

Fact Sheet: Butler County School Financing District

THE WHAT

Effective March 30, 2018, [Ohio Senate Bill 226](#) authorizes educational service centers to create “county school financing districts (CSFD),” allowing them to levy a countywide tax **exclusively for school safety and security and mental health services, including training and employment of or contracting for the services of safety personnel, mental health personnel, social workers and counselors.**

THE WHO

The Edgewood, Fairfield, Hamilton, Monroe and New Miami School Boards all elected to participate in the BCSFD.

HOW LONG AND HOW MUCH

A committee of participating districts identified a **10-year, 1.5 mill levy** based on property valuation as the most effective option. The amount of levy funds generated for each district:

Edgewood	\$705,541
Fairfield	\$2,191,719
Hamilton	\$1,190,702
Monroe	\$705,541
New Miami	\$69,933

HOW ARE THE FUNDS DISTRIBUTED

The levy funds can **ONLY** be used for safety as described in the ballot language. The funds will be distributed on the valuation of the district. The funds collected from each individual district will be distributed back to that district dollar for dollar. There is no pooling or sharing of dollars.

WHAT IS THE COST

Although the cost will vary with each district, the approximate cost would be an additional tax of \$53 per \$100,000 of assessed value on a home. To calculate the exact amount for your home, please visit the Butler County Auditor’s website at: www.butlercountyauditor.org

HOW WILL THE MONEY BE SPENT

Each district will determine how to spend the money raised by their constituents. At this time, districts have identified the following preliminary needs:

Edgewood City School District is currently undergoing a comprehensive safety and security assessment by an outside security company specializing in school security. This action will provide more detailed information about the exact equipment, system enhancement, training and mental health needs of the district. Revenues generated by the levy will be used in all of the above referenced areas. ECSD is performing this assessment now to ensure the decisions made are well-informed and validated.

Fairfield City School District plans to place school resource officers (SROs) at each school building. The district continues to focus on mental health, with plans to expand its mental health services and support for students. Other plans include the enhancement of district communication systems, additional security cameras, and safety features such as a visitor identification system, bollards, fencing and door stops. FCSD recently completed a vulnerability assessment and will use safety and security recommendations to prioritize the district’s next steps.

Hamilton City School District will use revenues to pay for additional SROs at elementary buildings, additional mental health services, safety-related equipment including security cameras, sensors and activation systems, and safety reinforcement-related building items.

Monroe Local School District will communicate with the county director of public school safety, chief of police, SROs and district crisis management team to determine the best course of action to ensure the safety and security of all staff and students.

New Miami Local School District will be seeking funds to secure a mental health specialist/counselor.

ADDITIONAL FACTS

- Butler County ESC will not receive any tax revenue from the levy.
- Only Butler, Preble and Warren county voters who reside in one of the following five districts will see the BCSFD school safety and security levy on the Nov. 6, 2018 ballot: Edgewood, Fairfield, Hamilton, Monroe and New Miami.

###