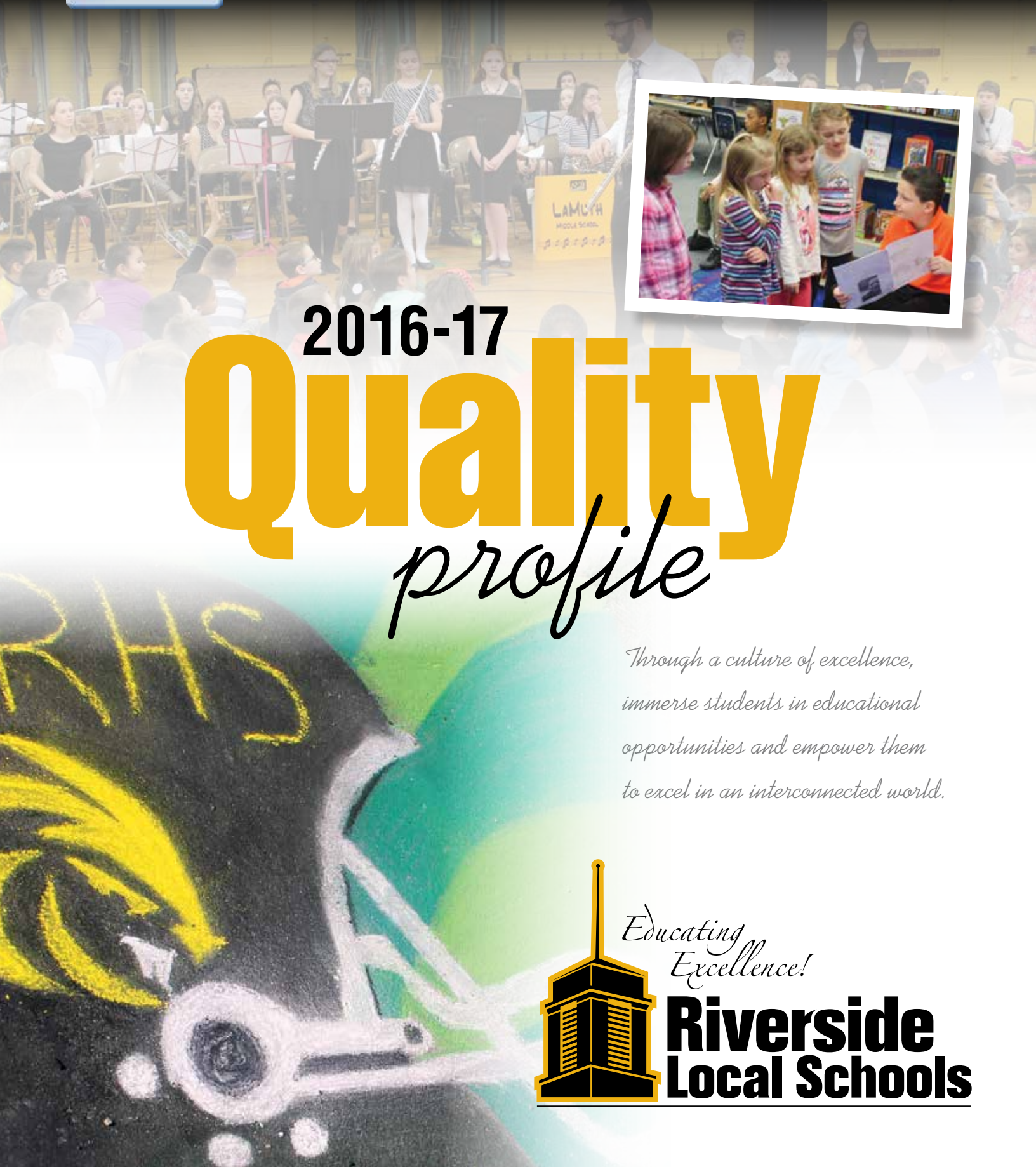




A successful school district places a high degree of importance on ensuring that all children have the opportunity to reach their full potential inside and outside of the classroom. This profile helps characterize the overall educational value of Riverside Local Schools in areas that matter most in our community.



