



SYCAMORE
COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

QUALITY PROFILE
2025



A Message from the Superintendent Chad Lewis



Dear Sycamore Community,

Each year, the Sycamore Community Schools Quality Profile provides an opportunity to celebrate what makes our district exceptional - not just in numbers and ratings, but in people, purpose, and possibility. While the state report card tells part of the story, the Quality Profile captures the heart of who we are as Aviators.

At Sycamore, academic excellence remains at the core of our mission. Our students consistently perform among

the top districts in Ohio, earning state and national recognition for achievement, growth, and innovation. From our youngest learners to our graduating seniors, Sycamore students demonstrate curiosity, creativity, and a genuine love of learning - hallmarks of our Portrait of an Aviator.

Beyond academics, the arts continue to soar across our district. Whether it's a breathtaking performance on the stage, a powerful concert, or a student's work displayed in a local gallery, the arts are alive and thriving in Sycamore. Our award-winning theater, band, orchestra, choir, and fine arts programs offer students countless opportunities to express themselves, collaborate, and grow.

Our commitment to a student-centered culture extends to every classroom, field, and stage. Sycamore students excel not only in academics and the arts but also in athletics, service, and leadership. They compete with integrity, perform with passion, and serve with heart. Supported by caring educators, dedicated families, and a strong community, they are developing the character and confidence to lead in an ever-changing world.

As you explore this year's Quality Profile, I hope you see what I see every day: a district united in purpose, proud of its traditions, and focused on preparing every student to take flight and reach new heights.

Together, we continue to make Sycamore a place where excellence takes flight.

With gratitude and Aviator pride,

Chad Lewis
Superintendent

OUR MISSION

Create a culture of academic excellence through inclusive and innovative learning opportunities for the whole child.

OUR VISION

Empower all learners to reach their full potential in a globally competitive world.

STAY CONNECTED

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Sycamore in a Snapshot

At Sycamore, we are focused on core values represented by **AVES**:

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT
VIBRANT COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS
EXCELLENCE IN OPERATIONS
STUDENT-CENTERED CULTURE

With an emphasis on character, curiosity, collaboration, and communication, our students and staff members are encouraged to be purposeful learners, innovative collaborators, dynamic problem solvers, empathetic communicators, and respectful citizens.

BY THE NUMBERS



7 Schools



6,024 Students



887 Staff Members



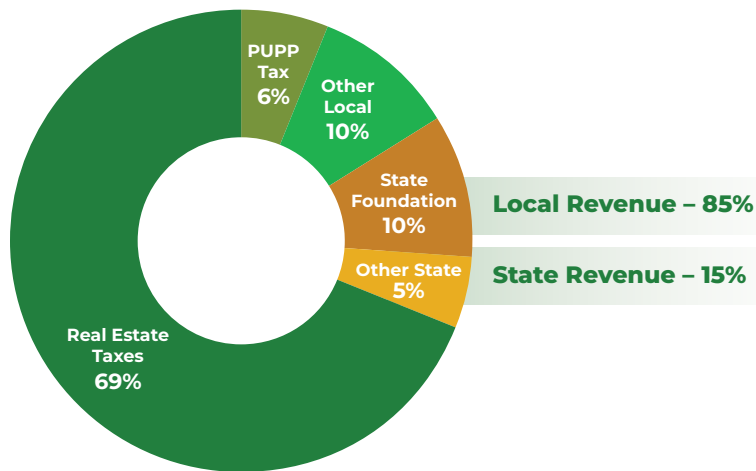
22 (K-1) & 25 (2-12)
 Average Number of Students in Classrooms



Funds & Finances

Eighty-five percent of Sycamore's funding is local. State contributions account for the remaining fifteen percent, underscoring our community's strong investment in education.

For more detailed information on Sycamore's finances, including revenue, spending, investments, and fiscal outlook, please refer to the **2025 Financial Prospectus**.



PORTRAIT OF AN AVIATOR

We are a community of learners who believe in the leadership capacity of all.

