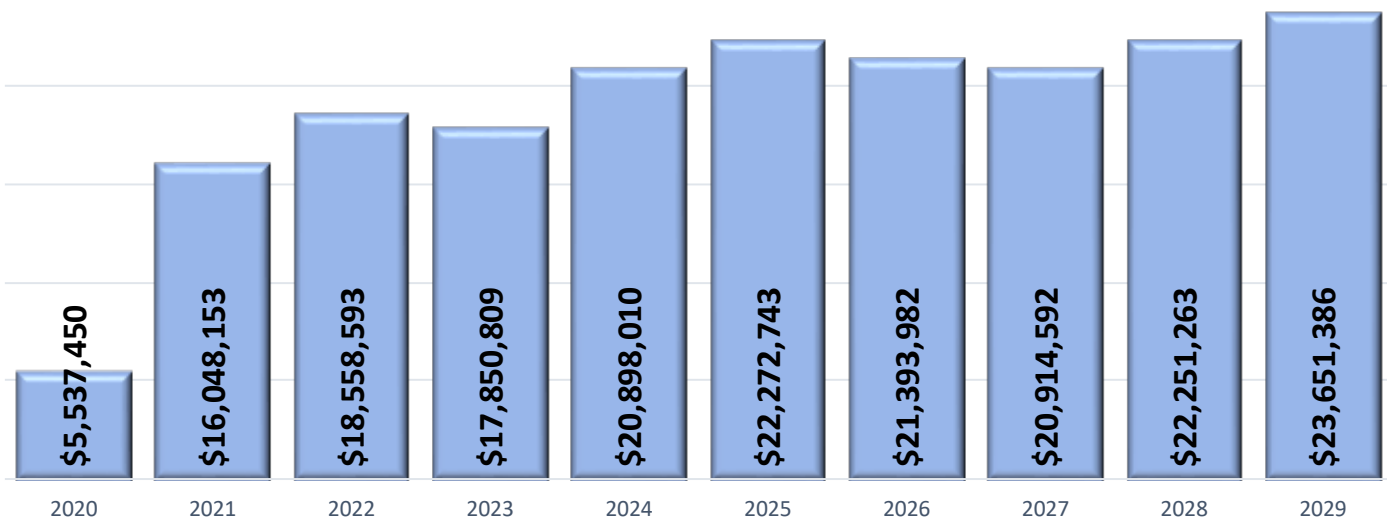
All other funds that provide funding for non-General fund salaries, such as federal funds, are expected to remain at current levels. Should this assumption change, the General fund will be expected to shoulder the cost of the additional burden.

### 3.020 - Employees' Benefits

Retirement for all employees, Workers Compensation, early retirement incentives, Medicare, unemployment, pickup on pickup, and all health-related insurances.



Benefits account for 19.14% of the district's total general fund spending.



#### Key Assumptions & Notes

Benefits represent 19.14% of total expenditures and increased at a historical average annual rate of 38.63%. This category of expenditure is projected to grow at an annual average rate of 2.62% through fiscal year 2029. The projected average annual rate of change is 36.02% less than the five year historical annual average.

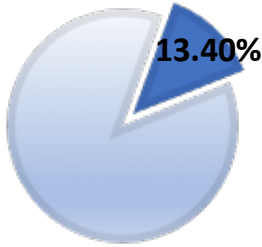
Retirement and other non-healthcare fringe benefits are projected at 18.07% of total salary costs throughout the forecast period.

For fiscal year 2025, healthcare costs are estimated to total \$11,013,000. This this amount reflects a 2% increase (rather than a 7-8% increase) in insurance premiums due to a change in the district's insurance consultant and the associated rates.

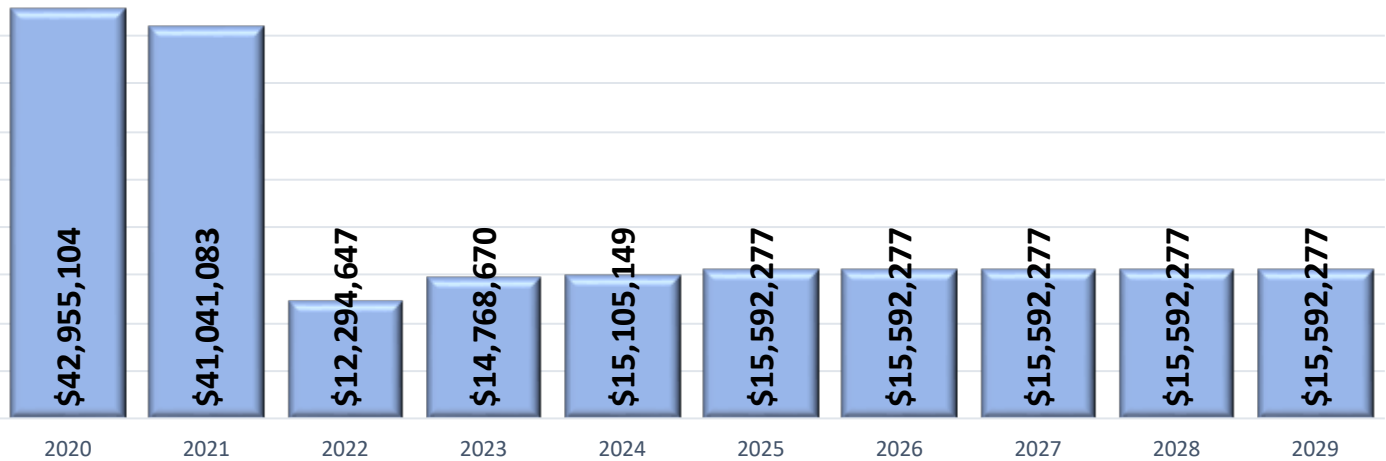
For FY26-29, healthcare premiums are expected to increase by 8% year over year. For FY26, the amount due to end the district's previous health consortium contract is included in this line item of the forecast.

### 3.030 - Purchased Services

Amounts paid for services rendered by personnel who are not on the payroll of the school district, expenses for tuition paid to other districts, utility costs and other services which the school district may purchase.



Purchased Services account for 13.40% of the district's total general fund spending.



#### Key Assumptions & Notes

Purchased Services represent 13.40% of total expenditures and decreased at a historical average annual rate of 9.71%. This category of expenditure is projected to grow at an annual average rate of 0.64% through fiscal year 2029. Starting in 2022, the Fair School Funding Plan (State Funding) only accounted for district educated enrollment, thereby reducing district tuition costs for open enrollment 'out,' community schools, STEM, and scholarship students. This change resulted in lower district costs, but also less per pupil state revenue since per pupil funding is now paid directly by the state to the district students attend.

Total expenditures are projected to remain relatively stable from FY24 through FY29, generally ranging between \$15 million and \$16 million annually, following a significant reduction from previous fiscal years.

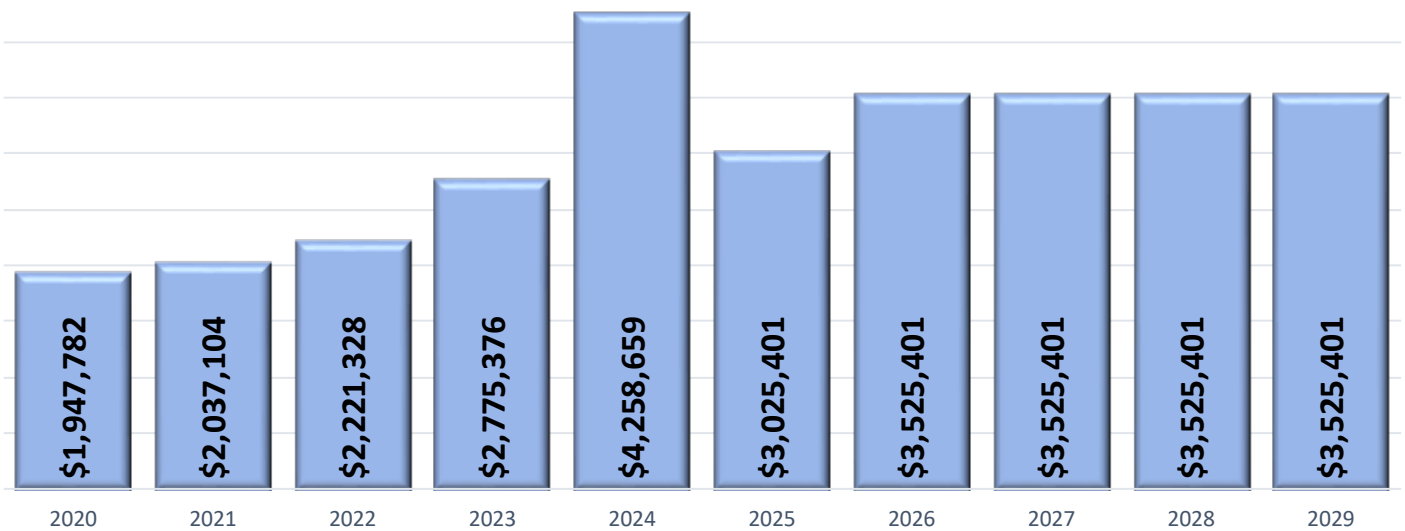
- Professional and Technical Services (410): A decrease is forecasted from FY24 (almost \$5 million) to FY26 (around \$3.76 million), after which costs are assumed to remain consistent.
- Communications (440): This category is projected to increase slightly from FY24 to FY25, then stabilize around \$77,000 annually for the remainder of the forecast period.
- Property Services (420): A moderate increase is assumed from FY25 to FY26, stabilizing at approximately \$690,000 annually thereafter.
- Utilities Services (450): These costs are anticipated to remain relatively stable and consistent throughout the forecast period, around \$1.84M.
- Tuition and Other Similar Payments (470), Travel/Mileage/Meeting Expense (430), Pupil Transportation (480), and Other Purchased Services (490): These categories are currently expected to increase from FY25 to FY26 and are then expected to be stable and consistent throughout the remainder of this forecast.

### 3.040 - Supplies & Materials

Expenditures for general supplies, instructional materials including textbooks and media material, bus fuel and tires, and all other maintenance supplies.



Supplies and Materials account for 2.60% of the district's total general fund spending.



#### Key Assumptions & Notes

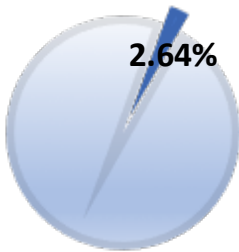
Supplies & Materials represent 2.60% of total expenditures and increased at a historical average annual rate of 24.79%. This category of expenditure is projected to decrease at an annual average rate of 2.49% through fiscal year 2029. The projected average annual rate of change is 27.28% less than the five year historical annual average.

Overall, total expenditures for supplies and materials are projected to decrease significantly from FY24's peak of over \$4.3 million to approximately \$3 million in FY25, then increase to \$3.53M in FY26 remaining stable annually through FY29.

