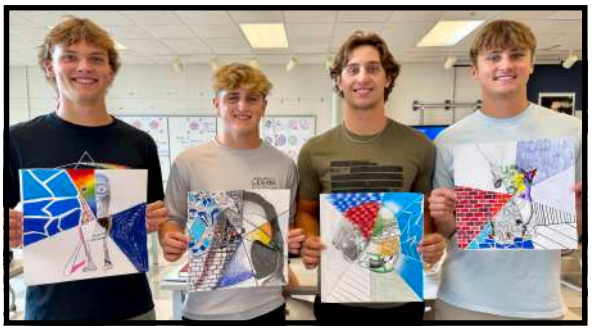
BACK-TO-SCHOOL NEWSLETTER 2026

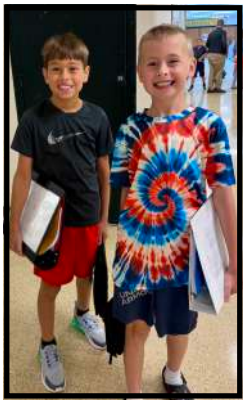
VIKING NAVIGATOR

EVERGREEN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

NEW YEAR, BIG SMILES!

After a quiet summer, it's great to see the hallways filled with students once again. Their energy, laughter, and excitement are the heartbeat of Evergreen Local Schools, and there is no better sign that a new school year is underway! Welcome home Vikings!





FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

By Eric J. Smola, Superintendent

Welcome to a new school year! We are grateful for your continued support and the many ways you contribute to the success of our students.

We welcome you to our campus events held throughout the year. Whether you are attending an athletic event, musical performance, or academic program, we hope you will take the opportunity to see our students in action and celebrate their accomplishments.

We also want to make sure our community stays informed and connected. Throughout the year, we will host Community Conversation events where residents can meet with me and Treasurer Brian Carroll, ask questions, share thoughts, and learn more about Evergreen Local Schools. We encourage you to join us. Details about upcoming Community Conversations are included in this newsletter.

Finally, I want to make you aware that the November 3, 2026 election ballot will include Evergreen Local Schools' 0.25% income tax levy. This is a renewal of the district's existing income income tax levy. Additional information about the levy and its impact can be found in this publication.

Thank you for your continued partnership and support. We look forward to another great year for our students.

JOIN US!

YOU'RE INVITED!

Please join us throughout the year at our open student performances, concerts, athletic contests, and programs as we celebrate our students' talents and accomplishments.

- Homecoming Football Game vs. Swanton, October 9 at 7 pm
- Fall Marching Band Concert, October 28 at 6 pm in EHS Gym
- FFA Trunk-or-Treat, October 29 from 5:30-7 pm, EMS parking lot
- HS Choir Concert with Swanton Choir, October 29 at 7 pm at Swanton HS
- Veterans Day Program is Tuesday, November 10 at 9 am in the EHS Gym. The students are excited to host this special day of honor which includes guest speakers, music, tributes, and presentations honoring those who have served both past & present.
- Band & Choir Concert, December 10 in EHS Gym
  - MS begins at 5 pm
  - HS begins at 7 pm
- EHS Musical on April 2, 3, & 4 in the EMS Gym. More information regarding this ticketed event will be available this spring.
- Choir Concert, May 10, EMS Gym
  - MS begins at 6 pm
  - HS begins at 7:30 pm
- Combined MS & HS Band Concert, May 13 at 6:00 pm in EHS Gym

For more information, go to:
evgvikings.org
evgathletics.org

NEW LEADERSHIP LINEUP

Evergreen's FFA Chapter is off to a busy start headed by a new leadership team for the 2026-2027 school year. The officers are (from right to left) Molly Elvey, president; Lexi Johnson, vice president; Bella Cromly, secretary; Lyla Radel, treasurer; Lilli Eisel, reporter; Martin Patek, Sentinel; and Lily Wirick, historian. Many volunteer hours have already been logged by members at various summer events including working at the Ohio State Fair's Ohio Lamb Commodity Stand preparing and serving sandwiches, running the Kiddie Pedal Pulls at Metamora's Party In The Park, supporting the fight against pediatric cancer, and working at the Fulton County Fair's Pork Stand.

Mark your calendar, FFA's Fruit & Nut Sale runs October 7-November 4. To place an order, see any FFA member or contact Ms. Howell, advisor, at AHowell@evgvikings.org.

