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# ANNUAL

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# REPORT

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2022



*Developing Students' Knowledge and Skills for a Bright Future*

## Message from Superintendent Jamie Grube



Superintendent,  
Jamie Grube

As superintendent of Groveport Madison Schools, it's an honor to share the many accomplishments, opportunities, and challenges facing the school district throughout the past year through our 2022 Annual Report.

Our staff has been working incredibly hard to help many of our students recover from learning losses that resulted during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic. While not all students were impacted the same way, many struggled with online learning, the loss of daily academic routines, and the irreplaceable social interactions that come with in-person classes. To counter these impacts, we've redoubled our efforts around strengthening students' literacy and math skills, and the results are very positive.

The District earned five out of five stars on the "Progress" component of the 2022 State of Ohio Report Card. This measure signifies that Groveport Madison's students achieved more than a year's worth of academic growth for the year. The report card also showed that we significantly improved in closing the learning gap between various subgroup populations in English language arts and mathematics. While we still have much work to do, we are on the right path to assist students who have been behind and accelerate students who are ready to move forward.

Another effort employed over the past year has been to partner with other agencies and organizations to

expand learning opportunities and address students' non-academic needs.

Partnerships with ETSS, the Columbus Literacy Council, ACE, and Eckerd Connect provide free after-school programming for more than 200 students. We've also partnered with the United Way of Central Ohio to recruit Book Buddies to read one-on-one with our K-3 students, and partnerships with Lead the Way and the Past Foundation provide additional support for our middle and high school students.

Good health is an essential need for students to do their best in school. To assist students (and the community) we've partnered with PrimaryOne Health to open a school-based health center at the District Service Center. Slated to open later this spring, PrimaryOne Health will provide comprehensive health services, eye exams and vision care, dental services, health screenings, routine physical exams, sports and work physicals, immunizations and vaccinations, and routine lab tests. We are very excited about this partnership and the great benefits it will provide to the community.

As you read through our annual report, I sincerely hope that you can take a degree of personal pride in what we've accomplished – because it would not have been possible without you and your support.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jamie Grube".

## OUR BELIEF STATEMENT

We believe all Cruisers are valuable. We will unconditionally SERVE, SUPPORT, and INSPIRE. Therefore, every Cruiser will maximize their unique PURPOSE, POTENTIAL, and POWER to produce the results they want.

## OUR VISION

Every Student. Every Lesson. Every Day.

# Groveport Madison Schools Board of Education



*BOE President,  
LaToya Dowdell-Burger*



*BOE Vice President,  
Seth Bower*



*BOE Member,  
Libby Gray*



*BOE Member,  
Chris Snyder*



*BOE Member,  
Kathleen Walsh*

## **ENSURING THE DISTRICT'S FINANCIAL STABILITY**

To provide our students with the high quality of education they deserve, it's the Board's responsibility to ensure the District has the resources to fulfill its obligations and remains financially stable.

In November 2019, the community passed the District's five-year 6.68 mil renewal operating levy, which will expire at the end of 2024. The renewal levy generates approximately \$5.6 million annually to support the District's daily operating expenses. There's no question that we'll need to renew the operating levy to stave off a significant revenue loss beginning in 2025.

Through the effects of HB920, the levy is now collecting at only 4.87 mils, which has largely prevented the District from receiving increased revenue from it even though residential and agricultural values have increased modestly over the past three years.

Additionally, with the dramatic increases in the costs of goods and services over the past 18 months, the District's expenses have increased more than expected. With little sign these increases will diminish and return to pre-pandemic levels, the District is facing a \$6 million revenue shortfall by the end of the fiscal year 2024. It's almost certain that a simple renewal of the existing operating levy won't be enough to address the economic circumstances that the District is facing.

The District's treasurer and superintendent have already begun looking at cost-saving measures for the upcoming school year to reduce the impact of an anticipated levy request in the fall of 2023.

We'll share more information in the coming months, and we welcome your input as we move forward.







## 2022 Initiatives & Accomplishments

### GM STUDENTS CONTINUED TO MAKE MORE THAN A YEAR'S ACADEMIC GROWTH ON 2022 STATE REPORT CARD

In September 2022, the Ohio Department of Education released its newest version of the State Report Card – moving to a five-star rating system to represent various aspects of student performance measures in the following components: Achievement, Progress, Early Literacy, Gap Closing, Graduation, College/Career Workforce, and Military Readiness.

The new star-ranking system generally equates to earning three stars as meeting state standards, with five stars representing significantly exceeding state standards and one star needing significant improvement. Unlike in previous years, there is no “A to F” scale, nor is there an overall grade or score issued for the school or school district.