2016-17

# Quality *profile*

*Through a culture of excellence,  
immerse students in educational  
opportunities and empower them  
to excel in an interconnected world.*



*Educating  
Excellence!*

**Riverside  
Local Schools**





# message from the Superintendent

The 2016-2017 school year was a big turning point for the Riverside Local School District. Thanks to community support, the District was able to pass a bond levy - which will allow us to construct two new elementary schools - and an operating levy - which allows us to bring back services and programs that were cut from the District years ago. The passage of these levies is a *gamechanger* for Riverside as we continue to gain momentum in our schools and within the community.

Even with the passage of these two levies, the District still has the **third lowest school tax rate** in Lake County.

Beginning this school year, the District has reinstated busing, restored elementary-level programs (while adding technology classes) and reduced the fees for pay to participate. The District continues to work on its Facilities Plan and we look forward to a groundbreaking for the two new elementary schools in the Spring of 2018. We are also excited to open up the Field House once again to the public during the morning hours for runners and walkers.

This past year, the District also partnered with Lake Health, whose sponsorship is helping pay for much-needed renovations to Riverside Stadium. We are installing a turf field and restoring the stadium's track. Updating the field with turf provides many benefits including enhanced safety, less maintenance and water costs. It also allows us the ability to open up the field to other school sponsored sports teams as well as outside community organizations, programs and youth leagues.

Despite all of the above, children remain our main and most important focus. The District is committed to preparing students for life after high school whether it be attending college or attending college or entering the workforce.

Riverside High School juniors and seniors are able to attend one of the leading career and technical schools - Auburn Career Center. Students are also able to earn college credits at Lakeland Community College while still in high school. Riverside Campus and LaMuth Middle School launched the Naviance program for students. Naviance is a comprehensive college and career readiness solution that helps schools align student strengths and interests to post-secondary goals.

Students in grades 6-12 are one to one with Chromebooks and elementary students also have access to Chromebooks to keep up with the 21st Century Digital Learners.

Throughout this Quality Profile, you'll see many other achievements and highlights in academics, arts, student leadership & activities, fiscal stewardship, parent and community involvement, student services and staff leadership.

The District has also made a commitment to increase communication with its stakeholders by updating its website weekly as well as posting daily updates to the District's Facebook and Twitter pages.

Many variables determine how well a school district performs, but nothing has more of a positive impact than community support. Thank you for your support!


James Kalis  
Superintendent

# Academics

*Our district's academic programs provide opportunities for all students to reach their full potential.*




Literacy was promoted across the district and throughout Lake county through **Literacy Linemen** and **SIDE** (**Student Initiative for Developing Excellence**). Members of the Varsity football team held story time with students at all elementary schools and members of SIDE visited Broadmoor in Lake County to share their love of reading.



- All elementary schools invited parents and family members into the schools to celebrate student achievements for writing, reading and math.

**Hadden Elementary kindergarteners** received awards from Morley Library for combining to read **more than 100 books.**

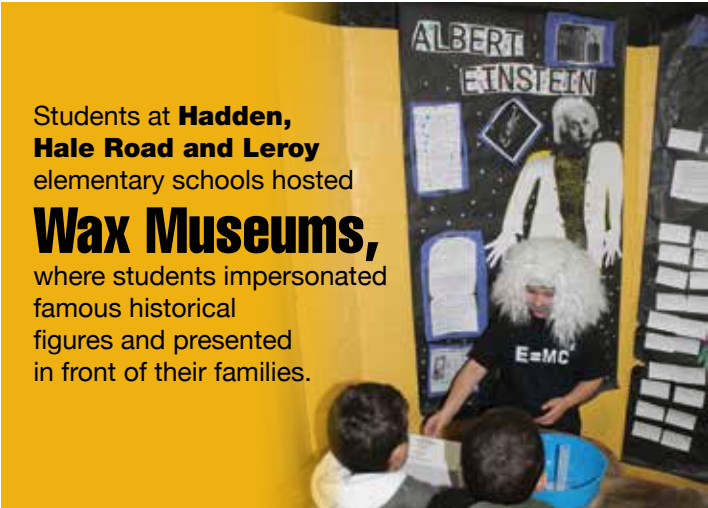


- Hadden, Buckeye and Melridge elementary schools participated in the One School, One Book Program where the entire school reads the same book.
- Hadden and Madison Avenue elementary schools participated in a math competition called 1, 2, 3, OY!
- COSI on Wheels visited Buckeye, Leroy and Melridge elementary schools.
- LaMuth Middle School hosted Hour of Code where trained professionals who work in coding visited the school to teach students about coding.
- Science on the Road from Carnegie Science Center in Pittsburgh visited LaMuth Middle School to conduct chemistry activities with students.



