

# QUALITY PROFILE

EMPOWER. EDUCATE. ENGAGE.



## 2024-2025





**Regina Morgan**  
**Superintendent**

I am proud to present our 2024-2025 Quality Profile. Throughout this document, we showcase the remarkable achievements we have accomplished as a team. With the support of our dedicated teachers, staff, students, and community - we have created a dynamic educational environment focused on academic excellence and enriching student experiences. Our shared commitment to continuous improvement enables us to support our students in a continuously evolving world.

We recognize that the foundation of our success is built upon supportive families and stakeholders. Your involvement and encouragement are vital to our students' growth and well-being. We thank you for our strong partnerships that help create a nurturing environment where every student can thrive.

Above all, we are a district that puts students first. We are committed to keeping the best interest of students at the heart of all our decisions. Every policy, program, and practice is designed with the goal of fostering an environment where students can achieve their fullest potential.

Thank you for taking the time to read our Quality Profile. As always, it is a great day to be a Panther.



This document is designed to demonstrate a more comprehensive, community-oriented companion to the state's School District Report Card. Our Quality Profile report includes additional accountability measures that better define a high-quality education and are not included in the state's report. We proudly present the 2024-2025 Little Miami Quality Report.



## BUILDING INFORMATION



**LITTLE MIAMI  
EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER**  
609 Welch Rd., Morrow, OH  
Grades PK-1 | Enrollment: 979



**LITTLE MIAMI  
PRIMARY SCHOOL**  
7247 Zoar Rd., Maineville, OH  
Grades 2-3 | Enrollment: 939



**LITTLE MIAMI  
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**  
605 Welch Rd., Morrow, OH  
Grades 4-5 | Enrollment: 881



**LITTLE MIAMI MIDDLE SCHOOL**  
5290 Morrow-Cozaddale Rd.  
Morrow, OH  
Grades 6-8 | Enrollment: 1,298



**LITTLE MIAMI HIGH SCHOOL**  
3001 E. U.S. 22&3  
Morrow, OH  
Grades 9-12 | Enrollment: 1,545

## ABOUT LITTLE MIAMI

The Little Miami Local School District encompasses 98 square miles of rural and suburban areas and includes the communities of Morrow, Maineville, Butlerville, Hamilton Township, Harlan Township and Salem Township.

Little Miami has grown to serve more than 5,864 students with 5,642 students in classrooms throughout our five buildings, 135 attending joint vocation school programs and 95 additional students placed in settings best suited to meet their needs. The district prides itself on child-centered decision-making, service to the whole child and opportunities for all students to achieve their goals and dreams.

Little Miami is the place to be! Since August of 2024, Little Miami enrolled 989 new students. Of these new Panthers, 65 students enrolled from 16 different states and another 34 students from 14 different countries. In total, Little Miami currently has students enrolled from 47 different countries.

# ACADEMICS - GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Ohio changed its graduation requirements in 2023. The new requirements provide more flexibility to choose a graduation pathway that builds on the strengths and passions of each student. This will help ensure that students are ready for their next steps and excited about their future.

**First, students must cover the basics.** Students must earn at least 20 credits in specified subjects and take the state-required tests.

Students must also receive economics and financial literacy instruction and complete at least two semesters of fine arts courses.

Course	Credits
English Language Arts	4
Health	1/2
Mathematics	4
Physical Education	1/2
Science	3
Social Studies	3
Electives/Fine Art	5

**Second, students must show competency** by earning a passing score on Ohio's high school Algebra I and English II tests. Students who do not pass a test will be offered additional support and must retake the test at least once. If testing is not a strength, students may also choose one of the below options to meet the criteria.

1. Demonstrate Two Career-Focused Activities:
  - a. Foundational: proficient scores on WebXams, a 12-point industry credential, or pre-apprenticeship or acceptance into apprenticeship program.
  - b. Supporting: work-based learning, earn the required score on WorkKeys or earn the OhioMeansJobs Readiness Seal.

2. Enlist in the military: students must provide evidence of a signed contract to enter a branch of the U.S. armed services upon graduation.
3. Complete college coursework: students must earn credit for one college-level math and/or college-level English course through Ohio's free College Credit Plus Program.

**Third, students must show readiness** by earning two diploma seals, one of which must be Ohio designed.

- OhioMeansJob Readiness Seal
- Industry-Recognized Credential Seal
- College-Ready Seal
- Military Enlistment Seal
- Citizenship Seal
- Science Seal
- Student Engagement Seal
- Honors Diploma Seal
- Seal of Biliteracy
- Technology Seal
- Community Service Seal
- Fine & Performing Arts

## Special Education - Work Study Opportunities

- Practical Assessment Exploration System (PAES) prepares students for the transition to life after high school.
- Integration of Knowledge and Resources for Occupational Needs (IKRON). Students complete a weekly lesson about soft skills, building relationships at work, learning appropriate communication for work, writing resumes, etc.
- In-house work-study opportunities:
  - Students learn how to clean, organize and manage the LMHS weight room
  - In school-wide recycling collection
  - Students work with custodial staff to clean and reorganize the lunchroom
  - Staff Birthday Breakfast Club - students cook and deliver the breakfast to staff members.
  - Set up for sporting events and run in-house Panther Press Store.
  - Programs can lead to summer internships

# SPECIAL EDUCATION

Little Miami proudly serves 731 students with disabilities.

