

**GENEVA AREA CITY SCHOOLS
FIVE YEAR FORECAST ASSUMPTIONS
FORECASTED FISCAL YEARS ENDING JUNE 30, 2022 THROUGH 2026
Approved 11/17/2021**

REVENUES

Property Taxes (1.010 & 1.020)

Property tax revenue estimates are based on historical growth patterns, including scheduled updates and reappraisals, and normally substantiated by information provided for the current fiscal year from the county auditor (the county auditor's information is supplied by calendar year).

Ashtabula County sexennial reappraisal schedule: 2014, 2020, 2026

Ashtabula County triennial update schedule: 2017, 2023, 2029

2010 valuation \$361,867,310	increased \$3,909,355 or 1.09%
2011 valuation \$340,642,150	decreased \$21,225,160 or 5.87%, due to triennial update
2012 valuation \$344,510,750	increased \$3,868,600 or 1.14%
2013 valuation \$337,329,580	decreased \$7,181,170 or 2.08% (\$12,068,830 increase offset by removal of SPIRE Institute value at \$19,250,000)
2014 valuation \$340,394,740	increased \$3,065,160 or .91%
2015 valuation \$341,363,610	increased \$968,870 or .28%
2016 valuation \$337,506,140	decreased \$3,857,470 or 1.13% (any increase was offset by reductions due to \$2,900,000 Waste Management 2014 BOR case settlement and \$2,500,000 Austinburg Twp. corrections to overvalued properties during 2014 reappraisal)
2017 valuation \$353,182,820	increased \$15,676,680 or 4.64%, due to triennial update
2018 valuation \$354,831,830	increased \$1,649,010 or .47%
2019 valuation \$357,929,650	increased \$3,097,820 or .87%
2020 valuation \$384,726,470	increased \$26,796,820 or 7.49%, mostly due to reappraisal

Increases in actual collections are kept down by HB920 reduction factors, which offset the effects of reappraisals and updates on previously existing property. All District current operating levies are continuing. Below is a history of real estate collections:

<u>FY</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>INCR/DECR</u>	<u>% CHANGE</u>	
2010	\$6,349,256	+264,636	+4.35%	
2011	\$6,631,268	+282,012	+4.44%	
2012	\$6,564,925	- 66,343	- 1.00%	
2013	\$6,532,595	- 32,330	- .49%	
2014	\$6,493,532	- 39,063	- .60%	
2015	\$6,687,044	+193,512	+2.98%	
2016	\$6,880,717	+193,673	+2.90%	
2017	\$6,727,875	- 152,842	- 2.22%	
2018	\$7,116,302	+388,427	+5.77%	SPIRE delinquent tax payment & triennial update
2019	\$7,029,612	- 86,690	- 1.22%	SPIRE PILOT payment moved to All Other Revenues
2020	\$7,215,297	+185,685	+2.64%	Higher than normal delinquencies collected
2021	\$7,343,360	+128,063	+1.77%	

Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, FY21 property taxes were predicted to drop 3% to 10% and be affected for two to three years. In spite of COVID, 2020 second half collections increased 2.25% and 2020 collections increased 3.41% over 2019. After the actual increase of 1.77% for FY21, this forecast projects increases of 2% for FY22, 1% for FY23, 1% for FY24, 1.5% for FY25, and 2% for FY26.

The District was at the 20-mill floor until tax year 2010, when devaluation took us to a 21.176 effective rate on Residential/Agricultural and a 21.405 effective rate on Commercial/Industrial for 2011. The County Auditor showed the District at 21.188 Res/Ag and 21.483 Com/Ind in 2012, 21.197 and 21.491 in 2013, 21.659 and 22.230 in 2014, 21.705 and 22.236 in 2015, 21.909 and 23.052 in 2016, 21.016 and 22.982 in 2017, 21.017 and 23.148 in 2018, 21.026 and 22.971 in 2019, and currently shows the District at 20.000 and 22.24 in 2020.

Emergency operating levy attempts failed in November 2011 and August 2012, followed by the failure of a school district income tax attempt in November 2017, before voters passed an SDIT levy in May 2018.

Income Tax (1.030)

The District sought a new school district income tax (SDIT) levy on the traditional base in November 2017, but was unsuccessful. A 1.25% 10-year SDIT levy on the earned income base was passed by District voters on 5/8/18, and became effective beginning January 1, 2019. The District will receive four payments per calendar year, one each in January, April, July, and October. Each payment will be for the amount collected during the prior quarter. The first distribution made to the District will exclude \$1,000 that is used to set up a refund account for future returns filed. Thereafter, the state will return all revenue collected to the District, less 1.5% retained for state administration purposes.

The Ohio Department of Taxation (ODT) advised that it takes approximately one and a half years (six to seven quarters) for a district to receive the full amount of taxes certified from the first year it is levied because of how the tax is collected. Employer withholding comes in throughout the year, but individual annual returns are not due until the following calendar year. ODT further warned that collections could be lower in areas that are not accustomed to the school district income tax. For that reason, the original estimate of new levy revenue on line 13.010 utilized the “Timeline for Receiving School District Income Tax Payments” document provided by ODT, and for the first seven quarters used the average of the lowest range provided for each quarter according to historical distributions of school districts passing levies since 2006, then used the average of the middle range provided for each quarter. Because the first two payments received on 4/30/19 and 7/30/19 were higher than anticipated, and the payment received on 10/30/19 was a little lower than the adjusted estimate, the forecast was revised to use 1% less than the top of the middle range for all quarters. Due to the COVID pandemic and because the FY2010 SDIT fell 7.6% for all school districts as a result of the 2008 recession, the original FY21 forecast showed a 7.5% reduction from what was projected for FY21 and a 3% reduction from what was planned for FY22. The actual FY21 reduction was only 5.1%, so a 2% reduction will be used for FY22 followed by a 1% increase for FY23 and .5% increases for FY24, FY25 and FY26.

