

# ALTERNATIVE TAX BUDGET INFORMATION

Name of School District\_\_ **BERKSHIRE LOCAL SCHOOL**

For the Fiscal Year Commencing July 1, 2025

Fiscal Officer Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date January 12, 2026 - Board Approved

# COUNTY OF GEAUGA

## **Background**

Substitute House Bill No. 129 (HB129) effective June 3, 2002, was enacted by the 124th General Assembly in part to allow a county budget commission to waive the requirement that a taxing authority adopt a tax budget for a political subdivision or other taxing unit, pursuant to Ohio Revised Code (ORC) Section 5705.281.

Under the law in effect prior to June 3, 2002, the budget commission could only waive the tax budget for a subdivision or other taxing unit that was receiving a share of the county undivided local government fund or the county undivided local government revenue assistance fund under an alternative method or formula pursuant to ORC Sections 5747.53 and 5747.63. Thus, tax budgets could be waived only for counties, municipalities, townships, and park districts. This restriction is now removed.

## **Ohio Revised Code Section 5705.281**

Under the amended version of this section pursuant to HB 129, a county budget commission, by an affirmative vote of a majority of the commission, including an affirmative vote by the county auditor, may waive the tax budget for any subdivision or other taxing unit.

However, the commission may require the taxing authority to provide any information needed by the commission to perform its duties, including the division of the tax rates as provided under ORC Section 5705.04.

## **County Budget Commission Duties**

The county budget commission must still certify tax rates to each subdivision or other taxing unit, by March 1 for school districts and by September 1 for all other taxing authorities under ORC Section 5705.35, even when a tax budget is waived. Also, the commission is still required to issue an official certificate of estimated resources under ORC Section 5705.35 and amended official certificates of estimated resources under ORC Section 5705.36.

Therefore, when a budget commission is setting tax rates based on a taxing unit's need, for purposes of ORC Sections 5705.32, 5705.34, and 5705.341, its determination must be based on that other information the commission asked the taxing authority to provide under ORC Section 5705.281, when the tax budget was waived. Also, an official certificate must be based on that other information the commission asked the taxing authority to provide.

## **Alternative Tax Budget Information Filing Deadline**

The fiscal officer for each school district must file one copy of this document with the County Auditor on or before January 20th. [Note: The traditional deadline for submission of the tax budget has been January 20th. There is the potential for flexibility on this date as a result of HB 129 depending on the needs of the Budget Commission, but in order for them to be on track with the certificate of available resources, the date may need to be very close to January 20th].

# **GUIDELINES FOR COMPLETING THE ALTERNATIVE TAX BUDGET INFORMATION\***

## **SCHEDULE 1**

The general purpose of schedule 1 is to meet the requirement of Ohio Revised Code (ORC) Section 5705.04 which requires the taxing authority of each subdivision to divide the taxes levied into separate levies. For help use the schedule B issued by the budget commission for the current year and add any new levies. This will help to ensure that no levies are missed.

In column 1 list only those individual funds which are requesting general property tax revenue. In column 2 purpose refers to the following terms, inside, current expenses, and special levy for example. In column 4 levy type refers to renewal, additional, and replacement for example. In column 9 identify the amount of general property tax you wish to request.

## **SCHEDULE 2**

The general purpose of schedule 2 is to demonstrate the need to produce property tax revenues to cover the estimated expenditures for the budget year. ORC Section 5705.341 states in part;

"Nothing in this section or any section of the ORC shall permit or require the levying of any rate of taxation, whether within the 10 mill limitation or whether the levy has been approved by the electors, the political subdivision or the charter of a municipal corporation in excess of such 10 mill limitation, unless such rate of taxation for the ensuing fiscal year is clearly required by a budget properly and lawfully, adopted under this chapter or by other information required per ORC 5705.281."

Property tax revenue includes real estate taxes, personal property taxes, homestead and rollback, and the personal property 10,000 exempt monies.

## **SCHEDULE 3**

The general purpose of schedule 3 is to produce an Official Certificate of Estimated Resources for funds that do not receive property tax revenue.