Fourth through eighth graders from every elementary building, **LaMuth Middle School**, and **John R. Williams** participated in the **District Spelling Bee.**

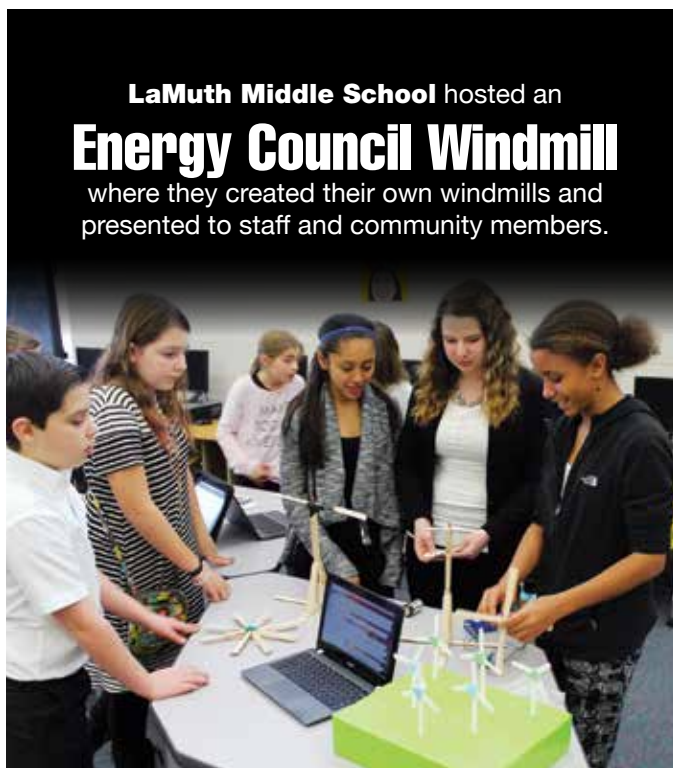
Students at **Hadden, Hale Road and Leroy** elementary schools hosted **Wax Museums**, where students impersonated famous historical figures and presented in front of their families.



# Academics *(continued)*



- Riverside High School Senior Jo Beth Davidson studied abroad this year in Denmark.
- Riverside Campus and LaMuth Middle School launched the Naviance program for students. Naviance is a comprehensive college and career readiness solution that helps schools align student strengths and interests to post-secondary goals.
- Riverside Campus and LaMuth Middle School students participated in the AWT RoboBots and Junior Bots Battle at Lakeland Community College.
- In its sixth year, 104 seniors participated in Senior Project, which was the highest amount of participating students since its inception. Seniors spend a week shadowing a career of their choice and end their week with a presentation of what they have learned at the Senior Project Fair.
- Riverside Campus welcomed three foreign exchange students during the 2016-2017 school year. Hilmi Mat Zin (Malaysia), Sakura Miyashita (Japan) and Caro Leow (Germany).



LaMuth Middle School hosted an

## Energy Council Windmill

where they created their own windmills and presented to staff and community members.

## RHS Class of 2017

**65.5%** Percent of AP students that scored a 3 or higher

**13** AP Scholars

**2** AP Scholars with Honor

**7** AP Scholar with Distinction

**19** Graduates with a 4.0 GPA or higher

**60%** of the Class of 2017 will attend a four-year college

**24%** of the Class of 2017 will attend a two-year college

**22%** of graduating seniors earned an Award of Merit or Career/Technical Awards of Merit

- Riverside Campus conducted a county-wide drinking and driving awareness event called Stay in Your Lane, which featured several speakers who were personally affected by drinking and driving. Seniors from other area high schools were invited to attend.
- Riverside High School students are able to attend one of the leading career and technical schools – Auburn Career Center. This past year, 108 Riverside 11th and 12th grade students attended Auburn Career Center during the 2016-2017 school year.
- Six dual credit courses were offered in 2016-2017.
- Ten Advanced Placement courses were offered at the high school.
- 73 7th and 8th grade students took Algebra for high school credit.
- Through a partnership with Lakeland Community College for Post-Secondary Education, 206 students had the opportunity of earning college credits while still in high school.

