

LOSS OF TANGIBLE PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX REIMBURSEMENT IMPACTS DISTRICT BUDGET



For many years, districts across the state of Ohio have received significant funding through the Tangible Personal Property (TPP) tax, which applied to property used in business in Ohio. Back in 2004, Tallmadge received more than \$2.3 million in revenue through TPP taxes.

That same year, the state of Ohio began a five-year phase out of the TPP. To help offset the loss of revenue to districts, the state provided reimbursements. Over the last several years, however, the state has started to phase out the reimbursements as well, and after the 2018 fiscal year, the district will no longer receive any TPP reimbursement dollars.

As you can see in the chart, the district went from receiving more than \$2 million a year to just \$231,293 in fiscal year 2018 and will receive nothing in 2019 in regards to TPP. The loss of these dollars is significant for Tallmadge and districts throughout Ohio.

The governor's biennium budget is due to be finalized on June 30. So far, it looks as though Tallmadge may receive a slight increase in funding from the state of approximately \$140,000 in fiscal year 2018. This increase, however, is not enough to offset the loss of the TPP reimbursements to the district.

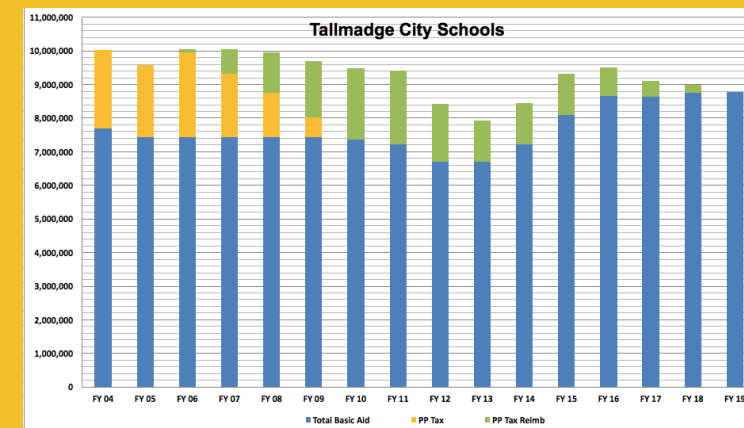
As you can see from the chart, when you combine

state revenue, and TPP, which was once a considerable source of revenue and is now gone, the district is receiving significantly fewer dollars than it did 15 years ago.

In planning for the loss of the TPP reimbursement, the district has worked to reduce costs while still providing an excellent education for our students. Moving forward, we will continue to remain fiscally responsible with taxpayer dollars.

If you have any questions about the TPP or its impact on the district, please contact my office.

Thank you,
Jeff Hostetler
Treasurer
Tallmadge City Schools



As you read this and future newsletter articles from my office, please feel free to contact me with comments or questions about Tallmadge Schools' finances at:

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TRADITION VISION EXCELLENCE

TALLMADGE CITY SCHOOLS

MAY 2017

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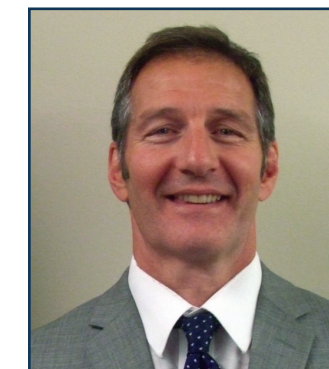
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SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE



The 2016-2017 school year is quickly coming to a close, as our last day of school is May 25 and I've had a chance to reflect on the excellent year it has been.

We have exceptional students, teachers and staff who are doing wonderful things in and outside of the classroom. Our students are excelling in STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) classes, exploring future careers through the Six District Educational Compact, learning teamwork and leadership through athletics, expressing their artistic sides through band, choir and art, and giving back to their community

through numerous service projects throughout the year. I couldn't be more proud of all they've accomplished.

Through the support of our community, the district passed bond issues to build new K-5 and 6-8 buildings, as well as move our athletic facilities to the high school campus. These projects will benefit our students and the Tallmadge community for years to come.

The district, architect, construction manager and the Ohio Facilities Construction Commission will be working over the summer on the design phase of the project, engaging the community along the way.