Unrestricted & Restricted Grants-In-Aid (1.035 & 1.040)

DeRolph Note

On March 24, 1997, the Ohio Supreme Court rendered a decision declaring certain portions of the Ohio school funding plan unconstitutional. The Court stayed the effect of its ruling for one year to allow the Ohio General Assembly to design a plan to remedy the perceived defects in the system. Declared unconstitutional was the State’s “School Foundation Program,” which provides significant amounts of monetary support to the School District.

After the first Supreme Court ruling, numerous pieces of legislation were passed by the Ohio General Assembly in an attempt to address the issues identified by the Court. The Court of Common Pleas in Perry County reviewed the new laws and, in a decision issued on February 26, 1999, determined they were not sufficiently responsive to the constitutional issues raised under the “thorough and efficient” clause of the Ohio Constitution. The State appealed the decision made by the Court of Common Pleas to the Ohio Supreme Court, which again upheld the lower court ruling. The Ohio General Assembly set a new deadline of June 15, 2001. Amended Substitute HB94 was the State’s reply to DeRolph, and after being reviewed by the Ohio Supreme Court, it too was found to be lacking. Nonetheless, the Ohio Supreme Court gave the Ohio General Assembly and Governor Taft credit for trying, and decided to put the case to rest as long as the General Assembly tweaked their response with a few changes. The State defendants waffled on the changes, and instead requested a review. The Ohio Supreme Court requested the parties work with a mediator in an attempt to see if the school funding case could be settled. A master commissioner was appointed to preside over the Court-ordered settlement conference on

November 16, 2001. On March 21, 2002, the mediator issued his final report indicating that the conference was unable to produce a settlement, so the case was sent back to the Court for reconsideration.

In *DeRolph IV*, issued December 11, 2002, the Supreme Court directed the General Assembly to enact a school-funding scheme that is thorough and efficient, as explained in *DeRolph I* and *II*, and the accompanying concurrences. The Supreme Court did not retain jurisdiction, but sent the matter to the Court of Common Pleas for Perry County to carry the Judgment into execution. Nothing was done to remedy the problem.

On May 16, 2003, the Ohio Supreme Court denied Plaintiffs the right to pursue a remedy in the Perry County Court of Common Pleas. Paragraph 33 of that decision states “The duty now lies with the General Assembly to remedy an educational system that has been found by the majority in *DeRolph IV* to still be unconstitutional.”

Changes in State Funding Method

Through FY2009: SF3, a per pupil funding method, with categorical funding, guarantees, and residual funding. Geneva’s funding was flat for FY2008 and FY2009.

FY2010-FY2011: PASS Report, based on the Ohio Evidenced-Based Model (OEBM), with guarantees. First time a funding method used actual methodology rather than the residual method. Provided resources for defined areas, but some categories were phased in and not fully funded. Transitional aid guaranteed a reduction of no more than 1% for FY2010 from FY2009 funding and no more than 2% for FY2011 from FY2010. Federal Stimulus was used to temporarily replace some state funding due to a state budget shortfall. This was done through State Fiscal Stabilization Funding (SFSF), which accounted for 6.3% of state funding in FY2010 and 7.8% in FY2011.

FY2012-FY2013: The Bridge Formula, a transitional approach used because a new funding mechanism was not formulated by Governor Kasich, was a return to residual budgeting. A permanent formula was not expected until FY2014. This method did not replace the loss of federal stimulus dollars used the previous two years. The Federal Education Jobs bill partially replaced the loss of federal stimulus for FY2012. This plan also phased out tangible personal property reimbursements completely by FY2013 for most districts.

Problem: Total state aid package reductions of \$1,443,161 forced the District to look for ways to reduce already lean expenditures. The new state budget also eliminated additional EMIS, Career Tech, and Gifted Testing funding, but required that these things still be done even with reduced state funding.

FY2014-FY2015: Governor Kasich’s much-heralded budget proposal released as HB59 presented a completely new school funding formula that included several components meant to target funds to districts/students to meet various needs. The “Achievement Everywhere” funding formula would have put 316 districts, including Geneva, on a guarantee for FY2014, and 398 districts on a guarantee for FY2015. After the House and Senate passed altered forms of the budget bill, a conference committee approved final recommendations on the bill on June 25, 2013. The bill was then approved by the House and Senate on June 27, 2013. The final bill used per pupil funding of \$5,745 for FY2014 and \$5,800 for FY2015 to establish the Opportunity Aid and made other changes to funding levels for other targeted funds.

FY2016-FY2017: Governor Kasich’s budget proposal, introduced as HB 64, supposedly directed state support to the districts with less capacity to meet their own needs, but somehow poorer districts like Geneva saw decreases in funding while wealthy districts and charter schools saw the increases. While the per-pupil amounts increased to \$5,900 in FY2016 and \$6,000 in FY2017, Geneva would have received \$195,635 less the first year and an additional \$193,679 less the second year as Governor Kasich began phasing out the transitional aid guarantee. The House made positive structural changes to the school-funding formula with a hold-harmless provision, so that no district lost foundation formula aid when comparing FY15 to FY17. After moving through the Senate, the conference committee, and the Governor’s line-item veto, the final version of the bill gave Geneva no increased funding, but gave charter schools an additional \$100 per pupil each year.