Groveport Madison’s 2021-2022 State Report Card results are listed below:

- Achievement – Two Stars
- Progress – Five Stars
- Gap Closing – Four Stars
- Graduation – One Star
- Early Literacy – Two Stars
- College, Career Workforce, and Military Readiness – Not rated until this year

The District continues to do exceptionally well in the area of student progress (value added), where students are achieving more than a year’s worth of academic growth for the year. We also have made significant improvements in closing the learning gap between various subgroup populations in English language arts and mathematics.



### GMHS SKILLED TRADES EXPO PROVIDES STUDENTS WITH OPTIONS FOLLOWING GRADUATION

The high school’s administrative team and counseling staff partnered with the Ohio Contractors Association, the Associated General Contractors of America, the Columbus Building & Construction Trades Council, and the Ohio Army National Guard to set up a skilled trades expo for our students.

More than 500 GMHS sophomores were bused to the Ohio National Guard Recruiting Center, where they met with representatives from more than 25 trade organizations and construction-related companies. The students tried their hand at cold-fusion plumbing, spreading fresh concrete to form a sidewalk and even knocking down pylons using the boom digger bucket on a backhoe.

A separate Skilled Trades Expo for GMHS seniors will take place on May 2 to introduce them to potential job opportunities following graduation.



## 2022 Initiatives & Accomplishments

### ASBURY ES AND MIDDLE SCHOOL NORTH RECOGNIZED BY ODE FOR PBIS AWARDS

The Ohio Department of Education (ODE) recognized Asbury ES (Silver Award Winner) and Middle School North (Bronze Award Winner) for their integration and implementation of the Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS) system. PBIS aims to establish and implement social, emotional, and behavioral supports and expectations to improve academic outcomes for all students.



### NEW SCHOOLCARE APP IMPROVES HEALTH COMMUNICATIONS WITH PARENTS

Groveport Madison Schools partnered with SchoolCare to manage student health information. As part of the service, all student health information is maintained on a secure digital platform that communicates directly with parents to ensure they know all about their student's healthcare while at school.



### SUPERINTENDENT HOSTS MONTHLY COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT EVENTS

To create an opportunity for community members to meet and interact with superintendent Grube more casually, he has launched a new outreach effort called "Java with Jamie," which takes place one Friday each month. Guests are treated to free coffee at local coffee shops and restaurants. Find out more by visiting [gocruisers.org](http://gocruisers.org).



### THE DISTRICT'S SAFETY COMMITTEE HAS RECONVENED

Deputy Superintendent Paul Smathers reconvened the District's Safety Committee after the entity had been on hiatus during the pandemic. Approximately 25 parents, staff members, students, and other law enforcement officials serve on the committee, with Kimyata Conwell and Joe Butts serving as co-chairs. The group meets monthly to discuss various safety-related issues throughout the school district. Information from the meetings is available on the District's website at [gocruisers.org/SafetySecurity.aspx](http://gocruisers.org/SafetySecurity.aspx).



## 2022 Initiatives & Accomplishments

### GMHS CONSTRUCTION TRADES STUDENTS BUILD PLAYHOUSE FOR PRE-K PROGRAM

As part of Groveport Madison High School's Construction Trades Pathway, Mr. Gibbs's class of juniors and seniors built a playhouse for Pre-K students attending Lil' Cruiser Campus. Once finished, the playhouse was moved by trailer to the Lil' Cruiser Campus outdoor playground. The children absolutely love it!



### ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE PROGRAMMING EXPANDED

To better meet the needs of our students whose primary language is other than English, the District expanded its English as a Second Language (ESL) program to serve all schools. Previously, the program was available at only six of the District's schools.



### UNITED WAY OF CENTRAL OHIO PARTNERSHIP TO SUPPORT READING AND LITERACY

To provide additional literacy support to our youngest learners, the District has partnered with the United Way of Central Ohio to provide "Reading Buddies" for kindergarten through third-grade students. The volunteers work one-on-one with students for one to two hours each week.

If you're interested in more information or want to volunteer, go to the Volunteer United webpage at [volunteerunitedcbus.org](http://volunteerunitedcbus.org).



## 2022 Initiatives & Accomplishments

### NEW MATH CURRICULUM IMPLEMENTED

To help improve students' math skills, the District adopted a new mathematics curriculum and support materials for 2022.

i-Ready Mathematics Classroom is a research-based program that provides K-8 students with differentiated instruction and supports them on their paths to success. Backed by cutting-edge research on best mathematics learning practices, students gain experience through specific examples and engaging lessons. Students are provided concrete and abstract examples of mathematical concepts by going through the daily Try It, Discuss It, Connect It routine. Its responsive instruction provides consistent insight into student understanding and performance, enabling teachers to monitor their students' progress and help them prepare for standards-based assessments and beyond.



### 2022 CELEBRATION OF CULTURES NIGHT A HUGE SUCCESS!

On May 12, several hundred guests joined us for our Celebration of Cultures Night, held at GMHS. The event was organized by the District's English Language Learner teachers and the staff from our Teaching and Learning Office. The evening included food trucks featuring various ethnic treats, displays, games, performances, and activities – along with numerous door prizes that were given out. The event received widespread praise from students, parents, and District staff.