# Arts



**Junior Devyn Diffenbacher** won a  
**\$1,500 LEAF Scholarship**  
for her umbrella art submission.

*Participation in performing and visual arts inspires students' creativity, problem solving and critical thinking skills.*

- The Riverside Theatre performed Jekyll & Hyde and The Election, which were open to the public.
- The Riverside Theatre won several awards at the Lake County Rotary Awards including Male Lead in a Drama/Comedy (Jared Linder) & Female Lead in a Drama/Comedy (Evei Lindrose).
- Riverside High School hosted its 3rd Annual Student Art Show at First Federal of Lakewood Bank in Concord Township, where student artwork was displayed at the bank in May.
- In an initiative with Painesville Township, art students at Riverside Campus participated in Paint A Plow, where students painted snow plows for township trucks, which will then be used to plow snow this upcoming winter.
- Riverside Campus art students created ceramic bowls to donate to the Northeast Ohio Empty Bowls Project.
- ALL elementary schools conducted a Sing and Dance around the World play for their family members.
- The Riverside Regiment performed at Ohio State University during The Buckeye Invitational.
- Second graders at Madison Avenue performed Seussical, a medley of various Dr. Seuss plays.
- Riverside Campus art students participated in the first ever Chalk festival.
- Riverside Campus art students had an art display at Painesville's Art in the Park for the third straight year.
- Professional actors from Cleveland Play House visited Riverside Campus to teach students about Shakespeare.
- Riverside Campus art students participated in the Lake & Geauga County Juried Student Art Show at Lakeland Community College.



- Riverside Campus art students participated in the Cleveland Clinic Expressions Program.
- All art students across the District had art displays at the Lake County Fair.
- The LaMuth Middle School Band performed at the Cleveland Botanical Garden's GLOW event.
- LaMuth Middle School choirs and bands performed at the Lake County Captains, Cleveland Cavaliers and Cleveland Monsters games this year.
- LaMuth Middle School band visited each elementary school in the District to perform in front of the students and to talk to them about band at the middle school.
- Riverside Campus Choir hosted its first ever Community Choir Concert where members of the public were welcome to perform with the choir.
- Riverside Regiment and Choir participated in the Chamber Music Festival which consisted of more than 150 performances in one day involving 400 students grades 6-12 .
- Riverside Choir performed with professional actor and singer James Penca during its Broadway Showcase.
- Riverside Choir visited each elementary school in the District to perform and interact with the students.

**378 students**

at Riverside Campus participated in band.

**250 students**

at Riverside Campus participated in Choir.



# Student Leadership and Activities



*A well-rounded education includes a wide variety of opportunities.*

- Elementary and LaMuth Middle School students created hundreds of Christmas cards to send to local children's hospitals.
- Elementary students across the District participated in the Leader in Me program, which is adapted from the Seven Habits of Highly Successful People.
- Riverside Campus and Crossroads engaged in an on-going commitment to Youth Led Prevention addressing issues and discussing strategies to strengthen the school and community. Students visited 8th and 9th grade classes in the second semester to teach lessons on team work, cooperation, and communication.
- Madison Avenue teamed up with Crossroads to create a Student Leadership Program.
- Riverside Choir visited Broadmoor School to perform for and interact with students with disabilities.
- LaMuth Middle School collected gifts and monetary donations in order to provide for needy families through Asa's Angels.
- LaMuth Middle School supported The Crayon Initiative where they collected 190 pounds of crayons throughout the year to donate to children's hospitals.