FY2018-FY2019: Governor Kasich’s last budget proposal, introduced as HB 49, showed Geneva receiving a decrease in funding of \$503,979 for FY2018 and staying at that same funding level for FY2019. The budget version passed by the House showed the funding reduction at \$503,805, while the Governor’s budget reduction increased to \$564,579, based on updated ADM. Fortunately for Geneva, the Senate version and the final conference committee report passed by both the

Senate and the House kept our funding basically the same as FY2017. The final per pupil amounts were \$6,010 for FY2018 and \$6,020 for FY2019, meaning charter schools continued to receive an increase.

FY2020-FY2021: Mike DeWine was elected as the new governor in November 2018. His first budget proposal called for increased funding for K-12 education to be earmarked for mental health services, wraparound supports, mentoring, and after school programs based on census poverty data. Geneva received \$689,299 in FY20 and \$992,908 in FY21, and guidance from ODE and AOS directed the money be placed in a separate 467 fund not to be included in the five year forecast. The current formula was frozen at FY19 levels based on provisions of Amended Substitute HB 166, so no new operational dollars were available from the state. The recommendations of the Cupp/Patterson Fair School Funding Plan were not included in the substitute version, but HB 305 was introduced and received testimony in the House Finance Committee. Amendments to HB 305 were expected to be filed, but they took a back seat to the EdChoice voucher debate and then to the COVID-19 pandemic. Sub HB 305 passed the House in November 2020, but no action was taken in the Senate.

As a result of the pandemic, state revenues were well below estimates for March and April 2020, so the state announced GRF reductions totaling \$775 million, including \$300 million to K-12 education foundation funding. That meant a loss of \$433,025 deducted from Geneva's last three foundation payments for FY20. The state projected a FY20 shortfall of \$2 billion by year end, so FY21 foundation payments were reduced by the same 3.79% as in FY20. The governor, by executive order, released \$152 million back to traditional school districts, so Geneva's FY21 reduction was only \$195,538.

FY2022-FY2023: The Fair School Funding Plan became the new school-funding formula as reflected in the House version after a compromise was reached between the two chambers in Conference Committee. Modifications included removing the six-year phase in, eliminating the Oversight Commission, and eliminating the cost studies for categorical components. ODE has yet to load the new formula and stated that simulation estimates may vary significantly for individual districts, so it will be difficult to tell exactly how this affects Geneva Schools until actual aid is calculated based on actual data.

State Aid Assumptions

- State Resources for Foundation are updated from the November No. 1 Foundation Settlement Report and School Finance Payment Report (SFPR) Worksheet for FY22. Because of direct funding, this amount will be lower than last year to account for the community school, STEM, and scholarship transfers that will no longer be deducted. Once the new formula is plugged in, open enrollment additions and deductions will also not apply. The forecast shows no increase for FY22-26 while we wait for better data and the implementation of the Fair School Funding Plan (FSFP).
- Preschool Special Education funding reflects the November No. 1 SFPR amount for all years of the forecast. This is based on a per-pupil calculation and separate from any guarantee.
- Special Education Transportation funding also reflects the November No. 1 SFPR throughout. This funding is outside the guarantee.
- A Career Technical amount is shown as restricted aid after being deducted from regular Foundation funding. The November No. 1 SFPR shows \$63,809, which will be used throughout the forecast.
- Beginning with November 2013, ODE changed the coding for Economic Disadvantaged Funding from Unrestricted to Restricted. This move took over \$360,000 out of State Resources for Foundation. As unrestricted funding, this money was used to meet basic operating costs, but with this change, the fear is that it may eventually require the money to be spent for a specific purpose. The \$298,918 showing on the November No. 1 SFPR will be used throughout the forecast.
- Catastrophic aid is provided to districts that document the need for additional state aid for school age special education students whose cost of education exceeds a certain amount set by the State. The amounts recorded reflect partial reimbursement because this program has never been fully funded. The District received reimbursement for FY18 in June 2019 at \$117,123, or 32.11%; reimbursement for FY19, received in June 2020, was \$152,571, or 27.16%; and reimbursement for FY20, received in June 2021, was \$132,105, or 26.95%. The amount received fluctuates according to the number of eligible claims filed and the appropriation available from the state, and the amount funded is supposed to increase with the FSFP, so this forecast is going to project reimbursement at \$140,000 per year.

- For FY19, the District received \$37,889 for the Graduation Bonus and \$14,793 for the Third Grade Reading Bonus, but because these bonuses were inside the guarantee, there was no increase in funding. Nothing is shown going forward since these bonuses weren't included in funding bills since then.

ADM will be important with the FSFP, unless the District continues on the guarantee and if the FSFP continues to be phased in for future bienniums. Formula ADM is shown flat throughout the forecast.

A note on casino revenue: A portion of the taxes paid by casinos is to be allocated to school districts as enumerated in a constitutional amendment to be used to support primary and secondary education. The first casino revenue payments were distributed on January 31, 2013 to all public school districts based on the schools' student enrollment data uploaded into EMIS. Geneva received \$55,662. Starting in FY14, there were two distributions per fiscal year on August 31st and January 31st. Casino revenue is to be posted to the general fund as "Other Unrestricted Grants in Aid" and included on line 1.035 of the five-year forecast. FY19 payments were \$127,831, FY20 payments were \$127,412, and FY21 payments dropped 27% to \$93,438 due to the COVID-19 pandemic and casino closures. FY22 appears to rebound with an August payment more than double the previous August, but then the forecast will project a continued downward trend due to competition from other venues.

