



## MUSIC NEWS TO NOTE

Welcome to our newsletter presented by the Fairfield Tempo Club. Our hope is to provide readers a brief overview of events occurring across the entire Music Department, showcase our student musicians, and coordinate volunteerism.



It's been another busy month in the Music Department! We LOVE our kids and directors!

This month you'll find highlights about the upcoming levy, kick off of the show choir season, Winter Guard, senior scholarship opportunities, the music department, and Tempo Club volunteer opportunities.

### UPCOMING EVENTS

Tues, 2/13/2024: Crossroads 7th/8th Grade Band Concert; Crossroads MS

Thurs, 2/22/2024: Orchestra Concert (9-12); FHS PAC @ 7:00 pm

Fri, 2/23/2024: Middle School Orchestra Solo and Ensemble; Crossroads Room 330  
from 6:30 - 8:30 pm

Weds, 2/28/2024: Creekside 7th/8th Creekside Band Concert; Creekside MS

Thurs, 2/29/2024: Choral Concert; FHS PAC @ 7:00 pm

Fri, 3/1 - Sat, 3/2/2024: State Orchestra Concert; FHS PAC

Tues, 3/5/2024: Chamber Winds, Wind Ensemble Concert; FHS PAC @ 7:00 pm

Tues, 3/5/2024: Creekside 6th Gr/7th Gr. Orchestra Concert; Creekside MS

Tues, 3/5/2024: Crossroads 6th Gr/7th Gr. Orchestra Concert; Crossroads MS

Weds, 3/6/2024: Creekside 6-8 Choir Concert; Creekside MS

Weds, 3/6/2024: Crossroads 6-8 Choir Concert; Crossroads MS

Thurs, 3/7/2024: Freshman Bands and High School Concert Winds Concert; FHS PAC  
@ 7:00 pm

Thurs, 3/7/2024: 8th Gr/ Select Orchestra Concert; Crossroads MS @ 7:00 pm

Sat, 3/9/2024: Crystal Classic; FHS PAC, Arena, & Cafeteria; all day

# **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!**

## **Open Officer Positions for 2024-2026**

President, Choir Vice President, Orchestra Vice President, & Publicity / PR

## **Concessions Committee**

Our existing concessions manager will be stepping down after this year. We are looking for a concessions team to step up to fill this void. The majority of this work is done during the football season.

## **Scholarship Committee**

This committee will read & evaluate applications for several Tempo Club scholarships. This commitment is approximately 1 week in late March or early April.

## **Calendar Day Committee**

This committee will plan and organize the Annual Calendar Day fundraiser. The timeframe for this volunteer assignment is late June - early September.

## **Sponsorship Committee**

This committee will reach out to community partners, businesses, and others to solicit sponsorships for Tempo Club and/or individual ensembles (e.g. marching band, Crystal Classic, BANDcake breakfast, concerts, etc). This is a year long commitment but the greatest need is July - December.

**Interested in helping out? Email [president@fftempoclub.org](mailto:president@fftempoclub.org)  
or complete the interest form here:**

**<https://forms.gle/928sw7Pa2NsQBjEQA>**

# **NEXT TEMPO CLUB MEETING**

Join us Monday, March 11, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. in the FHS Community Room.

# DID YOU KNOW?

*The Fairfield City School District Board of Education voted to place a school operating levy on the **3/19/2024 ballot**. Because of this, the district has recently received many questions related to school finances from the community. To help keep stakeholders informed, we are including information related to the most frequently asked questions. This information/ info-graphics are for informational purposes only and are not intended to support or oppose the passage of a levy.*

**Butler County Auditor Nancy Nix explains “confusing” property tax increases and disparity in January 24 Journal-News column\***

## **Highlights related to Fairfield City Schools**

Eight of Butler County’s ten school districts are at the 20-mill floor. Only Lakota and Fairfield school districts are not. This fact alone is resulting in a great disparity of tax increases among Butler County taxpayers. Based on a 37% median value increase, those living in Lakota and Fairfield school districts are seeing their tax bills increase 4-6% on average. Some taxpayers in those districts may even notice their tax bill decreasing if their value did not increase as significantly. Based on a 37% median value increase, those residents in the other eight school districts are seeing tax increases of 18-24%. In addition, residents in Reily and Ross townships are seeing tax bill increases of 24-28% due to levies passed in November.

