

Understanding the OFCC Expedited Local Partnership Program (ELPP)

In February 2026, the Buckeye Local Schools Board of Education approved an agreement to participate in the Ohio Facilities Construction Commission (OFCC) Expedited Local Partnership Program (ELPP).

As part of the district's commitment to transparency, the following information addresses frequently asked questions about the ELPP agreement.

What is the ELPP program?

ELPP stands for Expedited Local Partnership Program. It is a program administered by the OFCC that allows a school district to move forward with locally funded construction while preserving eligibility for future state funding.

When will Buckeye receive state funding?

Participation in the Expedited Local Partnership Program allows Buckeye Local Schools to remain eligible for possible future state facilities funding through the OFCC. Districts participating in ELPP are selected in turn to receive funding. When Buckeye's turn comes up, the district will have the option to accept the funding.

District funds will be utilized to construct the new Buckeye High School now, with the possibility of receiving up to 19% of the project cost later for use on a future facility project.

Buckeye Local Schools is not receiving state funding at this time, and there is no guarantee that the district will ever receive state funds through this program.

Does signing the ELPP agreement change the current building project?

No. The district is proceeding with its Board-approved plan to construct a new high school exactly as presented to the community.

The ELPP agreement does not:

- Change the scope of the project
- Increase taxes
- Require the district to alter its plans
- Delay the construction of the new building

Why sign the ELPP agreement?

Participation in ELPP is a prudent financial safeguard that reflects responsible long-term planning. It preserves the possibility of future state funding while allowing the district to proceed with its building project today. Participation protects a potential long-term financial opportunity at no cost to the community.

Is there any risk to signing this agreement?

No. There is no cost to participate, and there is no downside to maintaining eligibility. When Buckeye becomes eligible for state funding in the future, the district could receive up to 19% of the cost of the new high school for use on a future facilities project. If that never occurs, nothing is lost.

Why does the agreement include language about following state rules?

The agreement must be written assuming that if state funding is ever accepted, the district would follow OFCC standards at that time.

Why do some dollar amounts in the agreement look different from what the district has shared publicly?

The figures referenced in the ELPP agreement reflect state-calculated participation formulas. These amounts represent hypothetical future funding scenarios.

Why must the agreement be written this way?

The ELPP agreement is a standardized statewide legal document used by school districts across Ohio based on state cost formulas and funding procedures. It is written for legal and contractual purposes.

Could Buckeye refuse future state funding?

Yes. If Buckeye Local Schools eventually reaches the top of the state's funding list, a future Board of Education would decide whether accepting state funding is in the community's best interest. Participation today does not commit the district to accept future funding.

What This Is

- A standard agreement that allows Buckeye Local Schools to move forward with its locally funded high school project
- A way to preserve eligibility for possible future state facilities funding through the Ohio Facilities Construction Commission
- A no-cost step that protects a potential long-term financial opportunity
- A reflection of responsible planning and fiscal stewardship by the Board of Education

What This Is Not

- A commitment to accept state funding in the future
- A source of state funding today
- A change to the scope, design, or timeline of the new high school
- A tax increase or new financial obligation for the community

Commitment to Transparency

The district welcomes community questions and engagement. Large public projects deserve thoughtful discussion.

It is important, however, to distinguish between:

- legal language required in statewide agreements, and
- actual decisions being made locally.

Buckeye Local Schools remains committed to transparency and encourages residents to seek clarification directly from district leadership whenever questions arise.