I would also like to highlight the Class of 2017, who will graduate on May 18. During Senior Week this year, our students will have a chance to give back to the district and community. May 15 is Senior Give Back Day. During the morning, you'll find our seniors at five locations throughout

Tallmadge, planting flowers, pulling weeds, staining fences, washing headstones and picking up trash. May 16 is Senior Send Off. Our seniors will visit the two elementary schools, the middle school and high school where they will walk the halls in their caps and gowns. It's a great way for them to connect with our younger students.

Many of our seniors have been with Tallmadge for their entire education and we will miss what they've brought to our district. I wish them luck in their future endeavors, knowing they will represent themselves and Tallmadge well.

While the end of the school year is near, we still have many upcoming events that I encourage you to attend. You can find a full list of these events on our website: www.tallmadgeschools.org.

GO BLUE DEVILS!

Jeff Ferguson
Superintendent
Tallmadge City Schools

TALLMADGE CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT BEGINS READINESS COALITION

The Tallmadge City School District recently held its first readiness coalition for select community members, local preschool providers, business owners, parents and kindergarten staff members.

The first meeting was held on April 4 at Dunbar Primary School.

The purpose of the coalition is to explore early childhood education in Tallmadge. The coalition will meet monthly to explore ways that they can work together to prepare students for success in kindergarten. Additionally, the group will discuss and problem-solve the needs of the community's

youngest students.

The coalition provides a great opportunity for community members to meet with individuals who work with the students.

"We are excited to begin the coalition for our community and district members," said Courtney Davis, Tallmadge City School District's kindergarten through fifth-grade principal. "This is a wonderful opportunity to bring great minds together to help develop a plan to prepare our early learners to be kindergarten-ready."



TALLMADGE MIDDLE SCHOOL HOSTS SIXTH ANNUAL CAREER DAY/NIGHT



Tallmadge City School District's Middle School hosted its sixth annual career day/night on February 23.

During the day, eighth-grade students were given the day off school to shadow an employer of their choice. The students returned to the school at 4:30 p.m. for the evening portion of the event.

"This is a valuable event that the middle school hosts," said Superintendent Jeff Ferguson. "The shadow experience provides the perfect opportunity for students to determine if the career choice they are interested in may or may not be the best fit. The evening portion provides them with a chance to meet various employers and determine if there is another career path of interest."

Keynote speaker, Matthew Wilson, President of The University of Akron, began the night's event, followed by a presentation from the guidance counselors on how to understand their Pre-SAT results that they will receive during the night.

Afterwards, students chose four 20-minute presentations to attend from a list of 30 different businesses. In between the presentations, students visited the various employers'

booths set up to gather insight and information.

The employers that are chosen for the evening portion of the event are picked based on results from a student sur-

vey and the students' Naviance Career Assessment Data. Naviance is a program that helps connect students to post-secondary goals.

TALLMADGE HIGH SCHOOL'S SENIORS ATTEND NONE 4 UNDER 21 AND CHOICES BEYOND EVENT

On April 18, Tallmadge High School's senior class spent the morning at a None 4 Under 21 and Choices Beyond event at Hiram College. This was the 15th year the Aurora Police Department organized the event. This year's event was sponsored by Elk & Elk.

The event focused on making smart decisions and understanding the consequences that come from distracted driving. Seniors from other area high schools also attended the event.

"None 4 Under 21 was a sobering experience," said Tallmadge High School Senior Tawney Beans. "It really showed me what can happen to those who are distracted while driving. Seeing all the families that were affected by the tragedies was heartbreaking. I will forever be more vigilant while driving, never use my phone and pray for the families that lose loved ones every day to distracted drivers."

The speakers also discussed how personal choices can affect more people than just the person making the decision.

"I thought None 4 Under 21 was a great experience, especially because we're going right into college, so it gives us a little wake up call," said Tallmadge High School Senior Alexis Malish. "I cried so much, but I was glad to have the opportunity to go. The event gave us insight on how much distracted driving will affect your life, especially if you drive drunk or under the influence. I learned a lot by going there, and I'd honestly go again."

Upon their return, the seniors enjoyed lunch sponsored by the PTSA and the high school's administration. Following lunch, the senior class heard personal stories from two staff members in the auditorium. The day's events were coordinated by the senior class officers.