## 2022 Initiatives & Accomplishments

### FEDERAL STIMULUS-FUNDED PROJECTS WRAPPING UP

The District is wrapping up several projects that received federal funds through the Coronavirus Aid Relief and Economic Security Act (CARES Act) and the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) Act.

Nearly two million of the initial funding was used in the fall of 2020 to purchase supplies and equipment related to protecting students and staff from COVID and covering the expenses of opening and operating Cruiser Digital Academy, our 100% digital online school.

The federal funds have been used to provide summer school and after-school programming, hire social workers, and temporarily increase substitute teacher pay, and provide additional student support.

Funds also have been used to replace HVAC systems, install high-efficiency LED lighting in schools, and replace several roofs. A complete list of funds received and used through ESSER I, ESSER II, and ESSER III grants can be found at [gocruisers.org/ESSERFederalStimulusFunds.aspx](http://gocruisers.org/ESSERFederalStimulusFunds.aspx).



## 2022 Initiatives & Accomplishments

### PRIMARYONE SCHOOL-BASED HEALTH CENTER NEARING COMPLETION

Work is moving quickly to complete the PrimaryOne Community Health Center under construction at the rear of the District Service Center (DSC) building. The center will open later this spring, providing comprehensive health services, eye exams and vision care, dental services, health screenings, routine physical exams, sports and work physicals, immunizations and vaccinations, and routine lab tests.

The center will be open to all students, staff, families, and community members.



### DISTRICT RECOGNIZED AS “BREAKFAST & BEYOND SUPERSTAR” BY CHILDREN’S HUNGER ALLIANCE

The Children’s Hunger Alliance recognized Groveport Madison Schools as a 2022 “Breakfast & Beyond Superstar” award winner. The District’s food services operation has gone above and beyond since March 2020 to provide our students with nutritious, tasty, and readily accessible meals daily.



# Treasurer's Update

## TREASURER'S FINANCIAL OUTLOOK

The District is nearing the end of its 2019 five-year operating levy, which expires in 2024. Even though home and other real estate values have increased over the past four years, the District's revenue has remained fairly flat. This is a result of HB920 and the state rollback on millage rates.

While we have carefully managed our expenditures over these years, we anticipate being on the ballot for an operating levy this fall. The increased cost of goods and services due to inflation, the purchase of the bus fleet, and the anticipation that the State of Ohio will not fully fund the new state funding formula are factors that cannot be ignored and have a tremendous impact on our current and future financial position.

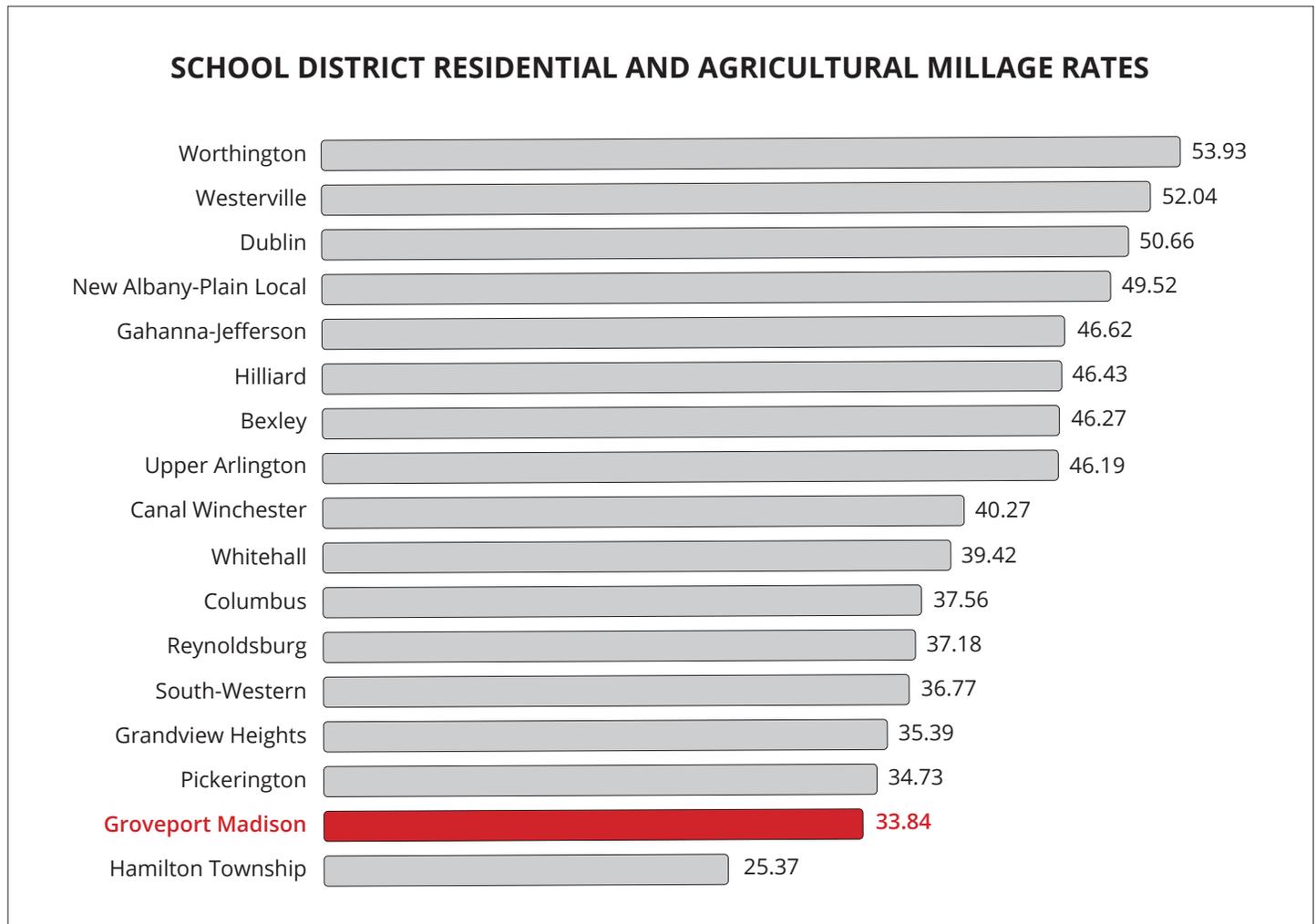
We will continue to monitor expenses carefully and look for additional savings and reductions while making every effort to minimize the impact on programming and services that might affect students.



