



**Caitlin Johnson**

**All in for Ohio Kids**

The All in For Ohio Kids Coalition (AOK) formed in 2021 to ensure that every child in Ohio – no matter their race, zip code, or how much money their family has – can attend a great public school that prepares them for a bright future.

AOK is anchored by the Ohio Education Association, the Ohio Federation of Teachers, the Ohio Organizing Collaborative, and Policy Matters Ohio. We cheered the General Assembly for its decision to begin phasing in the Fair School Funding Plan in the 2022-23 state budget. We are committed to seeing the plan fully implemented in the 2026-27 state budget, as lawmakers promised four years ago.

Our coalition has drafted a letter that has been signed by 221 (and counting) current and former Ohio school board members. Find the letter and all its endorsers below.

## **Ohio School Board Members Call on State Legislators and Governor DeWine to Fully Fund Ohio’s Public Schools Through the Fair School Funding Plan**

We, the undersigned members of local school boards across Ohio, respectfully urge you to support the full and ongoing implementation of the Fair School Funding Plan (FSFP) using current research-based inputs that reflect today’s educational and economic realities.

The FSFP represents a bipartisan effort to address the long-standing constitutional mandate to provide a thorough and efficient system of public education for Ohio’s students. Developed with input from educators, finance experts, and legislators across party lines, the formula is working as intended. It calculates the actual cost to educate each child, district by district, and provides an equitable and transparent foundation for a shared responsibility between the state and local communities to support public education for the nearly 90% of Ohio students attending public schools.

The 134th General Assembly took historic action to adopt the FSFP into law, establishing a six-year phase-in that would bring Ohio closer to a stable, equitable, and constitutionally sound funding model. This plan was never intended to be static—it requires regular updates to ensure accuracy and responsiveness to changing conditions in our schools and communities. Full funding of this formula is essential to ensure that every student in Ohio, regardless of ZIP code, receives the educational opportunities they need and deserve.

Alarming, provisions in the current state budget for FY 2026-2027 threaten the integrity of the FSFP, leaving many districts, especially those with limited local tax bases, struggling to meet rising

costs and educational demands. These changes risk stalling progress, undermining the formula's effectiveness, and disrupting local school districts' ability to plan responsibly for the long term. Without continued commitment and full funding, our ability to meet the needs of students—and to uphold our shared constitutional duty—is compromised.

We also urge you to honor the essential principle of local control. Locally elected school boards are accountable to our communities and are best equipped to provide responsive and fiscally sound governance. This includes maintaining local control over cash balances, ensuring districts can manage reserves responsibly to address future needs, and determining the timing and amount of necessary levies in response to local circumstances. Preserving local decision-making is vital to maintaining the trust of the public and our school districts' long-term stability.

Ohio has a once-in-a-generation opportunity to fulfill the promise of a funding system that is student-centered, needs-based, and constitutionally sound. We respectfully ask for your leadership in fully funding the Fair School Funding Plan with up-to-date inputs and preserving the critical role of local governance in public education.

Thank you for your continued support of Ohio's public school students.

*\*I am signing this statement as an individual board member. My views do not necessarily reflect the views of my Board or of my colleagues on the Board.*

