

November 30, 2017

Ohio Department of Education
Office of Community Schools
25 S. Front Street, Mail Stop 615
Columbus, OH 43215-4183

2016 Sponsor Annual Report

Maysville Local Schools: Sponsor of Foxfire High School

Foxfire's Mission is to impact the lives of their students in a positive, direct, and productive manner by teaching them the core values of working together, work ethic, accountability, discipline and servant-hood. The ultimate goal is to empower their students to reach their maximum potential academically, socially and emotionally while assisting them in becoming solid, productive citizens. Success is a by-product of embracing these core values.

Maysville Local School District sponsors Foxfire High School, IRN 149328. Foxfire High School serves at risk students, ages 16– 22, from school systems throughout Southeastern Ohio, and grades 4-12. Foxfire High School is recognized as a Model Alternative School (Doing What Works) by the U. S. Department of Education for utilizing best practice methodology throughout the program. The Ohio Department of Education has recognized Foxfire High School as a "School of Promise" and Clemson University's National Dropout Prevention Network has presented Foxfire with its Crystal Star of Excellence Award.

During the past sixteen years, Foxfire High School has become a viable alternative for students not meeting success in the traditional high school setting. The attendance area of the student population is Southeastern Ohio. Enrollment has maintained at 362 students with a 2016-2017 graduating class of 67.

The philosophy of Foxfire High School is based on very specific core values. Caring, loyalty, strong work ethic, commitment, respect, honesty, accountability, good character, teamwork and discipline are infused throughout all aspects of the Foxfire program. The school is student-centered and strives to provide all that is necessary for each student to reach his or her potential in the academic, social and behavioral realms and continue on to become a productive member of society.

Instruction is individualized and aligned with state curricular requirements. Every student is required to complete all required state tests. The results of these tests, along with specific individual needs, drive all instruction. An integrated approach consisting of traditional, community-based and project-based instruction better meets the academic needs of the Foxfire community of alternative students. 21st Century skills are emphasized across the curriculum. The infrastructure of the individualized curriculum is

provided by Compass Learning Systems. Small informal class settings promote intellectual discussion with faculty and other students and fosters an ideal learning environment for extending critical thinking and analytical skills. The student voice is heard through classroom opportunities. Instruction is focused on student academic growth. Personalized relevant project based learning is a large component of the curriculum. Bi-Monthly data is used to ensure that we are moving students academically forward.

All Foxfire High School fulltime content area teachers are 100% highly qualified. As part of a concerted effort to strengthen instructional practice, Foxfire staff works with Battelle for Kids to develop and implement the innovative strategic-based compensation process for structuring individualized professional development and compensation for certificated and non-certificated staff. This innovative program, in its fifth year of implementation, bases all individualized staff professional development on a series of six classroom visitations. These observations are followed by professional conversation between observer and practitioner that results in specifically targeted professional growth. Although this program requires an extensive time commitment on the part of administrators, it has made a positive impact on all aspects of the school. All school and individual professional development is concluded in accordance with LPDC regulations.

The widely diverse social, medical and behavioral needs of Foxfire High School students are addressed through wraparound non-academic support services embedded in the program. Care team model is utilized to address non-academic barriers. These include a special education coordinator, school psychologist, social worker, school counselor, drug and alcohol counselor, outreach coordinator, school nurse and school resource officer. Equine therapy supplements these services. The percentage of special education students is currently 45%. Comprehensive wellness is strongly emphasized through targeted classroom instruction and athletic activities and school-wide student and staff wellness competitions. Foxfire's cafeteria, The Phoenix Platter, provides affordable, nutritious meals to students and staff. Additional out of school time wellness activities are varsity athletic teams in volleyball and boys' and girls' basketball, co-educational archery, and power lifting.

The *Pay It Forward* program builds a sense of civic responsibility that enables students to become productive, active community members. *Pay It Forward* projects include assisting senior citizens with home maintenance and companionship, blood drives, helping at food pantries and community charity auctions. Foxfire students completed over 3000 hours of community service in the 2016-2017 school year.

A diverse cadre of community partnerships provides 21st Century learning opportunities and support to all Foxfire students, parents and staff. These partnerships allow the students maximum opportunities to broaden their horizons and better prepare them for the world of work after graduation. They enrich day-to-day activities and often provide classroom curriculum support. Partners include Battelle for Kids, Department of Youth Services, Rolling Plains United Methodist Church, YouthBuild America, Zane State College and Help Me Grow.

The fiscal needs of both schools are overseen by a contracted school treasurer, the administrators, and school boards. All audits and fiscal practices are compliant and follow policies and practices required by the state and federal governments.

The governance of Foxfire Intermediate and Foxfire High Schools is conducted in accordance with all state and federal requirements. The school board of each Foxfire entity adhere to Ohio School Boards Association policies and practices.

Maysville Local School District's assessment of the legal compliance of Foxfire High School during the 2016-2017 school year is:

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|----------------------------|-----------------|
| Academic Performance | Met performance |
| Fiscal Performance | Met performance |
| Organization and Operation | Met performance |
| Legal Compliance | Met performance |

Maysville Local Schools consider it a privilege to sponsor Foxfire High School. If you require additional information, please feel free to contact Shawn Connors, Director of Special Services, Maysville Schools, 740-248-0602, sconnors@laca.org.

Submitted by Maysville Local Schools

Ruth Zitnik Superintendent