## **Why the disparity? Why aren’t Lakota and Fairfield at the 20-mill floor?**

- In general, whether a district is at the 20-mill floor depends on the type and number of levies passed by voters.
- Lakota and Fairfield school districts have passed more “current expense” type levies in recent years, while some school districts have passed more emergency and substitute levies that allow the district to remain at the 20-mill floor.
- As values continue to increase and effective tax rates decline, Lakota and Fairfield are both moving closer to the floor. It is advantageous for a school district to be at the 20-mill floor because of the increased revenue in an inflationary market, without the accompanying downside in a deflationary market.
- The 20-mill floor also allows school districts to avoid running new levies.

**\*Read Auditor Nix’s column in its entirety on our website: [www.fairfieldcityschools.com](http://www.fairfieldcityschools.com). Click the black text box on the right to access our District finance and levy facts pages.**

# MORE SCHOOL LEVY INFO

## VOTE ON 3/19/2024

### FCSD Financial Facts

FAQ's

Does the levy affect property taxes or income taxes?

**The levy will affect property taxes only.**

What tools are available to see how the levy will impact my tax bill?

**Visit the Butler County Auditor's Office website:**  
<https://www.butlercountyauditor.org>

Who will pay the tax if the levy is approved?

**All property owners in the Fairfield City School District pay FCSD property taxes.**

**The District would start collecting new revenue in calendar year 2025**

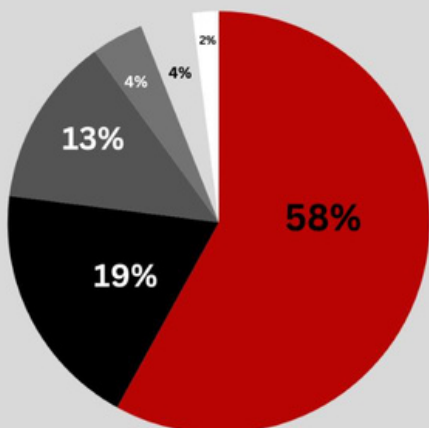
When would the district start collecting new revenue if the levy is approved?

What can an operating levy be used for?

An operating levy can be used for general district expenses, such as salaries, benefits, utilities, supplies/materials, transportation, and programming.

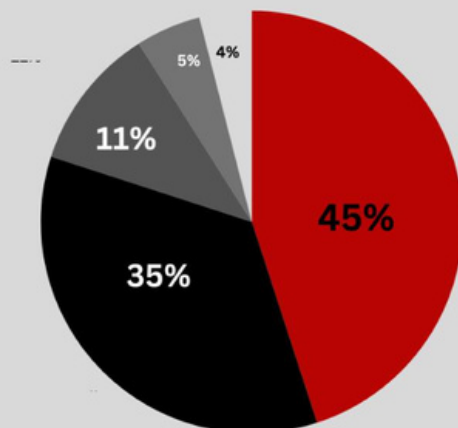
FCSD 2022-2023 Expenditure Breakdown

- Salaries
- Benefits
- Purchased Services
- Other Objects/Uses
- Supplies & Materials
- Capital Outlay