Treasurer,  
Felicia Drummey

## MILLAGE RATES

Compared to 17 other central Ohio school districts, Groveport Madison's residential and agricultural millage rate continues to be next to the lowest in the area.



## Treasurer's Update

### DISTRICT'S TREASURER'S OFFICE RECEIVES AUDITOR OF STATE AWARD

The District's Treasurer received the Auditor of State Award for its clean audit report for the fiscal year ending 2021. The Auditor's office gives the award to local governments and school districts upon completing their financial audit. Entities that receive the award have met the following criteria for a "clean" audit report:

- The entity must file financial reports with the Auditor of State's office by the statutory due date and follow GAAP (Generally Accepted Accounting Principles).
- The audit report does not contain any findings for recovery, material citations, material weakness, significant deficiencies, Uniform Guidance (Single Audit) findings, or questioned costs.
- The entity's management letter contains no comment related to ethics referrals; questioned costs less than the threshold per the Uniform Guidance; lack of timely annual financial report submission; bank reconciliation issues; failure to obtain a timely Single Audit following Uniform Guidance; findings for recovery less than \$500; public meetings or public records issues.
- The entity has no other financial or other concerns.



### REFINANCING BONDS SAVES TAXPAYERS \$1.7 MILLION

The District refinanced some of the 2014 School Facilities Construction and Improvement Bonds, taking advantage of market conditions. The \$9.2 million refinancing saved taxpayers approximately \$1,700,628 in gross debt service over the life of the issue by reducing interest costs from 4.55% to about 2.78%.



### MOODY'S UPGRADES DISTRICT'S CREDIT RATING TO A1 STATUS

With the District's strong financial management practices, commendable audit results, and generally positive regional economic indicators, Moody's Investor Service agreed that the District's credit rating should be upgraded from A2 to A1 on voted general obligation bonds.

The rating reflects the District's ability to repay debt and debt-like obligations without consideration of requiring collateral. The upgrade to an A1 rating further reflects the District's steady bolstering of operating fund balance and liquidity over the past several years, along with its positive economic and tax base trends. The rating incorporates the District's positive population trends and moderate overall leverage of unfunded retiree-benefit liabilities and debt, which may increase in coming years to accommodate the expectation of future enrollment growth.

# REVENUE

WHERE FUNDING COMES FROM



## LOCAL TAXES

\$38,316,739

46.5%

## STATE AID

\$33,552,633

40.7%

## MISCELLANEOUS

\$6,524,716

7.90%

## RESTRICTED STATE AID

\$2,585,139

3.10%

## TUITION

\$1,295,964

1.60%

## INTEREST

\$149,369

0.20%

**\$82,424,560**

# EXPENSES

WHERE FUNDING GOES  
BY OBJECT CODE



## SALARIES & WAGES

\$39,086,515

52.3%

## EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

\$17,177,990

23.0%

## PURCHASED SERVICES

\$12,871,957

17.2%

## SUPPLIES & MATERIALS

\$2,625,272

3.50%

## OTHER

\$2,303,745

3.10%

## CAPITAL EXPENSES

\$696,857

1.40%

**\$74,762,336**

# EXPENSES

WHERE FUNDING GOES  
BY FUNCTION CODE



**CLASSROOM INSTRUCTION** 58.4%  
\$43,697,181

**SUPPORT SERVICES** 38.3%  
\$28,612,702

**OTHER** 1.70%  
\$1,291,141

**EXTRA-CURRICULAR** 1.10%  
\$819,219

**FACILITIES** 0.40%  
\$278,520

**OPERATIONS** 0.10%  
\$63,573

**\$74,762,336**

# OUTLOOK

THE DISTRICT'S FINANCIAL FUTURE

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*While we have carefully managed our expenditures over these years, we anticipate being on the ballot for an operating levy this fall.*

