



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.



2014-15 Quality profile



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





message from the **Superintendent**

The Riverside Local School District is pleased to present its 2014-15 Quality Profile

The Riverside Local School District has many positive things happening that stay true to the District's mission: *"Through a culture of excellence, immerse students in educational opportunities and empower them to excel in an interconnected world."*

The Riverside Local School District is located in Lake County and serves nearly 4,400 students residing in Painesville Township, Concord, Leroy, Grand River and a small section of northern Chardon in Geauga County. The District prides itself in offering an excellent educational program to its students at an exceptional value to the district taxpayers.

The district is home to eight educational buildings. The Riverside Campus houses students in grades 8-12 and offers a variety of high quality academic and extracurricular experiences for its students. Riverside High School joins an elite group of high schools being recognized this past year by *U.S. News & World Report* as a "2015 Best High Schools Bronze Award Recipient." This prestigious award identified Riverside High School as one of top-performing public schools in the State of Ohio. The award highlights the accomplishments of our students and the quality of education students receive at Riverside High School. Currently the campus offers nine Advanced Placement courses and two dual enrollment classes. Riverside Campus students have embraced the Credit Flexibility provision with students applying to receive high school credit for activities outside the traditional classroom setting.

LaMuth Middle School is a 6-7 building that has won numerous awards from the Ohio Middle Level Association in the areas of teaming, scheduling, and interdisciplinary curriculum. This past year all 6th grade students (current 7th grade students) at LaMuth Middle School received a personal Chromebook computer for use in class and at home. With the success of this program, students in 6th, 8th and 9th grades will receive Chromebooks for the 2015-16 school year, expanding the one-on-one initiative to students in grades 6-9. LaMuth Middle School utilizes a schedule that provides a common meeting time for both interdisciplinary teams and subject area teachers. The six elementary schools (K-5) are working together to provide common educational experiences and assessments across the district.

As part of the District's Strategic Plan, district communication improvements continued with the launch of the newly designed website in July 2015. During the past year, feedback was collected from various groups, including students, parents, teachers, community leaders, and parent support organizations related to content desired for the new design. Taking this input into consideration, the new website was specifically designed to assist the public, making it easy to find information and stay informed regarding school news and events across the district. We recognize the website is an essential and important tool for parents to connect with the schools their children attend. The new website offers an easy-to-navigate resource for parents, students and community members. In addition, the District has hired a full-time Marketing and Communications Director to improve communications with students, staff, parents and residents within the district.

The efforts of many have helped get our message out that the Riverside Local School District is committed to strengthening our community by building solid schools where our children can learn and grow. All school and community stakeholders are the winners as strong schools lead to a desirable community. Many variables determine how well a school district performs, but nothing has more of a positive impact than community support. We thank you for your support and look forward to another outstanding year in the Riverside Local School District.



James Kalis
Superintendent

Academics



Riverside High School was ranked nationally in 2014-15 publications including *U.S. News & World Report* as one of **America's Best High Schools.**



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

- The Riverside Literacy Linemen promoted reading with elementary students at Buckeye, Hadden, Hale, Leroy, Madison Avenue, and Melridge Elementary buildings.
- 1st grade students at Leroy Elementary hosted a Young Authors Tea.
- 205 Clyde C. Hadden Elementary students and their families participated in the "Be a Reader Program."

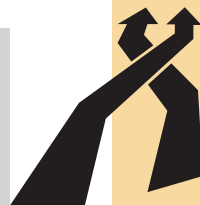
- Nine Advanced Placement courses were offered at the high school.
- World language studies available for all students in grades 9-12 including French and Spanish.
- There are rigorous course offerings for junior high school students. More than 70 junior high students took high school courses in Algebra 8 Honors and English 1 Honors.



RHS Class of 2015

- Graduates with a 4.0 GPA or higher: 17
- AP Scholars: 18
- AP Scholars with Honor: 10
- AP Scholars with Distinction: 2
- National AP Scholar: 1
- 54% of the Class of 2015 will attend a four year college.