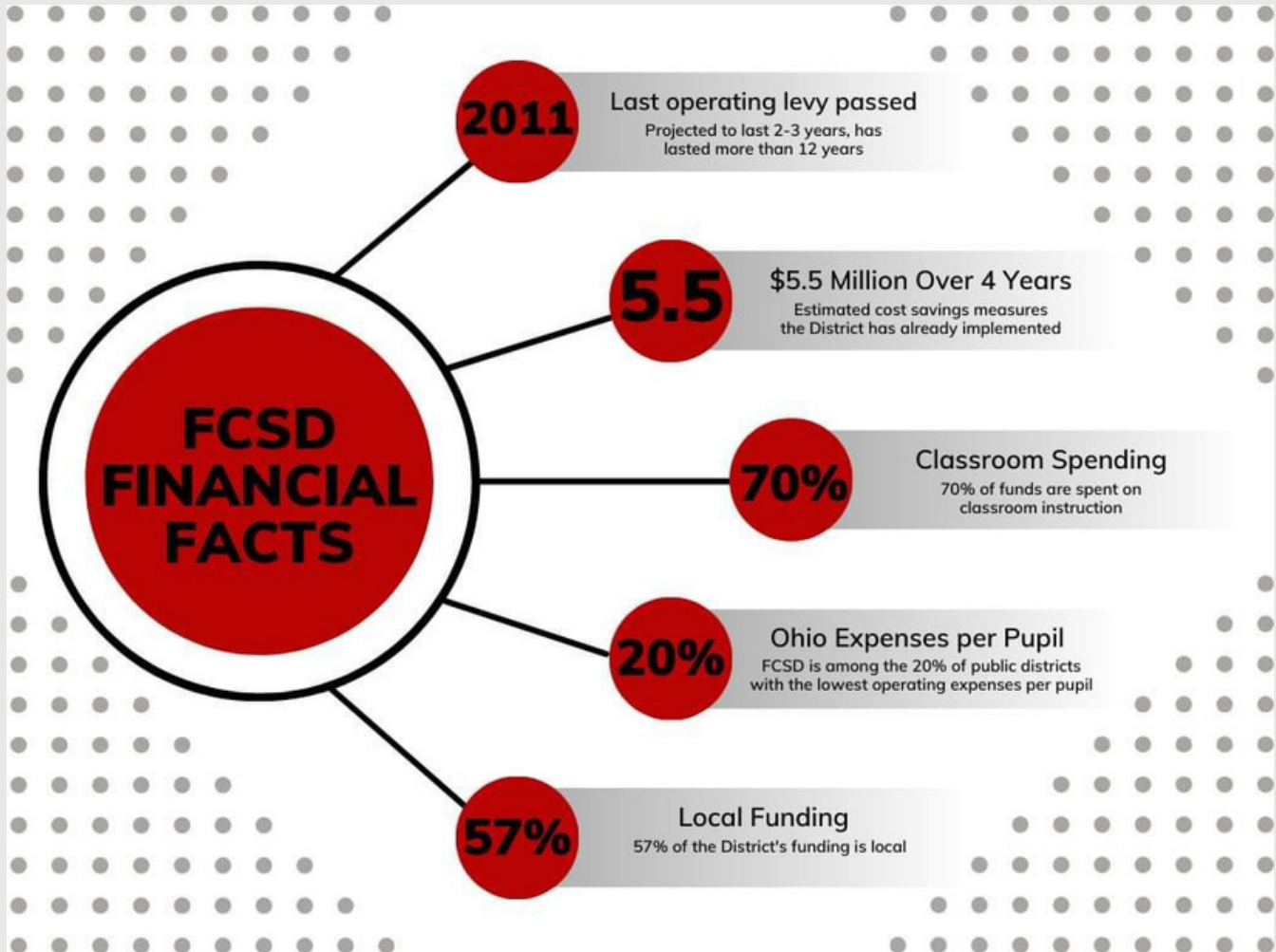
FCSD 2022-2023 Revenue Breakdown

- Real Estate
- State Funding
- All Other Revenues
- Property Tax Alloc Public Utility



# SCHOOL LEVY INFO

## VOTE ON 3/19/2024



## FCSD Financial Facts

### How are public schools funded in Ohio?

Public school districts in Ohio are funded by a combination of federal, state, and local funding. State and federal funding historically provides approximately 40% of our district's total revenue. Federal funding is generally awarded through grants based on specific demographic categories (special education, poverty levels, English Language Learners, etc.). State funding is awarded to districts based on a formula that considers a local community's capacity to contribute. Local funding must provide for the remaining financial needs.

SHOW CHOIR - FIRST LOOK & HOMESTEAD CLASSIC

The Show Choirs hosted their First Look on 1/19 & 1/20 revealing their competition shows to the community. It was also a senior solo & senior recognition night.



Then, they traveled to the Homestead Classic competition in Fort Wayne, IN on 2/3 & 2/4 & won numerous awards.



Congratulations to the Winter Guard for their recent victories and hosting a successful MEPA event. They scored 72.58 at their opening show and then 76.05 on their home turf. You can find them back in action on Sat, 2/24 at Trent Arena.



WINTER GUARD

## JOIN OUR FUNDRAISER AT RAISING CANE'S!

**Mention the fundraiser at the register  
and Cane's will donate 15% of sales to:**

**Fairfield High School  
Winter Guard Dine  
to Donate**

DATE & TIME:

**March 05, 2024 from 04:00 PM - 11:00 PM**

LOCATION:

**8800 Holden Blvd, , OH 45014  
+1 513-815-4414**



SENIOR SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

The Fairfield Tempo Club awards **4 - \$1000** scholarships annually to senior music students. All applications must be submitted through the Google form (scan the QR to access it). The deadline to apply is midnight on 3/1/2024.

