

# *STATE OF THE SCHOOLS*



## *From The Superintendent - Mr. Paul Woodard*

I would like to bring to all of you the State of the Schools message and let you know about some of the many great things going on here at Newton Falls Exempted Village Schools.

A 1.75% earned income tax will be on the May 7 ballot. The earned income tax applies to anyone living in the district. Wages, tips, and self-employment income are subject to the tax. Pensions, social security, IRA distributions, unemployment compensation, and worker's compensation are some of the income types not taxed. If the earned income tax passes, we will allow the 6.2 Mil Emergency Levy to discontinue, December 31, 2019, and the 4.8 Mil Emergency Levy to run out with final collections in 2021. We will be in deficit spending in the coming year. (See the 5 year forecast on our website, [nfschools.org](http://nfschools.org)).

The reasons our school and many other schools are having financial difficulties are: Enrollment has dropped, school funding is not adequate, we have lost money to community schools, home schooling, parochial schools, open enrollment, unfunded mandates, like college credit plus, and transporting students out of our district to other schools, just to name a few. In 2018/2019 we lost \$313,286.00 to community and STEM Schools.

Since 2010, our enrollment has dropped over 450 students. That equates to more than \$2,700,000. Just during the 2018/2019 school year, we have lost \$354,560 to open enrollment. We have cut 32 staff positions, cut programs, and we have had to close our elementary building. These are just a few of the cost cutting measures we have had to put into place.

If you would like to speak with me about our school's financial picture, please feel free to contact me at **330-872-5445**.

### *DID YOU KNOW?*

Our schools have been involved in many great programs over the past year, and prior years. For at least the last 15 years, our senior class has put on one of the best Veterans' Day Programs around. If you are a Veteran, don't miss our future programs.

Each of the last 7 years our seniors have worked one day in the spring to beautify parts of Newton Falls. They have planted flowers, trees, spread mulch, pulled weeds, painted benches, and dugouts, along with other projects.

We have a CBI (Career Based Intervention) program for students in grades 7-12 who may not want to attend college out of high school, and want to work while they are in school. This program tries to explore some of the jobs that are available in the work force and prepare students for those jobs.

We have a new assistant principal at the Jr./Sr. High school, who has won awards at the state level for robotics competition and STEM classes. Mr. Justin Christopher along with Mr. Zach Parent, Mr. Craig Geisy and Michael Geffert, are volunteering their time and working with students in a robotics club this year. They have been involved in some competitions during the spring.

Our booster clubs do a lot to help our sports teams when it comes to purchasing equipment, uniforms, and helping out with different things, like taking a spirit bus to a game. Think about joining one of our booster clubs and getting involved.

Our school is a part of a reading grant with 5 other schools. The Trumbull County Educational Service Center, along with six Trumbull County Schools wrote and qualified for a grant to help our students with their reading skills.

Our National Honor Society students help students every day in the Tiger Den, who might need help with their homework, or if they are having trouble understanding some of their school work.

We have had a community backpack program at our elementary/middle school since 2010. It was designed to supplement food over the weekend with kid friendly non-perishable foods. The Kiwanis Club of Newton Falls has helped with this project and their treasurer coordinates area school groups, community members, and church volunteers to help with the backpacks.

Our elementary/middle school has a great parent organization known as the ABC Club. This is a non-profit booster organization that works closely with the staff and families of Newton Falls Schools. The ABC Club provides volunteers for many events, and helps with the purchasing of products the school needs. If you want to get involved, their email address is: [abcclub@nfschools.org](mailto:abcclub@nfschools.org). Another highlight in our elementary school, is the Kindergarten graduation that takes place every year in May.

The middle school has held grandparents' day in May. The students invite their grandparents to school for a snack, a choir and band performance. This event has been going on for over 8 years.

These are just some of the great things going on at Newton Falls Exempted Village Schools.