- Riverside students are able to attend one of the leading career and technical schools - Auburn Career Center. Over 130 Riverside 11th and 12th grade students attended Auburn Career Center during the 2014-15 school year.
- A LaMuth Middle School student was a runner-up at the Lake County Spelling Bee.
- 4th and 5th grade students from every elementary building participated in the local district spelling bee.
- A 4th and 5th grade student from Hale Road Elementary and an alternate from Buckeye Elementary represented Riverside Local Schools at the District Level Spelling Bee.
- Two dual credit courses were offered in 2014-15.
- One LaMuth Middle School student achieved a perfect score on the Ohio Achievement Test in math.



71%

of the students who took at least one Advanced Placement exam last year scored a three or higher, earning college credit.

- Through a partnership with Lakeland Community College for Post-Secondary Education, close to 160 Riverside students had the opportunity of earning college credits while still in high school.
- Offered full day kindergarten as a tuition based funded program.
- Five 5th grade students at Buckeye Elementary were awarded the Gold Presidential Award of Academic Excellence and eleven were awarded the Silver Award of Excellence.
- Eleven 5th grade Buckeye Elementary students were recognized with the Principal's Award for receiving straight A's all school year.

33

Riverside students took the 2014-15 SAT tests:
**Composite • English
Math • Reading • Science**

221

Riverside students took the 2014-15 ACT tests:
Reading • Math • Writing

ACT
SAT

Arts

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



The Riverside Local School District offers students the opportunity to participate in a variety of programs which promote creativity, improve school culture, motivate students and help improve student learning and achievement. These activities include drama club and theatrical productions, band and choir.

- 90% of LaMuth Middle School students participated in either choir or band concerts.
- LaMuth 7th grade Choir performed *The National Anthem* at a Lake County Captains Game.
- LaMuth 7th grade Band performed *The National Anthem* at selected Monsters, Gladiators, and Lake County Captains games.
- LaMuth 7th grade Band was invited to play a special selection of warm-up music at a Cleveland Cavaliers home game.



404
students

at the Riverside Campus participated in band.

- Students from Buckeye, Clyde C. Hadden, Hale, Leroy, Madison Avenue, and Melridge Elementary buildings attended performances at Cleveland Playhouse Square.
- Full day kindergarten students performed a Mother Goose Nursery Rhyme Play for parents and students.
- Melridge Elementary 2nd graders performed winter/holiday celebration plays for parents and students.
- Clyde C. Hadden Elementary 2nd graders performed the play "Turkey Trouble."

- Buckeye and Hale Road Elementary students participated in a Day of Arts as they attended special programming offered by the Fine Arts Association in Willoughby.

student artwork



- One Riverside High School sophomore had their art project, selected as one of only 300, accepted into the Governor's Youth Art Exhibition, and was displayed in the James A. Rhodes State Office Tower.
- One Riverside High School sophomore's art project was named "Best in Lake County" at the Lake and Geauga Art Show hosted by Lakeland Community College.
- One Melridge Elementary student won the art contest for Law Day which was sponsored by the Lake County Bar Association.
- Riverside High School art classes participated in the Cleveland Clinic eXpressions program. One Riverside High School student's artwork was selected from the over 1,200 submissions as one of 53 pieces of art that will be displayed in the Cleveland Museum of Art.
- 229 students from the Riverside Campus participated in choir.
- The Riverside Campus Drama department delivered an outstanding production of "Little Shop of Horrors."
- A 2nd grade student at Buckeye Elementary won the Elementary Division of the 2015 "Clean and Green" Logo Contest in Lake County.