## Services & Professionals Available:

- 48 Intervention Specialists
  - 30 Inclusion
  - 13 Structured Resource Rooms (SRR)
  - 5 PK
- 68 Special Education Aides
- 4 School Psychologists
- 2- Case Managers
- 2 Board Certified Behavior Analysts
- 4 Behavior Interventionists
- 7 Speech Language Pathologists
- 4 Occupational Therapists/OT Assistants
- 2 Physical Therapists/PT Assistants
- 1 Workforce Development Coordinator
- 1 Teacher of Visually Impaired
- 1 Orientation & Mobility Instructor
- 1 Teacher of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing
- 1 Educational Audiologist

## District Programming

- Inclusion with a continuum of Least Restrictive Environment, meaning students may spend time in a Structured Resource Room (SRR) and the general education setting, with support.
- Students may also be placed in a co-taught setting for certain learning areas only and fully independent in other classes.
  - 30 Intervention Specialists support in approximately 90 general education classrooms.
- Preschool: 5 Intervention Specialists, 2 Itinerant Teacher, 7 Special Education Aides

## Special Education Community Partners

Greenfield Plant Farm  
Morrow Arts Center  
PAES Lab WCESC  
Shine On Yoga  
Wonder Lab  
BF Gaming



# ACADEMICS - OPPORTUNITIES

## WCCC Partnership

Little Miami and the Warren County Career Center are teamed up for your student's success! Students who attend WCCC during their junior and senior years of high school are equipped with skills and training to prepare them for future careers. Students are also given opportunities to continue taking challenging academic courses while they train for a career path they will love. Students spend half of their day in a career lab (similar to a major in college) gaining hands-on skill experience with the equipment used in that particular career field. The other half of the day, students take academic classes at WCCC to earn the credits necessary for graduation.



Whether attending WCCC's Main or Atrium Campus, students are still connected to Little Miami! Industry credentials and certifications are earned at WCCC, but the student's high school diploma comes from Little Miami. WCCC works directly with LMHS counselors to ensure students take the classes needed to earn graduation credits. This truly is the best of both worlds. Students remain connected to LM and can still participate in athletics, LMHS graduation, prom, homecoming, senior fun days, plays and after-school clubs.



**Over 60% of students attending the WCCC attend college upon graduation!**

## WCCC Satellite Courses

Little Miami proudly offers select WCCC courses in a satellite setting - meaning specialized career learning opportunities within Little Miami classrooms! Students are able to gain functional skills without having to leave the LM campus!

### Middle School

- Project Lead the Way Gateway
  - Flight and Space
  - Apps Creator

### High School

- Digital Media Arts (DMA)
  - Introduction to Digital Media Arts
  - Digital Media Arts 1 and 2
- Business
  - Accounting
  - Business Computer Applications
  - Introduction to Business
  - Strategic Entrepreneurship
- Project Lead the Way – Engineering (PLTW)
  - Intro to Engineering Design
  - Principles of Engineering
  - Aerospace Engineering
  - Digital Electronics
  - Engineering Design and Development
- Information Technology
  - Introduction to IT
  - AP Computer Science
  - Networking & Cybersecurity
  - Computer Hardware & Software
  - Database Management
  - Web Development
  - Computer Programming
  - AP Computer Science A

## LMHS Digital Media Arts!



**The Panther Show**



**VIDDY AWARDS**



**Panther Show Wins another Viddy! That's three years in a row!**

The Panther Show: Season 3, Episode 4

**Viddy Awards is an international competition honoring video excellence in a digital world.**

**The Panther Show also received a Mark of Excellence from OHSPRA.**



# ACADEMICS - ACCOLADES

## LMHS Awards & Distinctions

- Ranked #71 out of 916 High Schools in Ohio and in the top 8% nationally by US News & World Report.
- Little Miami was named to the AP Honor Roll.
- 1 of 35 High Schools given the Momentum Award for exceeding student growth & achievement in Ohio.
- Received the High Schools that Work Pacesetter Award.

## Standardized Testing

- Every student is required to take the ACT in the State of Ohio.
- Class of 2024 held an average score of 20.8. Some students scored 34.

**63 AP Scholars  
in 2024**

## AP Honors

- In 2024, 249 students took 363 AP Tests in 11 subject areas with the average score of 3.2.
- 75% of all AP exams received a 3 or higher.

## Class of 2024

- 355 graduates
- 132 students earned a 4.0 or higher
- 61 students earned between a 3.5 & 3.99
- 68 students earned between a 3.0 & 3.49
- 38 students earned between a 2.5 & 2.99
- 32 students earned between a 2.0 & 2.49
- 24 students earned below a 2.0

## Post Graduation Plans

- 2024 Graduates attending college: 66%
  - Four Year Institutions 52%
  - Two Year Institutions 15%
- Military Enlistment .01%
- Other (Work, Apprenticeship, Gap Year) 34%

## AP & Honors Courses at LMHS

**13 AP Classes** are available at LMHS including: English Literature, U.S. Government, U.S. History, World History, European History, French, Spanish, Calculus AB, Statistics, Biology and Chemistry. NEW 23-24 - Computer Science Principals and Computer Science.