EHS DELEGATES

Seniors (pictured left to right), Leah Overfield, Brady Kimple, and Wade Stubleski were chosen to represent EHS at the American Legion Buckeye Boys State and American Legion Auxiliary Buckeye Girls State program over the summer. While attending, delegates received hands-on government training, elections experience, and leadership development. The week-long programs are designed to educate Ohio's young men and women in the duties, privileges, and responsibilities of good citizenship.

WELCOME NEW EMPLOYEES

Evergreen Local Schools welcomes nine new employees. Faculty members pictured from left to right in the group photo are Erica Ferguson, EHS business teacher; Julie Steinhardt, school psychologist; Kelly Maaraba, EES reading specialist; Lisa Sobb, student services I-MTSS coordinator; and Lindsay Cork, EES counselor. Cafeteria team members include Wendy Etts (top left), Courtney Pratt (top right), and Erin Sheller (bottom left). Evergreen also welcomes bus driver, Myah Griggs (bottom right).

Evergreen Local Schools

FINANCIAL FOCUS

A quick look at where we are, how we responsibly use our resources, and where we are headed. It is our responsibility to carefully manage the financial resources entrusted to us, remain fiscally responsible, and make decisions that keep Evergreen strong while providing our students with the best education possible.

1 WHERE WE ARE & HOW WE ARE FUNDED

A STRONG FOUNDATION FOR OUR STUDENTS AND COMMUNITY

DEBT FREE

Evergreen Local Schools is currently debt free. Our two bonds are fully paid off, all school buildings are paid for, and we have no outstanding debt.

STRONG FINANCIAL POSITION

Through careful planning and responsible management, the district remains in a strong financial position.

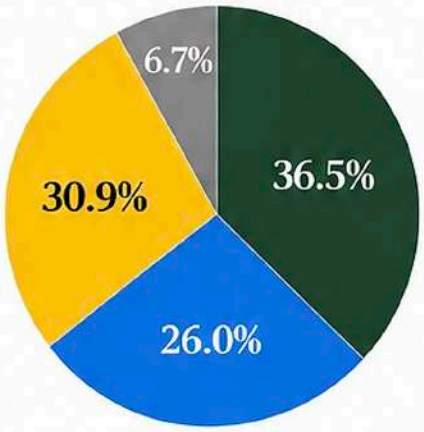
RESPONSIBLE STEWARDSHIP

When our financial situation allowed, we have reduced levies in the past to help ease the burden on our taxpayers.

- .75% was reduced to .50% in November of 2018.
- .50% was reduced to .25% in November of 2017.

OUR FUNDING SOURCES

Evergreen Local Schools is funded through local, state and federal sources.



General Property (Real Estate)
36.5%
$7,552,335

Local Income Taxes
26.0%
$5,376,002

Unrestricted Grants (State Aid)
30.9%
$6,391,957

All Other Operating Revenue
6.7%
$1,388,048

Percentages are based on recent district financial data and may vary slightly from year to year.

2 HOW WE RESPONSIBLY SPEND OUR RESOURCES

INVESTING IN OPPORTUNITIES FOR EVERY STUDENT

GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES

Our funds support:

The majority of our operating funds are in the General Fund, which supports the day-to-day operations of our district. These dollars help provide a safe, high-quality learning environment and the programs and services our students need to be successful.

Instruction and Curriculum
Classroom learning, materials and technology

Salaries & Benefits
Teachers, support staff and administration

Transportation
Safe and reliable student transportation

Operations & Maintenance
Utilities, custodial services and building upkeep

Special Education
Services and support for students with diverse needs

Student Programs
Academic, athletic, arts and extracurricular opportunities

Supplies & Equipment
Instructional resources and technology

Safety & Security
Maintaining safe and secure schools

Every dollar is an investment in our students, our schools and our community.