The table below shows projected numbers based on the November No. 1 School Finance Payment Report (SFPR) Worksheet:

	FY2022	FY2023	FY2024	FY2025	FY2026
Formula ADM	2,198	2,198	2,198	2,198	2,198
State Resources for Foundation	10,658,977	10,658,977	10,658,977	10,658,977	10,658,977
Preschool Unit Funding	91,737	91,737	91,737	91,737	91,737
Special Ed. Transportation	106,788	106,788	106,788	106,788	106,788
Special Ed. Home Instruct. Adj.					
Casino Tax Revenue	129,700	128,000	127,500	127,000	126,500
Prior Year SFPR Adj. & Other	-2,161				
Total Unrestricted Aid (1.035)	10,985,041	10,985,502	10,985,002	10,984,502	10,984,002
Total Restricted Federal Aid (1.045)					
Total "Foundation Support"	10,985,041	10,985,502	10,985,002	10,984,502	10,984,002
Economic Disadvantaged Funding	298,918	298,918	298,918	298,918	298,918
Career Tech/Adult Ed.	63,809	63,809	63,809	63,809	63,809
Catastrophic Cost	140,000	140,000	140,000	140,000	140,000
Total Restricted Aid (1.040)	502,727	502,727	502,727	502,727	502,727

Property Tax Allocation (1.050)

The property tax allocation, better known as Rollback and Homestead, is reimbursement from the state of Ohio for tax credits given owner-occupied residences equaling 12.5% of the gross property taxes charged residential taxpayers and up to 10% non-business credit. For property owners over age 65, a Homestead reimbursement is available, but an income limitation reduces eligibility. For the purpose of this forecast, the District's property tax allocation is calculated as a percentage of the general property tax projection. This percentage was 12.60% for FY18, 12.58% for FY19, 11.95% for FY20, and 11.42% for FY21, which will be used for remaining years of the forecast.

Fixed Rate Levy Loss Reimbursements for TPP were to be received beginning with FY2006 through FY2013 for each qualifying fixed rate levy, and the payments were to be made beginning in May 2006, and then every August, October and May through May 2013. The phase-out period was to start in August of 2013 and continue through May of 2019. Governor Kasich, with HB153, began and accelerated the phase-out starting in FY2012, so the District only received \$331,821 during

FY12 and nothing thereafter. By 2013, the TPP reimbursement was completely phased out for Geneva, removing over \$740,000 in revenue. The thought in phasing out reimbursements was that districts' local revenues would compensate for the loss over time, but that has not been the case.

All Other Revenues (1.060)

These amounts are estimated based on past trends and researching activity over the past two years in detail, and include such items as manufactured homes tax, open enrollment, tuition from parents or other districts, other student fees, investment interest income, pay to participate fees and other miscellaneous.

Changes were made to the manufactured homes tax that reduced the amount collected compared to previous years. The county auditor's office revealed that a number of mobile home owners had been putting permanent foundations on their dwellings, which pushed them to real estate. The District received \$42,134 in FY11, \$40,259 in FY12, \$34,001 in FY13, \$38,781 in FY14, \$38,733 in FY15, \$37,678 in FY16, \$38,577 in FY17, only \$32,470 in FY18, \$35,987 in FY19, \$35,520 in FY20, and an unexplainable jump to \$45,945 in FY21. This projection will use a three-year average of \$39,151 for the rest of the forecast.

The Board reached an agreement with the SPIRE board and Roni Lee LLC regarding special legislation, retroactive tax abatements, PILOT payments, and their valuation complaint. Special legislation was enacted, a PILOT Agreement was approved, and payments of \$197,208 each year will be received by the District for 10 years through FY2027. The first payment was made at the beginning of October 2017 as a delinquent tax payment to the county treasurer and received by the District in its March 2018 property tax settlement, so it was reported on line 1.010 of the forecast. Subsequent payments made through the PILOT Agreement are recorded on this line, coming from Geneva Sports LLC after a sale.

The number of students coming into the District via open enrollment fluctuates each year. The Board's Inter-District Open Enrollment policy has caps limiting the number of students entering the junior high and high school. FY16 figures were \$1,518,983 for 258.06, FY17 was \$1,494,921 for 250.99, FY18 was \$1,395,927 for 232.43, FY19 was \$1,331,179 for 221.43, FY20 was \$1,251,892 for 207.73, and FY21 continued the downward trend with \$1,222,067 for 203.27. The FSFP includes direct funding for students where they are educated, so there will be no revenue going forward as long as the FSFP remains as the funding formula.

While there have been no parent tuition payments since FY2017, the Preschool at Austinburg began accepting typical students in FY20, which added \$5,280 (reduced by the COVID closure). Tuition from other districts is subject to extreme fluctuations, sometimes depending on the timing of payments. Payment amounts have been \$125,674 (FY16), \$410,237 (FY17), \$483,344 (FY18), \$486,129 (FY19), \$616,097 (FY20), and \$542,313 (FY21). The FY2016 amount dropped as a large excess cost reimbursement from the state expected before the end of FY16 didn't arrive until July 2016, which then exaggerated the FY17 amount. The FY20 amount was the highest to date. The District strives to process all the excess cost and SF-14 applications it can, so \$542,000 will be used for the rest of the forecast.