CHARACTER

Compassion | Reflection | Fortitude

CURIOSITY

Adaptability | Ingenuity | Discernment

COLLABORATION

Inclusive | Teamwork | Results-Oriented

COMMUNICATION

Mindfulness | Connection | Influence



Celebrating Academic Excellence

5-Star Graduation Rate

- 79%** Attend a Four-Year School
- 4%** Attend a Two-Year School
- 16%** Enter Into Work, Apprenticeship, or Gap Year
- 0.3%** Enlist in the Military

Student Success

- 3.7** Median GPA
- 907** Students in AP Courses
- 15** National Merit Semifinalists in Fall 2025
- 23** National Merit Commended Scholars in Fall 2025
- 40%** Received an Honors Diploma
- 26** Average ACT Score for Students Attending Four-Year Colleges
- 159** Students Inducted Into National Honor Society in Fall 2025

District & School Recognition

District Earned **4.5 stars** on Ohio School Report Card
(Source: OH Dept. of Education)

District Graded an **A+**
(Source: Niche)

District Ranked
Top 2% Nationwide
(Source: Niche)

Top 10 in Ohio
Top 5 in Greater Cincinnati

Sycamore High School Voted as a
Favorite Public High School
(Source: Cincinnati Family Magazine)

Sycamore High School Ranked in **Top 10 Best High Schools** in Greater Cincinnati
(Source: U.S. News & World Report)

E.H. Greene Intermediate & Sycamore Junior High Ranked in **Top 2%** of Middle Schools in Ohio
(Source: U.S. News & World Report)

All Four Elementary Schools Ranked in **Top 5%** in Ohio
(Source: U.S. News & World Report)



Celebrating Academic Excellence



Special Spotlight

SYNNOVATION LAB



The Synnovation Lab is an innovative elective program and dedicated learning environment within Sycamore High School that redefines the educational experience. Focusing on mastery-based learning within a flexible, deeply personalized setting, the program is built on three foundational pillars: Community, Personalization, and Meaningful Learning. Students are required to master each skill or concept completely before moving forward, which ensures a deeper, more resilient understanding of the subject matter. This approach actively encourages students to manage their own time and take greater ownership of their progress, effectively building essential skills in independence and responsibility along the way.

In recognition of this successful model and their dedication to students, lab staff members received a George B. Milbourn Team Teachers Award of Excellence from the Martha Holden Jennings Foundation in 2025.

SPECIAL EDUCATION PROGRAMMING

The district offers a full continuum of services for students with disabilities and has transition programs for students who meet graduation requirements but still require transition services:



Aviator Launch & TIP (Transition Internship Program) – both at Kenwood Learning Commons

STEP (Sycamore Transition & Education Program) – at SHS

These services and programs work to prepare students for life after high school by providing critical opportunities for them to practice and apply functional academics and essential practical skills through meaningful, real-world experiences. They also include volunteering, customized employment readiness training, community integration, and the development of independent living skills.

Families also have access to Parent Mentors who serve as guides and collaboration partners.

Celebrating Academic Excellence

The exceptional staff at Sycamore Schools are the foundation of our student success. We are proud to employ a team of highly qualified, dedicated professionals who are committed to providing a rigorous, relevant, and supportive learning environment for every student. Our commitment to educational excellence is reflected in the advanced training of our faculty: an impressive 85% of our teachers hold a Master's Degree.

STAFF RECOGNITION



Montgomery Elementary Teacher **Anthony Shaver** awarded the George B. Chapman Jr. Mathematics Teacher Award of Excellence from the Martha Holden Jennings Foundation in 2025



Ashley Friend, now Assistant Principal at Montgomery Elementary, recognized as Sycamore Teacher of the Year for 2024-2025



Katelyn Robinson, Assistant Principal at Sycamore High School, recognized as Sycamore Administrator of the Year for 2024-2025

CLEAN KITCHEN AWARDS

Maple Dale Elementary, Blue Ash Elementary, E.H. Greene Intermediate School, and Sycamore Junior High received Clean Kitchen Awards in fall 2025. This recognition from Hamilton County Public Health acknowledges our nutrition team's commitment to cleanliness, food safety, and service for our students and staff.

ALTITUDE & LEGACY AWARDS

The annual Sycamore Altitude and Legacy Awards celebrate the extraordinary dedication and achievements of the district's staff. These special awards serve a dual purpose: they honor our recent retirees for their years of service and commitment to the Sycamore community, and they recognize current staff members for outstanding achievements and innovation demonstrated over the past year.



PBIS AWARDS

In fall 2025, five schools were recognized through Ohio's Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) Recognition Awards, which celebrates schools for their dedication to PBIS:

Montgomery Elementary - Gold Status



Symmes Elementary - Gold Status



Sycamore Junior High - Silver Status



Maple Dale Elementary - Silver Status



Blue Ash Elementary - Bronze Status



Beyond the Classroom



Students at Sycamore soar to new heights not only academically, but through extracurricular activities, athletics, and the arts. With **94 clubs** offered at the high school alone, students have a variety of options to pursue their passions, develop leadership skills, and explore new interests well beyond the classroom curriculum. Whether on the field, on the stage, or in one of the dozens of student organizations, there is truly a path for every student to connect and thrive.