*Felicia Drummey, Treasurer*

# Facilities & Enrollment

## STATE OF OHIO: DISTRICT'S ELEMENTARY AND MIDDLE SCHOOLS EXCEED USEFUL LIFE

As far back as the late 1990s, the Ohio Facilities Construction Commission (OFCC) recommended replacing the District's elementary and middle schools. Twenty years later, when the OFCC updated the District's Facilities Master Plan, its report indicated the existing elementary and middle schools were well beyond being renovated, with the cost to renovate the buildings expected to exceed two-thirds the cost of new construction – the standard by which the OFCC determines whether a building should be renovated or replaced.

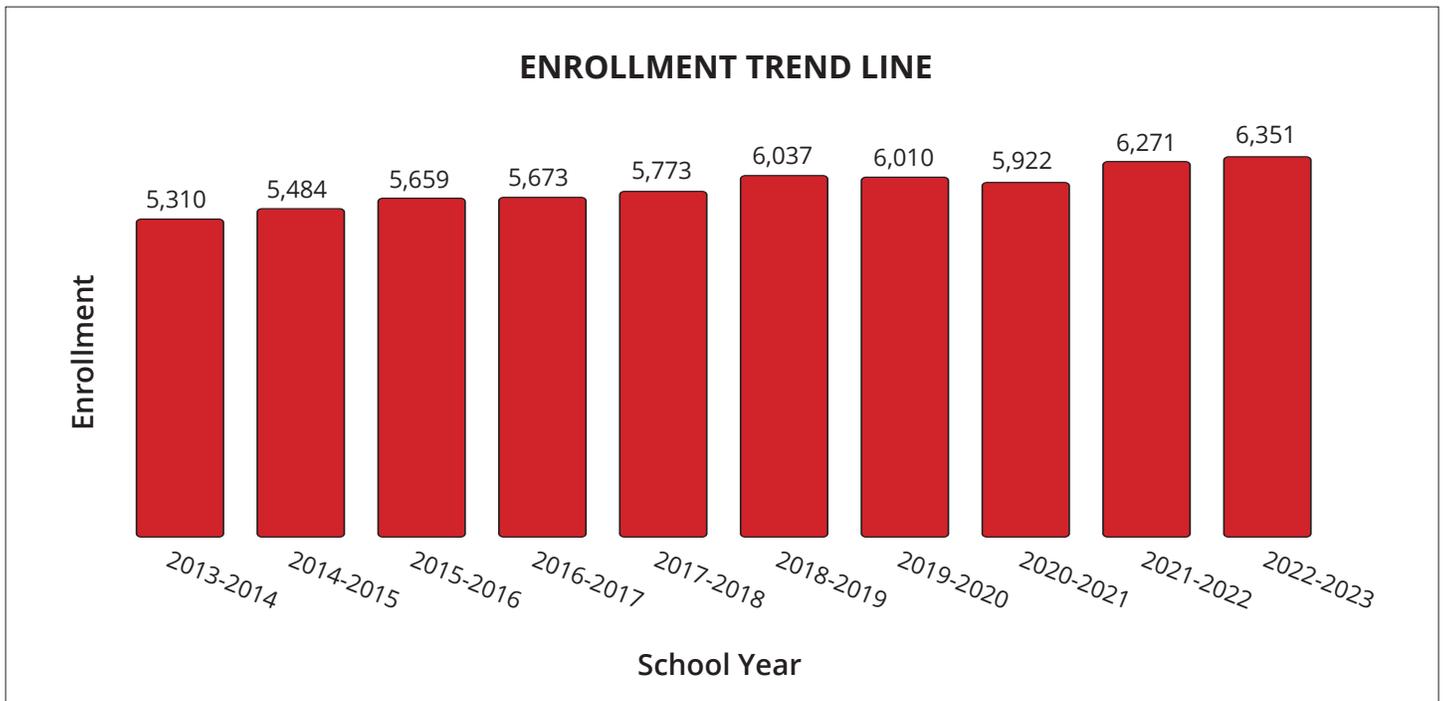
Student and staff safety is also a serious concern, with some of the buildings constructed initially as "Open Concept" schools, which lack permanent interior walls and doors. These areas are impossible to secure in the event of an emergency. In addition, the general age of the schools prevents them from being retrofitted with up-to-date safety and security systems.