## Earn College Credit Before High School Graduation

All incoming 7-12 graders are eligible to participate in the College Credit Plus (CCP) program if they meet grade and testing requirements for college admission into CCP programs. This opportunity gives students the opportunity to earn high school and college credit simultaneously!



LMHS earned the prestigious **2022 College Success Award** from GreatSchools.org for excellence in preparing students for college and beyond. LMHS has secured this award for five consecutive years.

In addition to winning the annual College Success Award, LMHS was also selected in 2021 as one of only **1,770** schools across the entire nation to win the inaugural **College Success Award - Gold** — an additional, elevated level of distinction to recognize schools that have a multiyear track record of college success, as determined by available college preparation and postsecondary data.

**78% of the class of 2024 attending college stayed in Ohio.**  
**22% attend college out of state**



**Honors classes** are offered in: English 9, English 10, English 11, Chemistry, Biology, Anatomy & Physiology, Geometry, Algebra II, Pre-Calculus/Trigonometry, Physics, World History and American History.

# FROM THE TREASURER

## State of District Finances



**Terry Gonda**

The Little Miami Treasurer's Department has remained dedicated to responsible financial stewardship, providing the necessary support to students and staff to learn, adjust and grow.

Since Fiscal Year, 2015 to our most recent completed school year, FY24, the district has seen an average increase of 162 students per year (3.38%). This has resulted in an increase of 1,456 students over this time period to a total enrollment of 5,765 (FY24).

Despite the significant student growth LM has seen over the years we have strategically stretched out the funds generated from the passage of the 2011 Emergency Levy of \$10.6 million for more than thirteen years! These funds represent approximately 18% of LM's total operating budget and are vital to the district's financial health. We are so thankful to the community for investing in the future of our students!

With careful planning and monitoring of the district's increasing growth in enrollment, the Board and LM administration will continue to provide the best opportunities available to our students in the most economical ways possible.

## TREASURER'S DEPARTMENT DISTINCTIONS

Little Miami has been consistently earning distinctions & awards for the department's work in assessment, financial planning, and careful record keeping. In fact, **LM has earned the "Achievement of Excellence in Financial Reporting" award every year since 2014!**

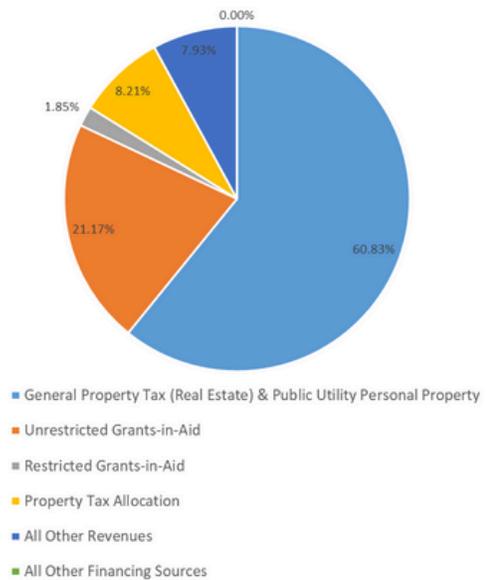
We are pleased to share the latest round of distinctions including:

- **2023 Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting** - Government Financial Officers Association
- **2023 Certificate of Excellence in Financial Reporting**- Association of School Business Officials (ASBO) International

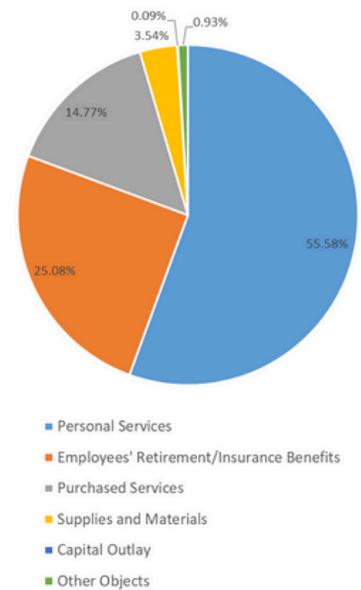
## The Ohio Auditor of State Award with Distinction

This award is presented for excellence in financial reporting related to the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report and compliance laws for FY 23

## Revenue FY24: \$59,426,627.80



## Expenditures FY24: \$60,717,230.54



# FOCUS ON FINE ARTS

## Little Miami High School Band

The "Band in Demand!" The LMHS Marching Band continues its legacy of impressive musical talent and energetic performance quality! These talented Panthers begin practicing in the heat of summer and work year-round to perform excellently at competitions, concerts, parades and athletic events.