Interest income is dependent on available cash flows and market conditions affecting interest rates. Cash flows were previously expected to decrease but should now stabilize and increase with the addition of a new levy. Interest rates had been at record lows but finally started to rise during FY17 and continued to increase slowly until Fed cuts in 2019, but then the COVID-19 pandemic resulted in interest rate reductions. Funds are predominantly invested in a good balance of CDs and federal agencies, with some liquid funds in a money market account. Security is the top priority of the investment philosophy of the District. The District received \$89,861 in FY17, \$89,301 in FY18, an increase to \$113,394 in FY19 and \$152,412 in FY20, before dropping to \$87,005 in FY21 due to lower reinvestment rates and COVID. A recovery is not projected until after FY24.

Miscellaneous includes property rentals, donations, administrative fees for fuel tanks, and insurance proceeds. An agreement with the Ashtabula County Community Action Agency for a Head Start unit at Cork Elementary pays \$600 per month during the school year beginning in FY14, but was affected by COVID. An anonymous donation of \$18,000 was received in July 2019 to purchase additional Chromebooks for GPS. Insurance proceeds of \$53,995 were received in FY20 for a bus accident in May 2019. With \$36,854 received in FY15, \$14,242 in FY16, \$9,296 in FY17, \$30,634 in FY18, \$10,047 in FY19, \$79,861 in FY20, and \$12,739 in FY21, this forecast will show \$11,368 for FY22 then \$10,000 for the remaining years.

The Geneva Area City Schools Board of Education implemented a Pay to Participate Policy at their 4/18/12 Board meeting. The amount collected for FY13 was \$76,055, with \$77,970 collected in FY14, \$78,926 in FY15, \$88,988 in FY16 (including \$4,000 in donations towards next year's fees), \$84,074 in FY17, \$83,095 in FY18 (including a \$5,100 donation), \$101,682 in FY19 (after an increase in the fees for that year), \$75,000 in FY20 (refunds issued for spring activities due to COVID), and \$86,035 in FY21. Fees collected should increase this year with the addition of several Middle School sports. Any reduction in sports or activities, or cancellations due to COVID, could greatly impact this dollar amount.

The following is a summary of All Other Revenues:

	FY2021	FY2022	FY2023	FY2024	FY2025	FY2026
Other Local Taxes	45,945	39,151	39,151	39,151	39,151	39,151
Payment In Lieu of Taxes	197,208	197,208	197,208	197,208	197,208	197,208
Open Enrollment In	1,222,067	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Funded FTE	203.27	0	0	0	0	0
Parent/Preschool Tuition	1,440	2,880	4,320	5,400	6,480	7,560
Tuition from Other Districts	542,313	542,000	542,000	542,000	542,000	542,000
Student Fees	850	1,000	1,200	1,300	1,400	1,500
Interest Income	87,005	87,000	87,000	87,000	95,000	100,000
Miscellaneous	12,739	11,368	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000
Pay to Participate	86,035	95,000	95,000	95,000	95,000	95,000
Total (1.060)	2,195,602	975,607	975,879	977,059	986,239	992,419

Transfers & Advances-In (2.040 & 2.050)

All advances over year-end are planned to be returned in the succeeding fiscal year. The last time the District had a need to advance was in FY2007. The hope is that no more advances will be necessary in the future.

All Other Financing Sources (2.060)

This line item includes the sale of real and non-real property and refunds of prior-year expenditures.

The Board approved the sale of the Board office property to the city of Geneva on 1/16/13 at a price of \$103,000, payable in installments of \$20,600 over four years, after the closing installment of 19,851.75 during FY13. The Board finally sold the old Spencer Elementary property for closing proceeds of \$30,261.12 on 4/12/18, after having it on the market for seven years.

The District sold one bus to Madison Local Schools for \$4,000 in FY17. The District sold a bus through Fast-Track Online Auctions and cleared \$1,600, with the proceeds received in August 2019. The projection for future years is \$6,000.

Refunds of prior-year expenditures fluctuate from year to year. SERS refunds of \$30,677 in FY13 and \$84,936 in FY14 were received, but after a \$106,460 refund in FY15 and smaller refunds through FY19, no refunds are expected. BWC rebates were received in the amounts of \$51,731 in FY14, \$50,184 in FY15, \$45,918 in FY18, \$42,730 in FY19, and \$61,760 and \$59,859 in FY20. A \$61,866 BWC rebate was received in November 2020 based on the full amount of the 2019 premium, and a \$224,076 rebate was received in December 2020 as part of Governor DeWine's \$5 billion request to ease COVID-19's continued impact. No other BWC rebates are expected in the future. After receipting \$161,538 in this category in FY14 and \$216,480 during FY15, only \$24,954 was receipted in FY16 and \$21,969 during FY17 before increasing to \$99,615 in FY18, \$133,497 in FY19 and \$152,278 in FY20. After \$359,714 in FY21, the projection for the remainder of the forecast will be \$100,000 for FY22 and then \$41,000 per year.

EXPENDITURES

Personal Services and Benefits (3.010 & 3.020)

The amounts for salaries and benefits are based on existing negotiated agreements as well as historical patterns. Percentage increases in the base amount are usually accompanied by additional increases because of step or class advances. Savings gained by the replacement of experienced personnel through retirements or resignations are often offset by retirement/severance payouts. This did not happen the previous five years, as very few teacher retirements occurred. Retirement, Workers Comp, and Medicare increase at the same rate as personal services. The only exception would be if the Workers' Comp rate increased or decreased. The District has worked hard to keep insurance costs down by changing insurance companies and negotiating changes in coverage, but increases in claims experience and medical costs drive up premium cost.