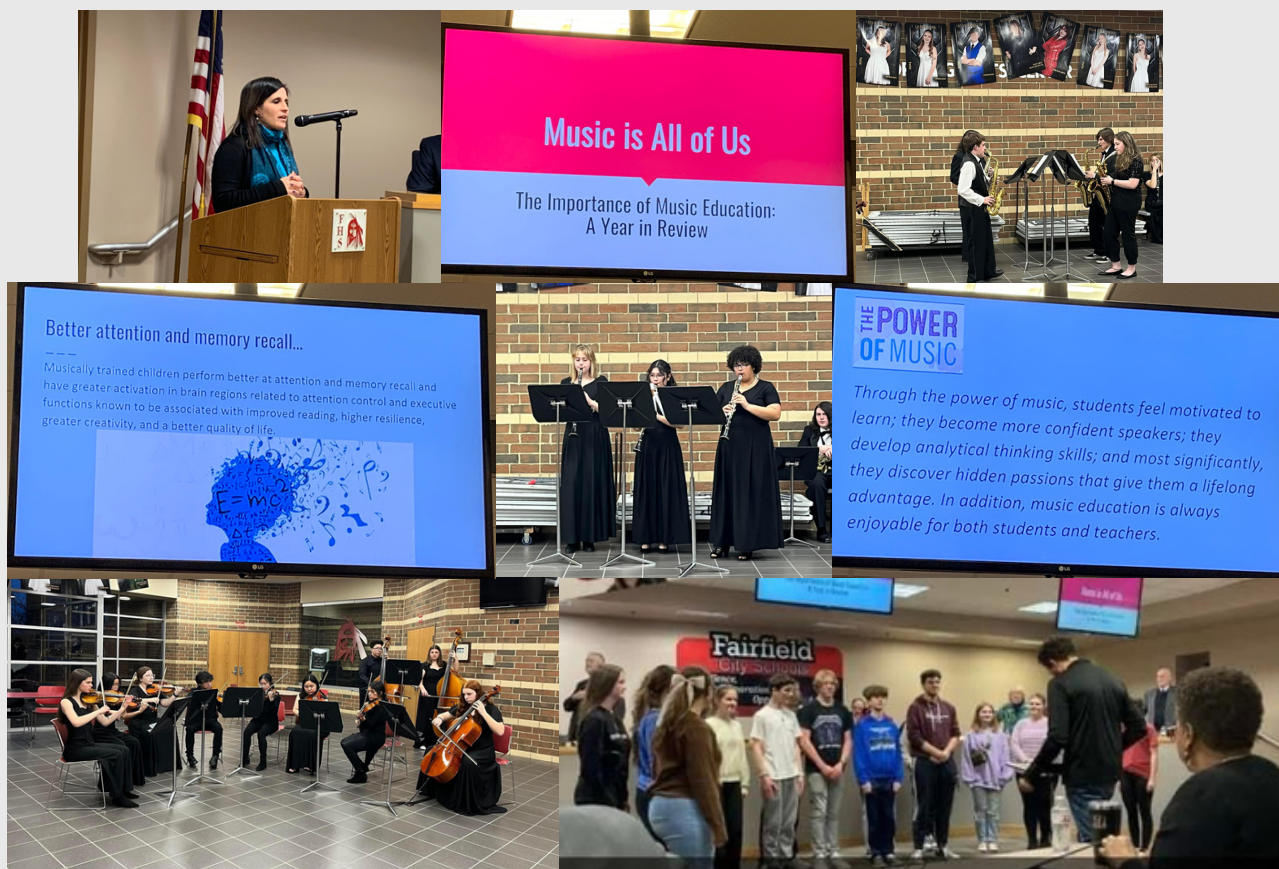


The Fairfield Tempo Club also partners with the Fairfield HS Athletic Boosters & awards **1 - \$1000** scholarship annually to a senior student who is an athlete AND a musician. All applications must be submitted through the Google form (scan the QR to access it). The deadline to apply is midnight on 3/1/2024.





Music Department Chair, Jill Wilhelm, recently gave a presentation to the FCSD Board of Education about the importance of music in schools. Several of the students performed.



COMMUNITY UPDATE



**Watch the new music highlight video here:**

[www.fairfieldcityschools.com/apps/video/watch.jsp?v=368044](http://www.fairfieldcityschools.com/apps/video/watch.jsp?v=368044)

**Thank you for continued support of the music and arts programs in our community!**

Stop by Vibrant Nutrition during the month of February  
& help support the Show Choirs.  
1180 Nilles Rd, Fairfield, OH 45014

Every drink sold we are  
donating \$2 the month of  
February

*Fairfield*

# SHOW **F** CHOIRS Fundraiser

The Frizzle



Tropical &  
Strawberry

Burnin' Up



Lemon Lime &  
Watermelon

LET'S GO GIRLS



Pineapple &  
Blue Raspberry

*Vibrant*  
NUTRITION  
1180 Nilles Road Fairfield

32oz  
115mg of caffeine  
Healthy electrolytes

SHOW CHOIR FUNDRAISER