## LMHS Band Program Overview

- **Marching Band** - 75-90 members from grades 9-12
- **Concert Band** - 60-75 members from grades 9-12
- **Symphonic Band** - 35-45 members from grades 9-12

**Instruments offered:** Flute, oboe, bassoon, clarinet, bass clarinet, alto sax, tenor sax, baritone sax, trumpet, French horn, trombone, baritone/euphonium, tuba and percussion

## Recent Recognitions & Accolades

- **Superior Rating** - Ohio Music Education Association District Large Group Adjudicated Event (2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2022, 2023 (No contest in 2020,2021)
- **Superior Rating** - Ohio Music Education Association State Large Group Adjudicated Event (2014, 2016, 2018, 2019, 2022)
  - In 2015, LMHS Symphonic Band received an excellent rating at the state competition.
  - In 2017 and 2022, LMHS Symphonic Band did not attend state competition.

## Little Miami Middle School Band

- Grade level breakdown:
  - 6th grade: 95-130
  - 7th grade: 50-80
  - 8th grade: 45-70
- Beginning Band: 95-130 members
- Concert Band: 45-60 members (7th and 8th grade)
- Symphonic Band: 50-65 members (7th and 8th grade, with one 6th grade member)

### Instruments offered:

**Beginning Band**- flute, oboe, clarinet, alto saxophone, trumpet, French horn, trombone, baritone euphonium, percussion.

**Concert band and Symphonic Band**- flute, oboe, bassoon, clarinet, bass clarinet, alto saxophone, tenor saxophone, baritone saxophone, trumpet, French horn, trombone, baritone/euphonium, tuba and percussion.



## MUSIC EDUCATION AT LITTLE MIAMI

Introducing students to instruments in their early years and making musical training FUN are important elements to maintaining the quality of the Little Miami music programs for years to come! LM offers Music as a "Special" in Grades 1-5, with Choir and Band classes beginning as an Elective course in Grade 6.

Throughout their musical education journey, young Panthers learn about different elements of music, learn to read music, have the opportunity to compose their own classroom rhythmic exercises, and learn instrument-playing basics, so they are ready to take their talents to the next level in middle school and high school.

# FOCUS ON FINE ARTS

## Little Miami High School Choir

Last year's theme was "The Journey Home," and it truly reflected the experiences of the Little Miami Select Choirs. These seniors began their high school journey as freshmen during the COVID-19 pandemic. That year, classes were held outdoors until the weather turned and managed to perform in only one concert. Throughout their time at LMHS, these freshmen persevered, and now they have much to show for their four-year journey. This year, all singers in the LMHS Choirs presented four concerts for our school and community members.

The year kicked off with the national event, Walk with Amal, held downtown around the National Underground Railroad Freedom Center. The Little Miami Select Choirs performed alongside the Cincinnati Chamber Orchestra, both there and later in Hyde Park.

LMHS Choir was invited for the third time in our history to the University of Cincinnati-Conservatory of Music's Feast of Carols, a tradition that began in 1867. The LMSC also traveled to Chicago for our annual spring educational tour, visiting landmarks like the Museum of Science and Industry and Shedd Aquarium, with performances at the Field Museum and Vandercook College of Music.

Second semester, students worked with five guest conductors, while some members participated in the District 13 Honor Choir and the OCDA Honor Choir. The LM Chorale achieved a Superior rating at the OMEA State Adjudicated Event for the 18th time in its twenty-year history. The Select Mixed Choir also earned a Superior rating at the OMEA State Adjudicated Event, marking the 15th time in its seventeen years as an established ensemble.



Art classes for LM students begin in 2nd grade and continue as a "Special" through 6th grade. In 7th and 8th grade, students are able to choose Art as an Elective course, while LMHS students have many opportunities to explore artistic endeavors in even more creative ways!

LMHS Art courses include: Ceramics, Advanced Ceramics, Painting, Advanced Painting, Sculpture Art Fundamentals, Advanced Drawing, Portfolio Preparation, Photography, Digital Media Arts. In these courses, students learn art history, careers in art, critiquing artwork, and how to produce art through exploring various mediums and techniques.



Scan to watch



LMHS Choir featured in a story on Channel 5 News, where Mrs. Baker discussed synesthesia—a characteristic she incorporates into her teaching methods with all the choirs at Little Miami High School.



## Fine Arts Festival

The annual Fine Arts Festival drew a HUGE crowd again this year. In addition to artwork, music programs from grades 1-12 entertained guests. Congratulations to all who had their art & musical talent on display. This FREE annual festival takes place in late Spring of every school year and is a community-favorite event.

The 2025 Fine Arts Festival will be held on May 2nd & 3rd, 2025 at LMHS.



## DISTRICT INFO | TECHNOLOGY

The LM Technology Department strives to provide excellent customer service and support to maintain a functional and practical digital learning environment for all.

All students in grades 6-12 utilize a device, enabling them to access learning materials digitally and practice responsible device ownership. Kindergarten through 5th grade students use classroom devices on carts when lessons warrant digital resources.

We maintain a forward-thinking approach and regularly assess emerging technologies. We understand that in the K-12 sector, innovation often involves technological solutions that enhance core processes. To this end, we have incorporated a new software solution that enables us to better manage digital instructional applications. As a result, we have improved our instructional decision-making and are better equipped to meet the needs of our students.



**Thank You, Gene!**



## DISTRICT INFO | TRANSPORTATION

The Little Miami School District is committed to providing the best education for our students. One such pillar of excellence is an efficient transportation department. Every school district in Ohio receives an efficiency ratio. A score of 1.0 is deemed average and a score of 1.5 is considered exceptional.