Student Leadership and Activities

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



Madison Avenue Elementary students donated candy to

Sweets for Soldiers

SEND A SWEET YOUR THANKS TO SOMEONE



Melridge Elementary students raised over

\$2,000

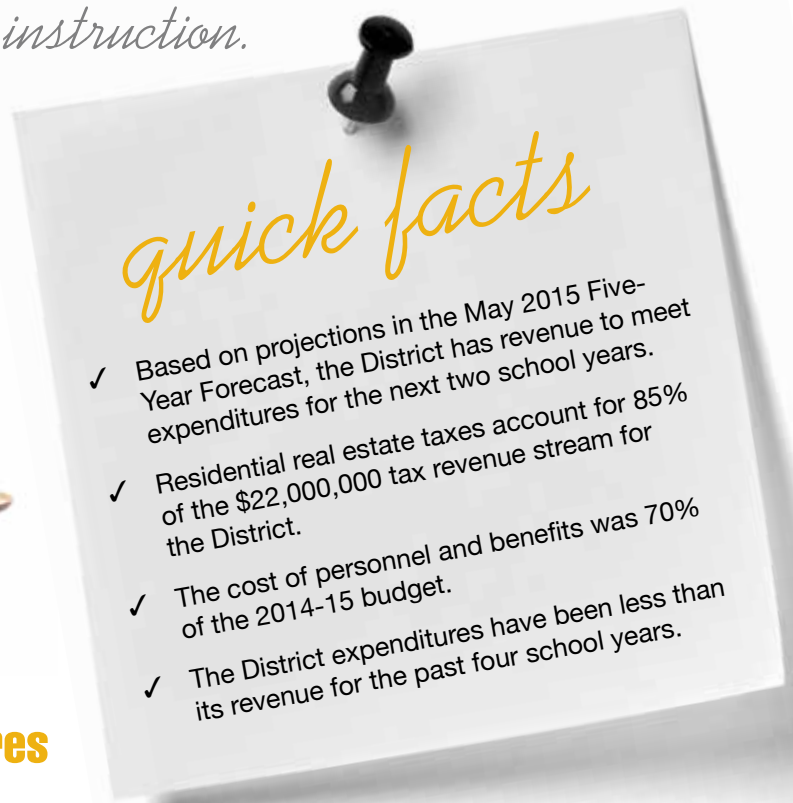
for the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society.



- Selected students at Buckeye, Hadden, Hale, Leroy, Madison Avenue, Melridge and LaMuth were recognized throughout the year as Student of the Month for showing respect, kindness, caring, responsibility, leadership, honesty, sportsmanship, and citizenship.
- Buckeye Elementary students collected over 600 items for The Hope Chest in Painesville.
- A 4th grade Hale Road Elementary student conducted a 'Naida's Soft Smiles Project.' Over 400 pairs of socks were collected and donated to the homeless.
- Leroy and Madison Avenue Elementary students participated in the St. Jude's Mathathon raising over \$3,200.
- Melridge Elementary students participated in the Kindness Challenge helping students to understand and value the importance of kindness.
- Eleven athletic teams are available for LaMuth Middle School students.
- Eleven clubs are available for LaMuth Middle School students.
- 75% of students at LaMuth Middle School participated in athletics and clubs during the 2014-15 school year.
- The 'Book Fair' provided the Campus with over \$850 in free books used to support the 8th grade Language Arts classes.
- Riverside Campus Food Drive collected over 500 pounds of food.
- The Riverside RAVE program collected over 40 pounds of candy after Halloween which was shipped to our troops overseas through Operation Gratitude.
- The Turkey Volleyball Game raised just under \$700 for the Muscular Dystrophy Association.
- Eighty high school students donated blood during the Annual American Red Cross Blood Drive at the Riverside Campus.
- Riverside Campus collected close to \$3,500 for their Day of Caring.
- Madison Avenue Elementary students collected 300 canned and boxed goods for the Salvation Army food drive.
- Melridge Elementary students provided 25 dinners for families at Thanksgiving.
- Melridge Elementary students organized and collected eight large boxes of health and beauty items for WomenSafe.
- Hale Road Elementary 5th Grade Student Council collected over 90 pounds of mittens, hats, gloves, and blankets and raised over \$600 for Wigs for Kids and The American Cancer Society.
- Clyde C. Hadden Elementary raised over \$1,000 to help a local family after a house fire.
- Clyde C. Hadden Elementary students collected and donated food to the Feed Lake County program.
- Hoops 4 Hope raised \$2,150 for the Lake County YMCA.
- Buckeye Elementary participated in a Mini "Relay for Life" with proceeds supporting The American Cancer Society.
- Buckeye Elementary students held a 'Community Project Day' where each classroom completed a craft or a project that was shared with local assisted living homes during the holidays.
- Leroy Elementary 3rd grade students collected new clothing for The Hope Chest in Painesville.

Fiscal Stewardship

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



- ✓ Based on projections in the May 2015 Five-Year Forecast, the District has revenue to meet expenditures for the next two school years.
- ✓ Residential real estate taxes account for 85% of the \$22,000,000 tax revenue stream for the District.
- ✓ The cost of personnel and benefits was 70% of the 2014-15 budget.
- ✓ The District expenditures have been less than its revenue for the past four school years.

The District has operated

4 years in which **current expenditures** were less than **current revenue**.