In addition, many parking lots are undersized and cannot accommodate the amount of traffic they must handle daily.

| DATE OF SCHOOL BUILDING CONSTRUCTION |      |
|--------------------------------------|------|
| BUILDING                             | YEAR |
| LIL' CRUISER CAMPUS PRE-K            | 2017 |
| ASBURY ELEMENTARY                    | 1963 |
| DUNLOE ELEMENTARY                    | 1967 |
| GLENDENING ELEMENTARY                | 1968 |
| GROVEPORT ELEMENTARY                 | 1923 |
| MADISON ELEMENTARY                   | 1967 |
| SEDALIA ELEMENTARY                   | 1969 |
| MIDDLE SCHOOL CENTRAL                | 1952 |
| MIDDLE SCHOOL NORTH                  | 1975 |
| MIDDLE SCHOOL SOUTH                  | 1975 |
| GM HIGH SCHOOL                       | 2018 |

## ENROLLMENT TREND LINE

The number of students attending Groveport Madison Schools has grown by more than 1,000 over the past ten years. The availability of reasonably priced homes and apartments is expected to continue to drive the District's enrollment growth for the foreseeable future.



# Facilities & Enrollment

## THE IMPACT OF OVERCROWDING

Overcrowding has an impact on students and staff alike. Storage areas, offices, conference rooms, and even hallways have been converted into classroom spaces in many schools. Libraries at all of the District's elementary schools have been eliminated so that the areas could be converted into classrooms. Without the libraries, books and research materials are often in storage cabinets or rolling carts lining hallways.

Overcrowding even affects lunchtime for many students, with some eating lunch as early as 10:20 a.m. or as late as 1:30 p.m. Crowded lunchrooms and hallways are also very noisy and have the unfortunate side effect of creating the perfect atmosphere for potential altercations between students.

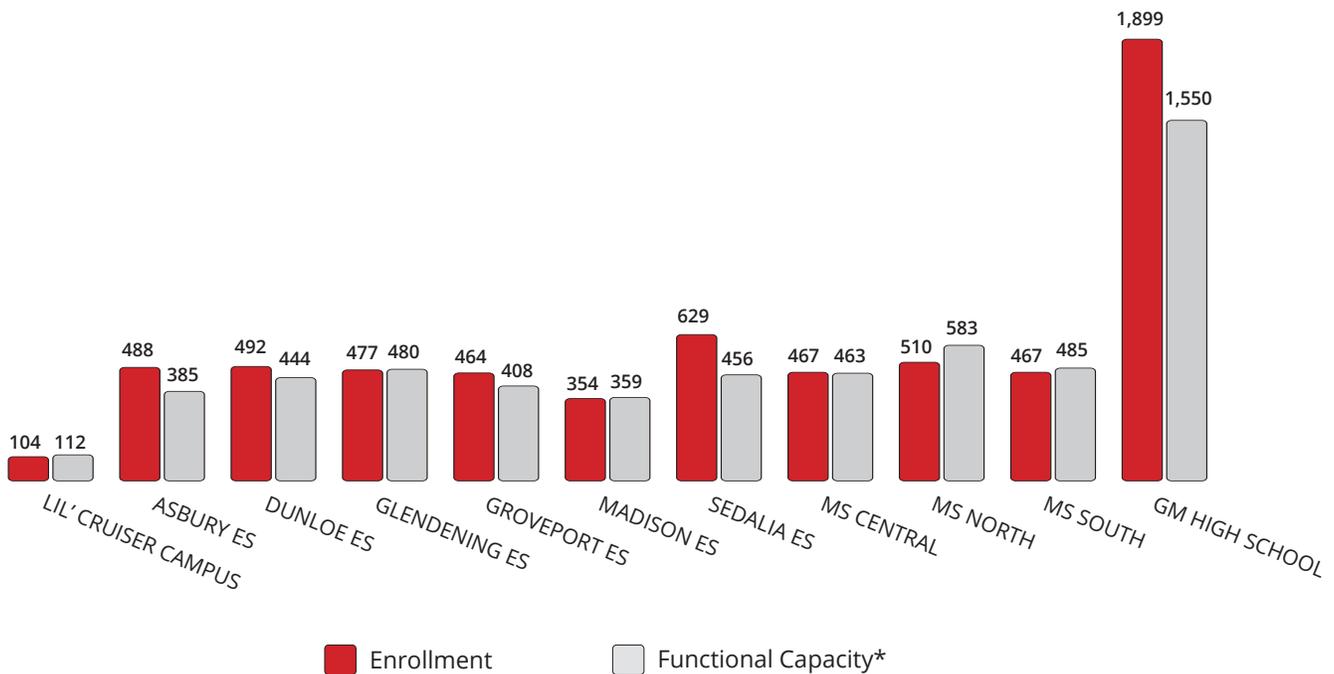
There also are concerns about the impacts of overcrowding on student and staff safety. Parking lots and public streets alongside schools are jammed with cars, so much so that buses are sometimes unable to get into or out of the school's bus loop. Students whose classrooms are in modular units must go outdoors to get into the main building. This is a particular concern in an emergency or lock-down situation.