FY2012: All employees took a full wage freeze in order to keep the District out of the red. Reduction in force of 3.5 teachers reduced \$213,116 in salaries and \$51,596 in fringes. Mid-year classified reductions saved an additional \$44,900 in salaries and \$36,949 in fringes.

FY2013: All employees took a wage freeze, with the exception of the educational credit for teachers. An additional 10.5 teaching positions and 24 coaches and student activity advisors were eliminated, along with additional classified reductions, reducing costs \$714,287 in salaries and \$272,828 in fringes. Bad medical claims experience necessitated a 15% increase in medical premiums adding additional cost of \$359,456.

FY2014: Teachers received a 1% base increase with ½ step credit, while the classified staff received a 1% base increase retroactive to 1/20/14, and all employees began picking up an 8% premium contribution. Net reductions from FY2013 after the changes were \$706,070 in salaries and \$211,097 in fringes. A 10% medical premium increase added \$236,350 in additional cost.

FY2015: All employees received a 1% base increase, with teachers receiving ¾ step credit, for an additional cost of \$68,700 in salaries and \$10,958 in fringes over the 1% increase forecasted. Personnel changes made to maintain the new HVAC and technology in our new school buildings added \$92,219 in salaries and \$45,237 in fringes. Change from all-day, every other day Kindergarten to half-day, every-day Kindergarten added \$25,000 in salaries and \$4,000 in fringes for additional mid-day bus routes. Medical premium increased 15% adding \$454,903 offset by an additional \$39,808 in employee contribution.

FY2016: All employees received a 1% base increase, with teachers receiving ¾ step credit, at an additional cost of \$68,700 in salaries and \$10,958 in fringes over the 1% increase forecasted. The Board brought back Industrial Arts, added a study hall aide, picked up the full cost of cross country, and made a few other changes at an additional cost of \$88,675 in salaries and \$72,532 in fringes. Medical premiums increased only 5% for an additional cost of \$152,000, but were offset by an increase in employee contribution to almost 10% with a cap, saving almost \$90,000.

FY2017: The Board originally planned to restore an Assistant Mechanic, add an Academic Technologist and Building & Grounds Supervisor, and bring back the Middle School Guidance Counselor at a projected cost of \$171,808 in salaries and \$86,443 in fringes. While the Middle School Guidance Counselor and Assistant Mechanic have been added, the resignation of the Director of Technology/Operations caused a change to the plan. The Board began using shared services through Madison Local Schools to cover technology, which moved that expense to purchased services, and hired a Director of Maintenance/Transportation. After accounting for negotiated increases, the actual overall increase was 2.094%.

For FY2018, mid-year classified cuts were made as part of the spending reduction plan for ODE, resulting in savings of \$127,817 in wages and 89,141 in fringes. After reductions, the overall increase in salaries was 1.93%.

For FY2019, reductions saved the district \$661,534 in salaries and \$292,395 in fringes. No increase was projected except for the educational credit for teachers. The District hired seven additional aides for Building Bridges units at a cost of \$120,492 in salaries and \$107,073 in fringes. Unusually high substitute costs offset some of the savings leading to a total payroll reduction of 3.3%.

For FY20, the forecast showed the approved reinstatement of reductions, an allowance for steps, and the educational credit for teachers, offset by retirement savings resulting in a 4.09% increase in total payroll. The COVID closure eliminated substitute costs, most overtime, and field trips, bringing the payroll increase down to 1.16%.

For FY21, all FY18 and FY19 cuts were originally shown being restored with the exception of those teachers that were transferred to Building Bridges units. Because of the COVID pandemic, those restorations were put on hold at least another year (\$264,000 in salary and \$173,000 in fringes), but there was an estimated increase of \$144,000 salary/\$64,000 fringes for three new Kindergarten teachers and the H.S. Art change from 3/4ths to full-time, offset by a savings of \$27,000 salary/\$11,400 fringes because of the elimination of mid-day kindergarten bus routes. After a 2.24% increase in FY21, an increase of 4% is shown through FY26. Positions funded by ESSER funds until they are exhausted will hit the forecast in FY25 at about \$670,000 in salary and \$284,000 in fringes.

The COVID pandemic reduced payroll-related fringes for FY20 driving down the overall fringes increase to 2.76% from the projected 6.74%. Employees picked up 10% premium contributions during FY2017 and 12% during FY2018. The medical premium increased 10% in FY19 (\$355,340) and 3% in FY20 (\$117,262), while the dental premiums increased 5%, the first dental increase in ten years. After no insurance premium increases in FY21 and a 5% increase in FY22, a 10% medical premium increase is built into the overall increase of 7% for the next four years along with the changes noted above.

Any additional increase in the number of personnel employed by the District beyond what is noted in the forecast or a larger increase in insurance premiums could have a material effect on both the personal service and fringe benefit amounts.