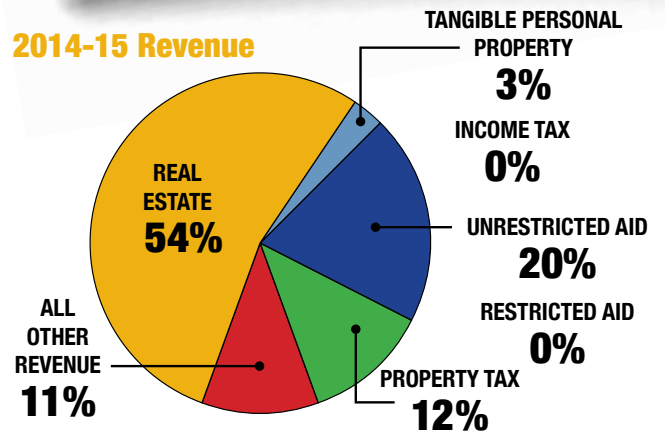
The State Auditor issued a clean audit report to the District in Fiscal Year 2014. Financial audits are performed after the completion of the school year and are usually released in the fall or winter of the following school year. The State of Ohio Senate honored the Riverside Local School District with the 2013 Auditor of State Award for Exemplary Attainment. The District also received the 2012 Ohio Auditor of State Award for Exemplary Reporting.

Adequate funding for schools can be challenging...The Riverside Local School District continuously monitors spending to make sure expenditures are appropriately aligned with revenue and to ensure a high quality education is provided to all students. Four years ago, the District enacted major budget reductions in order to

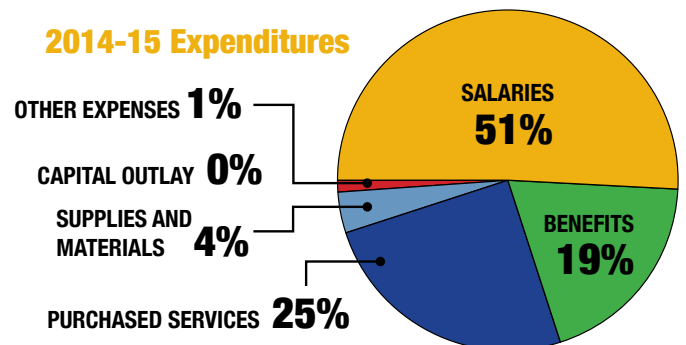
balance the budget

including a move to State minimum transportation and reductions in the teaching staff. The District passed a substitute levy in 2014 that will remain in effect continuously, while also maintaining the rollback tax discounts for local taxpayers. The major operating levies of Riverside LSD are continuous.

2014-15 Revenue



2014-15 Expenditures



Fiscal Stewardship



The District participates in various consortiums in order to receive competitive pricing. This includes State minimum bids, Ohio Schools Council bids, the Lake County Healthcare consortium, and other National / State consortiums or programs such as

House Bill 264.

The Ohio Schools Council consortium provides competitive bid costs for heating gas, electricity, and other school supplies and services. State and national consortiums are utilized for specific projects, such as HVAC and roofing, when applicable.

The Lake County Schools Council is a health insurance consortium that includes 12 school districts pooling together to ensure

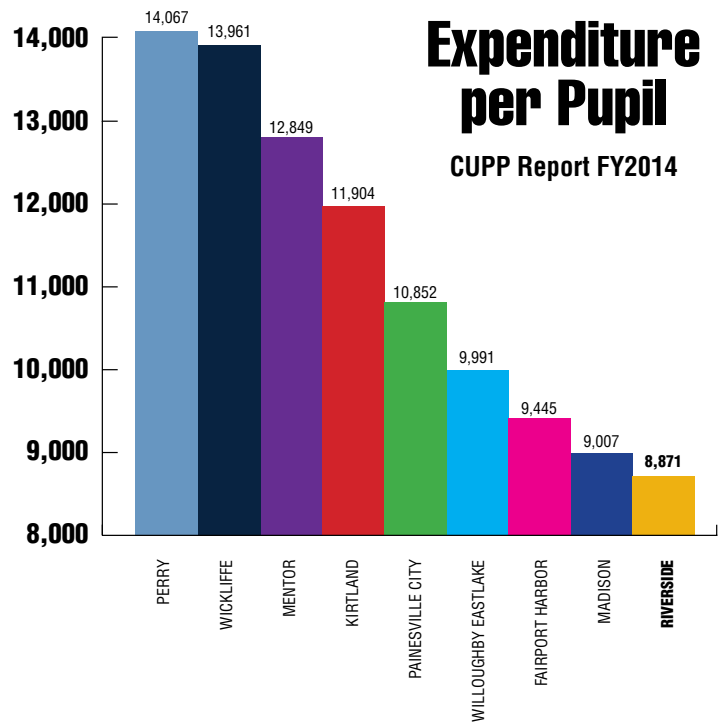
competitive costs for healthcare.