## MODULAR CLASSROOMS - AN EXPENSIVE SOLUTION

The District currently has 24 modular classrooms to house our ever-growing enrollment. While modular classrooms can accommodate short-term enrollment growth, they are expensive solutions that don't address the overcrowding issue. As an example, to purchase and install a used four-classroom modular unit at Groveport Elementary School cost more than \$400,000. In addition, modular classrooms are three times more expensive to operate (because of their energy inefficiency) than brick-and-mortar classrooms.

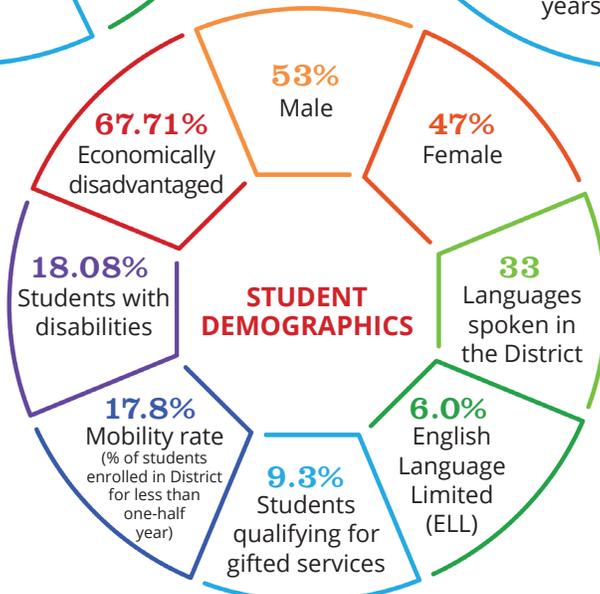
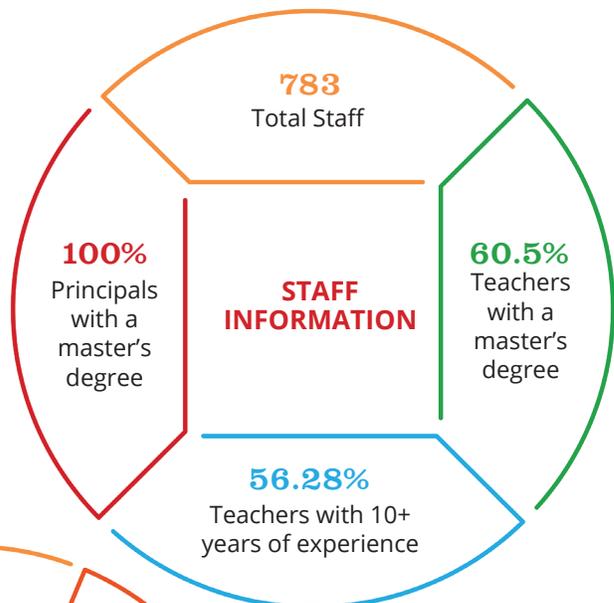
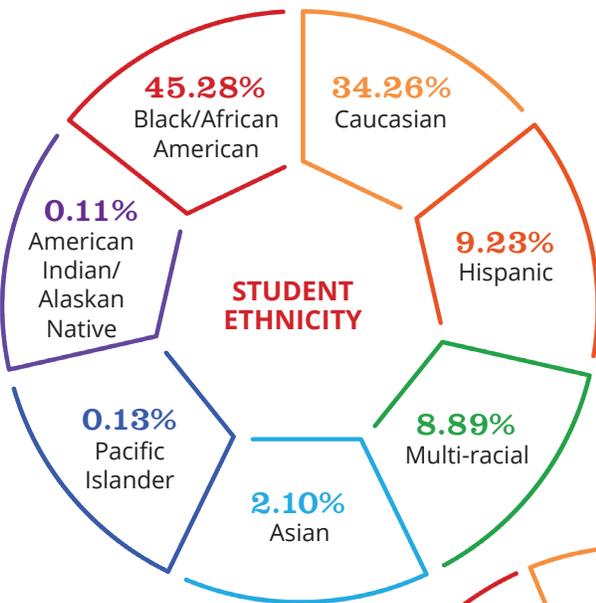
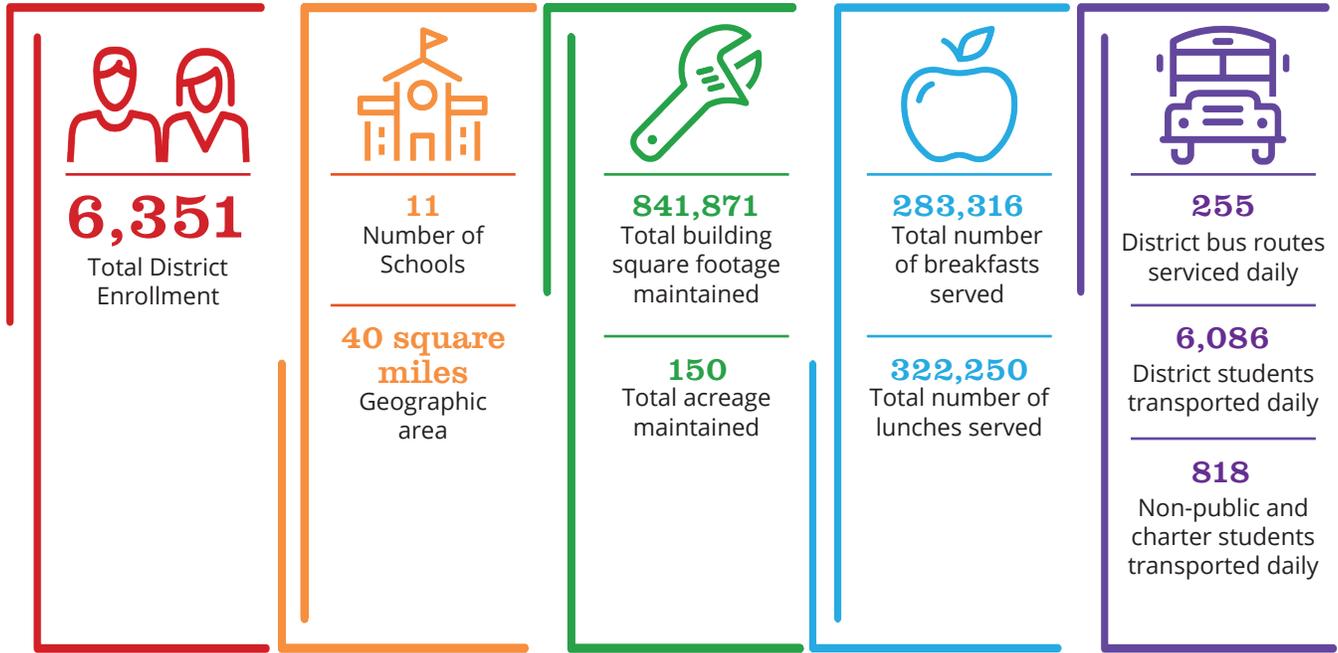