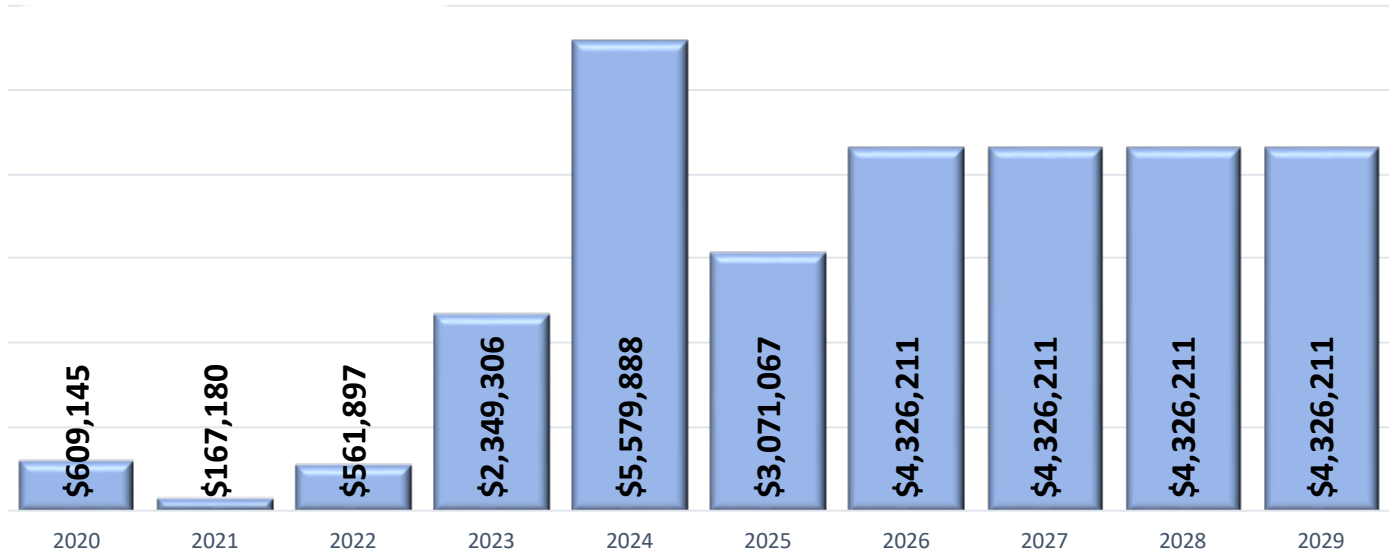
- General Supplies (510): This category is expected to see a sharp decline from \$2.4 million in FY24 to approximately \$1.9 million in FY26, maintaining this stable level through FY29. This remains the largest expenditure category.
- Supplies and Materials for Operation and Repair of Motor Vehicles (580): This category is forecasted to decrease from \$543,986 in FY24 to around \$404,458 in FY25, followed by a consistent increase to approximately \$416,616 annually from FY26 through FY29.
- Supplies and Materials for Operation Maintenance and Repair (570): These expenditures are projected to increase from \$340,211 in FY24 to \$434,127 in FY25, then show a slight increase to approximately \$450,777 annually from FY26 through FY29.
- Textbooks (520): Expenditures for this category decreased from almost \$1M in FY24 to approximately \$720,000 in FY25, and are projected to increase to almost \$750,000 annually from FY26 through FY29.

### 3.050 - Capital Outlay

This line includes expenditures for items having at least a five-year life expectancy, such as land, buildings, improvements of grounds, equipment, computers/technology, furnishings, and buses.



Capital Outlay account for 2.64% of the district's total general fund spending.



#### Key Assumptions & Notes

Capital Outlay represent 2.64% of total expenditures and increased at a historical average annual amount of \$824,112. This category of expenditure is projected to decrease at an annual average rate of \$250,735 through 2029. The projected average annual change is less than the five year historical annual average.

Overall, total capital outlay is projected to significantly decrease from approximately \$5.6M in FY24 to around \$3.1M in FY25. Following this sharp decline, total capital expenditures are expected to increase and stabilize at approximately \$4.33 million annually from FY26 through FY29.

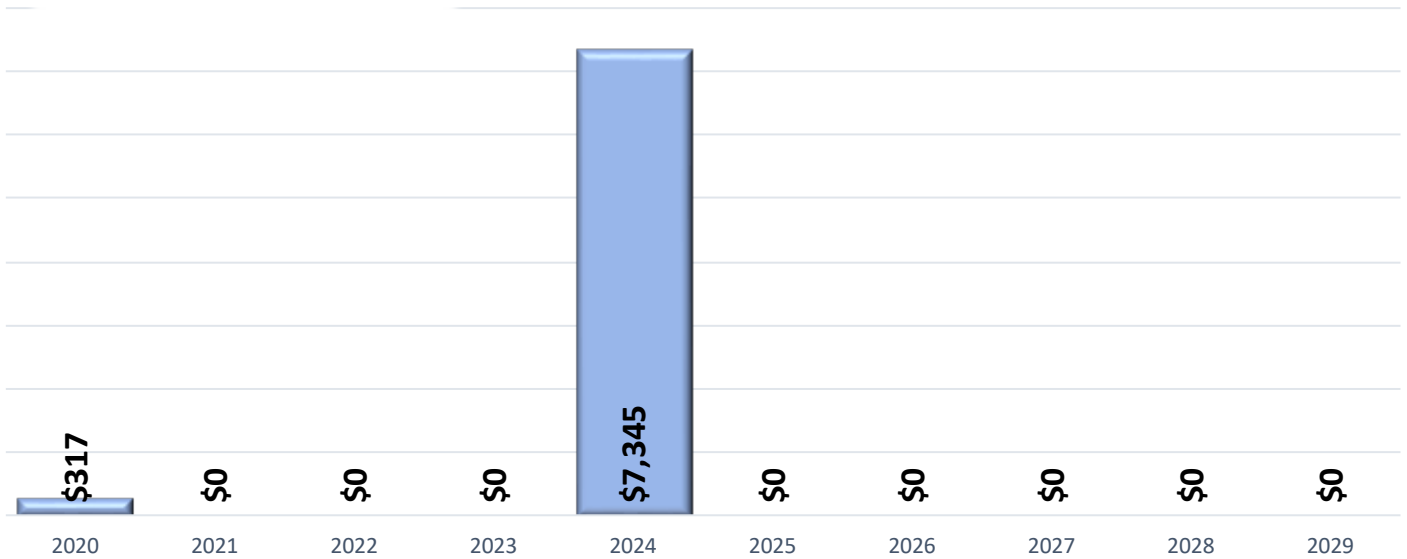
- Equipment (640): This category is forecasted for substantial growth, increasing from \$1.16M in FY24 to \$1.51M in FY25, then rising further to stabilize at \$2.56M annually from FY26 through FY29, becoming the largest component of capital outlay.
- Buildings (620): Expenditures for buildings are projected to decrease from \$2.19M in FY24 to \$1.51M in FY25, before increasing and stabilizing at approximately \$1.70M annually from FY26 through FY29.
- Improvements Other Than Buildings (630): There was a one time large expenditure of \$1.80M in FY24, but there are no further expenditures expected in this category for FY25-FY29.
- Vehicles (650): This category anticipates almost \$60,000 in expenditures for FY25 and approximately \$70,000 each year, for FY26-29.

### 3.060-4.060 - Intergovernmental & Debt

These lines account for pass through payments, as well as monies received by a district on behalf of another governmental entity, plus principal and interest payments for general fund borrowing.



Intergovernmental and Debt account for 0.00% of the district's total general fund spending.

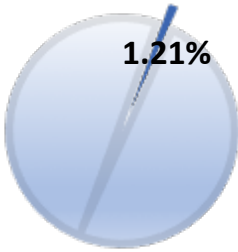


#### Key Assumptions & Notes

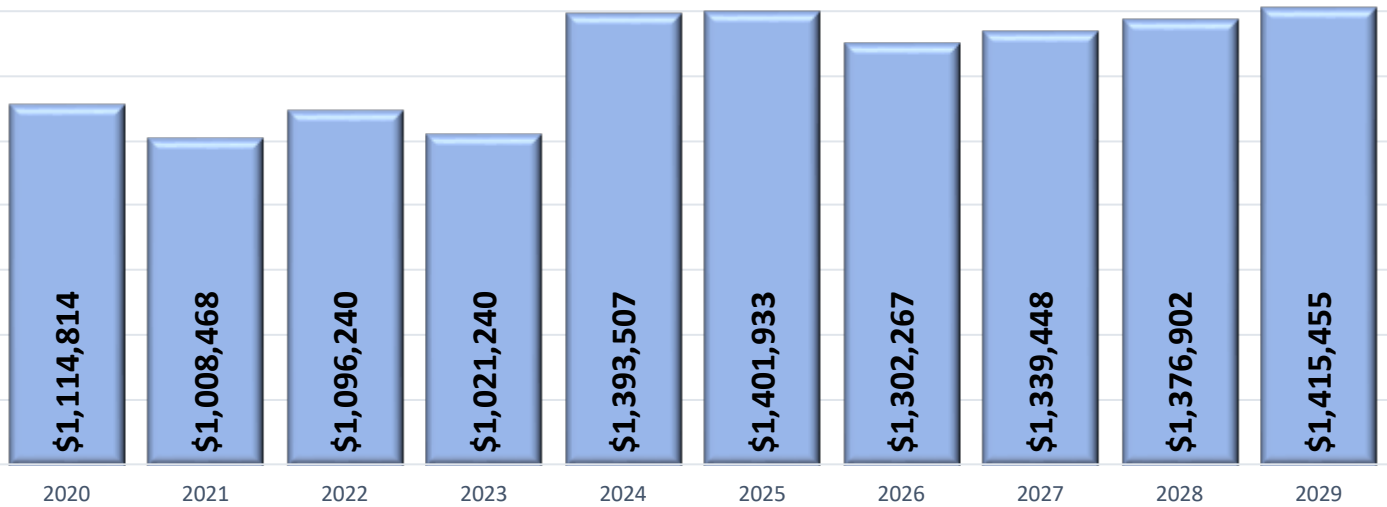
The Intergovernmental/Debt expenditure category details general fund debt issued by the District.  
 In FY24, this expense was interest due to STRS.

### 4.300 - Other Objects

Primary components for this expenditure line are membership dues and fees, ESC contract deductions, County Auditor/Treasurer fees, audit expenses, and election expenses.



Other Objects account for 1.21% of the district's total general fund spending.



#### Key Assumptions & Notes

Other Objects represent 1.21% of total expenditures and increased at a historical average annual rate of 12.72%. This category of expenditure is projected to grow at an annual average rate of 0.39% through fiscal year 2029. The projected average annual rate of change is 12.33% less than the five year historical annual average.

Total "other expenditures" are projected to remain stable at approximately \$1.4M from FY24-FY25.

