2015-16 QUALITY PROFILE
The Vandalia-Butler City School District serves families of the City of Vandalia and Butler Township, a strong and vibrant community located north of Dayton, Ohio. As our district continues to make extraordinary strides in providing a world-class education for our students, we are also deeply committed to ensuring the education of our students is reflective of our local values and traditions; values that have made our community a great place to live and to learn. The purpose of this document, the Vandalia-Butler City Schools Quality Profile, is to memorialize our demonstration of those values and traditions. It is what our stakeholders have told us they want to hear. Yes, it speaks about our educational programming. Yes, it speaks about our financial stewardship. But it also speaks about something much more important. The intent of this profile is to give you, the reader, a look into what really makes our schools great, the people; the people who learn, teach, support and encourage the excellence we strive for each and every day.

Quality learning can only occur when students are taught by quality professionals. To that end, district officials find no responsibility more important than hiring, developing and celebrating professionals who epitomize the qualities that make great teachers great. It is our mission to select the best and the brightest, welcome them to our ranks, and then work to remove all obstacles so they can practice their craft in an environment where students and teachers can thrive.

Recognizing our community has the collective skill sets to guide us on our educational mission, we are highly engaged in the process of strategic planning with our stakeholders. The VBCSD 2020 Strategic Plan, Connecting Aviators – Our Children, Our Community, to be released in early 2017 will echo the voices of the committee by whom it was developed; a broad cross section of more than 130 individuals committed to the excellence of our programming and the excellence of our students, ensuring the future excellence of our community.

Our students and staff are fortunate to have community members who value education and realize we all benefit from quality schools. As a district, we value the feedback we receive and encourage you to contact us with your thoughts, concerns or questions. Please don’t hesitate to contact me at any time. You can reach me at 415-6415 or at bradley.neavin@vbcsd.com.

We are Aviators!

Bradley C. Neavin
Superintendent
ACADEMICS

The Class of 2016 earned nearly $6.3 million in scholarships, with 90 percent of the class planning to attend a two-year or four-year college or university, a trade or tech school or join the military.

Our ACT scores continue to rank above state averages:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>ACT</th>
<th>State Average (2016)</th>
<th>BHS Average (2016)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Composite</td>
<td>22.0</td>
<td>23.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
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<td>Math</td>
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<td>24.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td>22.0</td>
<td>23.9</td>
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Butler High School students earned 141 credits through Aviator Connections, an alternative online program designed to help students meet graduation requirements. Sixty-two students earned credit through full-time Aviator Connection participation, credit recovery or credit accrual, 11 students earned five or more credits.

Students at Morton Middle School had the opportunity to earn high school math credits in 7th and 8th grades, taking Algebra 1 and Honors Geometry.

Smith Middle School was 1 of 165 schools in the state of Ohio to receive the Momentum Award for academic achievement.

Continued
I couldn’t be more pleased with the experiences, preparation and staff assistance given to my children by the Vandalia Butler Schools. As a parent of seven recent Butler graduates, each child has been able to achieve at the next academic level and beyond thanks to the foundation and experiences afforded them by the school system.

David Lewis
City of Vandalia Vice-Mayor

**ACADEMICS**

**54**

The number of students grades 1st through 6th who attended **Camp Invention**, an enrichment program encouraging creativity and problem solving, while focusing on science, technology, engineering and mathematics. The district is planning to expand the program in the future.

**100%**

The percentage of third grade students who attended our district for the whole year at Demmitt and Helke Elementary schools and met the requirements for **Ohio’s Third Grade Reading Guarantee**.

**65**

The number of Butler High School students who participated in at least one **College Credit Plus class**, earning both high school and college credits.

**4000**

The number of books read during the summer of 2016 by students in kindergarten through third grade who participated in **Kids Read Now**. Nearly 100% of students participated.

**500**

The number of Demmitt and Helke Elementary students who began to use iPads and the **eSpark program** with its individualized apps, videos and creative challenges to enhance their education.
ARTS

• Butler High School Drama Club presented Arthur Miller’s “The Crucible” in the fall. In the spring, the Drama Club teamed up with the music department to perform Stephen Sondheim’s “Into the Woods.”