Purchased Services (3.030)

Anticipated expenditures in this area are based on historical patterns. There are quite a few expenses the District doesn't control. Open enrollment was added to this category effective with FY1999. A community school deduction cost the District \$497,749 in FY13, \$689,137 in FY14, \$529,855 in FY15, \$560,166 in FY16, \$618,580 in FY17, \$640,647 in FY18, \$659,425 in FY19, and \$641,016 in FY20. Deductions for excess costs, post-secondary enrollment option, education choice scholarships, and court-placed students are included here. Districts throughout Ohio face the constant threat of losing students to an increasing number of for-profit charter schools and private school vouchers. The following chart shows the number of students that left the district via open enrollment, the charter school deduction, and the scholarship deduction and the money that left with them in FY21. With direct funding of students where they are educated provided by the FSFP, as long as this continues, there will no longer be a deduction for these.

	FY2021	FY2022	FY2023	FY2024	FY2025	FY2026
Charter/STEM Deduct	762,305	0	0	0	0	0
Total Student FTE	88.27	0	0	0	0	0
Open Enrollment Out	730,396	0	0	0	0	0
Funded FTE Out	121.92	0	0	0	0	0
Scholarship Deductions	288,922	0	0	0	0	0
Funded FTE Out	34.8	0	0	0	0	0

Expenditure increases in this category have fluctuated over the years due to changes in the weather, utility costs and school repairs. Purchased services increased 5.86% in FY13, 5.64% in FY14, .73% in FY15, 2.93% in FY16, and 14.62% in FY17. The larger increase for FY17 was due to having to use outside contractors again to service HVAC controls and shared services for technology, and to cover the \$254,000 increase in state deductions and additional special education costs. FY18 expenditures increased 14.75% because of additional special education costs and other instruction. Changes in FY19 leading to a 2.95% decrease included picking up the cost of the DD units through the ESC lessened by a state reimbursement passed from the DD to the ESC, taking over the Building Bridges units moving that expense to salaries and fringes, transportation savings on repairs because of reductions, and reductions in other services through the ESC. The successful Happy Hearts levy began offsetting the DD units cost beginning in February 2020. The COVID pandemic reduced the contracted special education transportation cost, some repairs, and other purchased service costs for FY20, resulting in a 3.25% decrease. FY21 saw a 4.46% increase. A 4% increase is projected each year after backing out the FY21 deductions of \$1,781,623. Stretching out the use of SWSF keeps about \$264,000 out of this category until FY27. The District will be in compliance with the percentage requirements for set asides established by HB412 or SB345.

Supplies and Materials (3.040)

This category includes textbooks, software, supplies for classrooms and teachers, office supplies/materials, library supplies/periodicals/magazines, maintenance supplies, gasoline/diesel and parts/tires for buses. The average over the last five years has been \$641,360, with \$689,411 in FY17, \$554,679 in FY18, only \$483,574 in FY19, \$747,629 in FY20, and \$731,509 in FY21. The previous three-year average was \$630,789. The District has been very careful with supply purchases, with an attempt to keep them at no more than \$650,000 per year, but FY20 included a new reading textbook adoption and a reduction due to the COVID pandemic, while a new science textbook adoption was included for FY21. This forecast projects \$730,000 per year as additional textbooks are replaced and another \$50,000 beginning in FY25 for supplies previously purchased with ESSER funds.

Capital Outlay (3.050)

Capital outlay expenditures are based on historical patterns. Included in capital outlay are expenditures for equipment, vehicles, building and land improvements, and construction.

The District had a bus replacement program in place that normally involved replacing three buses every year. Since FY2011, only two buses have been purchased most years, and the purchases have been paid from the PI fund. Bus purchases in the future will depend on the financial outlook at the time and the use of PI funds to keep it out of the general fund.

Before the District went through a strategic planning process this year, very little money had been spent on capital outlay while we waited for a technology plan to be developed. The forecast calls for \$230,000 in capital expenditures each year. The expenditure has been less than this the last five years, but in order to keep technology up to date, more will have to be spent. An additional \$54,000 will be added in FY25 and FY26 for equipment purchases covered by ESSER funds through FY24. The District will be in compliance with the percentage expenditure requirement for the capital and maintenance set aside established by HB412 or SB345. Necessary expenditures to meet the set-aside requirement are offset by proceeds from the District's .85 mill permanent improvement levy and the .5 mill OSFC maintenance levy.

Other Objects (4.300)

This expense group includes county auditor and treasurer fees, fees on delinquent taxes paid, election expenses, bank charges, annual single audit, professional dues/fees/memberships, and student activity miscellaneous. Auditor and treasurer fees normally increase with additional revenue from property taxes. An administration fee for the school district income tax was added beginning in FY19, adding approximately \$52,000 per year.

A change in state law during FY2012 made it mandatory for all public school districts to align themselves with an educational service center and send the ESC \$6.50 per pupil and an additional amount for supervisory services. The total ESC deduction for FY13 was \$81,125.37. A large portion of this charge was used to reduce an administrator's salary expense. The supervisory portion of this deduction was eliminated in HB59, leaving just the \$6.50 per pupil, or about \$13,384 this year. After a \$257,830 expense in FY18, \$236,041 in FY19, \$277,327 in FY20, and \$278,078 in FY21, this forecast projects \$278,100 per year.

Other Financing Uses, Advances/Transfers-Out (5.010, 5.020 & 5.030)

Anticipated expenditures in these areas are based on historical patterns. This expense group primarily accounts for Board transfers to Lunchroom, Athletics, and Band. No advances are projected to any funds per the note under Advances-In.