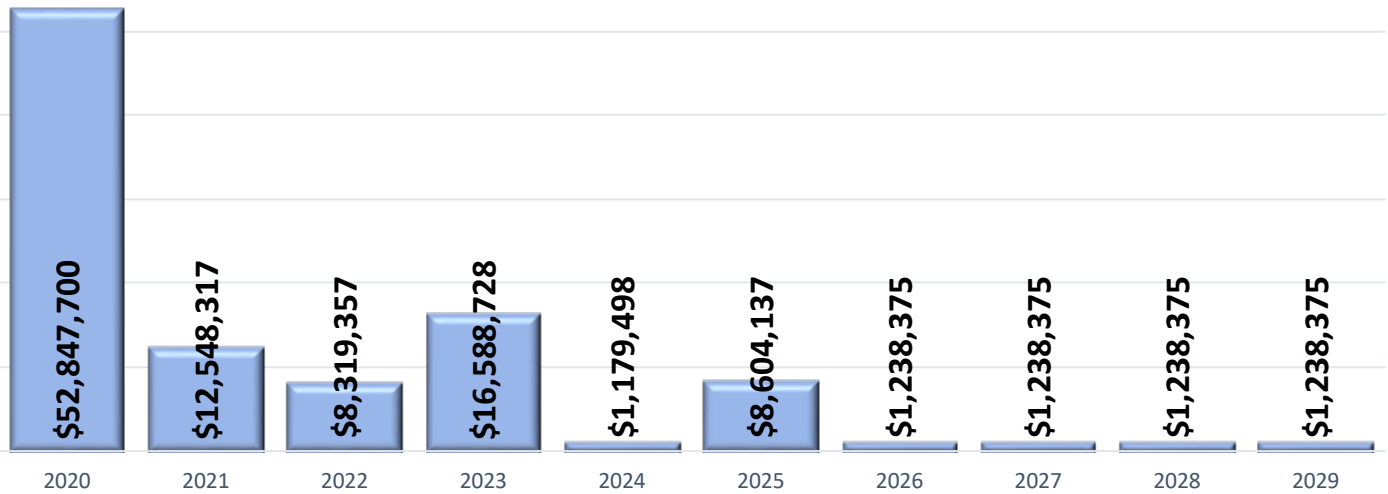
- Dues and Fees (840): This category is forecasted to show a consistent, gradual increase throughout the period, rising from \$585,845 in FY24 to \$731,715 by FY29.
- Insurance (850): A significant jump is anticipated from \$378,193 in FY24 to \$684,000 in FY25, where it then stabilizes and remains constant through FY29.
- Other Objects (860): This category shows a notable increase from \$55,000 in FY24 to \$244,426 in FY25, but then is assumed to no additional expenditures from FY26 onwards.

### 5.040 - Total Other Financing Uses

Operating transfers-out, advances out to other funds, and all other general fund financing uses.



Other Uses account for 7.40% of the district's total general fund spending.



#### Key Assumptions & Notes

	FORECASTED					
	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029
Transfers Out	941,122	8,365,762	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000
Advances Out	238,375	238,375	238,375	238,375	238,375	238,375
Other Financing Uses	-	-	-	-	-	-

Other uses includes expenditures that are generally classified as non-operating. It is typically in the form of advances-out which are then repaid into the general fund from the other district funds. In 2024 the district had advances-out and has advances-out forecasted through fiscal year 2029. The district can also move general funds permanently to other funds, and as the schedule above presents, the district has transfers forecasted through fiscal year 2029. The table above presents the district's planned advances and transfers. The district can also have other uses of funds which is reflected in the table above.

## Lorain City School District

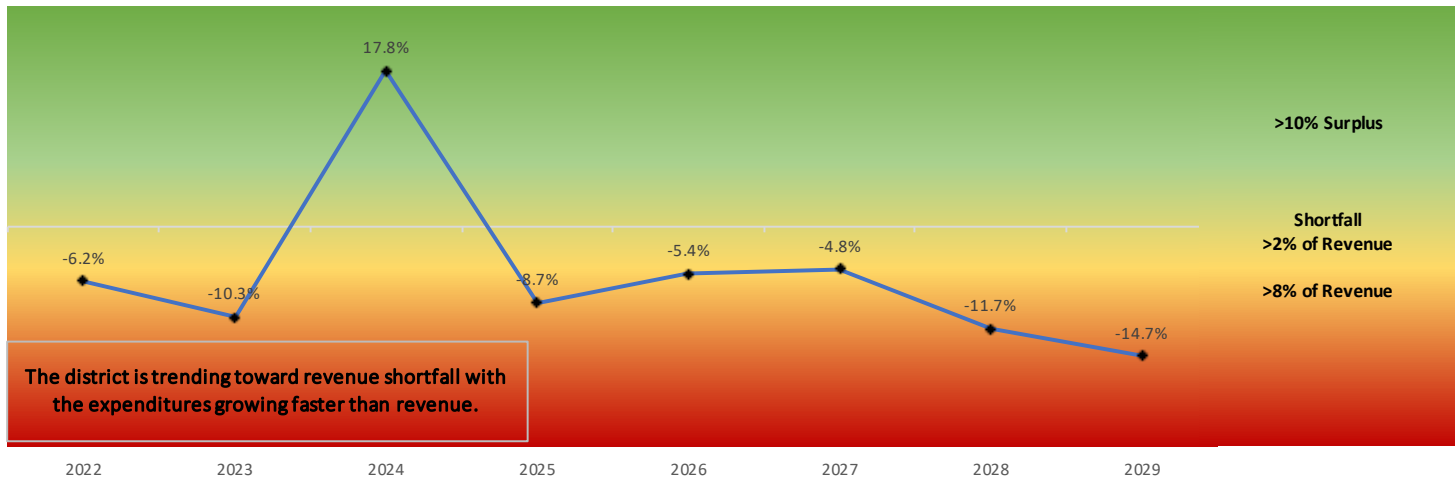
Five Year Forecast

May Fiscal Year 2025

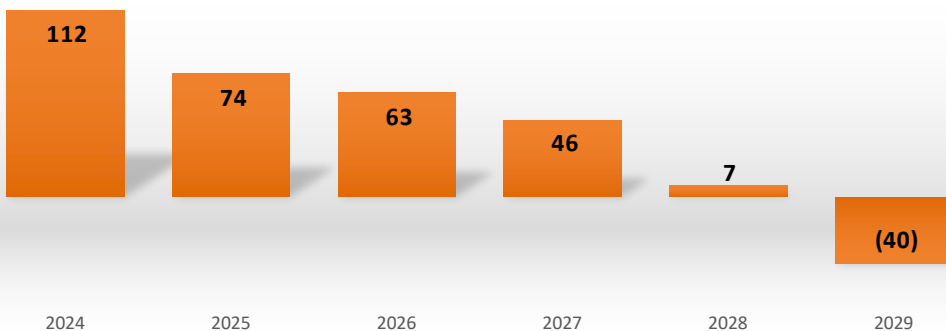
Fiscal Year:	Actual	FORECASTED				
	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029
<b>Revenue:</b>						
1.010 - General Property Tax (Real Estate)	18,835,809	20,357,239	21,339,763	19,064,864	17,266,316	17,622,536
1.020 - Public Utility Personal Property	2,531,663	1,842,451	2,725,636	1,838,047	1,339,059	1,386,517
1.030 - Income Tax	-	-	-	-	-	-
1.035 - Unrestricted Grants-in-Aid	59,038,633	60,294,706	60,977,505	61,067,812	57,239,715	56,884,201
1.040 - Restricted Grants-in-Aid	10,951,058	9,896,146	9,858,638	9,886,879	9,770,701	9,716,527
1.050 - State Share-Local Property Taxes	2,525,134	2,613,353	2,784,720	2,679,834	2,534,149	2,599,599
1.060 - All Other Operating Revenues	5,077,609	4,054,469	3,024,885	2,889,189	2,777,583	2,686,527
<b>1.070 - Total Revenue</b>	<b>98,959,906</b>	<b>99,058,364</b>	<b>100,711,147</b>	<b>97,426,625</b>	<b>90,927,523</b>	<b>90,895,907</b>
<b>Other Financing Sources:</b>						
2.010 - Proceeds from Sale of Notes	-	-	-	-	-	-
2.020 - State Emergency Loans and Adv	-	-	-	-	-	-
2.040 - Operating Transfers-In	8,638	4,269	4,269	4,269	4,269	4,269
2.050 - Advances-In	15,341,957	238,375	238,375	238,375	238,375	238,375
2.060 - All Other Financing Sources	16,888,117	7,776,721	(192)	(192)	(192)	(192)
<b>2.070 - Total Other Financing Sources</b>	<b>32,238,712</b>	<b>8,019,365</b>	<b>242,452</b>	<b>242,452</b>	<b>242,452</b>	<b>242,452</b>
<b>2.080 - Total Rev &amp; Other Sources</b>	<b>131,198,619</b>	<b>107,077,728</b>	<b>100,953,599</b>	<b>97,669,077</b>	<b>91,169,974</b>	<b>91,138,359</b>
<b>Expenditures:</b>						
3.010 - Personnel Services	59,463,104	62,374,615	59,045,341	58,554,367	60,170,002	61,674,252
3.020 - Employee Benefits	20,898,010	22,272,743	21,393,982	20,914,592	22,251,263	23,651,386
3.030 - Purchased Services	15,105,149	15,592,277	15,592,277	15,592,277	15,592,277	15,592,277
3.040 - Supplies and Materials	4,258,659	3,025,401	3,525,401	3,525,401	3,525,401	3,525,401
3.050 - Capital Outlay	5,579,888	3,071,067	4,326,211	4,326,211	4,326,211	4,326,211
Intergovernmental & Debt Service	7,345	-	-	-	-	-
4.300 - Other Objects	1,393,507	1,401,933	1,302,267	1,339,448	1,376,902	1,415,455
<b>4.500 - Total Expenditures</b>	<b>106,705,662</b>	<b>107,738,037</b>	<b>105,185,480</b>	<b>104,252,296</b>	<b>107,242,056</b>	<b>110,184,982</b>
<b>Other Financing Uses</b>						
5.010 - Operating Transfers-Out	941,122	8,365,762	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000
5.020 - Advances-Out	238,375	238,375	238,375	238,375	238,375	238,375
5.030 - All Other Financing Uses	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>5.040 - Total Other Financing Uses</b>	<b>1,179,498</b>	<b>8,604,137</b>	<b>1,238,375</b>	<b>1,238,375</b>	<b>1,238,375</b>	<b>1,238,375</b>
<b>5.050 - Total Exp and Other Financing Uses</b>	<b>107,885,159</b>	<b>116,342,174</b>	<b>106,423,855</b>	<b>105,490,671</b>	<b>108,480,431</b>	<b>111,423,357</b>
<b>6.010 - Excess of Rev Over/(Under) Exp</b>	<b>23,313,459</b>	<b>(9,264,445)</b>	<b>(5,470,255)</b>	<b>(7,821,594)</b>	<b>(17,310,457)</b>	<b>(20,284,998)</b>
<b>7.010 - Cash Balance July 1 (No Levies)</b>	<b>9,615,170</b>	<b>32,928,629</b>	<b>23,664,184</b>	<b>18,193,929</b>	<b>10,372,334</b>	<b>(6,938,123)</b>
<b>7.020 - Cash Balance June 30 (No Levies)</b>	<b>32,928,629</b>	<b>23,664,184</b>	<b>18,193,929</b>	<b>10,372,334</b>	<b>(6,938,123)</b>	<b>(27,223,120)</b>
<b>Reservations</b>						
8.010 - Estimated Encumbrances June 30	3,673,148	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000
9.080 - Reservations Subtotal	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>10.010 - Fund Bal June 30 for Cert of App</b>	<b>29,255,482</b>	<b>22,164,184</b>	<b>16,693,929</b>	<b>8,872,334</b>	<b>(8,438,123)</b>	<b>(28,723,120)</b>
<b>Rev from Replacement/Renewal Levies</b>						
11.010 & 11.020 - Renewal Levies	-	-	-	2,994,217	5,990,156	6,015,739
11.030 - Cumulative Balance of Levies	-	-	-	2,994,217	8,984,373	15,000,112
<b>12.010 - Fund Bal June 30 for Cert of Obligations</b>	<b>29,255,482</b>	<b>22,164,184</b>	<b>16,693,929</b>	<b>11,866,551</b>	<b>546,250</b>	<b>(13,723,008)</b>
<b>Revenue from New Levies</b>						
13.010 & 13.020 - New Levies	-	-	-	-	-	-
13.030 - Cumulative Balance of New Levies	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>15.010 - Unreserved Fund Balance June 30</b>	<b>29,255,482</b>	<b>22,164,184</b>	<b>16,693,929</b>	<b>11,866,551</b>	<b>546,250</b>	<b>(13,723,008)</b>