• The Marching Aviators performed at the Bands of America Grand National Championships for the first time in school history, placing 15th out of all participating bands from around the state.

• Both Butler High School’s Women’s and Symphonic Choirs were awarded superior ratings at the OMEA Large Group District and State events.

• For the first time ever, the Symphonic Choir performed a full-scale composition with a live orchestra and another group, the Springfield-Shawnee High School choir. The groups performed “The Sunrise Mass.”

• The 4th annual Elevate the Arts program was held at Morton Middle School, featuring nearly 800 pieces of art created by students in kindergarten through eighth grade.

• Two Morton Middle School students were honored at the state level in the 2016 Ohio Art Education Association’s Youth Art Month Flag and Design Contest.

• Artwork created by eight Morton Middle School students was selected to be included in the Ohio Art Education Associations’ Western Region Summer Exhibit held at the University of Dayton.

• The newly formed Morton show choir, the soundwAVES, made up of seventh and eighth graders, performed at numerous school and community events. The group also was invited to sing the National Anthem at a Wright State University men’s basketball game and at a Dayton Dragons game in June.

• The Morton Handbells performed in school concerts as well as at the Vandalia Tree Lighting Ceremony and a monthly meeting of the Optimist Club.

“Art is a vital component to every child’s total education. Art teaches creative thinking, problem solving, self-discovery and cultural empathy. Art is also the perfect vehicle to empower students to collaborate, which is an essential 21st century skill.”

Kim Anderson, Art Teacher
20% The percentage of our students identified as gifted

14% The percentage of our students who have disabilities

1% The percentage of our students identified as ESL (English as a Second Language)

A district-wide program, called **PBIS (Positive Behavior Intervention and Support)** was implemented to improve academic and social outcomes, increasing learning for ALL students. PBIS is a systematic approach ensuring consistency and rewarding students for positive behaviors.

Congratulations to Helke Elementary School and Morton Middle School, both were recognized with **Bronze Level Awards from the Midwest PBIS Network** for successful implementation of PBIS. To earn Bronze Awards, consultants visited the schools, interviewed students and staff and reviewed school-wide office discipline referrals.

The district looks forward to all of our schools continuing to develop plans that help our students be most successful in the classroom.

"Helke’s PBIS initiative has positively impacted our students during the past school year. Students are being more Respectful, Responsible and Resourceful in the classroom and throughout the building."

**Brian Tregoning, Helke Elementary School Principal**
FISCAL STEWARDSHIP & OPERATIONS

The district was able to reduce pay-to-participate fees and caps nearly 20%, while eliminating fees entirely for academic clubs and activities.

By refinancing bonds totaling $24,899,971, the district was able to continue to save taxpayer dollars, $1,848,285 to date.

The district joined the Southwestern EPC health consortium, saving in excess of $410,000.

The district earned an Aa3 rating from Moody’s and an A+ rating with a “Positive Outlook” from Standard & Poor’s.

The district was presented with a Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting from the national Government Finance Officers Association for the 9th straight year.

With improvements in interior LED lighting in the Student Activity Center and exterior LED lighting at Butler High School, Morton Middle School and the Bus Garage, the district is saving $210,000 annually.

A water conservation project at Smith Middle School is showing an annual savings of more than $15,000 annually.

As a commitment to student safety, the district was able to reduce student walk zones at Helke Elementary and Demmitt Elementary schools and eliminate walking at Smith and Morton Middle schools.

The district continues to expand cooperative relationships with Butler Township and City of Vandalia officials.

District leaders are committed to our students, continuing to negotiate with our business partners and vendors to reduce expenses with reduced rates and increased efficiencies and upgrades. By doing so, we are able to maximize the amount of money being driven back into the classroom to immediately impact and benefit our students.

Eric Beavers
Treasurer/CFO
Vandalia-Butler City Schools

GENERAL FUND REVENUES
TOTAL - $34,502,250

GENERAL FUND EXPENSES
TOTAL - $32,646,895
STUDENT LEADERSHIP & ACTIVITIES

Our students are active in the National Honor Society. There were 143 members at Butler High School and 111 at Morton Middle School.

Butler NHS students organized three food drives to benefit the Vandalia Food Pantry, delivered calendars to City of Vandalia and Butler Township residents in December and picked up trash at schools, parks and the Senior Center in the spring.