Athletics

51% of HS Students Play a Sport

32 Varsity Sports Offered

25 Junior High Sports Offered

34 State Qualifiers in 7 Different Sports in 2024-2025 School Year

GMC Championships

2024-2025 School Year

HS Girls Golf

HS Chess

HS Girls Lacrosse

2025-2026 School Year

HS Girls Golf

HS Chess

SJH Cheer

SJH Girls Golf

SJH 8th Grade Volleyball

SJH Girls Tennis

GMC Player of the Year Awarded in Fall/Winter 2025

Eva Becerril (Girls Golf)

Sunav Adhikari (Chess)

GMC Coaches of the Year Awarded in Fall/Winter 2025

Matt Starr (Girls Golf)

Rick Shomo
(Boys Cross Country)

Scott Eckert (Chess)

District Championships

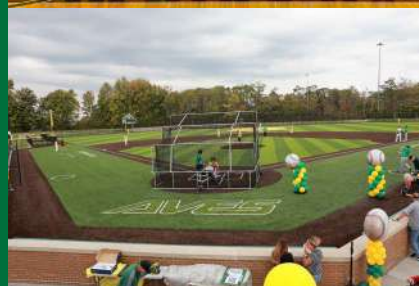
2024-2025 School Year

HS Boys Basketball

Regional Championships

2024-2025 School Year

HS Girls Lacrosse



Data current as of December 30, 2025.

Thanks to the incredible support and generosity of Sycamore alumni and our community, since 2022, the Athletic Department has:

Opened the Seger Family Natatorium

Opened a multi-use stadium, fieldhouse, and tennis courts

Updated the soccer/lacrosse turf at Chris Combs Field at Seger Stadium

Opened the Sadler Family Baseball Complex, which includes all-turf baseball and softball fields, including Dan Henke Field

TWO RECENT OLYMPIANS



Carson Foster - Swimming
Won a silver and bronze medal

Addie Robillard - Swimming

Beyond the Classroom



BAND & ORCHESTRA

Our band and orchestra program engages roughly 3,000 students across grades 5 through 12, ensuring that the high-quality experience of an orchestra or band is accessible even at a young age. Supporting 23 curricular and extracurricular ensembles, the instruction fosters exceptional talent, with many students selected for prestigious groups like All State Band, All State Orchestra, and the Cincinnati Symphony Youth Orchestra. The resulting mastery is evident in our high school ensembles, which routinely earn superior ratings at OMEA State adjudicated events.



CHOIR

Approximately 1,100 students from grades 5 through 12 participate in our choral program, bringing high-caliber vocal performance opportunities to a wide range of ages. Supporting 16 ensembles, the program provides students with unparalleled professional experiences, including performing on the national stage and collaborating with major artists such as Foreigner, Eric Church, and the Cincinnati Holiday Pops Orchestra. Our students' talent garners significant attention online, with the Aves Choir YouTube channel consistently reaching over 100,000 views.



THEATRE

Our theatre program involves more than 300 students from elementary through high school, ensuring broad access to performance opportunities at every level. While elementary schools offer PTO-sponsored theatre, the Intermediate and Junior High levels produce annual shows with approximately 75 students each. At Sycamore High School, roughly 130 students participate in a packed schedule featuring four main stage shows and festivals. This comprehensive program maintains exceptional quality, with SHS productions consistently earning superior ratings through adjudication by University Theatre Professors.



Beyond the Classroom



VISUAL ARTS

Serving over 4,600 students (K-12), our visual arts program is dedicated to making creative education accessible to every student. Students' work is celebrated through 11+ shows and five+ competitions annually, with frequent community showcases, including the Blue Ash collaborative sculpture and the 4th Grade Legacy Project in Montgomery. Students consistently earn local and national Scholastic Art Awards and develop leadership and teaching skills through art clubs, senior mentorships, and internships.



COMMUNITY CENTERED CULTURE

At Sycamore Schools, we actively celebrate the rich backgrounds, traditions, and experiences of our students and families, recognizing that this diversity - evidenced by the 40+ languages spoken throughout all of our schools - is a fundamental asset that strengthens our district. Through dedicated events featuring delicious food, vibrant performances, and hands-on demonstrations, we foster an unforgettable environment of cross-cultural learning and genuine connection for students and staff.



