

November 28, 2017

Ohio Department of Education
Office of Community Schools
25 S. Front Street, Mail Stop 615
Columbus, Ohio 43215-4183

2017 Sponsor Annual Report **Maysville Local School District: Sponsor of Foxfire High School**

Foxfire's Mission is to impact the lives of their students in a positive, direct, and productive manner by teaching them the core values of working together, work ethic, accountability, discipline, and servant-hood. The ultimate goal is to empower students to reach maximum potential, academically, socially, and emotionally, while assisting them in becoming solid, productive citizens. Success is a by-product of embracing these core values.

Maysville Local School District sponsors Foxfire High School, IRN 149328. Foxfire High School serves at-risk students, ages 16-22, as well as, grades 4-8, from districts throughout southeastern Ohio. It is recognized as a Model Alternative School by the US Department of Education for employing best practices and contemporary methodology throughout the program.

Throughout the past sixteen years, Foxfire High School has become a viable alternative for students not meeting success in the traditional high school setting. The attendance area of the student population is comprised of southeastern Ohio, with enrollment maintained at 331 students and a graduation class of 67 for 2016-2017.

The philosophy of Foxfire High School is based on very specific core values. Caring, loyalty, strong work ethic, commitment, respect, integrity, accountability, character, teamwork, and self-discipline are embedded in all aspects of the program. Foxfire strives to maintain a student-centered environment with an emphasis on providing the tools necessary for each child to maximize his or her potential. Ultimately, the goal of Foxfire is to engage students in the educational experience to emerge as contributing members of their community.

Aligned with state curricular requirements, instruction is individualized, and each student is required to participate in all state assessments as designated. An integrated approach, consisting of traditional, community-based, and project-based instruction better serves the needs of the Foxfire students and 21st Century skills are emphasized. Compass Learning Systems provides the curriculum for individualized instruction. Small class sizes are conducive to intellectual discussions and foster an effective learning milieu to engage students in critical thinking and analytical processing. Personalized, relevant, and project-based learning is at the core of curriculum and instruction. Bi-monthly data provides monitoring opportunities to measure progress of individual students.

The diverse needs of Foxfire High School students involve social, medical, and behavioral needs. These are addressed through wraparound services designed to address the barriers to learning. The Care Team model is utilized to develop a service plan for referred students and consists of a special education coordinator, school psychologist, social worker, school/mental health counselor, drug and alcohol counselor, outreach coordinator, school nurse, and SRO. The percentage of Students with Disabilities for Foxfire High School is 40%. Comprehensive wellness is strongly encouraged through targeted classroom instruction and athletic activities (volleyball, boys/girls basketball, archery, and power lifting) along with school-wide wellness competitions. The cafeteria, The Phoenix Platter, provides affordable, nutritious meals to students and staff.

The *Pay It Forward* program builds a sense of civic responsibility that enables students to become active community members. Projects include assisting senior citizens with home maintenance and companionship, blood drives, and assisting at food pantries and community auctions. Foxfire students completed over 3000 hours of community service in the 2016-2017 year.

Partnerships within the community extend 21st Century learning opportunities for Foxfire students, families, and staff. These partnerships allow the students opportunities to extend their horizons, enrich the day-to-day activities in the school, and to obtain curricular support. Partners include Department of Youth Services, Rolling Plains Church, YouthBuild America, Zane State College, Help Me Grow, and Jobs and Family Services.

Academic Performance-Met Performance

Foxfire High School demonstrated **Exceeds Standards** for High School Test Passage Rate which represents the number of students who passed all five state tests required for graduation.

Foxfire High School **Does Not Meet Standards** for Gap Closing which measures how well the performance standards are met for the most vulnerable students in ELA, Math, and Graduation.

Foxfire High School **Does Not Meet Standards** for Progress which measures the growth that all students make during the school year.

Foxfire High School **Exceeds Standards** for Graduation Rate which measures the percent of students successfully finishing high school with a diploma in 4, 5, 6, 7, or 8 years.

Foxfire High School utilizes the STAR Reading and Math Assessment Program to monitor progress quarterly throughout the school year. Intervention is provided as indicated by the internal formative assessments. Annual measures reflect an alignment with performance goals as cited in the contract's educational plan.

Fiscal Performance-Met Performance

Foxfire High School **Met Performance** for expected fiscal outcomes. Fiscal needs are overseen by a contracted school treasurer, the administrators, and school boards.

Governing authorities of the Foxfire High School board approved:

- Five-Year Forecasts
- Annual Budgets
- Monthly Financial Reports

Foxfire High School received "**The Auditor of State Award**" for timely financial reports in accordance with GAAP, as well as received a "clean" audit report. The "clean" audit report means the financial audit did not contain findings for recovery, material citations, material weaknesses, significant deficiencies, Single Audit findings or any questioned costs.

Foxfire High School and has a strong financial position. The school has zero debt. Foxfire High School has 172 days of cash on hand.

Organization and Operation-Met Performance

Foxfire High School **Meets Expected Performance** for expected organization and operation performance. The school complies with applicable laws, rules, regulations, and provisions of the community school contract, including, but not limited to:

- Meeting and training requirements
- Monthly financial reviews
- Sufficient board meeting minutes and open meeting requirements
- Academic program assurances
- Instructional hours requirement
- Graduation requirements
- Promotion and acceleration requirements
- Ohio learning standards
- State required assessments
- Implementation of mandates resulting from state and federal funding requirements.

The Education Plan as identified in the Sponsor contract was implemented with proficient levels of efficiency and effectiveness. The monitoring of programs are conducted through onsite reviews by the sponsor.

The governance of Foxfire High School is conducted in accordance with all state and federal requirements. The school board adheres to the policies and practices identified by the Ohio School Boards Association.

Legal Compliance-Met Performance

The Sponsor Evaluation indicated that the rating assigned was **Meets expected performance**, indicating that the sponsor complied with all required mandates. As noted in the Quality Practices Rubric, the sponsor submitted evidence of offering training on the formal guidance for school leaders and/or school governing authority members.

Maysville Local School District recognizes the inherent responsibility as the sponsor of Foxfire High School. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions at rzitnik@laca.org or (740) 453-0754.

Submitted by Maysville Local School District



Ruth E. Zitnik, Superintendent