The Consortium consistently out-performs the industry trends on the cost of healthcare both statewide and across the nation.

The District has utilized consortium pricing for the purchase of buses, the Governmental Fleet Program for school maintenance vehicles, the National Joint Powers Association for the purchase of lawn and maintenance equipment, and the American Manufacturer discounts for band instruments. In addition, the District has initiated various shared service contracts with surrounding districts for technology, transportation, fuel purchase, and food services that generated

\$167,405 in revenue

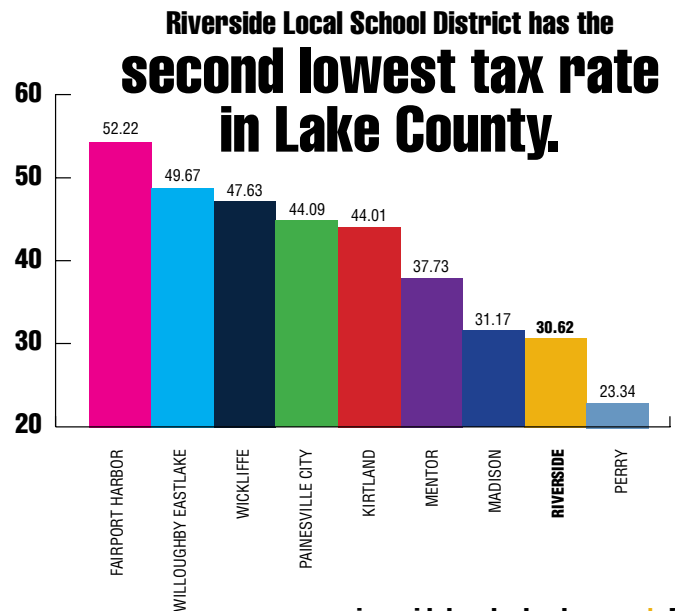
for the District in FY 2015.



The Joint Financing District Levy, renewed in 2015, has a five year renewal cycle. The Permanent Improvement Levy also has a five year cycle. The .85 debt levy will expire in 2015 yielding a small

decrease in tax rates

for local taxpayers.



Parent and Community Involvement



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



The Rotary Club donated **300 dictionaries** –

one for every third grade student at Buckeye, Hadden, Hale, Leroy, Madison Avenue and Melridge Elementary Schools

- Kids Love Musicals and the Lake County YMCA coordinated activities for all elementary buildings.
- AMSCO (LaMuth), Buckeye PTA, Hadden PTO, Hale Road PTO, Leroy PTO, Madison Avenue PTA, and Melridge PTO hosted a variety of family and student events including: Student dances, family nights at several local restaurants and other locations during the year, Mother/Father Nights, Fall, Winter, and Valentine Parties, Field Day, Market Day, Carnival, Family Game and Movie Nights, Book Fairs, Spaghetti Dinners, holiday shops, bowling parties, ice cream socials, and family skating parties.
- AMSCO (LaMuth), Buckeye PTA, Hadden PTO, Hale Road PTO, Leroy PTO, Madison Avenue PTA, and Melridge PTO supported staff with special events throughout the year including: teacher appreciation lunches, funding for classroom materials, teacher stipends, and dinners during conferences.
- AMSCO (LaMuth) raised funds for the renovation of the LaMuth Media Center.
- AMSCO (LaMuth) purchased cinch bags and provided scholarships for students to attend the DC trip and camp.
- Buckeye Elementary participated in the WatchDOGS Program (Dads of Great Students). Over 90 dads attended the opening event.
- Buckeye Elementary students participated in the Morley Library summer reading program.
- Hadden PTO supported the 'Be a Reader Program.'
- Madison Avenue PTA purchased four outside cameras, a canopy, and black and gold signs.
- Hadden PTO organized the 'Whale of a Tale program,' where students read at home and raised over \$2,400 from sponsors.
- Hadden, Hale, Leroy PTO, and Madison Avenue PTA provided financial support for student field trips.
- Hale Road PTO held a beautification day to spread mulch and plant new plants prior to the start of the 2014-2015 school year.
- Hale Road PTO purchased new wall mats for the gym to coordinate with the new school colors, as well as new soccer goals for the playground.
- Leroy PTO purchased new computer carts.
- Leroy PTO provided funding to purchase SmartBoard replacements and LCD projectors.
- Madison Avenue PTA purchased a new public address system.
- Melridge PTO purchased adjustable height basketball hoops.
- Melridge PTO created a teacher workstation.
- Melridge PTO established a library refresh group that worked to update the library.