The Little Miami School District received a score of 1.45!

While it is certainly challenging to transport more students than ever before, LM Transportation has learned to adapt and be flexible with routes, to help ensure students are safely transported to and from school in a reasonable time frame.

**After 18 1/2 years at LM, Gene Blake retired over the summer. He began his career as a sub bus driver and ended it as the Director of Support Operations.**



## BY THE NUMBERS

**Fleet Size:** 58 assigned bus routes,  
3 van routes

**Miles Driven in 2023-2024:** 987,175

## DISTRICT INFO | FOOD SERVICES



The Food Services team works hard to ensure our Panthers are better able to focus in the classroom by providing healthy and delicious meals for breakfast and lunch. The Food Services Department is a completely self-funded program that does not take any financial resources from the Little Miami General Fund.

Families are able to apply for Free and Reduced meals at [LittleMiamiSchools.com](http://LittleMiamiSchools.com). Any students on the reduced meal plan will not be charged as the state of Ohio picks up the cost.

### What's in a Meal?

Lunch consists of protein, grain, fruit, vegetables and milk. For lunch, students must take at least three components, with one being a fruit or vegetable. Breakfast must consist of fruit, milk and grain and may include protein and vegetables.



### Fun Fact:

During the 2023-2024 school year, 127,003 breakfast and 401,635 lunch meals were served.

# SPOTLIGHT ON SAFETY

The safety and security of our Panthers will always be our top priority. As such, Little Miami continues to make safety improvements and updates for the 2023-24 school year.

## SchoolSafeID Console

### Visitor Management System Implemented in Each Building

Upon entering the Main Entrance of any building, all visitors and volunteers must scan a valid driver's license or a current government-issued identification. Using the ID card information, the SchoolSafeID system does an immediate background check to detect any issues that may prohibit further entrance into our buildings.

After following the quick steps on the touch-screen kiosk, and receiving approval for building admittance, a badge with visitor information, picture, and purpose for entry will be printed for the visitor to wear while in our buildings.



## Safety Week

Local first responders safety professionals visit, teach important safety tips, demonstrate their vehicles, equipment, and build relationships with our students and staff!



## Safety Council

In 2022 Little Miami formally established a Safety Council. The group of LM administrators and public safety professionals met to discuss safety measures, make decisions and implement procedures to improve the overall security of our students and staff at Little Miami.

This Safety Council continues to meet on a quarterly basis to review current safety procedures & actions taken during crisis incidents, discuss future needs and strengthen working relationships before an emergency strikes.

## School Resource Officers (SROs)

- Morrow Officer Hawk at Little Miami Elementary & Little Miami Early Childhood Center.
- Hamilton Township Officer Brandenburg at Little Miami High School,
- Hamilton Township Officer Rosenburger at Little Miami Middle School.
- Hamilton Township Officer Hayslip at Little Miami Primary.

We are so grateful to Hamilton Township and the Village of Morrow for their partnership!

SRO Hawk



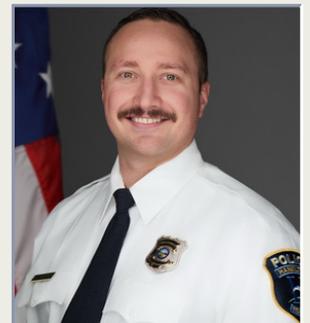
SRO Brandenburg



SRO Hayslip



SRO Rosenburger



SROs and members of the safety council attended the Ohio SRO Conference and the Ohio School Safety Summit.

The gatherings feature workshops, seminars and panel discussions with experts in the fields of law enforcement, education, psychology and crisis management.



Through these events we are able to share knowledge and build strong networks of relationships in our mission to prioritize safety and well being.

# LET'S HEAR IT FOR THE PANTHERS!

Little Miami had 77 students compete in 4H at the 2024 Warren County Fair! We had several winners and two Grand Champions.