**Riverside Student Council** hosted the

## **Hoops 4 Hope**

basketball game which consisted of a game between Riverside staff members. The event **raised more than \$1,500 for Project Hope.**



- Riverside High School continued its Community Service Honor Cord Program for seniors where 43 seniors combined to volunteer 4,023 hours of community service within the community.
- Riverside Campus students hosted a Turkey Volleyball game, a Halloween Food Drive and a Day of Caring for local charities.



**LaMuth Middle School** students created blankets to donate to

## **Project Linus.**



# Fiscal Stewardship

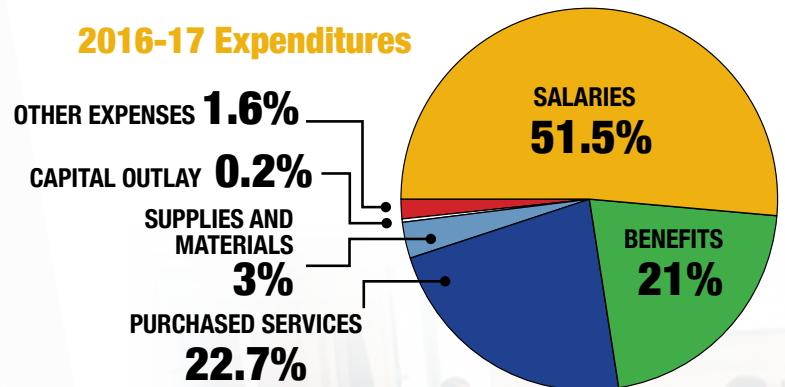
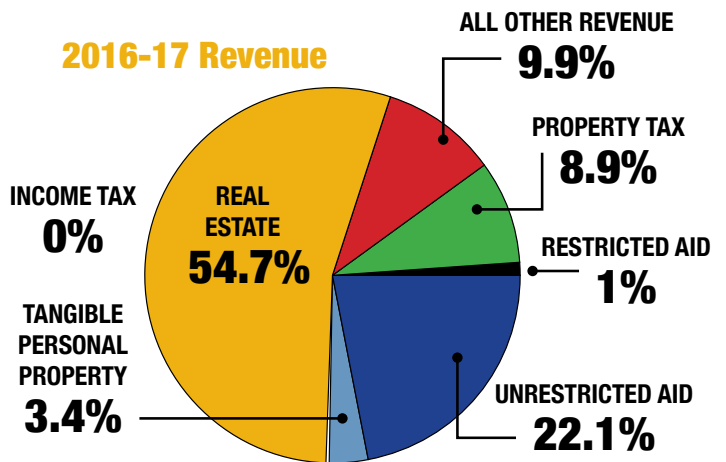
*Financial responsibility ensures that the majority of funding is spent on classroom instruction.*

The District received the  
**Auditor of State award**

for filing timely financial reports in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles as well as receiving a 'clean' audit report.

The district joined  
**OhioCheckBook.com**

which is a website launched by Ohio Treasurer Josh Mandel that allows for public viewing of government and school districts' finances.



*quick facts*

- ✓ Based on projections in the May 2017 Five-Year Forecast, the District has revenue to meet expenditures for the next four school years.
- ✓ Residential real estate taxes account for approximately 86% of the \$22,500,00 tax revenue stream.
- ✓ The cost of personnel and benefits was 72.5% of the total 2016-2017 expenditures.



# Fiscal Stewardship *(continued)*

**56.31**

Gross Tax Rate

**32.08**

Effective Tax Rate

Riverside Local School District has the  
**third lowest tax rate  
 in Lake County**

even after the passage of the recent bond and operating levies.



**\$9,918**

**Expenditure  
 per Pupil**

third lowest in Lake County  
 CUPP Report FY2016



- The District has initiated various shared service contracts with surrounding districts for transportation, fuel purchase and food services that generated \$56,772 for FY 2017.
- The District utilized competitive bidding through the Ohio Schools Council for the purchase of buses, the Keystone Purchasing Network for the purchase of athletic turf and restoration of the track and General Services Administration for the purchase of weight room flooring.

The District partnered with **Lake Health** as its exclusive Healthcare Sponsor of the District. Lake Health has agreed to pay the District

**\$230,000**

over a 10-year-period. Funds will help pay for turfing the football field at Riverside Stadium.