Butler Student Congress organized two blood drives, with 215 registered participants donating enough blood to save 645 lives and earning more than 215 hours of community service.

Classes at Butler High School and members of the girls’ softball program joined forces to create and send care packages to members of the military stationed overseas.

May 20, 2016, Butler held the 37th annual Memorial Program, honoring 16 members of the Vandalia-Butler community who died serving our country. The event was first held in 1980. A permanent memorial exists at the high school.

Members of the girls’ varsity soccer team visited patients at Dayton Children’s Hospital for the third year, bringing autographed soccer balls to kids who can’t currently play games.

44% The percentage of increase in participation in academic clubs and activities, following the elimination of pay-to-participate fees.

At Morton Middle School, sixth grade students filled stockings for children in need through For the Love of Children and eighth grade students made lunches for the homeless.

Morton’s NJHS members raised more than $2400 for the Southwest chapter of the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society during a two-week Penny Wars drive.

Morton seventh graders participated in a community building activity aimed at stopping bullying. This two-day session was called Re-Do Day.

Morton Middle School students participated in the school’s 24th annual 3-on-3 basketball tournament to benefit the American Heart Association.
At Smith Middle School, fourth and fifth grade students participated in Penny Wars between Thanksgiving and Winter Break to benefit A Special Wish. In the 29 years Smith students have been raising money for ASW, they have collected more than $40,000.

Girls at Demmitt and Helke Elementary schools participated in the Girls on the Run program which focuses on building relationships, setting goals and developing self-confidence. The program concluded with the girls running a 5k May 15, 2016.

Students at Demmitt and Helke Elementary schools are active in Safety Patrol.

Asking Student Congress members to volunteer to either conduct or donate to one of our service projects is wonderful because the students are extremely willing to and committed to the experience! Students are so excited when they turn 16 and are able to donate blood for the Blood Drive.

Kathy Baker
Butler High School
Student Congress Coordinator
PARENT & COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Vandalia-Butler City Schools joined owners and operators from 116 other area for-profit and non-profit businesses that were recognized at Cox Arboretum MetroPark April 25 as part of the Dayton Regional Green program. These area groups were certified green businesses.

Nearly 40 Butler High School students participated in Youth in Government Day. The Optimist Club sponsors the annual event, which is financially supported by Abbey Credit Union, Day Air Credit Union, Mid USA Credit Union and Universal 1 Credit Union.

More than 100 Butler High School athletes participated in the first ever Community Work Day, cleaning up the Art Park and Helke Park, in order to bridge a positive connection between the school and the community.

Community members attended the 37th Annual Memorial Program held at Butler High School, May 20 to pay tribute to 16 members of the Vandalia-Butler community who died serving our country. The event was first held in 1980.

Staff members from Morton Middle School, Smith Middle School, Demmitt Elementary School and Helke Elementary School manned the cash registers and fryers, serving up more than just smiles at the two area McDonald’s as part of the McTeacher Night fundraisers.

Member of the Smith Middle School Student Council decorated bags for shoppers at the Vandalia Kroger to use in honor of Earth Day.

Engineers from GE Aviation were among the judges of Smith Middle School’s Design Fair for fourth and fifth graders in April. The winning projects from each grade advanced to competition in Cincinnati.

Nearly 500 students and staff of Demmitt Elementary School participated in an all-school field trip to the Cincinnati Zoo in April. The trip required months of planning and help from community groups to cover the $10,820 cost of the trip.

Helke Elementary School was awarded $24,759 through the Montgomery County Solid Waste District’s Buy Recycled Grant in order to purchase and install a new...
playground structure that holds up to 60 students and is made of recycled steel, aluminum and plastic.

Members of the highly active Helke Elementary PTA provided thousands of hours of in-school volunteering and donated money and services to help support student, teacher and building initiatives.

Our job as elementary educators is to provide learning experiences outside of the classroom that many students may not get at home, helping us to create well-rounded students. This is why the Demmitt staff, our parents and our generous school community came together to fund an all-school field trip to the Cincinnati Zoo, Demmitt Goes Wild at the Zoo, for more than 420 students and 41 staff members.

Garry Martin
Demmitt Elementary School Principal