## Extraordinary Things are Happening in the Panther Success Academy!

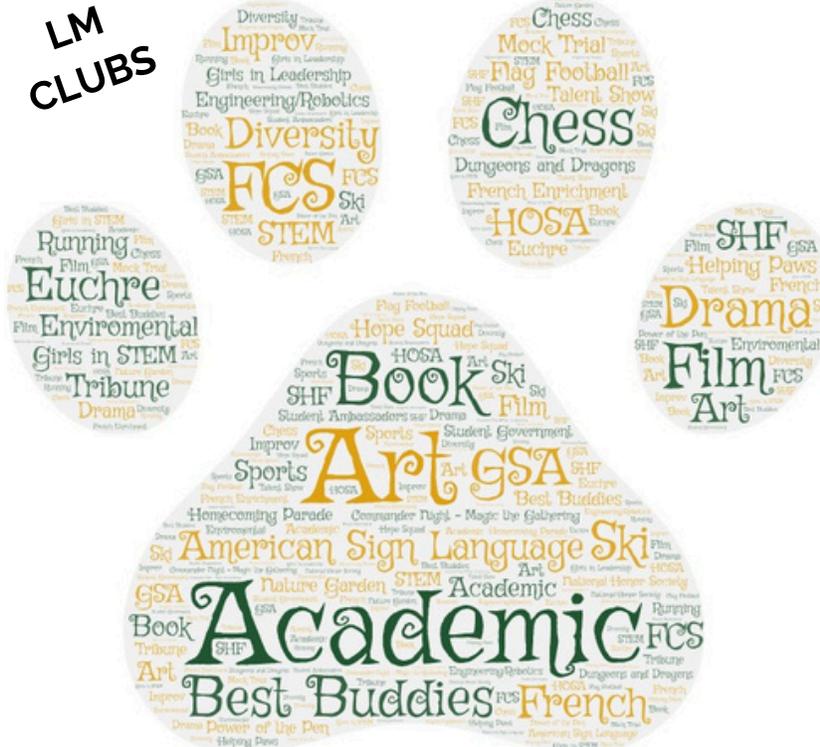


The Panther Success Academy envisions a supportive educational environment tailored to meet the needs of individual students who may require additional assistance beyond what traditional school setting provides. The Panther Success Academy is dedicated to fostering a culture of growth, resilience, and empowerment that enables every student to thrive academically, socially, and personally.



## A Place for Everyone!

LM CLUBS



# BUILDING THE FUTURE | RECENT UPGRADES

## Summer Projects



- Sanding and refinishing the LMHS gym floor
- Installing new bleachers in the LMHS gym
- Re-screening the gym floors at LMMS and LMES
- Re-screening and painting the LMHS Auditorium stage
- Maintenance on the LMPR retention pond
- Replacing the stairs on the baseball press box
- Replacing the roof on the LMHS ticket booths
- Roofing project at LMES
- Asphalt repairs, crack filling, sealing, and painting parking lots at LMES, LMPR, and the bus area at LMHS
- Waxing, cleaning, mulching, washing, and more



## NEW FACES AT CENTRAL OFFICE



**Melissa Buckalew**  
Director of Special Education



**Chad Konkle**  
Administrative Services



**Sara LaFary**  
Central Registrar/EMIS Assistant



**Paige Kroener**  
EMIS Director

# ATHLETICS

The Little Miami Athletic Department is committed to providing each student-athlete with the very best resources to reach their highest potential.

## DEPARTMENT STATS

TEAMS: **77** SPORTS: **26**

COLLEGE ATHLETES SIGNED IN 23-24: **14**

23-24 STUDENT ATHLETES: **2,293**



## Historic Success for LM Academic Team

**13 Total  
League Championships**

The LMHS Academic Team continues to prove to be a powerful force in the ECC. Since the 2021-2022 season, the LMHS Varsity Team has posted two undefeated seasons. Before joining the ECC, the Academic Team won 6 Southwest Ohio Conference Championships and 4 Fort Ancient Valley Conference titles.

The academic team had a historic 2023-24 season. The team finished 4th at the OAC State Tournament, the best finish in program history. The team went 7-5 at Nationals, ranking 77th in the nation!

Brennan Hubbard was named a National All-Star and was ranked the 24rd-highest scorer out of 1,612 participants! Hubbard was also named ECC Player of the Year.

State Playoff Qualifier: 2014, 2017-2019, 2021, 2023, 2024

Top 20 Final State Ranking: Nine times. Five top five rankings.

Southwest Regional Champions (2017, 2018, 2019, 2021, 2023)

Eastern Cincinnati Conference Champions: 2021-2023

Southwest Ohio Conference Champions: 2013-2015, 2017-2019

Fort Ancient Valley Conference Champions: 2001-2004

2024 National Academic Quiz Tournament  
Finished 77th Place (of 320)



# ATHLETICS

## TOP 10 STORIES OF 2023-2024

1.

Boys' basketball logs a 17-win season and falls to Moeller in Round 3 of the OHSAA postseason.

2.

Emma Goins named the ECC 'Sprinter of the Meet' after winning the 100-meter dash, 200 meter dash and anchoring wins in the 4x200 meter relay and the 4x400 meter relay.

3.

On the Mats: Brentan Simmerman named ECC Wrestler of the Year. First female wrestler, Savy Jacobson qualified for state.

4.

LMHS cross country qualifies both the boys' and girls' team into the OHSAA Regional Championships for the first time in school history.

5.

Sophia Ili was the OHSAA regional champion in the shot put with a throw of 40-10.00

6.

Peyton Dews was the OHSAA regional runner-up in the long jump (18-03.00)

7.

LMHS wrestling is the ECC runners-up.

8.

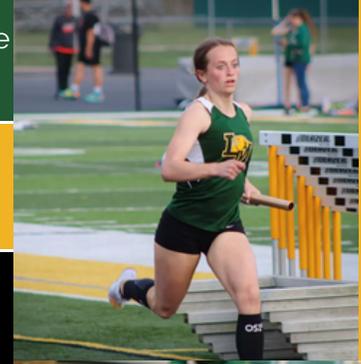
Woeste Brothers advanced into the OHSAA State Championships in swimming.

9.

