

ONTARIO SCHOOLS ARE HEADED TOWARD A LEVY

Ontario Schools are the 4th Poorest School District in the State of Ohio.

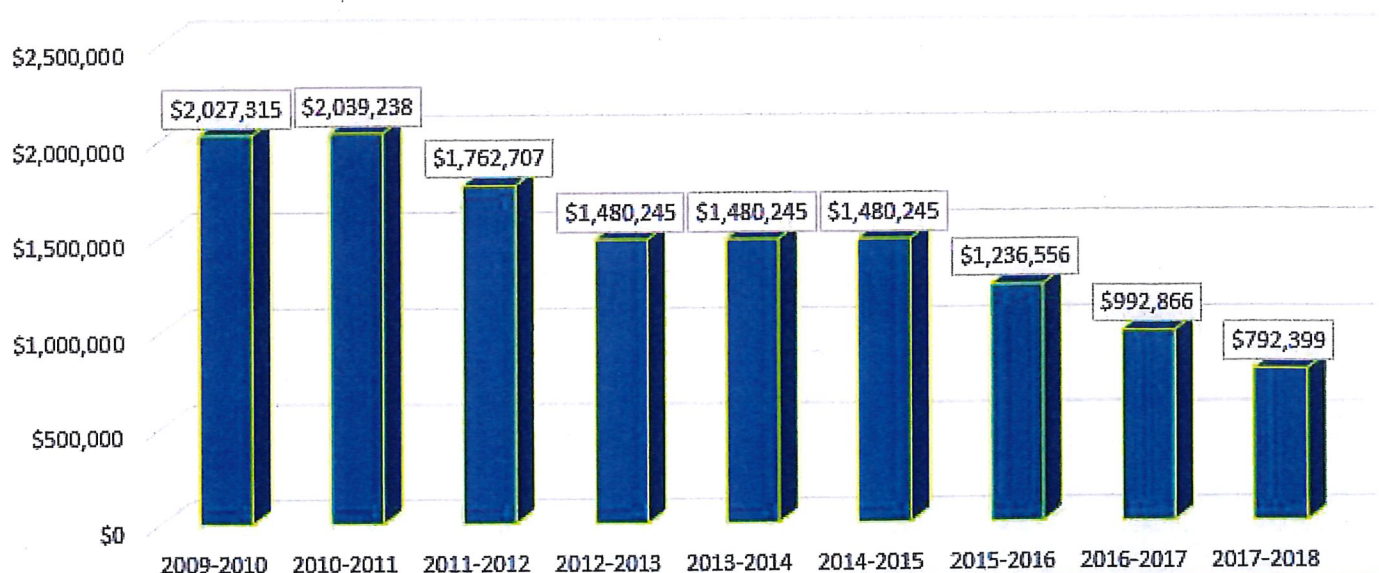
Based upon the Ohio Department of Education's 2017 Cupp Report, Ontario Schools have the fourth lowest amount of revenue per pupil available in the entire state. Revenue per pupil is calculated by dividing all revenue available from all sources by the number of students educated at the school. This calculation allows you to compare every school and determine which ones have the most money available to spend on each student attending their school. **Only three other schools in the State of Ohio have less money available to spend on each student than Ontario Schools.** The chart on the right shows the revenue per pupil for each of the Richland County schools.

Rank	District	District Total Revenue Per Pupil FY17
1	Ontario Local SD, Richland	\$ 9,595.68
2	Lexington Local SD, Richland	\$ 10,908.83
3	Clear Fork Valley Local SD, Richland	\$ 11,262.97
4	Crestview Local SD, Richland	\$ 12,059.51
5	Madison Local SD, Richland	\$ 12,394.22
6	Shelby City SD, Richland	\$ 12,408.47
7	Lucas Local SD, Richland	\$ 15,251.87
8	Plymouth-Shiloh Local SD, Richland	\$ 15,357.24
9	Mansfield City SD, Richland	\$ 19,917.21

What has Caused Ontario Schools to Become One of the Poorest Schools in the State?

Ontario Schools used to receive a significant amount of revenue from the tangible personal property tax. This tax was paid by businesses based upon their inventories and equipment. The State eliminated this tax. For a while, the State held the effected schools "harmless," which meant the State gave the schools money to offset their losses. Beginning in school year 2011-2012, the State started to reduce these "hold harmless payments." The State expected schools to ask the local voters to pass a levy to replace these funds. **Ontario Schools have not passed an additional operating levy since 2006.** Below is a graph showing the amount of "hold harmless payments" that Ontario Schools have received. You can see that the State has cut Ontario's funding by over \$1.2 million a year over the past seven years. By the 2021-2022 school year, all of the "hold harmless payments" will be eliminated.