### Financial Health Indicators

#### Revenue Surplus/(Shortfall) - Current Forecast



#### Days Cash on Hand - Current Forecast

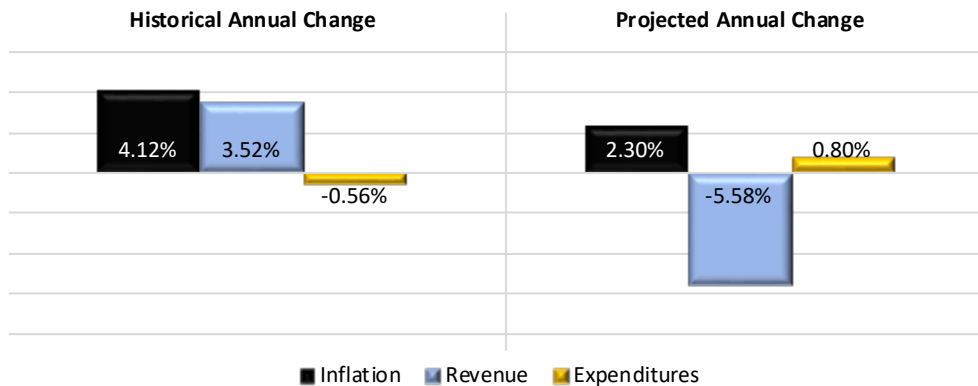


Days cash on hand is projected to decline and is projected to be negative by 2029.

\*based on 365 days

#### 5-Year Average Annual Change - Inflation, Revenue and Expenditures

Average projected annual expenditure change is less than inflation, and more than revenue.

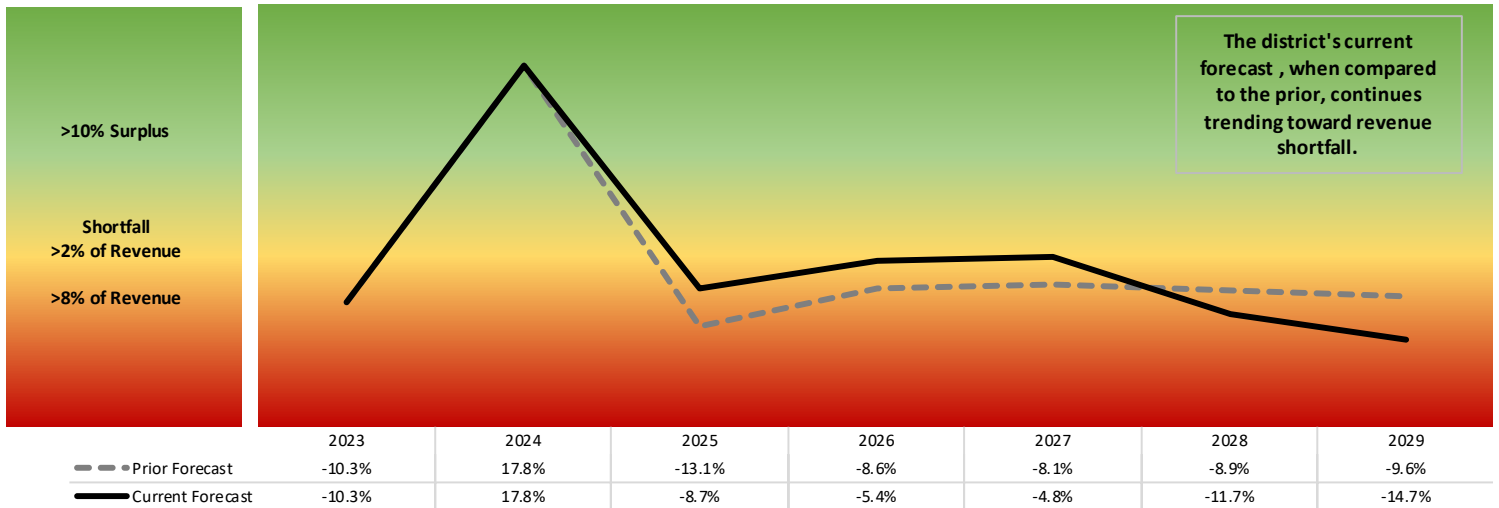


CPI (Inflation) Source: Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis (January 1, 2025)  
<https://alfred.stlouisfed.org>

## Current to Prior Forecast Comparison

Lorain City School District

### Revenue Surplus/(Shortfall) - Current Compared to Prior Forecast



### Current Year Variance - November to May Forecast

Compared to the November forecast, revenue is trending \$234,724 or 0.22% less. This is primarily due to a decrease in Public Utility Personal Property, Unrestricted Grants-in-Aid, and State Share of Local Property Taxes.

Expenses are anticipated to come in approximately \$4,000,000 or 3% less than expected in the November forecast. Less spending than expected, happened in the following areas: Personnel Services, Purchased Services, Supplies, and Capital Outlay.

This has a total effect of \$3,782,730 increase cash balance as compared to November.

### Revenue and Expenditure Variances - Current Compared to Prior Forecast

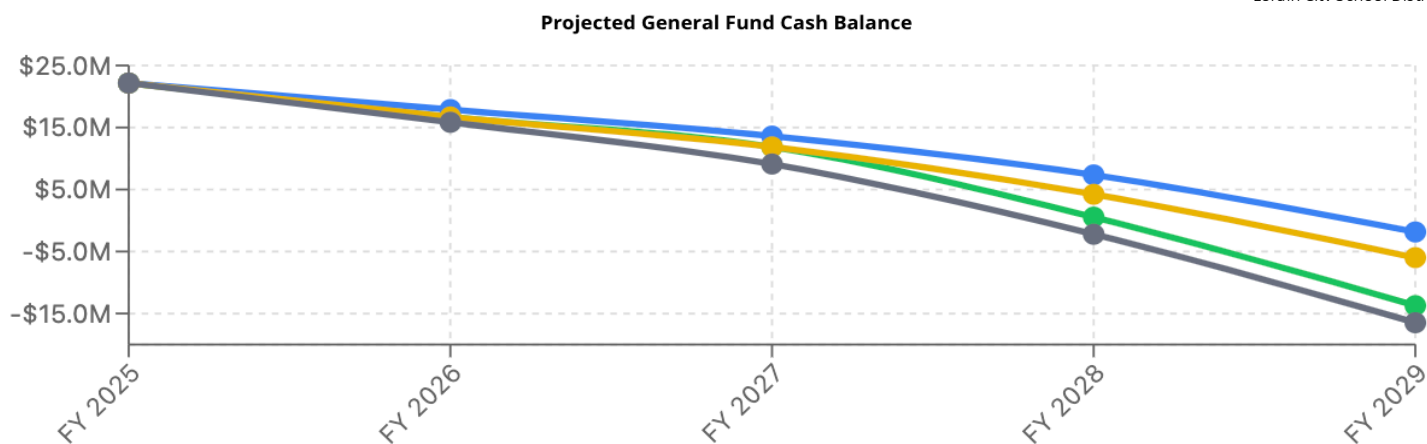
	Revenue Variance	
<b>Cumulative Unfavorable Revenue Variance</b>	<b>-4.74%</b>	<b>(\$25,025,815)</b>
	<u>Largest Revenue Variances</u>	
1.035, 1.040 State	<b>-4.40%</b>	<b>(\$23,252,745)</b>
1.060 All Other 2.xx Other Sources	<b>-0.37%</b>	<b>(\$1,968,209)</b>
1.01 Real Estate	<b>0.15%</b>	<b>\$806,939</b>
All Other Revenue Categories	<b>-0.12%</b>	<b>(\$611,799)</b>

The current revenue forecast is down by 4.74% compared to the prior forecast.

**NET cumulative forecast impact for the forecast period 2025 - 2029 of Revenue and Expense variances is 0.62% (or \$5,986,242).**

The current forecast for expenditures is down by 5.35% compared to the prior forecast.

Expenditure Variance		
<b>-5.35%</b>	<b>(\$31,012,057)</b>	<b>Cumulative Favorable Expenditure Variance</b>
	<u>Largest Expenditure Variances</u>	
<b>-3.48%</b>	<b>(\$20,173,332)</b>	3.01 Salaries
<b>-0.80%</b>	<b>(\$4,645,458)</b>	3.02 Benefits
<b>-0.50%</b>	<b>(\$2,915,293)</b>	3.04 Supplies
<b>-0.57%</b>	<b>(\$3,277,974)</b>	All Other Expenditure Categories



- ↻ Proposed Forecast - House Budget with Guarantee Reduction
- ↻ Fair School Funding Plan - Continued Phase-In
- ↻ House Budget with No Guarantee Reduction
- ↻ Governor's Budget

As the State of Ohio continues its biennial budget process, the final outcome of the legislation—expected to be finalized in June or July—remains uncertain at the time of this forecast. Therefore, the district has developed four financial forecast scenarios, each reflecting a different possible version of the state funding formula. The graph above illustrates projections based on the House Budget with Guarantee reductions in FY28 & FY29 (the proposed May Forecast), the Fair School Funding Plan with Continued Phase-In, the House Budget with no Guarantee reductions, and the Governor's proposed budget.