In column 3, total estimated receipts should include all revenues plus transfers in.

## **SCHEDULE 4**

The general purpose of schedule 4 is to provide for the proper amount of millage to cover debt service requirements on voted bond issues. Major capital improvement projects are sometimes financed through the use of voted bonds. The taxing authority seeks voter approval of general obligation bonds and of the levy of property taxes outside the indirect debt limitation in whatever amount is necessary to pay debt service on those bonds.

In column 6 you must take into consideration any carry over plus or minus cash balance estimated for the current year. This can happen because there are no sure things concerning tax payments and the valuation of personal property taxpayers.

## **SCHEDULE 5**

The general purpose of schedule 5 is to properly account for tax anticipation notes. See schedule 5 for more details.

**\* Please reproduce all pages as necessary.**

# DIVISION OF TAXES LEVIED

(Levies Inside & Outside 10 Mill Limitation, Inclusive Of Debt Levies)  
(List All Levies Of The Taxing Authority)

## Funds (General, Permanent Improvement, Library, Other)

SCHEDULE 1

I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII	IX
Fund	Purpose	Authorized By Voters On MM/DD/YY	Levy Type	Number Of Years Levy To Run	Tax Year Begins/ Ends	Collection Year Begins/ Ends	Maximum Rate Authorized	Rate Requested
General Fund	Inside		Inside	C			4.5	4.5
General Fund	operational			C			26.1	26.1
General Fund	operational	11/8/1977		C			5.0	5.0
General Fund	operational	8/2/1983		C			4.7	4.7
General Fund	operational	11/5/1985		C			4.5	4.5
General Fund	operational	5/3/1988		C			5.0	5.0
General Fund	operational	5/8/2007	Income Tax	C	2008		1.0	1.0
Bond Fund	Bond	5/9/2018	Bond	38	2018		3.65	2.45
Totals - Berkshire							54.45	53.25
Grand Totals							54.45	53.25

# STATEMENT OF FUND ACTIVITY

(Complete for General Fund, Bond Retirement Fund and any other funds requesting general property tax revenue)

SCHEDULE 2

## Berkshire Local General Fund 001

DESCRIPTION	For FY 2024 ACTUAL	For FY 2025 ACTUAL	2026 Current Year ESTIMATE	2027 BUDGET YEAR ESTIMATE
<b>Revenues:</b>				
Property Taxes (Real & Personal)	9,032,263.00	9,228,806.00	9,243,198.00	8,200,348.70
Homestead Rollback & 10,000 Exemption	1,056,056.00	1,201,431.00	1,236,618.00	1,254,067.30
H.B. 183 Reimburse	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,173,273.00
SB 3 & 287 Dereg. Reimb.	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
School Foundation	5,890,407.00	5,881,050.00	5,960,311.00	6,103,363.00
Income Tax	3,708,399.00	3,962,417.00	4,041,911.00	4,147,527.00
Other Revenue	1,584,935.00	1,771,209.00	2,140,082.03	1,952,986.00
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>21,272,060.00</b>	<b>22,044,913.00</b>	<b>22,622,120.03</b>	<b>22,831,565.00</b>
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>21,626,298.00</b>	<b>23,206,088.00</b>	<b>23,521,571.00</b>	<b>24,124,698.00</b>
Revenue over (under) Expenditures	(354,238.00)	(1,161,175.00)	(899,450.97)	(1,293,133.00)
Beginning Cash Balance	4,416,373.70	4,062,135.70	2,900,960.70	2,001,509.73
Ending Cash Balance	4,062,135.70	2,900,960.70	2,001,509.73	708,376.73
Encumbrances at Year End	566,782.00	150,710.00	150,000.00	150,000.00