"None 4 Under 21 was such an eye-opening experience," said Tallmadge High School Senior Jessica Gardella. "It was sad, but I think it made a lot of people more aware of their actions. The people who stood up in a room full of students and had the courage to tell us what happened to them really inspired me. It takes a lot to get up there and share a personal story. I will forever respect them for sharing their stories with us."

TALLMADGE SCHOOLS HOLD VISIONING MEETING FOR NEW BUILDINGS

On February 24, the Tallmadge City School District, along with representatives from Sol Harris Day Architecture, held a visioning meeting to discuss the plan, ideas and vision for the new kindergarten through fifth-grade and sixth through eighth-grade buildings.

Approximately 65 people attended the meeting, including Sol Harris Day representatives, teachers from the K-5 and middle school levels, Tallmadge principals and administrators, 10 students (six from the middle school and four from the high school), parents and community members.

"We are excited to begin moving forward on this project," said Steve Wood, chief operating officer for the Tallmadge City School District. "This meeting allowed us to come together to set common goals and a vision, and I think that, with this guidance, these new buildings will be a true asset to our school district and the larger community."

The first portion of the meeting recapped a similar visioning process that took place two years ago led by Dr. Frank Locker, a consultant recommended by the Ohio Facilities Construction Commission who works with many school districts on similar projects. Friday's meeting built upon the vision established two years ago and updated it to match the new building plan.

The new vision incorporates the definition of 21st century learning and how the buildings should be designed to accommodate it. Meeting attendees discussed flexible learning spaces, student-centered learning environments and how education has shifted in response to new technology, as well as what infrastructure is needed to support the use of that technology.

At the end of the meeting, Sol Harris Day displayed similar projects and used Lake Local Schools as an example, as that district is currently constructing a building to house grades two through six.

Sol Harris Day will use the information from this meeting to begin designing the buildings. The district is also forming a design team to work with the architect.

TALLMADGE HIGH SCHOOL RECOGNIZES 140 STUDENTS FOR EXCEPTIONAL GPAS

On April 6, Tallmadge High School recognized 140 ninth through twelfth-grade students who have earned exceptional cumulative grade point averages (GPAs) throughout the 2017-2018 school year.

The event took place at the St. George Family Center in Akron. Students, parents and family members, community financial supporters, administration and staff were invited to attend. A total of 403 people were in attendance.

"This was a great morning to recognize our students for their hard work," said Heather Prazer, one of Tallmadge High School's school counselors. "I would like to extend a special thank you for the generous financial contributions from the Tallmadge High School PTSA, Tallmadge Lions Club and Tallmadge Rotary. This event would not have been possible without their support."

Thirty-eight ninth-grade students and 37 tenth-grade students were recognized for receiving a 4.0 cumulative GPA. Additionally, 27 eleventh-grade students were recognized for receiving a 3.95 cumulative GPA and 38 twelfth-grade students were recognized for receiving a 3.9 cumulative GPA.

"Congratulations to all of the students for earning this remarkable recognition," said Mike Householder, Tallmadge High School's principal. "This is a true honor and demonstration of their hard work and dedication. You should all be proud of this achievement."

TALLMADGE HIGH SCHOOL HOSTS DRIVE 4 UR SCHOOL EVENT

On April 8, Tallmadge High School hosted a Drive 4 UR School event for all senior students and community members. The event was sponsored by Park Ford in Tallmadge. This was the second time this year the school hosted the event. The first event was held in the fall.

Park Ford donated \$20 to the high school for every test drive a student or community member completed the day of the events. The school could earn up to \$6,000 if 300 drivers participated.

The high school raised \$10,000 between the April and fall events. The funds will be used for senior scholarships, graduation yard signs, the senior picnic and other senior activities.

"I would like to extend a special thank you to the Tallmadge community for their support in helping us achieve our goal," said Mike Householder, Tallmadge High School's principal. "We are very grateful to Park Ford for their donations to our school. This money will benefit our students tremendously."

Park Ford will also present one lucky senior with a brand-new car at the senior breakfast on Tuesday, May 16. The winner is determined through a raffle drawing. Students can earn raffle tickets throughout the year for good grades, good attendance, leadership and a variety of other events to put into the raffle basket.

For more information on Drive 4 UR School, visit www.forddrive4ur.com.

