Ayersville Local School 28046 Watson Rd. Defiance, Ohio 43512 Phone: 419.395.1111



The CO-PILOT

Linking the Community and Pilots

Volume 1 2022-2023 December 2022

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419.395.1111 Ext. 301

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7-12 Principal

Christine Siebeneck 419.395.1111 Ext. 101

FROM THE DESK OF BETH HENCH

The Season of Giving: As the first semester of the 2022-2023 school year draws to a close, I am once again in awe of the generosity that exists in Pilot Nation. Over the past several months Pilots have been asked to donate in various ways, and our families continue to show their giving spirits.

- On December 1, 2021, the Natatorium was closed to the public due to lack of funding. Over the past 12 months, a fundraising campaign was held in order to raise enough money to reopen the pool before taxes from the levy begin to collect. Due to the extreme generosity from so many in and around our community, along with a large donation from Mr. Quintin Yao, on December 1, 2022, the Natatorium reopened!
- The Elementary School stuffed shoeboxes with fun toys, school supplies, and hygiene items as part of Samaritan's Purse project Operation Christmas Child. Students donated enough gifts to fill 57 shoeboxes which will be delivered to children in need around the world!
- This year's annual Dime War saw the return of the Ohio State vs. Michigan rivalry. At the end of the week, students and staff raised over \$3,400! Although Ohio State's flag was raised above our District, the true winner was Christmas for Kids!
- Throughout the month of December, students participated in "13 Days of Giving." Instead of opening a door and receiving a gift each day, all elementary homerooms completed a reverse Advent Calendar. Every day a student was assigned one canned good item to donate in order to create a meal for a local family. The meals were delivered to families on the last day of school before Christmas break.

Mrs. Miller or Mrs. Siebeneck end the morning announcements each day by saying, "Act as if what you do makes a difference..." Throughout the building you can then hear students of all ages yell, "IT DOES!" Throughout this season of giving, Pilot Nation has made a difference in the lives of so many in our community and beyond. I know I am just one of many that are truly proud to be a Pilot!

Natatorium Update: After several minor setbacks, the pool is finally reopened! Although public open swim hours are limited at this time, as soon as a new Pool Supervisor is hired, evening and Sunday hours will be added. More information on Swim Lessons will be coming soon too! Keep an eye on the District website for updates on all pool related information.

FROM THE DESK OF ABBY SHARP

November Five Year Forecast

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Financial Forecast	Fiscal Year 2023	Fiscal Year 2024	Fiscal Year 2025	Fiscal Year 2026	Fiscal Year 2027
Beginning Balance (Line 7.010)	3,886,569	4,203,515	4,490,573	4,396,849	4,191,271
+ Revenue	9,101,106	9,178,636	9,166,267	9,281,050	9,341,253
+ Proposed Renew/Replacement Levies					-
+ Proposed New Levies					-
- Expenditures	(8,784,161)	(8,891,577)	(9,259,992)	(9,486,628)	(9,772,709)
= Revenue Surplus or Deficit	316,946	287,059	(93,725)	(205,578)	(431,456)
Line 7.020 Ending Balance with renewal/new levies	4,203,515	4,490,573	4,396,849	4,191,271	3,759,815

^{*} The Five Year Forecast only includes General Fund. The Permanent Improvement and Natatorium levies which are 5-year terms are not included in the forecast so they do not show on the proposed renew/replacement levy line shown above. Since the beginning of the most recent Income Tax levy begins collection in January 2023, it does not show up as a renewal again until Fiscal Year 2028.

In Fiscal Years 2023 and 2024, revenue surplus is expected. This means that expenditures are expected to be less than revenue by \$316,946 and \$287,059 respectively. By the last year of the forecast, Fiscal Year 2027, the District expects to have a revenue shortfall where expenditures are expected to be greater than revenue by \$431,456. The District would need to cut its Fiscal Year 2027 projected expenses by 4.41% in order to balance its budget without additional revenue.

Total revenue increased by 0.45% annually over the past 5-Year period and is projected to increase by that same percentage annually through 2027. Total expenditures increased 0.34% annually during the past 5-year period and is projected to increase 3.02% annually through Fiscal Year 2027. Benefits have the largest projected average annual increase. Benefits include, retirement, Medicare, health, dental, vision, and life insurance as well as workers' compensation.