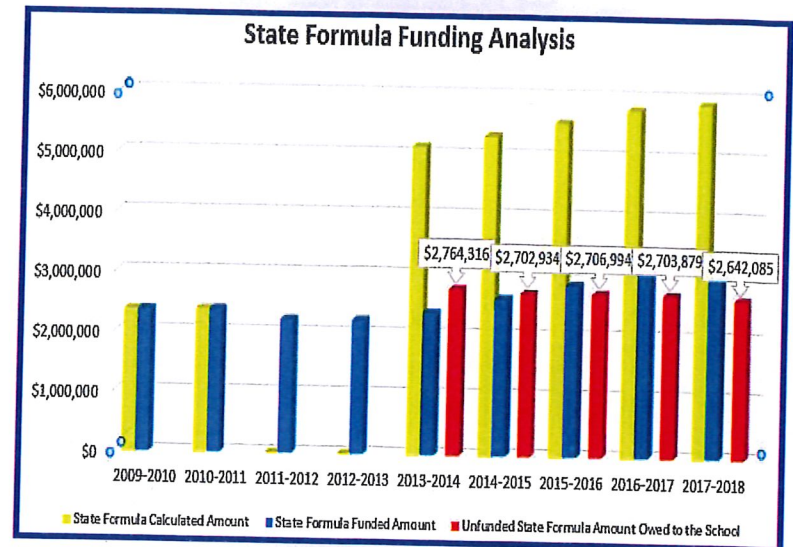
Tangible Personal Property Hold Harmless Payments



THE STATE WILL NOT FULLY FUND THEIR OBLIGATIONS

What Can Be Done To Help Remedy Our Situation?

The State created a new school funding formula starting with the 2013-2014 school year. The new formula calculates that Ontario Schools should be receiving a substantial increase in state funds. Part of the reason for this increase was due to the loss of tangible personal property taxes and the loss of General Motors. The State decided not to fully fund this new formula. Instead, they have only funded modest increases over the past five years and have scheduled another modest increase for the 2018-2019 school year. **If the State would fully fund their formula, Ontario Schools would receive on average an additional \$2.7 million annually.** This additional revenue would only move Ontario Schools from the 4th lowest to the 75th lowest out of 607 schools in the state for revenue per pupil. But this would allow the school to forego an additional levy for many years. The chart shows the calculated state funding as compared to the actual state funded amount. The red bars in the graph show how much the State does not fund annually to Ontario Schools.



Contact Your State Legislators and Tell Them to Fully Fund Their Formula!

The Ontario Treasurer, Superintendent, and Board Member Legislative Liaison have met with our State Legislators many times over the last several years and showed them this information. They understand our situation but have not been able to convince the legislature to fully fund their formula. In January 2019, the Governor and State Legislators will begin another biennium budget process. We need to let them know the importance of fully funding their formula! Without being fully funded, the Ontario Schools will be back on the ballot for a new levy in 2021. **Why should Ontario taxpayers be asked to pay more when the State formula shows the State should be paying more to Ontario Schools?** Ontario residents already send more state income tax dollars to the State than they receive back in school funding, which means our state income tax dollars are funding other schools. The graph on the right shows the percentage of state income tax dollars coming back to our school in the funding formula. In other words, Ontario Schools only receive \$58.33 for every \$100 of state income taxes sent to the State.

Rank	District	District Formula Funding As % Of Income Tax Liability FY17
1	Ontario Local SD, Richland	58.33%
2	Lexington Local SD, Richland	78.94%
3	Lucas Local SD, Richland	130.33%
4	Clear Fork Valley Local SD, Richland	182.03%
5	Shelby City SD, Richland	182.30%
6	Madison Local SD, Richland	217.89%
7	Crestview Local SD, Richland	263.03%
8	Mansfield City SD, Richland	267.78%
9	Plymouth-Shiloh Local SD, Richland	407.62%

HERE IS THE CONTACT INFORMATION FOR OUR STATE LEGISLATORS:

Senator Larry Obhof

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1 Capitol Square, 2nd Floor
Columbus, OH 43215
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SD22@senate.state.oh.us

Representative Mark Romanchuk

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(614) 466-5802

Rep02@OhioHouse.gov

In summary, we will be asking our resident voters to support a new levy in 2021 **UNLESS** the State **FULLY FUNDS THEIR FORMULA**. You are encouraged to contact the above legislators and tell them to **FULLY FUND THEIR FORMULA** in their 2019 Biennium Budget!