All scenarios begin with a cash balance of approximately \$22 million in 2025. Across all models, the district's cash balance is projected to decline steadily over the five-year forecast period, resulting in a negative balance by FY2029. The magnitude of the deficit varies depending on the funding assumptions applied.

- **Proposed Forecast – House Budget with Guarantee Reduction (Green):**

This scenario reflects the most significant fiscal impact, with the district's cash balance declining sharply and reaching approximately  $-\$13$  million by FY2029.

- **Fair School Funding Plan – Continued Phase-In (Blue):**

Among the four scenarios, this model yields the most favorable outcome. The decline in cash balance is more moderate, ending with a projected balance of around  $-\$3$  million in FY2029.

- **House Budget with No Guarantee Reduction (Orange):**

This scenario results in a less severe decline compared to the proposed House Budget with Guarantee Reductions, but a greater deficit than the Fair School Funding Plan. The projected cash balance in FY2029 is approximately  $-\$6$  million.

- **Governor's Budget (Gray):**

This model closely aligns with the green scenario in the early years but projects a slightly greater shortfall by FY2029, with a negative balance nearing  $-\$14$  million, the most adverse fiscal outcome in the comparison.

#### Conclusion

Ohio's school funding formula is currently uncertain, as the final biennial budget has not yet been approved. Since funding levels and policy details may change during the legislative process, this financial forecast is based on the most recent proposal—the House version (with Guarantee reductions). If the final budget includes significant changes to state funding or other key aspects of the district's financial plan, an updated five-year forecast will be prepared and submitted to the Board of Education for approval in July.

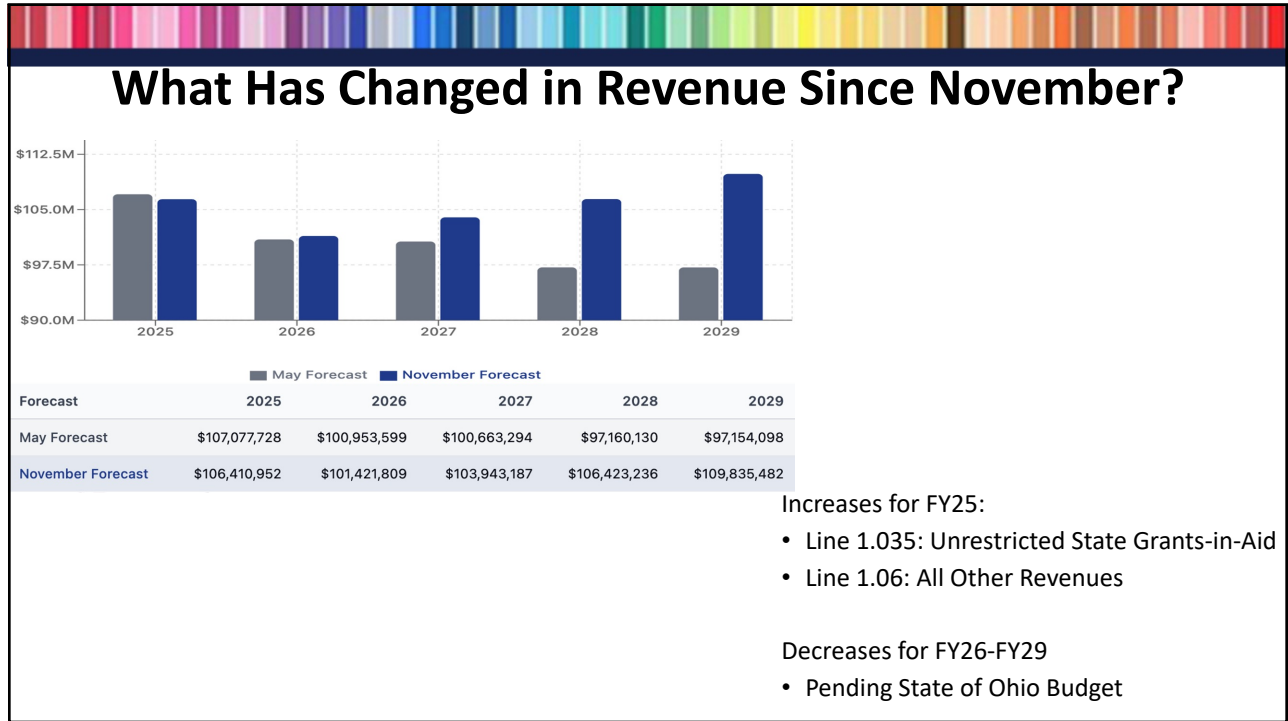


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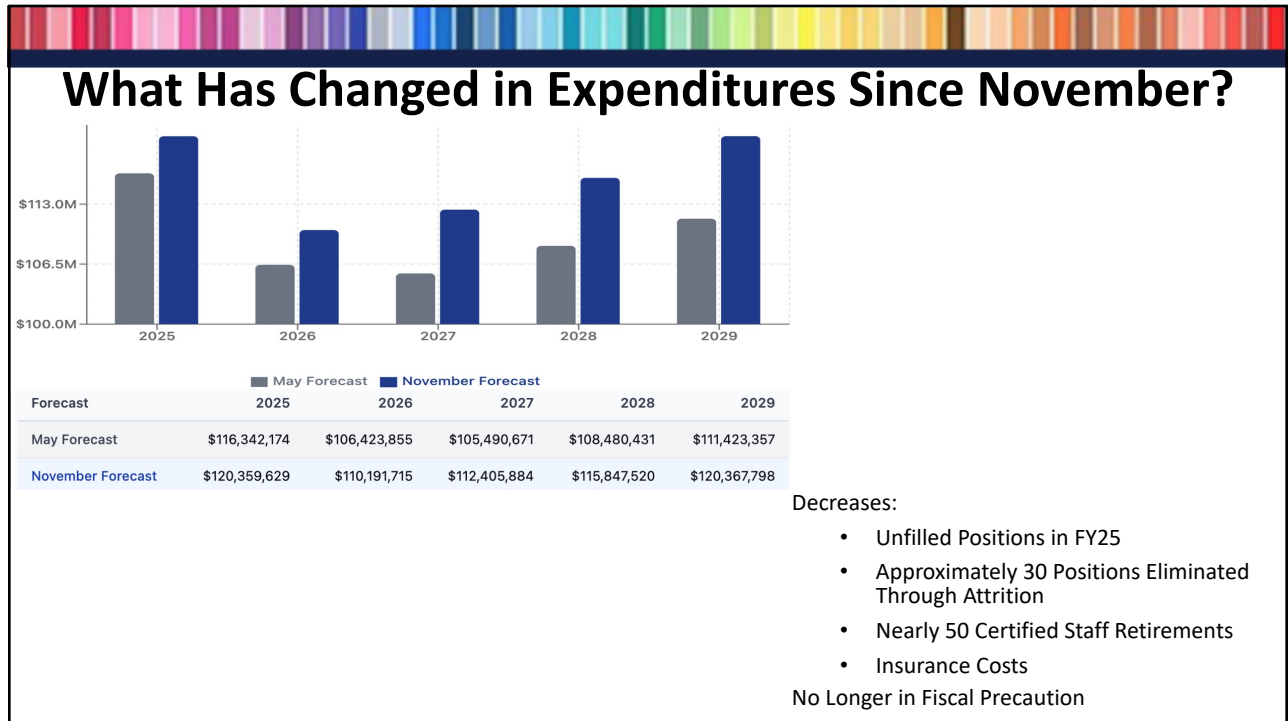
### Simplified Five Year Forecast

	Fiscal Year 2025	Fiscal Year 2026	Fiscal Year 2027	Fiscal Year 2028	Fiscal Year 2029
Beginning Balance	32,928,629	23,664,184	18,193,929	10,372,334	(6,938,123)
+ Revenue	107,077,728	100,953,599	97,669,077	91,169,974	91,138,359
+ Proposed Renew/Replacement Levies	-	-	2,994,217	8,984,373	15,000,112
- Expenditures	(116,342,174)	(106,423,855)	(105,490,671)	(108,480,431)	(111,423,357)
= Revenue Surplus or Deficit Spending	(9,264,445)	(5,470,255)	(4,827,377)	(8,326,084)	(5,284,886)
- Estimated Encumbrances	(1,500,000)	(1,500,000)	(1,500,000)	(1,500,000)	(1,500,000)
Ending Cash Balance with renewal levies	22,164,184	16,693,929	11,866,551	546,250	(13,723,008)
Analysis Without Renewal Levies Included:					
Revenue Surplus or Deficit w/o Levies	(9,264,445)	(5,470,255)	(7,821,594)	(17,310,457)	(20,284,998)
- Estimated Encumbrances	(1,500,000)	(1,500,000)	(1,500,000)	(1,500,000)	(1,500,000)
Ending Cash Balance w/o Levies	22,164,184	16,693,929	8,872,334	(8,438,123)	(28,723,120)

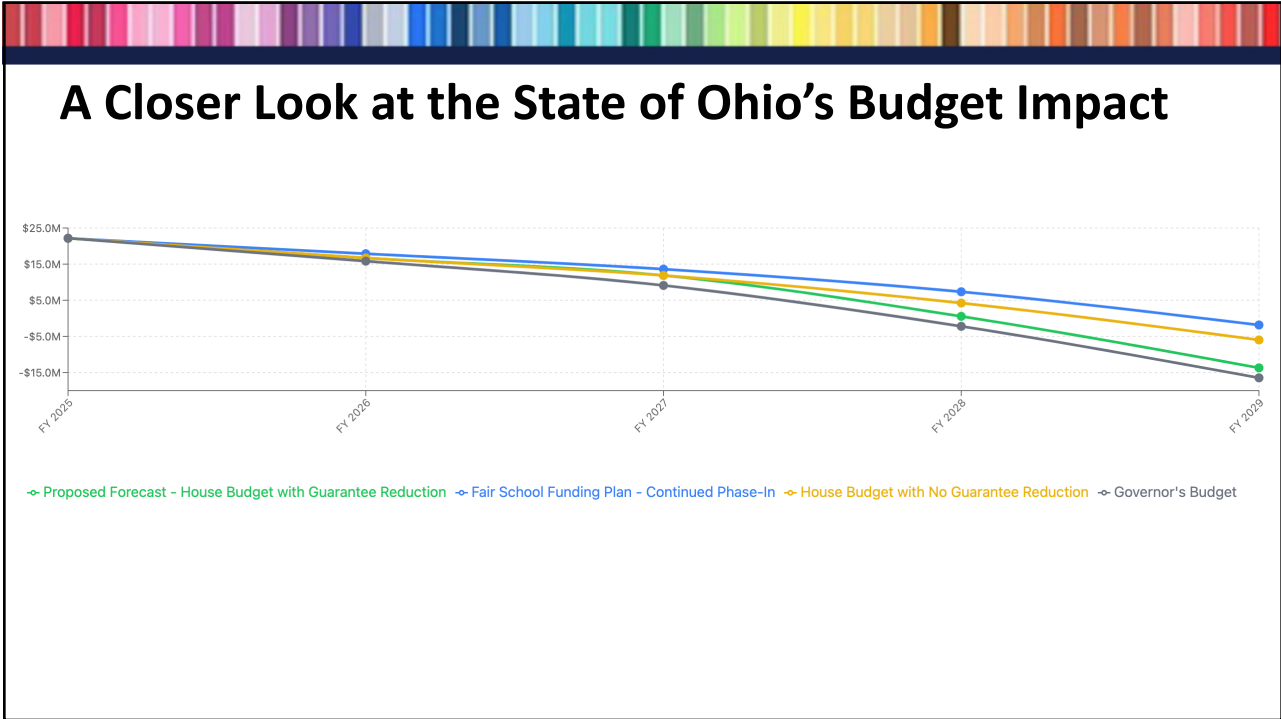
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### Planning For Future Forecasts