Recognizing the impact and importance of our Veterans

special Veterans Day Programs

were held at all schools in the district.



Close to **500 students**

from Buckeye, Leroy, Madison Avenue, and Melridge Elementary schools, along with staff and parent volunteers, participated in JUST RUN, a program sponsored by the Lake County General Health District designed to promote fitness and healthy lifestyle choices.

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.

- All buildings were staffed with health aides or nurses based on needs identified in the building.
- RAVE, a community-based vocational program, was developed and implemented for RHS students with disabilities and is aligned with Ohio's Employment First initiative.

7.2 % of students identified as gifted.

14.5% of students identified with disabilities under IDEA.

3% of students identified as English Language Learners (ELL).

- Guidance Counselors were available for students in grades 6-12.
- Reading tutors were provided to students identified as 'at-risk.'
- Buildings recognized as Title I schools offer reading tutors to identified students.
- Anti-bullying prevention and awareness was emphasized for all students in grades K-12.
- BOOST, a kindergarten program designed for eligible students, was offered daily.
- 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.
- Positive Behavior Intervention Support (PBIS) was used in all buildings K-12.

Riverside Local School District partnered with the Lake County Educational Service Center to offer a variety of educational options:

- Preschool programming was available for both typically developing and special needs children
- Alternative Schooling Options:
 1. K'nextions Learning Academy - KLA is an online alternative form of schooling 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 had not found success in a traditional classroom setting.

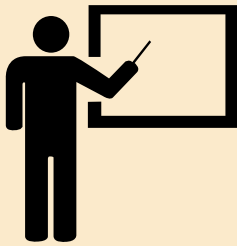


Staff Leadership

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



- 100% of teachers and substitute teachers are certified.
- 100% of teachers are highly qualified as defined by the Ohio Department of Education.



76%
of classroom
teachers

have Master's Degrees
or higher.

- Five Riverside Teachers achieved National Board Certification.
- Seventy-seven teachers earned graduate credits during the 2014-15 school year.
- Staff members are continuously learning and staying current through professional development opportunities throughout the school year.
- Peer-to-peer training:
 - Utilizing the expertise of our colleagues, staff members developed embedded professional development opportunities designed to focus and support the delivery of the highest quality education for all students.
- Administrators participate in county and state level professional development throughout the school year to bring global perspectives to our district, our classrooms, and our students.

- Two groups of LaMuth Middle School teachers were invited and presented at Association of Middle Level Education National Conference.
- Four groups of LaMuth Middle School teachers presented at the Ohio Middle Level Association State Conference on Best Practices at LaMuth Middle School.
- Two Leroy Elementary staff members attended Lucy Calkins Units of Study Workshop in Columbus.
- One Clyde C. Hadden and one Madison Avenue staff member, along with the District Math Coach, presented at the Ohio Council Teachers Mathematics (OCTM) Conference.
- One Riverside High School Science Teacher participated in an externship experience with Lubrizol.
- A Riverside High School Science Teacher organized the Lubrizol Speaker Series, resulting in a variety of Lubrizol employees addressing students on a monthly basis about careers and job opportunities.
- A 3rd grade teacher from Buckeye Elementary was selected as the Elementary Citizenship Teacher of the Year by Veterans of Foreign Wars.



Structured and team led
data analysis
created to help inform
instructional decisions.



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
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Hale Road Elementary	440.352.2300
Leroy Elementary	440.358.8750
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Melridge Elementary	440.352.3854