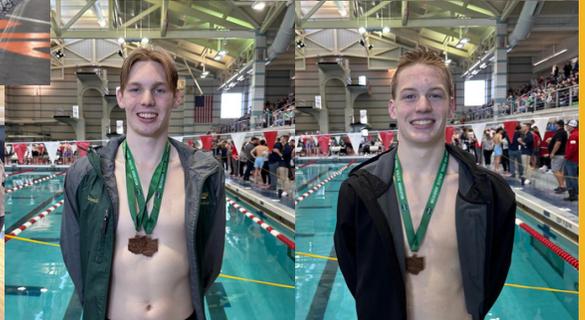
LMHS girls' bowling team finished No. 3 in the ECC; Hannah Weigle advanced into the OHSAA District Championships.

10.

Boys' cross country wins the 2024 ECC championship



Little Miami has been a proud member of the Eastern Cincinnati Conference (ECC) since the 2020-2021 season. This conference move has impacted the student-athlete experience by reducing travel time and expenses, increasing gate revenue, and pumping up rivalries with bordering communities like Kings, Loveland and Lebanon!



# ADDRESSING MENTAL HEALTH NEEDS



At Little Miami, we are focused on supporting the mental health and wellness of our students and have provided extensive resources to help our students with their emotional needs. By addressing the needs of the "whole child," our Panthers are able to be safe, happy and more attentive in the classroom.

## LMMS & LMHS Students Join the Hope Squad Mission



Both LMMS and LMHS are Hope Squad partner schools that are on a mission to reduce youth suicide through education, training and peer intervention. This peer-to-peer suicide prevention program teaches student members to identify at-risk students, provide friendship and seek help from an adult. They learn to show empathy, listen without judgment and reduce stigma regarding treatment and mental illness.



## Core Essentials

The character education program for grades K-12 focuses on one core value a month. Students learn how to "Say It", "Know It", "Be It" and "See It" Students can be nominated by their classroom teachers for demonstrating the core value that month and are rewarded by having their names on the announcements and can receive a certificate.



## RECO

RECO is a character education program for students in grades 6-12. RECO Ambassadors represent LM by having positive character and willingness to help. Members make school a more positive place for students and staff by planning events, spirit weeks and taking field trips to LM schools to spread positive messages.

## Utilizing Peer-to-Peer Support

At LMHS, in addition to regular one-on-one counseling sessions, counselors have planned monthly lessons and school-wide activities to engage students. Student Ambassadors have also taken on the responsibility of creating and hosting events for new Panther students – including "meet ups," building tours and other fun events to raise student morale.

"During the 23-24 school year, RECO raised money to create a positive environment within the building and beyond by traveling to the elementary schools, teaching character education lessons, and sponsoring a snack cart for the staff".

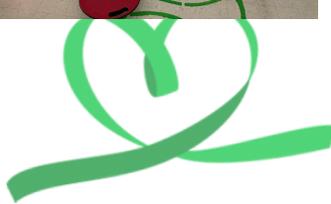
## LMES Sensory Spaces Enhance Learning Environment

A Sensory Courtyard and Room have been created for students to learn, destress, and enjoy a calming time. The LMES courtyard has been transformed into a space for outdoor

The Sensory Room is full of comfortable, flexible seating options, books and activities.



activities and classroom learning,



# ADDRESSING MENTAL HEALTH NEEDS

## Tier 1 Mental Health Supports

**School Counselors** support the emotional needs of students as they relate to academics. LM counselors run support groups, meet with students individually, monitor student 504 accommodation plans, create student schedules, assist with college and career planning, and connect families with needed resources. School counselors act as our 'front line of support' when our students are in crisis.

## Tier 2 Mental Health Supports

**Mental Health Consultants-** Little Miami has four mental health consultants who are the central point of contact for all mental health services, as referred by the district for "triage." In cooperation with families, the LM Mental Health Consultants assess and determine appropriate services for each student referred by the school counselor. These specialists also fulfill the following critical roles:

- Provide mental health consultation to others served by the district.
- Provide district-wide crisis intervention services and monitor the students with the highest level of needs and severity of symptoms.
- Complete individual therapy referrals for students requiring a treatment plan with our partner agency.
- Provide consultation and professional development to staff to improve the support and management of students with mental health concerns in the academic environment.

**School-Based Prevention Services** - Prevention services are designed to promote positive mental health, identify psychological and social problems early, and reduce the risk factors associated with school failure. Prevention services are often short-term and provided to a targeted group of students for a specific concern. During the group, a referral for more intensive services may be indicated and brought to the attention of a mental health consultant for appropriate placement. Examples of these groups include: "Cancer Family Care," "Changing Families" and "Anxiety Management."

## Tier 3 Mental Health Supports

**Case Management Services** are implemented as an ongoing individualized service with greater frequency, intensity and duration than prevention services. Case management services require greater participation from the family and involve the diagnosis of a mental health disorder. Little Miami works with Beech Acres to serve these student needs. Students will work with a case manager to reinforce coping skills and strategies they are learning in therapy to manage their symptoms and the daily challenges they face.

**Mental Health School-based Therapist** - Provides individual therapy services to students on a case-by-case basis with a mental health consultant. Mental health therapy services are the district's most intensive ongoing MH service. Therapy services along with family partnerships help lead to the diagnosis of a mental health disorder and require developing a treatment plan. Therefore, these services are much more individualized and occur at a deeper level than other services.

