Licking Heights Local School District
Honoring our legacy. Inspiring the present. Ready for the future.

Presentation for the Task Force on Best Academic Practice Models for Black Students
Ohio Department of Education

June 18, 2021

Philip H. Wagner, Ph.D.
Superintendent
Licking Heights Local Schools
Student Ethnicity

- White: 45%
- Black: 28%
- Asian: 15%
- Hispanic: 5%
- Multiracial: 7%
Licking Heights Local School District
Projected Enrollment

LICKING HEIGHTS LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
Black Student Enrollment: Percentage of Total Enrollment

LICKING HEIGHTS LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
3-5th Grade Black Students: Percent Proficient and Above

3rd Grade ELA
- FY16: 45%
- FY17: 57%
- FY18: 55%
- FY19: 68%

4th Grade ELA
- FY16: 62%
- FY17: 57%
- FY18: 64%
- FY19: 55%

5th Grade ELA
- FY16: 59%
- FY17: 68%
- FY18: 65%
- FY19: 72%

3rd Grade Math
- FY16: 55%
- FY17: 60%
- FY18: 53%
- FY19: 48%

4th Grade Math
- FY16: 66%
- FY17: 68%
- FY18: 57%
- FY19: 66%

5th Grade Math
- FY16: 60%
- FY17: 71%
- FY18: 58%
- FY19: 61%
6-8th Grade Black Students:
Percent Proficient and Above

LICKING HEIGHTS LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
9-12th Grade Black Students: Percent Proficient and Above

Algebra I

American US Government

American US History

Biology

English Language Arts I

English Language Arts II

Geometry

LICKING HEIGHTS LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
Perfect state report card eludes central Ohio school districts

By Jennifer Smith Richards & Bill Bush

The Columbus Dispatch • Saturday September 13, 2014 5:00 AM

Comments: 8 935 95 1337

It was tougher to ace this year’s school report cards, but new data released yesterday show that some central Ohio districts brought home grades worthy of high-fives.

Seven of 49 districts in the region earned all A’s and B’s, a respectable showing given that this report card required higher test-passage rates to earn top grades. That distinction went to Beavely, Canal Winchester, Gahanna, Hilliard and Upper Arlington schools in Franklin County; Olentangy schools in Delaware County; and Licking Heights in Licking County.
## Licking Heights Local School District
### Cap Impact

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Calculated State Funding</th>
<th>Total State Funding</th>
<th>Gain/Loss</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
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<td>FY14</td>
<td>$14,972,368</td>
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Total Unfunded Amount Over The Last 8 Years: $71,434,403
Licking Heights Local School District
Total Expenditure Per Pupil

2015: $9,877
2016: $9,239
2017: $9,212
2018: $8,297
2019: $8,516
2020: $8,429

LICKING HEIGHTS LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
Strategies to Improve Student Performance

• Courageous Conversations about Race by Glenn E. Singleton: Create a system wide plan for transforming the district office, schools, and classrooms into places that truly support ALL students achieving at their highest levels

  • A. Human Capital
  
  • B. Teaching & Learning

  • C. Transformation, Culture & Empowerment
Human Capital

• Recruitment, Induction & Retention
• Board Objective: ‘Continue to diversify the pool of candidates considered for employment openings. This includes highly qualified candidates who are of a different race and ethnicity than the majority...’ (BOE approved in 2015 & 2019)
• Job Postings: “L.H. places an emphasis on accepting a diverse pool of candidates reflecting the school district’s student population.”
• Grow Your Own Strategies (e.g., Paraprofessionals to Teachers, Counselors, etc.)
• Staff Referrals, Partnerships with colleges of education and career tech (Teaching Professions program)
Human Capital continued...

- Recruitment, Induction & Retention
- 2020-21 ODE’s Diversifying the Education Profession in Ohio grant
  - Provide professional learning for all educators related to equity, diversity and inclusion linked to improving building climate and culture
  - $70,000 grant for 2 ½ years
  - Enhance culture and climate of education environment
  - Expand DEI staff knowledge and practices
Teaching & Learning

• Teacher Evaluations & Teacher Based Teams
  ▫ Teacher evaluations: assessment data, competency-based approach, subgroup focus and analysis, and differentiating instruction
  ▫ Teacher Based Teams (TBTs): collaborative conversations about student learning, strong focus on subgroups and share effective teaching practices

• PBIS & SEL
  ▫ PBIS: Strong Tier 1 support to ensure all students receive recognition for positive behaviors and building teams meet monthly review data (subgroups, disproportionality, special education, ELL, etc.)
  ▫ Social Emotional Learning (SEL): Focused on developing strong character traits among students and staff - includes focus on diversity and equity
Teaching & Learning continued...

- Organizational Barriers and Raised Expectations
  - AP eligibility (2014/15)
  - Gifted eligibility (2014/15)
  - Compacted Math (2014/15 = 5th grade & 2015/16 = 6th grade)
  - Profile of a Graduate (Battelle for Kids)
  - Program of Studies: Multicultural Literature, African American History, Contemporary World Issues, etc.
  - Technological Literacy and Student Technology Enhancements (STEAM and one-to-one environment) in 2021/22
  - Facebook Grants $190,000 for STEAM and $960,000 for Chromebooks
Teaching & Learning continued...

- Global Scholars Program 2018/19
  - Columbus Council on World Affairs
  - Global Scholars Diploma
  - [https://columbusworldaffairs.org/](https://columbusworldaffairs.org/)
- Career Café
- New 274,000 sq. ft. high school (2020/21)
- Focus on Three Es: Enroll, Employ or Enlist
Transformation, Culture & Empowerment

- Yearlong professional development focus on awareness of Implicit Bias (2018/19)
- Community Events:
  - International/Culture Fair
  - Black History Programs
  - DEI Committee (2020/21)
- Student Affinity Groups:
  - Multicultural Club/Diversity Council
  - Diaspora HS Program
Transformation, Culture & Empowerment continued...

- **Student Family Engagement**
  - Partnership with the National Center for Rural Education Research Networks, Harvard University (*Harvard Rural Grant Project*) and The Cleveland Browns (*Stay in School*) (2019/20); known as Proving Ground [https://cepr.harvard.edu/proving-ground](https://cepr.harvard.edu/proving-ground). Works with school districts (15 Ohio & 15 New York) to help identify and test solutions to specific challenges, such as chronic absenteeism, that are obstacles to student achievement.
  - Partnership with Johns Hopkins University, The Ohio State University and State Support Team 11 (2020/21). Three year partnership to improve student outcomes and quality two-way family communications.
  - ELL Bilingual Aides/Parent Mentors (2021/22)
Strategic Future

• Continue all current initiatives and launch new initiatives, including Courageous Conversations Staff Book Study
• School Funding/Gain Cap Relief
• DEI Supervisor (new position for 2021/22)
• Vision of Equity
• SEL: PreK-6 = Sanford Harmony; 7-12 = Seven Mindsets (2021/22)
• Three Es and workforce development (Facebook, Google & Amazon)
Licking Heights Local School District

Questions?

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