Vibrant Community Partnerships



BUSINESS & COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP BREAKFAST

Business owners and community leaders came together at Sycamore High School in fall 2025 for a morning of connection, collaboration, and community impact at the Business and Community Partnership Breakfast. At the event, our community partners learned more about the district's vision, mission, and goals and heard from students excited about their projects and achievements. Included in the event was an "Experienceship" portion which allowed business owners and leaders to set up booths at the school to connect directly with students - giving them a behind-the-scenes look at their industry, day-to-day operations, possible career paths, and what it really takes to succeed.



COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS & Q&A SESSIONS

Throughout the year, Superintendent Lewis and other district leaders host regular "Ask Us Anything" Q&A sessions as a cornerstone of our commitment to transparency and community connection. These interactive forums provide all stakeholders, including parents, staff, and community members, with direct access to leadership. Administrators also host community gatherings on critical topics to actively gather feedback and perspective and hold regular informational sessions to continuously update our community on our work, policies, and strategic initiatives, ensuring a fully informed partnership.

PTOS & BOOSTERS

Sycamore Schools thrives on the active partnership of our dedicated Boosters organizations. The Athletic Boosters, Sycamore Band & Orchestra Boosters, Aves Vocal Boosters, and Aves Theatre Boosters go above and beyond to support and enhance our programs. Through key annual fundraising initiatives, our Boosters directly provide the resources that maintain Sycamore's reputation for excellent offerings.

Our Parent-Teacher Organizations (PTOs) are the backbone of school-level engagement and a vital part of our success. Operating within each school, our dedicated PTOs foster a powerful partnership between parents, teachers, and staff. They directly enrich the student experience by funding classroom enhancements, organizing volunteer efforts, and hosting community-building events.



Vibrant Community Partnerships



MILITARY APPRECIATION

Sycamore Schools proudly recognize and honor our service members through collaborative Veterans Day programs and events across all grade levels, including moving ceremonies hosted at our elementary schools. Several E.H. Greene Intermediate School students read their powerful, patriotic essays at the Blue Ash Veterans Day Ceremony in fall 2025. Additionally, four Sycamore Junior High students were selected for a distinct honor: they participated in the wreath ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier while on a school field trip to Washington D.C. These events underscore our schools' commitment to civic engagement and respect for those who serve.

OGB & SYCAMORE BRIDGES

Sycamore Schools is committed to a mission of care that directly impacts the well-being of our students and families. We work closely with Operation Give Back, a dedicated area nonprofit that empowers our community by providing essential tutoring, food assistance, and comprehensive support services. Additionally, the district works hand-in-hand with Sycamore Bridges, a chapter of Neighborhood Bridges. This initiative leverages technology and social media to advocate for those in need, launching "campaigns for kindness" that engage our community to fill specific requests with speed and efficiency.

FASHION FOR THE CURE

Driven by a passionate group of student leaders at the high school, Fashion for the Cure is a professional annual event that requires a year-long commitment to planning and execution. The show is a fantastic collaboration, featuring both pieces from local retailers and innovative designs created by our own fashion students. This dedication has resulted in significant community impact: Over the years, our students have proudly raised hundreds of thousands of dollars to support The Dragonfly Foundation, a vital non-profit dedicated to supporting children battling cancer.



SYCAMORE ALUMNI & FRIENDS ASSOCIATION

Mark Seger, 1979 Sycamore graduate and the 2024 Distinguished Alumnus (T)

Randy Sadler, 1969 Sycamore graduate and the 2025 Distinguished Alumnus (B)

The Sycamore Alumni and Friends Association (SAFA) works to strengthen ties between Sycamore High School alumni, the school, and the local community. SAFA organizes class reunions, networking events, and social activities that uphold school traditions. The association also secures funds to award two annual scholarships that recognize deserving students who exemplify community involvement and a commitment to giving back, ensuring the enduring Sycamore Spirit is supported and carried forward.



ADVISORY COUNCILS & COMMITTEES

Sycamore Schools actively involves the community through several key advisory and volunteer committees and groups that foster continuous support and collaboration. The Sycamore Advisory Council supports the Board of Education through research and communication, gathering feedback from broad representation including civic organizations, parents, and staff. Complementing this, the Sycamore Business Advisory Council aligns our educational efforts with local business needs, enhancing career awareness and work-based experiences for students. The District Wellness Committee also plays a vital role in promoting a healthy environment for both staff and students, and the Sycamore Ambassadors, a dedicated parent volunteer group, ensure a smooth transition for new families, especially those with language barriers, by offering to connect them with resources and support.





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BOARD OF EDUCATION



Board Members

Back row, from left: Vice President Victor Harris, Dr. Lynne Stieger, Paul Balent
Front row, from left: President Sara Bitter, Dr. Adrienne James
New member beginning in 2026:
Will Gosnell (not pictured)