- In the spring of 2017, the District received an A1 bond rating from Moody's Investors Service for the bonds it issued for the construction of two new elementary schools. This rating indicates the District's bonds are upper-medium grade and are subject to low credit risk. The District was able to enhance this rating two levels to an Aa2 by participating in the State Credit Enhancement Program through the Ohio Department of Education and the purchase of bond insurance resulting in a lower cost of borrowing for the District.



# Parent and Community Involvement

*Educational experiences are enhanced by partnerships between the school district and the community.*



- Kids Love Musicals, Lake County YMCA and Lake Metroparks coordinated activities for all elementary buildings.
- The District hosted dozens of community meetings and focus groups to get input on facilities and designs for new elementary schools.
- LaMuth Middle School participated in a Distance Learning Program with Cleveland Clinic called Adventures in Health, Science and Medicine.
- Digital Imaging Specialist sponsored a Flag Etiquette program where American Legion members visited first graders at each elementary school to teach students about the history of the flag and how to pay proper respect to the flag.
- All schools within the district recognized the impact and importance of Veterans Day.
- Adventure Subaru donated school supplies to Hadden Elementary.
- Lexus and Classic Auto Group donated \$5,000 to Hadden Elementary's PTO to support literacy programs.
- LaMuth Middle School received a \$2,500 Lowe's Toolbox for Education grant for the Advanced Advisory Program Inspiration Center.

Students and their family members participated in

## Walk to School day

in the Fall at **Buckeye, Hadden, Hale Road** and **Madison Avenue** elementary schools.



- Local business owners from area businesses hosted a Small Business Panel discussion at Riverside Campus for 11th grade students after they read *How to Win Friends and Influence People* by Dale Carnegie.
- Kohl's Associates in Action awarded Leroy Elementary a total of \$4000 this year for helping with COSI, clean-up day, Spring Carnival, the Apollo Eagle Program and Field Day.
- For the third year, Riverside Campus hosted the STEM Speaker Series sponsored by Lubrizol which featured speakers from Lubrizol and Parker Hannifin.

Farmers Insurance honored a  
**Teacher of the Month**  
at Hadden Elementary through their  
Thanks a Million program.



# Parent and Community Involvement *(continued)*



The **RPTA and Booster** groups hosted a **Community Easter Egg Hunt.**

- All the PTA and Booster groups hosted a variety of family and student events including student dances, family nights at several local restaurants, mother/father nights, Field Day, school carnivals, game and movie nights, book fairs, dinners and auctions, bowling parties, ice cream socials and family skating parties.
- Hadden Elementary hosted Lunch with a Loved One where family members were invited to eat lunch with the students before the school's Book Fair.
- Students across the district participated in Just Run, a program sponsored by the Lake County General Health District designed to promote fitness and healthy lifestyles.
- Riverside Administrators created the Riverside Community Leadership Council which meets bi-monthly and provides public officials, clergy and police and fire officials an opportunity to meet and share information.



**Painesville Township Fire Department**  
conducted  
**CPR training**  
with all 9th graders at Riverside Campus.



**Riverside Campus** hosted two  
**Senior Citizen Appreciation Nights**  
during the school year where seniors were invited to the school for a free dinner and Drama performance.

# Student Services

*A variety of services provides options to ensure all students receive individualized instruction, enrichment and support.*



The Riverside Local School District provides services to meet the individual needs of ALL students. In addition to regular education services, Riverside Local Schools offers identification of and services to gifted students, special needs students and students for whom English is their second language.

**12.9%** of students identified with disabilities under IDEA.

**2.7%** of students identified as English Language Learners (ELL).

- School Counselors were available for students in grades 6-12.
- Reading tutors were provided to students identified as 'at-risk.'
- BOOST, a kindergarten program designed for eligible students, was available.
- Anti-bullying prevention and awareness was emphasized for all students in grades K-12.
- Positive Behavior Intervention Support (PBIS) was used in all buildings K-12.
- Riverside Campus Special Needs Units hosted a Valentine's dance open to all students with special needs within Lake County. More than 275 students attended. Students also prepared their annual Thanksgiving luncheon for more than 80 staff members.
- All buildings are staffed with intervention specialists and related service staff (school psychologists, speech and language pathologists, occupational therapists and physical therapists) that helped to identify and provide services to students with special needs in grades K-12.

