



PREPARING STUDENTS
FOR LIFE

Through Academic Achievement
Personal Well-Being
Career Readiness

Cincinnati Public Schools Renewal Levy Fact Sheet September 2019

The Cincinnati Public Schools Board of Education unanimously placed a renewal of an existing \$65.2 million, 10-year operating levy on the November 5, 2019 ballot. If approved by voters, the renewal levy will sustain critical investments in CPS staff and schools.

CPS is the state's fastest growing district — since 2012, more than 6,000 students have enrolled in CPS — **an increase of 20 percent.**¹

State funding is chronically insufficient; the state funding formula is not based on current year enrollment, thus funding increases lag behind increases in enrollment. The Supreme Court of Ohio has ruled Ohio's system for funding public schools unconstitutional four times.

The growing demand for a quality education is threatening to increase class sizes and school overcrowding.

More families are choosing CPS and our students are succeeding academically – despite no increases in state funding.

One hundred percent of CPS preschools have earned a 4- or 5-Star Rating from the Ohio Department of Education.

If approved, the renewal levy will ensure that CPS continues to make strategic investments in literacy. **Ninety-eight percent** of third graders met the Third Grade Reading Guarantee.

CPS students are increasing their math achievement; **double** the number of students met state indicators for Algebra 1 in the 2018-19 Report Card as did in the 2015-16 school year.

More students are prepared for life beyond high school. Student ACT scores are up; hundreds of high school students are taking Advanced Placement courses and earning college credit.

CPS has increased the number of career readiness opportunities, including more career-technical programs, more industry credentials and new employment programs.

CPS school counselors report that **94 percent of the Class of 2019** declared their postgraduation pathway: enrolled in college, enlisted in the military, or employed in their chosen career.

Independent auditors have given CPS high marks for controlling costs, making efficient investments and managing finances responsibly.

This renewal levy has previously passed three times with more than 60 percent of the vote.

¹ Unless otherwise noted, all data is from the 2018-19 State Report Card.