3 WHERE WE ARE GOING FINANCIALLY

PLANNING TODAY FOR TOMORROW

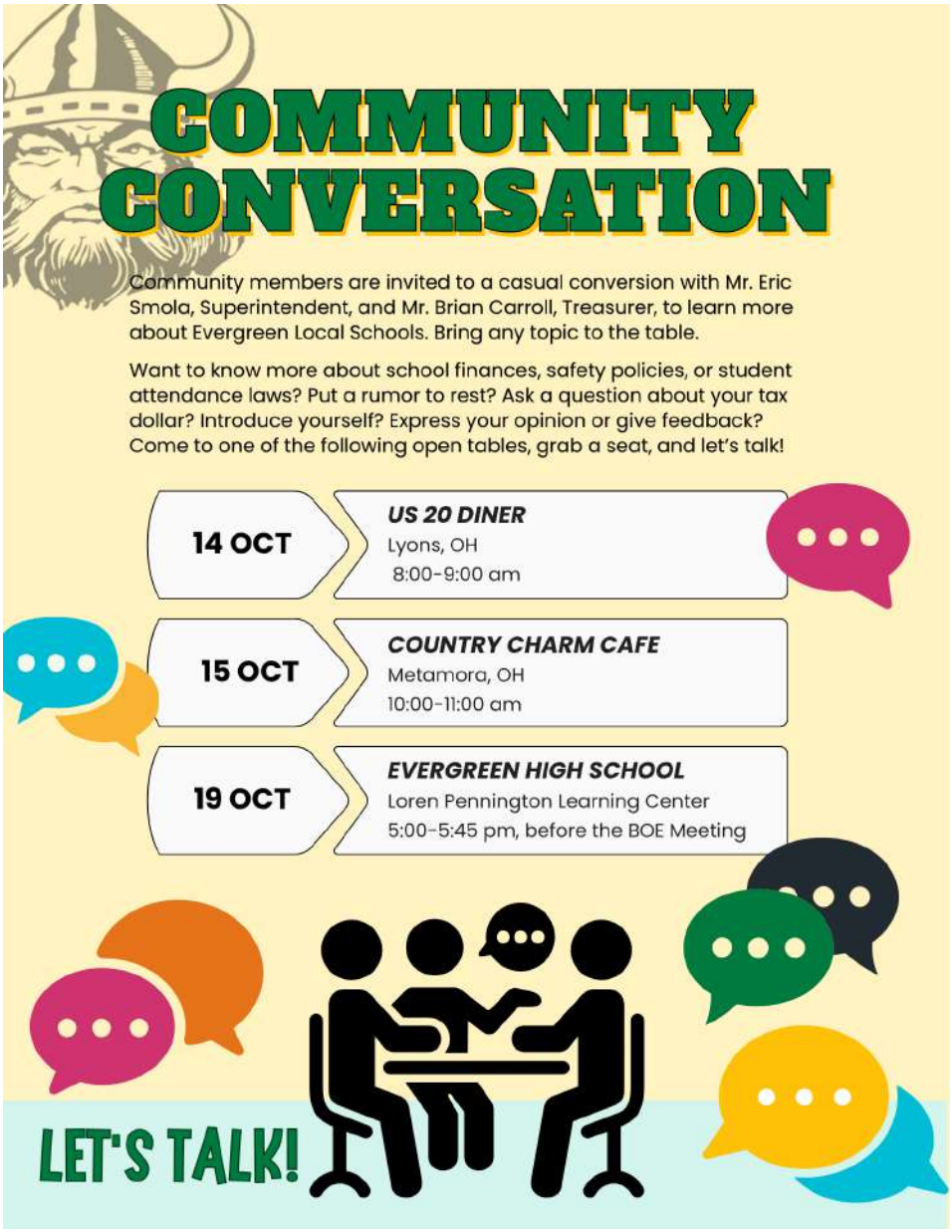
To continue providing the programs and services our students need, Evergreen Local Schools will have a **0.25% income tax renewal levy on the November 3, 2026, election ballot.**

This is a renewal of the district's existing income tax levy, not a new tax. The levy generates approximately $850,000 annually and supports the district's day-to-day operating expenses, including staff salaries and benefits, instructional programs, transportation, utilities, supplies and more.

NOV. 3 2026

0.25% INCOME TAX RENEWAL LEVY

- A renewal, not a new tax
- Generates approximately $850,000 annually
- Helps maintain the strong educational opportunities our students deserve



Evergreen Local School District
14544 County Road 6
Metamora, OH 43540

EVERGREEN BY THE NUMBERS 2026-2027

4 Stars
Ohio State Report Card Rating

1,148
Student Enrollment

161
Faculty & Staff Employed

100%
5-Year Graduation Rate

CHOIR AWARD

Congratulations! Kathryn Chovanec, gr. 12, has been selected to perform in the prestigious 2027 OMEA All-State Choir in Columbus this January. She was chosen from hundreds of applicants for this highly competitive honor.

SENIOR ATHLETIC PASS

If you're 62-years or older and live in the Evergreen School District, you can cheer on the Vikings for free! Stop by the EHS Main Office (Door #7) with your ID or street address and you will receive a Viking Senior Athletic Pass. With the pass, you will receive free entry to regular home athletic events. The pass is not valid on tournament, playoff, or any OHSAA sanctioned games. Go to *evgathletics.org* for a schedule of Viking athletic contests.