## FUND: Permanent Improvement Fund

DESCRIPTION	For FY 2024 ACTUAL	For FY 2025 ACTUAL	2026 Current Year ESTIMATE	2027 BUDGET YEAR ESTIMATE
<b>Revenues:</b>				
Property Taxes (Real & Personal)	402,523.14	160,301.03	0.00	0.00
Homestead Rollback & 10,000 Exemption	42,923.00	21,641.81	0.00	0.00
Property Tax Allocation	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Transfer/Advance	0.00	0.00	280,458.11	0.00
Other Revenue	0.00	0.00		0.00
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>445,446.14</b>	<b>181,942.84</b>	<b>280,458.11</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>651,097.55</b>	<b>250,320.02</b>	<b>484,772.95</b>	<b>0.00</b>
Revenue over (under) Expenditures	(205,651.41)	(68,377.18)	(204,314.84)	0.00
Beginning Cash Balance	478,343.43	272,692.02	204,314.84	0.00
Ending Cash Balance	272,692.02	204,314.84	0.00	0.00
Encumbrances at Year End	16,800.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

## FUND: Debt Service Fund

DESCRIPTION	For FY 2024 ACTUAL	For FY 2025 ACTUAL	2026 Current Year ESTIMATE	2027 BUDGET YEAR ESTIMATE
<b>Revenues:</b>				
Property Taxes (Real & Personal)	1,327,436.90	1,271,630.58	1,207,586.00	1,197,857.53
Homestead Rollback & 10,000 Exemption	24,984.85	13,304.22	30,964.00	30,714.30
SB 3 & 287 Dereg. Reimb.	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Bond Refinance	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
ADVANCE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>1,352,421.75</b>	<b>1,284,934.80</b>	<b>1,238,550.00</b>	<b>1,228,571.82</b>
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>1,222,532.19</b>	<b>1,218,424.71</b>	<b>1,215,506.28</b>	<b>1,216,106.28</b>
Revenue over (under) Expenditures	129,889.56	66,510.09	23,043.72	12,465.54
Beginning Cash Balance	174,261.72	304,151.28	370,661.37	393,705.09
Ending Cash Balance	304,151.28	370,661.37	393,705.09	406,170.63
Encumbrances at Year End	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

# STATEMENT OF FUND ACTIVITY

Funds with Revenue Other Than Local Taxes

## SCHEDULE 3

I Fund BY Type List Each Fund	II Beginning Estimated Unencumbered Fund Balance	III Total Estimated Receipts	IV Total Resources Available For Expenditures	V Total Estimated Expenditures & Encumbrances	VI Ending Estimated Unencumbered Balance
<b>Special Revenue Funds</b>					
Public School Support	10,000.00	15,000.00	25,000.00	25,000.00	0.00
Misc. Grants	15,000.00	0.00	15,000.00	1,000.00	14,000.00
Latchkey	0.00	20,000.00	20,000.00	0.00	20,000.00
Educational Foundation	200,000.00	50,000.00	250,000.00	50,000.00	200,000.00
Student Athletics	10,000.00	95,000.00	105,000.00	105,000.00	0.00
OFCC Set Aside	985,000.00	169,854.00	1,154,854.00	250,000.00	904,854.00
Termination Fund	229,259.00	75,000.00	304,259.00	100,000.00	204,259.00
Auxiliary Funds Passthrough	0.00	20,000.00	20,000.00	20,000.00	0.00
Onenet	0.00	5,400.00	5,400.00	5,400.00	0.00
Misc. State Grants	0.00	20,000.00	20,000.00	20,000.00	0.00
Idea Part B	0.00	300,000.00	300,000.00	300,000.00	0.00
Equity for Each	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Title I	0.00	200,000.00	200,000.00	200,000.00	0.00
Title IV	0.00	15,000.00	15,000.00	15,000.00	0.00
Title II-A Improving Teacher Quality	0.00	40,000.00	40,000.00	40,000.00	0.00
Misc State	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Total Special Revenue Funds</b>	<b>1,449,259.00</b>	<b>1,025,254.00</b>	<b>2,474,513.00</b>	<b>1,131,400.00</b>	<b>1,343,113.00</b>
<b>Capital Project Funds</b>					
Building Fund	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Capital Projects	300,000.00	0.00	300,000.00	300,000.00	0.00
Classroom Facilities	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Total Capital Project Funds</b>	<b>300,000.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>300,000.00</b>	<b>300,000.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>Enterprise Funds</b>					
Food Service	500,000.00	330,000.00	830,000.00	475,000.00	355,000.00
Uniform Supply	0.00	5,000.00	5,000.00	5,000.00	0.00
<b>Total Enterprise Funds</b>	<b>500,000.00</b>	<b>335,000.00</b>	<b>835,000.00</b>	<b>480,000.00</b>	<b>355,000.00</b>