Little Miami utilizes the services and specialty of Beech Acres for students referred by counselors or mental health consultants who feel a more severe mental health diagnosis would benefit from increased care and a more long-term treatment for students. All services are paid for by private family insurance or Warren County mental health funds.



# COMMITMENT TO COMMUNITY

It is the Little Miami way to help foster a sense of service and generosity in our students. To help cement this community-focused mentality, 12 hours of community service is required of all Seniors to graduate from LMHS. We are proud to share just a few ways students connect to their local community.



DAV Field of Flags

## SERVICE LEARNING



After researching social issues, students work towards solutions. In the past, students explored topics including mental health, education, hunger, senior, veteran and animal services.

## LMPR VETERANS DAY PARADE/CELEBRATIONS

The Veterans Day Parade continues to bring large numbers of loved ones and cherished Veterans from the community to LM buildings. We are so proud that the parade is an event that will continue for years to come!



## PURPLE STAR DESIGNATION

The Purple Star Award recognizes schools that show a major commitment to students and families connected to our nation's military. Since 2020, all school buildings within the Little Miami Local School District are recognized as Purple Star Designated Schools for their commitment to serving students and families connected to the United States armed forces.

Among the requirements a school must meet to receive the Purple Star Award is designating a liaison between military families in the district to ensure the families and students in the classrooms receive the special consideration they deserve.

Little Miami's application included information about Little Miami High School's unique Veterans Wall of Honor, annual elementary school observances of Veterans Day and other military-focused activities and services around the district. The Purple Star designation is a 3-year designation. In April 2023, the Ohio Department of Education renewed all Little Miami school buildings as Purple Star Award-winning schools!

## Last year LM AFJROTC raised \$1,385 for Disabled American Veterans



## DAYLIGHT PROM

Little Miami High School Student Government annually plans and hosts a beautiful multi-district event specifically focused on ensuring students with special needs have the opportunity to attend a sensory-friendly prom with their peers. This incredible event allows all Warren County students to celebrate a milestone in their high school careers in a more relaxed environment. Each honored guest is invited to have a student escort from their home school and all necessary adults needed to chaperone are also invited to attend.

A student-led project based class exploring different perspectives on issues working towards well rounded solutions. Students learn how to work in teams and develop life skills.



# COMMITMENT TO COMMUNITY: SPOTLIGHT ON AIR FORCE JROTC

A unique feature of the LMHS and LMMS community is the presence of the Air Force Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps (AF JROTC) on our campuses. The AFJROTC mission is "Developing Citizens of Character" and every aspect of their program is geared toward making better citizens for tomorrow. JROTC students take on added responsibilities and tasks to learn leadership, planning, and service at an entirely different level. Little Miami is proud to have offered this program to LM students since 2017.

## PROGRAM IMPACT

When polling Seniors in the JROTC program to reflect on their time as cadets, they offered great insight into just how the program has impacted their character development.

Seniors described their younger selves as shy, lacking confidence and even doubtful of their capabilities. They say that after joining the program, they were encouraged to come out of their shell and flourish in their leadership skills, even running classes and cadet units.

## WHY JOIN AF JROTC?

"We are a family," was a sentiment that seemed to resonate from a group of AF JROTC Seniors as they spoke on their years in the program. For those students on the fence about joining, Senior cadets encourage you to go for it! This commitment is fun, empowering, and not at all intimidating!

## WHO WE ARE

This program, while supervised and guided by Lt. Col. Peterson and Chief Master Sergeant Becky Hale, is a cadet-run program.

During the 2024-25 school year, **138** cadets have chosen to participate in AF JROTC. **50** of those are 8th graders.

**While this program uses a military model in the classroom, it is not utilized for military recruiting. There is no military requirement by participating in the AF JROTC program. In fact, only 3% of graduates choose to continue into the service upon graduating.**

**Fall 2024- After an extensive evaluation conducted by Region 6.3 Director for Headquarters Air Force JROTC, the LM unit earned the overall unit assessment score of 98.5% They will be submitted for Outstanding Unit consideration, an award which is given at the end of the school year.**



## REQUIREMENTS & GRADUATION SEAL

Cadets must complete at least 2.5 hours of community service every quarter, wear a uniform on Wednesdays, dress and participate in physical fitness, and adhere to specific grooming standards when in uniform. You may have seen the Little Miami AF JROTC cadets presenting the flags at the YMCA on Veterans Day, during LM sporting events or even a Reds game.

Cadets earn a seal for their diplomas upon graduation. If students enlist in the military after completing 3-4 years of AFJROTC, they will rank higher than entry-level cadets.

## Cadets presented the Colors at a Cincinnati Reds game in August.



Front Guard: C/CMSgt Azura Brubaker  
US Flag: C/Maj Jacob Thornsburg  
Ohio State Flag: C/SMSgt Lindon Estep  
Air Force Flag: C/2Lt Thomas Witt  
Rear Guard: C/2Lt Jesse West





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# TO THE RESIDENTS OF THE LITTLE MIAMI SCHOOL DISTRICT



Little Miami Local Schools



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