**Letter Endorsers As of 3pm, May 23, 2025.**

**Akron Public Schools**

Reverend Gregory Harrison    Current

Diana Autry    Current

Carla Jackson    Current

**Amherst Exempted Village School District**

Rex Engle    Current

Marc Zappa    Current

Teresa L. Gilles    Current

Aurora City School District

Jennifer Klich    Current

**Batavia Local School District**

Karen Royer    Former

**Bath Local School District (Allen)**

Phil White    Current

**Bay Village City Schools**

Scott Schulz    Current

**Beachwood City Schools**

Kim Allamby    Current

Wendy Leatherberry    Current

Josephine Chan        Current

Megan Walsh    Current

**Beavercreek City Schools**

Denny Morrison        Current

Carl Fischer    Current

Chris Stein    Former

Krista Hunt    Current

Jo Ann Rigano    Current

**Bedford City School District**

Anthony Akins, Sr.    Current

**Bellefontaine City Schools**

Brenda S Sanford        Former

Colin Yoder    Current

Karen Wilson    Current

Mark A. Fissel    Current

Scott Abraham    Former

Joan Haushalter        Former

**Belpre City Schools**

Fred Meredith    Current

**Berea City School District**

Heather Zirke    Current

Ana Chapman    Current

**Bethel Tate Local School District**

Gary Shepherd Current

**Bexley City Schools**

Victoria Powers Current

**Brecksville Broadview Heights**

Ellen Kramer Current

**Brunswick City Schools**

Laura M. Mullen Current

**Canal Winchester Local School District**

Vangela Barnes Current

Monika Talley Current

**Canton City Schools**

R Scott Russ Current

**Canton Local Schools**

Angela Brown Current

**Cardinal Local Schools**

Linda Smallwood Current

Anita Marlowe Current

**Centerville City Schools**

Allison Durnbaugh Current

Amanda Graf, MD Current

David Roer, MD Current

Jeff Shroyer Former

**Chagrin Falls Exempted Village**

Kathryn Garvey Former

Lauren Miller Current

Lori Bendall Current

Melinda Smith          Former

Laura Viola Hui          Current

Michael Hogan          Former

**Champion Local School District**

James R. Scher          Current

**Chardon Local Schools**

James Midyette          Current

Todd R. Albright          Current

Guy Wilson          Former

Madelon Horvath          Former

**Chippewa Local School District**

John Mertic          Current

**Cincinnati Public Schools**

Mike Moroski          Former

James Crosset          Current

Jim Crosset          Current

Pamela Bowers          Former

Melanie Bates          Former

Kareem Moffett          Current

Ozie Davis III          Former

Harriett Russell          Former

Elisa Hoffman          Former

Eileen Cooper Reed          Former

Jim Crosset          Current

**Claymont City School District**

Martha Campbell          Current

Cyndy Host          Current

Lucinda M. Host      Current

**Clermont Northeastern Local School District**

Jenny Johnson      Current

Julie Schmidt      Current

**Cleveland Heights-University Heights City School District**

Malia Lewis      Current

Jodi Sourini      Current

**Columbus City Schools**

Jennifer A. Adair      Current

Dr. Tina Pierce      Current

**Cory-Rawson Local School District**

Brooke Bormuth      Current

**Coshocton City Schools**

Susan Mann      Current

**Dayton City Schools**

Jocelyn Spencer Rhynard      Current

Karen Wick      Current

**East Cleveland City Schools**

Mary E. Rice      Current

MaryAnn Harris      Former

**East Palestine City Schools**

Brian Moore      Current

**Eastern Local School District**

Jessica Staley      Current

**Elmwood Local Schools**

Brian Arnold      Current

**Euclid City Schools**

Kay Frances Van Ho      Former

Gabrielle Kelly              Current

Pamela Turos              Current

**Evergreen Local School District**

Nora Kiefer      Current

**Fairbanks Local School District**

Angie Bouic      Current

**Fairview Park City School District**

Erin Hinkel      Current

John Straka      Current

**Forest Hills School District**

Wendy Strickler              Current

**Frontier local school district**

Myrene Reese              Current

**Garaway Local Schools**

April Beachy      Current

**Garfield Hts. City School District**

Millette King      Current

**Georgetown Exempted Village School District**

Jonathan S Linkous      Current

**Gibsonburg Exempted Village**

David Johnson      Current

**Hardin Northern Local School District**

Randall Preston              Current

Anglea S Whitaker              Current

**Hicksville Exempted Village Schools**

Jennifer Caryer              Current

**Hilliard City Schools**

Kara Crowley    Current

**Hillsdale Local Schools**

Nicholas D. Atterholt    Former

Vella King        Current

**Independence Local Schools**

Kathleen Hill    Current

**Jackson City Schools**

Kim Harless    Current

Kimberly White        Current

**Jefferson Area Local School District**

Hendrik Wolfert        Current

Nicole Noscal        Current

**Jonathan Alder Local School District**

Sonia T. Walker        Current

**Kenston Local School District**

Jim Henry        Current

**LaBrae Local Schools**

Russell Sewell        Current

**Liberty-Benton Local Schools**

James David Mace    Current

**Lima City Schools**

Alice Donahue        Current

**Lima Shawnee School District**

Marlena Schaaf        Current

**Lockland School District**

Nina Simpson        Current