Fair School Funding Plan

Beginning in Fiscal Year 2022, Ohio adopted the Fair School Funding Plan (FSFP). With this plan, funding is driven by a base cost methodology that incorporates the four components identified as necessary to the education process: direct classroom instruction, instructional and student support, leadership, and accountability. In Fiscal Year 2022 this formula was implemented at 16% funding; in Fiscal Year 2023, that increased to 33%



funding. There is no guarantee that this formula will be included in the next biennium budget (2-Year state budget) or that the phase-in of this funding will continue. If it were to be fully implemented over the next few years as originally suggested in House Bill 1, it would have a significant impact on the District's forecast as shown in the graph above. When the time comes, I would like to encourage everyone to contact state representatives and senators to urge the continued implementation of the Fair School Funding Plan.

OFCC School Safety and Security Grant

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In striving to keep our promise to stakeholders that we will continue to look seriously at other methods of funding to help support the school, specifically grant funding, I'm very proud to say that we have been granted an OFCC grant of \$99,224.64 for the purpose of maintaining and upgrading the security of our District. The grant funds will be used for a wide variety of things ranging from upgrades to the public address system to security cameras to upgraded infrastructure to help keep our school as safe as possible. You may see work beginning shortly.

OSLN STEM Classroom Grant

Thanks to the collaborative efforts of Mrs. Siebeneck and Mr. Potts, our students will get to learn about STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) through the "Real Pilots. Real Stories." project. This \$5,000 grant is part of the Ohio STEM Learning Network (OSLN) Classroom Grant Program which was funded by Battelle. With the grant funds, Ayersville plans to set up a video booth in the Media Center and put our students' interview skills in motion. Current students will capture the stories of Ayersville alumni through stories about past school plays, a project created in class, lunch room mishaps, a sporting event, a speech made, a memorable field trip, a lasting friendship created, etc. Following the interview, the students will edit the segment and post them to our local YouTube channel where they will be archived as part of an interactive database of Pilot Logbooks. New technologies will be used to connect our community through old stories that will once again come to light beyond just the walls of family gatherings. If you are an alumni of Ayersville and have stories to share, please reach out to Mrs. Siebeneck (csiebeneck@ayersvillepilots.org) for more information.

FROM THE DESK OF NANCY MILLER (ELEMENTARY PRINCIPAL)

Many things have taken place in the elementary this fall. We had a costume parade throughout the school. Many groups participated in handing out treats to our students. We are very thankful for the community members who were involved. We loved having you in our building!

Our 4th through 6th graders attended their first incentive trip. The YMCA of Defiance hosted us for swimming and games in the gymnasium. We had a great time celebrating our positive behavior and taking a break from the routine of going to class. The first and second graders welcomed their grandparents into the building for a short program and a small snack. All the children were very happy to spend time with their grands and share with their friends.

Finally, we collected money in a friendly competition between The Ohio State Buckeyes and the Michigan Wolverines. The result of our coin war was that the Buckeyes would win so we hoisted the OSU flag atop our flagpole. It flew high and proud the entire week, but to no avail - the better team won. Go Blue!!

Finally, we would like to congratulate Mrs. Jackson on her retirement after 26 years at Ayersville Schools. For the time I have known her, she has been a teacher aide. A big thank you to Mrs. Jackson for her amazing time and talents she has given to the students here at Ayersville. She is always willing to help anyone in need. She has copied papers, cut out crafts, graded papers, and done everything in between to better our school. She has been the extra help that some of our students have needed.

These students and parents have put their trust in her and Mrs. Jackson did not let them down. Mrs. Jackson, we will definitely miss you!

FROM THE DESK OF CHRISTINE SIEBENECK (HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL)

The school year is moving so fast! We have traded our shorts for warm-weather jackets and gloves. Winter athletics and activities have the students and fans busy hustling and cheering. The Student Council has started planning for Winter Homecoming. The first semester is almost over, and students are preparing for semester tests and culminating projects.

Here a few highlights from our very busy first semester:

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- Great Fall season by all our Pilot athletes and spectacular performances from The Pride of Aversville.
- Grades 9-12 celebrated a traditional Homecoming Week that included familiar events like the Bonfire, Battle of the Classes, crowning of the King and Queen, and the dance.
- FFA members participated in chapter events and attended the National Convention.
- Career and College programming events included Manufacturing Day, GM Plant Tour, STEM Day, and a College & Career Fair.
- Music department showcased their talents in Fall and Holiday Choir Concerts, the Variety Show, and the Band Holiday Concert.
- The Class of 2023 ordered their caps and gowns, and took their Senior Portraits.
- All Pilots had the privilege of honoring our Veterans on November 11th. Retired Navy Chief Petty Officer Brad Morrison organized a thoughtful and moving program to honor our local veterans.
- The Junior High Student Council organized their first formal dance.
- Prior to Thanksgiving break, students in grades 5-12 attended a presentation led by Dr. Scott Grant, who educated the students on leaving a positive digital footprint.