- State of Ohio – Final Budget Updates
- Continued Evaluation of Programs, Services, and Initiatives
- Current Levies and/or New Levy

6



# Historical Information & Previous Assumptions

Lorain City Schools – Five Year Forecast – May 2021

## **LORAIN CITY SCHOOLS FIVE YEAR FORECAST – May 2021 Submission**

**INCLUDES: GENERAL FUND (Fund 001),  
EMERGENCY LEVY (Fund 016),  
Forecast Date as of 5/1/2021**

### **THE FIVE YEAR FORECAST INTRODUCTION & PROCESS**

The state of Ohio requires all school districts to submit five year forecasts every May and November. This forecast satisfies the requirement of the May 2021 submission. The Five Year Forecast process is a result of many factors and hundreds of assumptions. The process starts with the current year revenue and cost run rates. Additions, changes or deletions are bench marked from those current year revenue and cost streams. Input is gathered from:

- The CEO of Lorain City Schools regarding futuristic projections of where the district is headed, and what revenue or cost components may be affected.
- The Lorain City Schools leadership team where discussions are held as to adds, changes or deletions to the current run rate of expenses. The changes are pertaining to quantities of personnel and/or new projects, or programs no longer needed.
- The Ohio Department of Education as to the ODE's estimate of next year's State Foundation revenues.
- The assumption that there will not be of any "new money" levies passed after November 2020.
- The actuary of the Lake Erie Regional Council (LERC) regarding projected health insurance costs for the next five years.
- The Lorain County Auditor as that entity provides information regarding Real Estate and Personal Property Tax revenues. Also, the District needs to be aware of when levies are expiring to properly project those revenue changes.
- Reviews of historical revenue and cost run rates.
- Review of Collective Bargaining Agreements (CBAs) and Board Policy so as to properly incorporate changes to salaries and wages.
- Review by the Lorain City Schools Treasurer's Office to ensure reasonability of assumptions.

**TAX VALUATIONS**

Tax valuations from the Lorain County Auditor for tax years 2018, 2019, and 2020 are listed below. Tax valuations are the basis by which millage rates are multiplied to achieve tax revenue for public entities through tax bills. Assessed tax valuations (35% of market value) for Lorain City Schools from the Lorain County Auditor are as follows:

**Assessed Values from Lorain County Auditor**

Type of Property	Tax Year 2018	Tax Year 2019	Tax Year 2020
Residential/Agriculture	424,347,670	450,714,000	449,640,660
Commercial/Industrial	116,274,050	129,065,310	125,258,630
Personal Public Utility	26,150,500	27,364,030	29,217,870
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$566,772,220</b>	<b>\$607,143,340</b>	<b>\$604,117,160</b>

**Millage Information (General Fund)**

	Original Year Voted	Number of Years	Full Mills	Res/Agr Effective Mills	Last CY Collected
Inside Millage			3.44	3.44	
Current Expense	1976	Continuing	28.20	9.78	
Current Expense	1992	5 years	23.85	14.91	2026
Emergency Levy (\$3.1M)	2012	7 years	5.56	5.56	2026
<b>Totals</b>			<b><u>61.05</u></b>	<b><u>33.69</u></b>	

The explanation of millage data is as follows: Any **voted** millage (outside millage) is subject to House Bill 920 accounting. In the mid-1970s with extreme inflation, the state of Ohio legislated a bill (HB 920) whereby as housing valuations rose, the “effective mills” would decrease to make the net voted tax revenue equal to the revenue that was initially voted in. As a result, there are two levies listed above which have **voted** full mills at 28.20 and 23.85 respectively. However, the actual millage number being multiplied by tax valuation figures is 10.39 and 15.85 respectively...the “effective millage rate”. This means that the original voted millage for those two levies has been reduced by 50% of its original value because of inflation and HB 920.

Inside millage is millage that is “*inside the constitution of the state of Ohio*” and is allowed by law. It is not subject to HB 920 accounting. The inside millage of Lorain City Schools is 3.44.

**School Funding in the State of Ohio**

**How School Funding is Distributed**

Public school districts use a combination of state funds, local sources such as property taxes (and in some cases income taxes) and federal funds. The amount of state funds that a district receives is based on a formula that takes into account the student enrollment, the property wealth of the district and many other factors.

**About School Funding**

The Department of Education’s General Revenue Fund budget represents the largest component of primary and secondary education. These funds, along with profits from the Ohio Lottery are used to fund Ohio’s 611 public school districts, 49 joint vocational school districts, and approximately 381 public community schools. They also fund the activities of the Ohio Department of Education, including funding for early childhood education, pre-school special education, assessments, and the A-F report card.

**REVENUES and OTHER FINANCING SOURCES**

**Forecast Line 1.010: General Property Tax Revenue (Real Estate)**

General Property Real Estate tax revenues are the expected tax collections on residential properties, commercial and industrial properties, and public utilities located within the school district. Real estate tax collection estimates are communicated to the school districts by the Lorain County Auditor.

Levies:

- The recent history of levies for Lorain City Schools can be reviewed below:

On Ballot	Amount	Type of Levy	Result
Nov 2008	4.90 Mills	Real Estate	Failed
Nov 2009	6.43 Mills	Real Estate	Failed
May 2010	8.97 Mills	Real Estate	Failed
Nov 2010	9.12 Mills	Real Estate	Failed
<b>May 2011</b>	<b>23.85 Mills</b>	<b>Renewal Levy</b>	<b>Passed</b>
Nov 2011	1.5%	Income Tax	Failed
<b>Nov 2012</b>	<b>\$3.1million</b>	<b>Emergency</b>	<b>Passed</b>
<b>Nov 2015</b>	<b>23.85</b>	<b>Renewal Levy</b>	<b>Passed</b>
<b>Nov 2019</b>	<b>\$3.1million</b>	<b>Renewal Emergency</b>	<b>Passed</b>
<b>Nov 2020</b>	<b>23.85 Mills</b>	<b>Renewal Levy</b>	<b>Passed</b>

- **23.85 Mill Renewal Levy:** This levy is a combination of three levies (7.18mill, 6.77mill, and 9.9mill) that originated in 1991 and 1992. This levy generates \$9.9million/year for the district. The district has since passed this renewal levy again in November 2015 and November 2020. This renewal will expire again with the last collection year being calendar year 2026.
- **\$3.1Million Emergency:** The voters of the district passed an Emergency Real Estate Tax levy in November 2012, which generates \$3.1million a year for the district. The first twelve months of revenue was fully

realized in the fiscal year 2013-14. This levy was renewed in November 2019 and expires in December 2026.

- Because of previous large deficits, Lorain City Schools borrowed against the two passed levies (May 2011 and November 2012) via Tax Anticipation Notes (TAN). This is a legal debt instrument that a school district can use and receive proceeds by borrowing against its own projected revenues. Those borrowings have now been paid off fully. Additionally, Lorain City Schools completed a Reduction in Force (RIF) plan in the spring of 2012 to help mitigate the upcoming financial deficits.
- At a 100% collection rate, the district could receive just under \$23million in revenues from property taxes.
- The average collection rate for the district is approximately 75%-80%.

Fiscal Year 20-21: Based on tax collections from this fiscal year, real estate tax revenues are expected to be 1.7% lower than the previous fiscal year, which is \$18,298,204.

Fiscal Years 2022-2025: It is assumed that real estate revenues will be reduced by \$100,000 per year because of reductions in tax valuations.

Real Estate (R/E) tax revenues are as follows in the forecast (in millions of dollars):

	Actual	Actual	Actual	Act/Fcst	Forecast	Forecast	Forecast	Forecast
	FY17-18	FY18-19	FY19-20	FY20-21	FY21-22	FY22-23	FY23-24	FY24-25
<b>R/E Rev</b>	\$17.8	\$18.6	\$18.6	\$18.3	\$18.2	\$18.1	\$18.0	\$17.9

*In millions of dollars*

**Forecast Line 1.020 Tangible Personal Property Tax Revenue**

This category is paid by commercial/industrial property owners on the value of their inventory, furnishings and equipment. The state of Ohio is phasing out this local revenue source and has replaced it with a statewide Commercial Activity Tax (CAT). Beginning in fiscal year 2009-10, school districts no longer received this revenue other than Public Utility Personal Property tax revenue, which is also reducing. The state of Ohio reimbursed some of the lost revenue in a “hold harmless” manner via a Personal Property Tax Reimbursement (on forecast line 1.050), but the reimbursement did not reimburse 100% of lost revenue. Additionally, a new and important development was projected in the state of Ohio budget passed in June 2011 in that this Personal Property Tax Reimbursement phased out much sooner than previously projected for Lorain City Schools.

Further analysis about this segment of revenue reveals that years ago, Lorain City Schools was realizing over \$6M per year for Tangible Personal Property revenue (including the state of Ohio reimbursement). Because of the state phase out in favor of the Commercial Activity Tax (which is not realized directly by each school district), the revenue from this activity has gone from millions of dollars per year to just a few thousand dollars per year for Lorain City Schools.

Fiscal Year 20-21: Based on tax collections from this fiscal year, tangible personal property tax revenues are expected to be 7.9% higher than the previous fiscal year.

Fiscal Years 2022-2025: It is assumed that tangible personal property tax revenues will decrease by 5% per year because of tax valuation reductions in the school district.

For comparison purposes, Personal Property Tax (PPT) revenues from fiscal year 2011-12 through fiscal year 2024-25 are shown below:

	Act	Act	Act/Fcst	Fcst	Fcst	Fcst	Fcst
	FY18-19	FY19-20	FY20-21	FY21-22	FY22-23	FY23-24	FY24-25
<b>PPT Rev</b>	1.4	1.93	2.08	1.98	1.9	1.78	1.69

*In millions of dollars*

**Line 1.035 Unrestricted Grants in Aid (State Foundation)**

District Payment Reports:

Payments to city, local and exempted village school districts are calculated from data reported by the district, such as the number of students enrolled in the district, and are made twice each month according to a schedule published each spring. Since the data is updated throughout the year, the annual amount due to the district is calculated for each payment and the district receives approximately 1/24th of the annual amount.