### SCHOOL ENROLLMENT VS. CAPACITY



\* Functional Capacity = 85% of maximum occupancy

# District Fast Facts



## District Contact Information

### Groveport Madison Schools

District Service Center  
4400 Marketing Place, Suite B  
Groveport, OH 43125  
614-492-2520

### Lil' Cruiser Campus

Mitzi Boyd, Principal  
4400 Marketing Place, Suite A  
Groveport, OH 43125  
614-237-8756

### Asbury Elementary

Staci Peters, Principal  
5127 Harbor Boulevard  
Columbus, OH 43232  
614-833-2000

### Dunloe Elementary

Lori Green, Principal  
3200 Dunloe Road  
Columbus, OH 43232  
614-833-2008

### Glendening Elementary

Curt Brogan, Principal  
4200 Glendening Drive  
Groveport, OH 43125  
614-836-4972

### Groveport Elementary

April Bray, Principal  
715 Main Street  
Groveport, OH 43125  
614-836-4975

### Madison Elementary

Tricia Faulkner, Principal  
4600 Madison School Drive  
Columbus, OH 43232  
614-833-2011

### Sedalia Elementary

Katie Van Schoyck, Principal  
5400 Sedalia Drive  
Columbus, OH 43232  
614-833-2014

### Middle School Central

John Brown, Principal  
751 Main Street  
Groveport, OH 43125  
614-836-4957

### Middle School North

Chris Mosure, Principal  
5474 Sedalia Drive  
Columbus, OH 43232  
614-837-5508

### Middle School South

Cody Bryson, Principal  
4400 Glendening Drive  
Groveport, OH 43125  
614-836-4953

### Groveport Madison High School

Duane Bland, Interim Principal  
4475 S. Hamilton Road  
Groveport, OH 43125  
614-836-4964



## Get and Stay Connected!



The Groveport Madison Schools' website, [www.gocruisers.org](http://www.gocruisers.org), is loaded with information to help keep you connected to District happenings on a daily basis. Find your child's bus route or lunch menus, access your ProgressBook account, and stay on top of school- and district-wide events and celebrations. Make [www.gocruisers.org](http://www.gocruisers.org) one of your "favorite" websites.

To check out our photos and get the latest news, "Like" us on Facebook @GoCruisers and follow us on Twitter @GMSchools.





Groveport Madison Schools

4400 Marketing Place, Suite B  
Groveport, OH 43125  
gocruisers.org

# 2022 School District Annual Report