# STATEMENT OF FUND ACTIVITY

Funds with Revenue Other Than Local Taxes

## SCHEDULE 3

I Fund BY Type List Each Fund	II Beginning Estimated Unencumbered Fund Balance	III Total Estimated Receipts	IV Total Resources Available For Expenditures	V Total Estimated Expenditures & Encumbrances	VI Ending Estimated Unencumbered Balance
<b>Internal Service Funds</b>					
014	1,500.00	11,500.00	13,000.00	13,000.00	0.00
022	1,500.00	1,000.00	2,500.00	2,000.00	500.00
023	0.00	18,000.00	18,000.00	18,000.00	0.00
024	0.00	400,000.00	400,000.00	400,000.00	0.00
<b>Total Internal Service Funds</b>	3,000.00	430,500.00	433,500.00	433,000.00	500.00
<b>Agency Funds</b>					
Fiduciary					
200	20,000.00	65,000.00	85,000.00	65,000.00	20,000.00
007	25,000.00	5,000.00	30,000.00	15,000.00	15,000.00
<b>Total Agency Funds</b>	45,000.00	70,000.00	115,000.00	80,000.00	35,000.00
<b>MEMORANDUM TOTALS</b>	2,297,259.00	1,860,754.00	4,158,013.00	2,424,400.00	1,733,613.00

# SCHEDULE OF INDEBTEDNESS

**SCHEDULE 4**

I Purpose Of Notes Or Bonds	II Authority for Levy Outside 10 mill Limit	III Date Of Issue	IV Date Due	V Ordinance or Resolution	VI Serial or Term	VII Rate of Interest	VIII Principal Amount Outstanding At The Beginning Of The Year 7/1/2022	IX Amount Required To Meet Budget Year Principal & Interest Payments
<b>Inside 10 Mill Limit:</b>								
N/A								
<b>TOTAL</b>								
<b>Outside 10 Mill Limit:</b>								
Series 2021		05/06/18	10/20, 4/21	by vote	35 yr		\$26,260,000.00	\$1,216,106.28
<b>TOTAL</b>							\$26,260,000.00	\$1,216,106.28

# TAX ANTICIPATION NOTES

## SCHEDULE 5

Tax anticipation notes are issued in anticipation of the collection of the proceeds of a property tax levy. The amount of money required to cover debt service must be deposited into a bond retirement fund, from collections and distribution of the tax levy, in the amounts and at the times required to pay those debt charges as provided in the legislation authorizing the tax anticipation notes. (ORC Section 133.24)

The appropriation to the fund which normally receives the tax levy proceeds is limited to the balance available after deducting the amounts to be applied to debt service.

After the issuance of general obligation securities or of securities to which section 133.24 of the ORC applies, the taxing authority of the subdivision shall include in its annual tax budget, and levy a property tax in a sufficient amount, with any other monies available for the purpose, to pay the debt charges on the securities payable from property tax. (ORC Section 133.25)

	Name Of Tax Anticipation Note Issue	Name Of Tax Anticipation Note Issue
<b>Amount Required To Meet Budget Year Principal &amp; Interest Payments:</b>		
Principal Due		
Principal Due Date		
Interest Due		
Interest Due Date		
Interest Due		
Interest Due Date		
Total		
Name Of The Special Debt Service Fund		

<b>Amount Of Debt Service To Be Apportioned To The Following Settlements:</b>		
February Real		
August Real		
June Tangible		
October Tangible		
Total		
Name Of Fund To Be Charged		