State Foundation Funding for Lorain City Schools

The state foundation revenue (line 1.035) for Lorain City Schools consists of two components. The first component is the summation of revenues from the Ohio Department of Education District Foundation Settlement Report. A detailed line-by-line explanation can be found on the ODE website. The second component of line 1.035 is revenue from the state of Ohio casinos.

The most current biennium budget was implemented on July 1, 2019. Due to the financial losses caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, the governor of Ohio adjusted the funding amounts that went to each school district. In May of 2020, it was announced funding would be cut by 21% for each year of the biennium budget (FY20 and FY21). For Lorain City Schools, that would have been a loss of over \$3,000,000 each year. Due to the poverty rate in the district and the district’s reliance on state funding, the loss of funding was capped at just under \$945,000 each year.

In January of 2021, the Governor signed an executive order to lower the reduction to the state foundation funding formula. Initially, the district was going to have a loss of \$945,000. Now the district will only have a loss of \$425,000 for the 20-21 school year.

Fiscal Year 2021: According to updated reports from the Ohio Department of Education, the district is expected to receive a reduced amount of \$82 million for the 2021 fiscal year.

Fiscal Years 2022-2025: With the uncertainty of state funding going forward, no increase is assumed through fiscal year 2025.

**Line 1.035 Unrestricted Grants in Aid (State Foundation) (continued)**

State Foundation Funding for Lorain City Schools

The second component of line 1.035 is revenue from the state of Ohio casinos. Conservative estimates are that school districts will receive \$50 per pupil per year.

Fiscal Year 2021: The current estimate for casino revenue is \$158,821.

Fiscal Years 2022-2025: Based on previous trending and enrollment numbers, a 5% decrease is anticipated each year.

Summarized totals for State Foundation revenue on line 1.035 are as follows:

	Actual	Actual	Actual	Act/Fcst	Forecast	Forecast	Forecast	Forecast
	FY17-18	FY18-19	FY19-20	FY20-21	FY21-22	FY22-23	FY23-24	FY24-25
Foundation	\$81.20	\$83.50	\$82.40	\$82.02	\$82.02	\$82.02	\$82.02	\$82.02
Casino	\$0.30	\$0.30	\$0.30	\$0.16	\$0.15	\$0.14	\$0.14	\$0.13
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$81.50</b>	<b>\$83.80</b>	<b>\$82.70</b>	<b>\$82.18</b>	<b>\$82.17</b>	<b>\$82.16</b>	<b>\$82.16</b>	<b>\$82.15</b>

*In millions of dollars*

**Line 1.040 Restricted Grants-In-Aid (Economic Disadvantaged and Career and Technical Funding)**

The Economic Disadvantaged funding is provided to address poverty and its effects on educational outcomes.

Career-Technical Education programs in Ohio prepare students for success in college and in jobs that require a high level of technical skill. Students typically enroll in Career-Tech during their junior and senior years of high school. Some students also take Career-Tech courses during their freshman and sophomore years. Much information is available on the ODE website regarding Career and Technical Education programs.

Both Economic Disadvantaged and Career and Technical funding act as a “*restricted grant inside the General Fund*”. Certain criteria must be met to satisfy the funding.

Forecasted revenues for this line are a direct tie to the Ohio Department of Education Foundation Settlement Reports. These revenues are assumed to be held “flat” through fiscal year 2024-25. Forecasted revenues are as follows:

	Actual	Actual	Actual	Act/Fcst	Forecast	Forecast	Forecast	Forecast
	FY17-18	FY18-19	FY19-20	FY20-21	FY21-22	FY22-23	FY23-24	FY24-25
Econ Disadvantaged	\$7.60	\$7.50	\$7.70	\$7.73	\$7.73	\$7.73	\$7.73	\$7.73
Career/Tech	\$0.40	\$0.70	\$0.70	\$0.72	\$0.72	\$0.72	\$0.72	\$0.72
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$8.00</b>	<b>\$8.20</b>	<b>\$8.40</b>	<b>\$8.45</b>	<b>\$8.45</b>	<b>\$8.45</b>	<b>\$8.45</b>	<b>\$8.45</b>

*In millions of dollars*

**1.050 Property Tax Allocation**

This category represents the Homestead and Rollback (HSRB) revenue the District receives from the State of Ohio. The State of Ohio partially pays for some of the locally levied property taxes for residential and agricultural real property owners and an additional amount for homeowners and represents property tax relief to individual property taxpayers in Ohio.

The Homestead Exemption program allows qualifying Lorain County residents to shield some of the market value of their home from taxation. The Exemption, which takes the form of a credit on property tax bills, allows qualifying homeowners a homestead reduction in taxes equal to the taxes on \$25,000 of the county auditor’s market value of their home from all local property taxes. For example, through the Homestead Exemption, a home with a county auditor’s market value of \$100,000 would be billed as if it is valued at \$75,000. The tax savings vary by taxing district, but is typically \$400-\$450 annually.

Under the Disabled Veteran – Enhanced Exemption, disabled veterans who qualify are entitled to a homestead reduction in taxes equal to the taxes on \$50,000 of the auditor’s market value of their home.

Property Tax Allocation projections are affected by the reappraisal/tri-annual updates and levy renewals. Estimates are calculated from historical data. This revenue from the state of Ohio is captured on line 1.050 of the Forecast.

It is assumed that the property tax allocation revenue will remain flat throughout the life of the forecast.

The detail of forecast line 1.050 (Property Tax Allocation Revenues) is as follows:

	Act	Act	Act	Act/Fcst	Fcst	Fcst	Fcst	Fcst
	FY17-18	FY18-19	FY19-20	FY20-21	FY21-22	FY22-23	FY22-23	FY22-23
HSRB	\$2.8	\$2.7	\$2.7	\$2.7	\$2.7	\$2.7	\$2.7	\$2.7
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$2.8</b>	<b>\$2.7</b>	<b>\$2.7</b>	<b>\$2.7</b>	<b>\$2.7</b>	<b>\$2.7</b>	<b>\$2.7</b>	<b>\$2.7</b>

*In millions of dollars*

**1.06 Other Miscellaneous Revenues**

The following revenues are miscellaneous with the larger revenues being Open Enrollment “In” from other school districts (students open enrolled to Lorain City Schools), and Indirect Costs which is “Administrative Revenue” to cover costs to operate Federal Grants. There’s a substantial increase to Indirect Costs beginning in fiscal year 2020-2021 due to the district no longer using the school wide pool funding model.

	Act	Act	Act	Act/Fcst	Fcst	Fcst	Fcst	Fcst
	<u>FY17-18</u>	<u>FY18-19</u>	<u>FY19-20</u>	<u>FY20-21</u>	<u>FY21-22</u>	<u>FY22-23</u>	<u>FY23-24</u>	<u>FY24-24</u>
Tuition (1219)	4,119	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Tuition (1221)	161,021	73,342	131,688	125,122	125,122	125,122	125,122	125,122
Tuition (1223)	127,199	350,062	94,766	128,690	128,691	128,692	128,693	128,694
Open Enroll	636,922	511,881	400,753	397,214	397,214	397,214	397,214	397,214
Interest Income	346,231	681,246	620,268	75,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000
PSEO	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rentals	85,364	16,855	5,975	1	1	1	1	1
Misc	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
PPT Exempt	11,830	12,227	66,395	30,951	30,951	30,951	30,951	30,951
Misc	82,385	62,583	47,156	97,277	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000
Indirect Cost	406,250	136,786	86,023	191,067	181,514	172,438	163,816	155,625
Insurance Proceeds	0	81,665	50,010	0	0	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Federal	65,348	38,812	60,895	65,000	65,000	65,000	65,000	65,000
Medicaid	493,953	413,117	353,854	541,502	350,000	350,000	350,000	350,000
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>2,420,623</b>	<b>2,378,575</b>	<b>1,917,784</b>	<b>1,651,824</b>	<b>1,453,493</b>	<b>1,444,418</b>	<b>1,435,797</b>	<b>1,427,607</b>

*In Whole Dollars*

**Line 2.050 Advances In**

This line captures any cash advances repaid back to the General Fund from other funds. It correlates with the “Advances Out” (line 5.020) in that “Advances Out” in one year are “Advances In” during the next fiscal year. The General Fund typically “advances” cash to other funds (i.e. federal grants) at year end until that fund’s cash timing catches up and returns those funds back to the General Fund. There is an increase to the current year’s Advances In due to movement of CARES Act Funding. The “advancing” is required by Ohio law.

	Act	Act	Act	Act/Fcst	Fcst	Fcst	Fcst	Fcst
	FY17-18	FY18-19	FY19-20	FY20-21	FY21-22	FY22-23	FY23-24	FY24-25
Advance In	1,344,203	563,721	1,640,033	2,958,705	1,432,389	1,200,000	1,200,000	1,200,000
All Other Financial Sources	101,182	88,852	237,736	372,434	0	0	0	0
Total Financing Sources	<b>1,445,385</b>	<b>652,573</b>	<b>1,877,769</b>	<b>3,331,139</b>	<b>1,432,389</b>	<b>1,200,000</b>	<b>1,200,000</b>	<b>1,200,000</b>

*In Whole Dollars*

**EXPENSES and OTHER FINANCIAL USES**

During the 2018-2019 and 2019-2020 fiscal years, the district moved to a schoolwide pooling model for most instructional purchases. This resulted in the creation of the 598 account which is where general funds and title funds were pooled to support the instructional direction of the district. Districts that operate Title 1 schoolwide programs (which allow for comprehensive reform strategies to improve the academic achievement of all students in the school) may consolidate and use federal, state, and local funds to upgrade the entire educational program of a school.

The district has returned to the traditional funding model, beginning with the 2020-2021 fiscal year. The traditional funding model allows for an easier segregation and compliance of funds.

**Impact on the Forecast**

There will be a substantial increase to expenditure lines 3.010-3.040 (Personal Services, Employee’ Retirement/Insurance Benefits, Purchased Services, and Supplies and Materials) with line 5.01 (Operating Transfers-Out) no longer needing to reflect the salaries, benefits, and supplies for the 598 fund.

**Line 3.010 Personal Services**

New collective bargaining agreements were negotiated and approved by the CEO and the Lorain City Schools Board of Education in the spring of 2020. The provisions of those new contracts have been incorporated into this forecast.

Personal Services salary and wage related costs are as follows:

	Act	Act	Act	Act/Fcst	Fcst	Fcst	Fcst	Fcst
	FY17-18	FY18-19	FY19-20	FY20-21	FY21-22	FY22-23	FY23-24	FY24-25
<b>Personal Services</b>	\$45.7	\$19.5	\$14.5	\$53.1	\$58.2	\$58.2	\$60.7	\$64.3

*In Millions of Dollars*

**Line 3.020 Employees’ Retirement and Insurance Benefits**

This line captures costs paid by Lorain City Schools for employee retirement costs, medical insurance, dental and prescription drug insurance, life insurance, workers compensation, unemployment, and Medicare costs. Retirement costs for the State Teachers Retirement System (STRS) and School Employees Retirement System (SERS) are assumed to correlate to changes in salaries and wages every January and July respectively.