**Lorain City School District**

Bill Sturgill      Current

Barbie Washington      Current

**Lorain County Joint Vocational School District**

Anne Schaum      Current

**Manchester Local School District**

James David McFarland      Current

Joel Hanson      Current

**Maple Heights City School District**

Rosalind Moore      Current

**Marion Local School District**

Tim Pohlman      Current

**Marysville Exempted Village School District**

Jeff Mabee      Former

Sue Devine      Former

**Matthews Local School District**

Elizabeth Haddle      Current

**Mechanicsburg Exempted Village Schools**

Scott DeLong      Current

**Medina City School District**

Jeanne Pritchard      Current

**Rebecca Parkhurst      Current**

Joe Nichols      Current

**Mentor Exempted Village School District**

Lauren Marchaza      Current

**Miamisburg City School District**

Ann Niess      Current

**Middletown City Schools**

Tara Ramsey-Hunter    Current

**Midview Local School District**

Kathy Quintiliano        Current

**Milford Exempted Village School District**

Michael Wilson            Current

**Mogadore Local Schools**

Chelli Yoho        Current

**Morgan Local School District**

Emily Bellville    Current

**New Miami Local Schools District**

Daniel Marcun            Current

**New Philadelphia City Schools**

Denver J. Gallentine    Current

Jennifer Schrock        Current

Amanda Fontana        Current

**New Richmond Exempted Village School District**

Todd W Wells            Current

**Nordonia Hills City School**

Liz McKinley M. Ed.    Current

**North Canton City School District**

Lindsey Wyckoff        Current

**North Ridgeville City Schools**

Kelly S. McCarthy        Current

Frank Vacha            Current

**North Royalton City School District**

Jackie Arendt            Current

**Northmont City School District**

Jane Woodie                      Current

**Northwest Local School District (Hamilton County)**

Nancy Slattery                      Current

Oberlin City School District

Janet Garrett                      Current

Anne Schaum                      Former (Current Lorain JVS)

**Orange City School District**

Angela Arnold                      Current

Scott Bilsky      Current

Jeffrey Leikin      Current

**Ottawa-Glandorf Local Schools**

Beth Hempfling                      Current

**Otsego Local School District**

Brad Anderson                      Current

**Painesville City Local School District**

Antonio Marinelli                      Current

Dorothy Jennings                      Current

Frances E. Webb M.D.      Current

Kathleen Powers Dolney                      Current

James E. Dillard                      Former

**Parma City School District**

Linda Kohar      Current

**Pettisville Local School District**

Justin Rufenacht                      Current

Scott Rupp      Current

**Pickerington Local School District**

Mark Hensen    Current

**Pike-Delta-York Local School District**

Timothy Ford    Current

**Plain Local Schools**

John W Halkias            Current

**Reynoldsburg City Schools**

Julie Towns    Former

Jeniffer Quesenberry    Current

Joe Begeny    Former

Kendra McKay    Current

**Richmond Heights Local Schools**

Linda Pliodzinskas    Current

**Rootstown Local Schools**

Douglas M. Saltsman    Current

**Shaker Heights City Schools**

Jeffrey Isaacs    Former

Lora Cover    Current

Pamela Scott    Current

Douglas Wang    Current

Annette Tucker Sutherland    Former

William Clawson            Former

**Sheffield-Sheffield Lake City Schools**

Mary P Czech    Current

**Shelby City Schools**

Scott Rose    Current

Randy Broderick            Current

Kimberly A Nadolsky    Current

Brad Ream      Current

**South-Western City School District**

Anthony Caldwell      Former

Cathy Johnson Former

**Southeast Local Schools**

Erin Ahrens      Current

**Southwest Licking Local Schools**

Debra Moore      Current

**Spencerville Local School District**

Spencer R. Clum      Current

**Springfield City School District**

Carol Dunlap      Current

Donnie Furlong      Current

Cynthia Frola      Current

**St. Mary's City School District**

Brian A. Little      Current

**Steubenville City School District**

Ruth Anne Bruzzese      Current

Gregory J Agresta      Current

**Stow-Munroe Falls City Schools**

Tina Merlitti      Current

Pamela Wind      Current

Kay VanHo      Former

Antoinette East-Jenkins      Current

Kari Suhadolnik      Current

**Toledo City School District**

Christine Varwig      Current

**Upper Scioto Valley Local Schools**

Paul M Ralston Current

Lori Dyer Current

**Wapakoneta City School District**

William Sammetinger Current

Gregg Ruppert Current

Ronald Mertz Current

**Waterloo Local School District**

Timothy Moon Current

**West Geauga Local School District**

Kathy Leavenworth Current

**West Holmes Local School District**

Tina Zickefoose Current

**Westerville City School District**

Kristy Meyer Current

**Wooster City School District**

Richard Goodright Current

**Worthington City School District**

Kelli Davis Current

**Wyoming City School District**

Jeanie Zoller Current

**Yellow Springs Exempted Village School District**

Amy Magnus Current

Dr. Dorothée Bouquet Current

Aida Merhemic Former

**Zane Trace Local School District**

Bradley DePugh Current