- All buildings are staffed with health aides or nurses based on needs identified in the building.
- The District partners with the Geauga County Educational Service Center to offer vocational programming for high school students with disabilities. The RAVE Program (Reaching to Achieve Vocational Excellence) is aligned with Ohio's Employment First Initiative.
- Riverside Local School District partnered with the Lake County Educational Service Center to offer a variety of educational options:
  - Preschool programming is available for both typically developing and special needs children.
  - Alternative Schooling Options:
    1. K'nextions Learning Academy – KLA is an online alternative form of school for students who need credit recovery and/or prefer to learn through online programming. KLA offers students the opportunity to receive credit and graduate from their district of residence.
    2. Lake Academy provided another option for students who typically have not found success in a traditional classroom setting.



# Staff Leadership

*Student growth and achievement are facilitated by high-quality staff members.*



## Staff members across the District raised money for National Wreaths Across America Day,

to purchase wreaths to lay on veterans' graves.



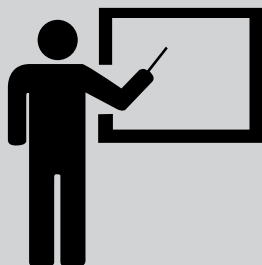
- All District staff members participated in diversity training with Diversity Initiatives Inc.
- All District staff members participated in The R Factor program, which is a leadership training initiative based off Urban Meyer's book, *Above the Line*.
- The District's Transportation Department increased in-services throughout the school year to discuss driver safety, driver distractions and driver attitude.
- As part of the District's Units of Study grant through the Martha Holden Jennings Foundation, K-8 staff members received training from staff members at Columbia University's Teachers College as part of their Reading & Writing Project.

- Dawn Stevens, 3rd grade Leroy teacher, was awarded a \$3000 Martha Holden Jennings grant to purchase the Lucy Calkins classroom library for the third grade Reading Units of Study.
- Staff members are continuously learning and staying current through professional development opportunities throughout the school year.

The District conducted

## Community Kindness Day

for the fourth summer where more than 50 administrators and teachers volunteered for one day to give back to the community by visiting local businesses, parks and organizations to hand out gift certificates, candy, water bottles and t-shirts.



**100%**  
of teachers and  
substitute teachers  
are certified.

**78%**  
of classroom teachers have  
**Master's Degrees  
or higher.**

**46**  
teachers earned  
**graduate credits**  
during the 2016-2017  
school year.



# Beliefs

- Family is an integral influence in the development of a student.
- The higher the expectations, the greater the results.
- A culture of excellence creates a first-rate school district.
- Students learn at different rates and in different ways.
- Diversity and inclusion enriches us as individuals and as a society.
- Both the District and community benefit from a genuine partnership.
- The District, in partnership with families and with the community, is responsible for developing students who can compete in an interconnected world.





Riverside Local School District  
 585 Riverside Drive  
 Painesville, OH 44077

Non-Profit Org.  
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 Painesville OH 438  
 Permit No.

## Board of Education

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James Kalis  
 440.358.8202

### Treasurer

Gary A. Platko, CPA  
 440.352.0668

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Melissa Mlakar  
 440.358.8205

### Assistant

**Superintendent**  
 Charles Schlick  
 440.358.8206

### Student Services

Cheryl Lanning  
 440.358.8208

### Communications

Nick Carrabine  
 440.358.8216

## Riverside Local Schools Directory

**Board of Education Office ..... 440.352.0668**

**Riverside Campus ..... 440.352.3341**

**Henry F. LaMuth Middle School ..... 440.354.4394**

**Buckeye Elementary ..... 440.352.2191**

**Clyde C. Hadden Elementary ..... 440.354.4414**

**Hale Road Elementary ..... 440.352.2300**

**Leroy Elementary..... 440.358.8750**

**Madison Avenue Elementary ..... 440.357.6171**

**Melridge Elementary ..... 440.352.3854**

[www.riversidelocalschools.com](http://www.riversidelocalschools.com)

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