With the transition away from the Health Trust to the Lake Erie Regional Council the medical Insurance costs showed an increase of 19% over prior year costs. Which was far less than the projected increase within the trust. The rates were locked until July of 2019. The medical rates beyond that are then based on an analysis completed by the LERC in the spring of each year, and are expected to increase at a rate of 10% for every year after in this Forecast. Medical insurance cost assumptions change every July. District cost increases associated with the Federal Affordable Health Care Act (ACA) are rising and may not be fully known at this time as the country sorts through all the requirements.

Employee retirement and insurance benefits are as follows:

	Act	Act	Act	Act/Fcst	Fcst	Fcst	Fcst	Fcst
	FY17-18	FY18-19	FY19-20	FY20-21	FY21-22	FY22-23	FY23-24	FY24-25
<b>Benefits</b>	\$17.2	\$7.4	\$7.4	\$18.8	\$21	\$22.3	\$23.0	\$24.4

*In Millions of Dollars*

**Line 3.030 Purchased Services**

These expenses include services purchased from outside sources and include professional, technical, legal, data processing, electricity, natural gas, trash collection, water, telephone services, travel, meetings, craft, trade, postage, property insurance, rentals, leases, printing and binding, tuition paid to other districts, excess costs, student transportation, and other miscellaneous purchased services costs. Also captured in Purchased Services are deductions for Community Schools, Open Enrollment and Scholarship Transfers.

Another large and unpredictable set of costs are those associated with Community Schools, Open Enrollment (out to other districts) and Scholarship Programs. This forecast assumes that costs associated with that trio of costs increases by \$1.5M per year beginning with FY21-22. The \$1.5M cost increase per year is captured on the row labeled “Increase in C/S, O/E, Vouchers” in the table below. There is a cumulative year-by-year effect of those cost increases should they occur. Purchased Services costs are as follows:

	Act	Act	Act	Act/Fcst	Fcst	Fcst	Fcst	Fcst
	FY17-18	FY18-19	FY19-20	FY20-21	FY21-22	FY22-23	FY23-24	FY24-25
Purchased Services (All Other Costs)	11.6	11.6	11.6	11	13	13.7	13.9	14.1
Community Schools	17.2	17.5	18	18.3	18	18	18	18
Open Enrollment (Out)	6.1	6.2	6	5.98	6.05	6.05	6.05	6.05
Scholarship Programs	5.7	5.8	7.3	6.9	6.9	6.9	6.9	6.9
Increase in C/S, O/E, Vouchers		0.4	0.4	0	1.5	3	4.5	6
<b>Total Purchased Services</b>	<b>\$40.60</b>	<b>\$41.50</b>	<b>\$43.00</b>	<b>\$42.18</b>	<b>\$45.45</b>	<b>\$47.65</b>	<b>\$49.35</b>	<b>\$51.05</b>

*In Millions of Dollars*

**3.040 Supplies and Materials**

For the current year and beyond this line includes all non-instructional costs such as, newspapers, periodicals, supplies for maintenance and repair of land, buildings, equipment, furniture, and gasoline costs. Building level instructional supplies have also returned to the general fund, within this line, with the district no longer using the schoolwide pool funding model. Large fluctuations over the years are mainly due to the timing of new

curriculum purchases, technology purchases, technical upgrades, and/or repairs for buildings. Cost assumptions are as follows:

	Act	Act	Act	Act/Fcst	Fcst	Fcst	Fcst	Fcst
	FY17-18	FY18-19	FY19-20	FY20-21	FY21-22	FY22-23	FY23-24	FY24-25
<b>Supplies and Materials</b>	\$2.6	\$1.5	\$1.9	\$2.3	\$3.25	\$2.1	\$2.1	\$2.1

*In Millions of Dollars*

**3.050 Capital Outlay**

This line captures capital fixed asset costs in excess of \$5,000 per item, which includes costs for land, existing buildings, equipment, vehicles and other fixed assets. Other costs are associated with the Information Technology department’s new or replacement of outdated technical equipment under \$5,000 per item. (computers, servers, and other infrastructure, etc.)

	Act	Act	Act	Act/Fcst	Fcst	Fcst	Fcst	Fcst
	FY17-18	FY18-19	FY19-20	FY20-21	FY21-22	FY22-23	FY23-24	FY24-25
<b>Capital</b>	\$1.6	\$1.5	\$0.6	\$0.2	\$0.4	\$0.4	\$0.4	\$0.4

*In Millions of Dollars*

**4.020 Debt Service Principal**

In May 2011, the voters approved a 23.85 mill (voted millage) renewal levy. The district borrowed \$4,793,000 against that levy over five years. Principal paybacks were incurred for five years beginning December 1, 2012 at \$958,600 per year plus interest.

In November 2012, the voters approved a \$3.1M, 7-year Emergency Levy. The school district made the decision to also borrow \$3,126,190 against those tax levy revenues with principal debt payments beginning December 1, 2013 and continuing for four more years at \$625,238 per year plus interest. The entire debt forecast for principal payback were completed in the 2017-2018 fiscal year.

**Debt Payments on Principal**

	Act	Act	Act	Fcst	Fcst	Fcst	Fcst	Fcst
	FY17-18	FY18-19	FY19-20	FY20-21	FY21-22	FY22-23	FY23-24	FY24-25
2011 Debt								
2013 Debt	\$0.62							

<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$0.62</b>	<b>\$0.0</b>	<b>\$0.0</b>	<b>\$0.0</b>	<b>\$0.0</b>	<b>\$0.0</b>	<b>\$0.0</b>	<b>\$0.0</b>
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*In Millions of Dollars*

**4.060 Interest and Fiscal Charges**

This line captures the interest associated with the loans mentioned in line 4.020 that were paid in full during the 2017-2018 fiscal year. Those interest charges are as follows:

**Interest Cost on Listed Tax Anticipation Note (TAN) Loans:**

	Act	Act	Act	Act/Fcst	Fcst	Fcst	Fcst	Fcst
	FY17-18	FY18-19	FY19-20	FY20-21	FY21-22	FY22-23	FY23-24	FY24-25
<b>on \$4.M Loan</b>								
<b>on \$3.1M Loan</b>	\$6,097							
<b>Other Costs</b>								
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$6,097</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

*In Whole Dollars*

**4.300 Other Objects Costs**

This line captures expenses not otherwise classified such as audit fees, bank charges, liability insurance (which is what accounts for the increase from FY2018 to FY2019), tax collection fees from the Lorain County Auditor and other dues and fees. Expense assumptions are as follows:

	Act	Act	Act	Act/Fcst	Fcst	Fcst	Fcst	Fcst
	FY17-18	FY18-19	FY19-20	FY20-21	FY21-22	FY22-23	FY23-24	FY24-25
<b>Other Objects</b>	909,532	826,895	1,114,816	1,206,357	1,269,675	1,269,675	1,269,675	1,269,675

*In Whole Dollars*

**5.010 Operational Transfers-Out**

This line captures monies transferred to other funds from the General Fund to cover those respective costs which are not self-funding, and cannot be in a negative balance (by law) at June 30<sup>th</sup> of any year. Additional

costs have been added for Athletic program expansion. There was a substantial increase in fiscal years 2018-2019 and 2019-2020 due to the school wide pooling transfer. For fiscal year 2017-2018 through fiscal year 2024-2025, below are the forecasted Operational Transfers-Out:

	Act	Act	Act	Act/Fcst	Fcst	Fcst	Fcst	Fcst
	FY17-18	FY18-19	FY19-20	FY20-21	FY21-22	FY22-23	FY23-24	FY24-25
Athletics	\$1.3	\$0.9	\$0.9	\$.5	\$1.0	\$1.0	\$1.0	\$1.0
School Wide	\$0	\$39.6	\$49.1	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$1.3</b>	<b>\$40.5</b>	<b>\$50.0</b>	<b>\$0.5</b>	<b>\$1.0</b>	<b>\$1.0</b>	<b>\$1.0</b>	<b>\$1.0</b>

*In Millions of Dollars*

**5.020 Advances-Out**

This line captures cash outflows from the General Fund which are temporary in nature. This normally occurs at the end of the fiscal year when other funds in the district are “negative” because of cash timing issues. These advances from the General Fund are repaid normally in the following month (July) and come back into the General Fund on line 2.050 “Advances-In”. Federal and State grants are the normal recipient of these advances. There was an increase to 19-20FY’s Advances-Out due to CARES Act Funding.

	Act	Act	Act	Fcst	Fcst	Fcst	Fcst	Fcst
	FY17-18	FY18-19	FY19-20	FY20-21	FY21-22	FY22-23	FY23-24	FY24-25
<b>Advances Out</b>	<b>\$0.5</b>	<b>\$1.5</b>	<b>\$2.9</b>	<b>\$1.4</b>	<b>\$1.2</b>	<b>\$1.2</b>	<b>\$1.2</b>	<b>\$1.2</b>

*In Millions of Dollars*

**SUMMARY**

Lorain City Schools has experienced severe financial struggles since 2007. Examination of history reveals that the school district completed Reductions-In-Force (RIF) in 2007 and in the spring of 2012 to help relieve some of the financial pressures. The tax payers of the District passed a levy in November 2012 which was the first “new money levy” passed since the early 1990s (excluding the facilities construction project). However, that “new money levy” was not enough to eliminate projected deficits in future years.

Adding to the financial challenges is the proliferation of Community Schools since the year 2000. In fiscal year 2018-19, funding transferring to Community Schools from Lorain City Schools totaled over \$17.5M, and is projected to grow further. Also, the U.S. wide recession of 2007 had a negative financial impact on the school district in the area of Real Estate Tax revenue but the market is starting to bounce back.

Additional funding from the state of Ohio, along with the passed 2012 levy, and better and more precise forecasting processes have helped to mitigate the financial issues in the past. The State of Ohio approved a new biennium budget on June 30, 2019, and the lack of an additional per student amount is concerning for the district’s financial future for a district so dependent on state increases. Revenues have been incredibly impacted again by the COVID-19 pandemic, beginning in the spring of 2020.

The district has been awarded with ESSER funds to help address the needs of the district caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. As we navigate the pandemic and finalize plans on how to best spend those funds, the district’s financial numbers may fluctuate.

Based on this forecast, costs will begin to exceed revenues in the 2022-2023 school year.

The Five Year Forecast “bottom line” is line 15.010 and is forecasted as follows:

**Line 15.010 Fund Ending Fund Balances**

	Act	Act	Act	Act/Fcst	Fcst	Fcst	Fcst	Fcst
	FY17-18	FY18-19	FY19-20	FY20-21	FY21-22	FY22-23	FY23-24	FY24-25
Fund Balances	17,018,077	22,467,469	21,015,127	20,647,983	4,819,967	(13,363,571)	(36,3681,700)	(66,686,526)

*In Whole Dollars*