Lunchroom has made an outstanding effort to adjust staffing needs by attrition, mainly because of decreased enrollment and fewer lunches served, and made great progress in decreasing the transfer. In FY12, for the first time ever, no transfer was needed to Lunchroom, mainly because of no calamity days. Insurance premium increases drive the transfer up. Because of the COVID pandemic and the closure of schools, Lunchroom revenues took a hit which resulted in a transfer of \$79,065 in FY20. Again due to the effects of COVID, the transfer was \$74,348 in FY21.

Total transfers for FY14 were \$62,116 with an additional one-time transfer of \$22,000 required to the Underground Storage Tank Fund as authorized by Board resolution 71-12 and to satisfy Ohio's financial responsibility requirements. Transfers were \$97,467 for FY15, \$111,330 for FY16, \$81,609 for FY17, \$105,935 for FY18, \$98,703 for FY19, \$101,602 for FY20, and \$140,679 for FY21. Transfers are projected to stay around \$140,000 for the next three years due to the continued effect of COVID, then drop back to \$110,000 by FY25.

Encumbrances (8.010)

These are outstanding purchase orders that have not been approved for payment as goods were not received in the fiscal year in which they were ordered. Encumbrances were \$353,827 in FY16, 280,082 in FY17, \$311,664 in FY18, \$543,533 in FY19, \$416,131 in FY20, and \$585,885 in FY21. The number used for the forecast will be \$585,000.

HB412 Reserve Balance (9.010-9.030)

Beginning with FY1999, each public school district in Ohio was required to spend or set-aside 2% for instructional materials; 2% for capital improvements; and 1% for budget reserve. For subsequent years, 3% was to be expended or set-aside for instructional materials and capital improvements; and 1% was to be set-aside in a budget reserve fund each year in which a district's revenue increased by 3% until said fund reached 5%.

With SB345, the requirement for school districts to maintain a budget reserve was eliminated. The funds that had been previously placed in the budget reserve may, at the discretion of the Board, be returned to the District's general fund or left in the account. However, the Workers' Compensation rebate that was put into the budget reserve can only be used for one of the following purposes: to offset a budget deficit, for school facility construction or repair, for textbooks and instructional materials, for purchase of school buses, or for professional development of teachers. With the adoption of this forecast, the Board resolves that the current balance will remain in the budget reserve until the Board decides its disposition.

This financial forecast includes the requirements of SB345. Governor Kasich's first budget did away with the requirement for a textbook and instructional materials set aside. It is anticipated that qualifying expenditures for capital improvements will be made each year leaving a zero balance at the end of each year.

REVENUE FROM NEW LEVIES (13.010 & 13.020)

Previous forecasts addressed state funding cuts by cutting needed programs and staff. The trend of excess expenditures over revenues (line 6.010) had been downward, with eight out of nine years showing deficit spending until reversing that trend in FY12 with budget cuts. Five straight years showed revenues exceeding expenditures, but that positive trend ended in FY17. FY17 had deficit spending of \$782,701 followed by deficit spending of \$983,503 in FY18 and only \$84,934 in FY19.

The last biennium budget was far from adequate and represented a big change from previous funding formulas, for the fourth time in eight years. The governor and the legislature continually failed to address any of the DeRolph decisions. Governor Strickland had given us a biennium budget with flat funding for two years and a second biennium budget with one percent and two percent decreases in funding each year. Governor Kasich reduced funding to create a better business climate and wanted to increase the number of vouchers and charter schools, further eroding funding to public schools. Governor DeWine's first budget provided no additional operating revenues for the next two years, instead choosing to supply funds for student wellness and success through the education budget that perhaps would work best through another state department.

Because of decreased state funding and the loss of federal money when SFSF and Ed Jobs ran out, it was necessary to make additional expenditure cuts. These changes have no doubt had an impact on the education delivery system and made it difficult to continue the educational gains this district had achieved. The cuts also reduced after-school opportunities for students. According to district profile reports on the ODE website, the District ranked 61 of 607 districts in the state of Ohio in lowest expenditure per pupil in FY16, 77 in FY17, 78 in FY18, 52 in FY19, and 95 in FY20.

After the defeat of a proposed emergency levy in November 2011 and August 2012, the Board focused on living within cuts made and possibly making more cuts if needed. The Ohio Department of Education Office of School Finance designated the District as being in Pre-Fiscal Caution Status in August of 2017. The Board was on the ballot in November of 2017 with a 1% School District Income Tax (SDIT) levy on the traditional base. If passed, proceeds from the levy would have first been received in April of 2018. After the failure of that levy, the Board was required to file with ODE a district-approved written plan showing how we would eliminate any current deficits and avoid any projected future deficits with or without a levy. This plan was filed with ODE at the beginning of January 2018. The Board went back on the ballot with a 1.25% SDIT on the earned income base, and this time was successful thanks to the efforts of an energetic citizens committee. The collection schedule for the SDIT is much different than the traditional property tax levy, as the collections slowly build up to the full anticipated amount. The first proceeds were received in April of 2019. These levy proceeds are shown on line 1.030 and were projected to reach full collection value after six to seven quarters. The Board still had to make cuts to get by until the levy money reached its full collection value. The Board will need to carefully consider the reinstatement of cuts as the levy money grows and monitor the effects of the COVID pandemic in order to stay within the guidelines established by ODE's Office of School Finance and avoid any further designation of Fiscal Caution or Fiscal Warning. When ESSER and Student Wellness and Success Funds run out, the District will need to be in a position to either absorb reinstated and new positions funded by those sources or make cuts.

With the passage of the SDIT, no other revenue from new levies is shown in this forecast.