I look forward to an equally fast-paced second semester. When we return from the Holiday break, the process for scheduling courses for the next school year will begin, and most students in grades 7-12 will be participating in state assessments. Look for those details to be communicated via email and newsletter. The students will continue to amaze with their ability to juggle all the activities, make the honor roll, and have time to serve in our community. And the second semester is bittersweet for our seniors who are planning for the next part of their journey and embracing every remaining Pilot experience.

Stay up-to-date with the latest events at the High School by visiting www.ayersville.org, follow me on Twitter @pilotsprincipal, like us on Facebook, and download the free Ayersville Local Schools app.

FROM THE DESK OF CHEF BRAD BAILEY (CAFETERIA SUPERVISOR)

School lunch land – like the grocery store – has seen the effects of rising prices. Following the trend of the grocery store, some items are harder to find on the shelves than others. There are a few items on the menu that we have to start trying to purchase four weeks before they're needed!

Always keep the cafeteria in mind if you're looking for some extra income. Our substitutes are on call for a 9:15 a.m.-2:00 p.m. shift (with a half hour lunch) as needed. If you're interested in more information about being a cafeteria substitute contact Chef Bailey: bbailey@ayersvillepilots.org.

The cafeteria staff would like to wish everyone a Happy New Year filled with plenty of family time.

The Staff	Years of Service
Gina Wellman	7
Scarlet Zachrich	22
Mary Ruhe	5
Janice Wolfrum	19
Amber Delgado	5 mo.
Diane Bok	13
Brad Bailey (Supervisor)	12

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FROM THE DESK OF MARK GIESIGE (TRANSPORTATION SUPERVISOR)



Please join us in congratulating Scott Roth on his retirement effective January 1, 2023. Mr. Roth is retiring after 27 years as a bus driver for Ayersville – he has been transporting our students to and from school since November of 1995! Pilot Nation thanks Mr. Roth for his years of service, and wishes Scott the best in all of his future endeavors!

NOW HIRING!!

Ayersville Schools is looking for full-time route drivers and substitute drivers. If you are interested in becoming a certified bus driver, please reach out to Mark Giesige at 419-395-1111.

ATHLETIC BOOSTERS UPDATE

Pilot Nation is extremely grateful to the Athletic Boosters, local vendors, and community volunteers for the fully funded ball fields installed on the south side of the property next to the solar array. The fields are complete and are ready for some Pilot ball to be played in the Spring.

The Boosters have recently voted in new leadership, but are still looking for a new treasurer. If you are interested in becoming an active member of the Boosters, please contact them via email at:

ayersvilleathleticboosters@gmail.com. Booster meetings are held every 3rd Wednesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. with the next meeting scheduled for January 18, 2023. For up-to-date information, follow us on Facebook at "Ayersville Athletic Boosters".

President: Nick Englehart, **Vice President:** Katelyn Eldridge, **Outgoing Treasurer:** Blake Stambaugh, **Secretary:** Angie Englehart



AYERSVILLE LOCAL SCHOOL 28046 WATSON RD. DEFIANCE, OH 43512

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POSTAL PATRON

UPCOMING DATES

Dec. 21 1-hour Early Dismissal Dec. 22-Jan. 2 No School-Christmas Break

Jan. 3 School Resumes

Jan. 13 Waiver Day (no students, staff report only)

Jan. 16 No School-MLK Day

Feb. 1 2-Hour Delay for Staff Professional Development

Feb. 20 No School-President's Day

March 16 Senior Citizen's Breakfast in the Commons at 8:30 a.m.

March 17 Waiver Day (no students, staff report only)

April 3-7 No School-Spring Break



New Pool Schedule

AM: 5:30-6:30 AM (Mon.-Fri.)
PM: Coming Soon!
Sunday: Coming Soon!

Pool Closed:

Dec. 21, 2022-Jan. 2, 2023

Pool Pass (AM & PM)

Family: \$150 Single: \$75 Admission

Under 65 yrs old: \$3.00 Over 65 yrs. old: \$2.00

Veterans: Free

Pool Rental: \$50.00/hour