

**BRIDGEPORT EXEMPTED
VILLAGE SCHOOL
DISTRICT**



**FY 2025 FALL FORECAST
ASSUMPTIONS**

Bridgeport Exempted Village School District
Five-Year Forecast
FY 2025 Assumptions
November 2024

GENERAL OVERVIEW

This report projects revenues and expenses for Fiscal Years 2025 through 2029 and was prepared for the Bridgeport Exempted Village School District Board of Education. The report attempted to use the most current and readily available information at the time of preparation.

All forecasts include an inherent assumption that changes will occur over time. These changes will affect the outcome of the forecast. The Board of Education has both control over and no control over factors impacting the forecast. For these reasons, the Bridgeport Exempted Village School District considers the forecast a continual work in progress.

FORECAST RISKS AND UNCERTAINTY

The document accompanying these written assumptions is based on current legislation, historical trends, social issues, and other factors that are known, as of this date. The assumptions, in the forecast, could change drastically with the passage of new federal and/or state legislation, local property values, state funding formula, enrollment and educational programs offered by the Bridgeport Exempted Village School District.

6.010 Excess of Revenues over/(under) Expenditures

This line is a good measure of a district's financial health. A positive balance indicates revenues are sufficient to cover expenditures while a negative balance indicates deficit spending.

REVENUE ASSUMPTIONS

GENERAL PROPERTY TAX (REAL ESTATE) (Line 1.010)

Property values are established each year by the County Auditor based on new construction and updated values. A reappraisal is mandated by Ohio law every six years, with an update at the three-year midpoint. These are levied and assessed on a calendar year basis while the District's fiscal year runs from July through June. First-half tax collections are received in the second-half of the fiscal year and second-half tax collections occur in the first-half of the following fiscal year.

General Property Tax is estimated to be \$1,905,333 for fiscal year 2025 based on the most recent tax data estimates obtained from the Belmont County Auditor's Office and the Ohio Department of Taxation. Please note that the District's oil and gas revenue fluctuates significantly. These projections reflect the current state of the economy and social situation. If delinquencies are not as high as projected, the BEVSD will realize an increase in local revenue.

TANGIBLE PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX (Line 1.020)

Tangible Personal Property Tax has been eliminated on most business property. Only natural gas and electric public utilities TPP taxes remain in this line item. BEVSD is projected to receive \$612,003 in fiscal year 2025. In fiscal years 2026-2029 the amount stays the same as the uncertainty of the amount on this line is in question year in and year out.

UNRESTRICTED GRANTS-IN-AID (Line 1.035)

Unrestricted Grants-in-Aid is estimated to be approximately \$6,800,000 during fiscal year 2025, which is based on information from the state's most current School Finance Payment Report. In fiscal years 2026-2029 the amount is flat-lined.

RESTRICTED STATE GRANTS-IN-AID (Line 1.040)

Restricted Grants-in-Aid is estimated at approximately \$1,000,000 during fiscal year 2025 based on information from the state's most current foundation settlement report. The Restricted Grants-in-Aid line item consists of Student Wellness & Success, Career Tech Aid, Gifted Funding and Disadvantaged Pupil Impact Aid (DPIA). The significant increase compared to the prior years is due to the district operating under the Community Eligibility Program (CEP) in the 2024-2025 school year. Moving in this direction has allowed the district to see an increase in DPIA funding. In fiscal years 2026-2029 the amount is decreased and flat-lined due to the state funding biennium in question.

STATE SHARE OF LOCAL PROPERTY TAXES (Line 1.050)

State Share of Local Property Taxes line item includes Homestead Exemption, Homestead & Rollback. Homeowners are given a 10% property tax rollback from the state and an additional 2.5% rollback was established in 1979. Effective 2014, these rollbacks are eliminated for any levy except renewals. Effective 2014, all new Homestead Exemptions applications are means tested and households earning more than \$30,000 in Ohio

Adjusted Gross Income in the prior year are ineligible. Current district levies are not affected so this forecast assumes the same trend as property taxation above.

State Share of Local Property Taxes is estimated to be \$255,000 for fiscal year 2025.

ALL OTHER REVENUE (Line 1.060)

All Other Revenues are estimated to be \$900,000 for fiscal year 2025 based on estimated excess cost, interest income, rentals, Medicaid reimbursements and miscellaneous receipts. In fiscal year 2025, the district has received one-time payments. These payments consist of a flood insurance settlement from the April 2024 floods at Perkins Field and the district's insurance reserve amount from the Stark County COG. Due to these being one-time payments, the projections are being decreased and flat-lined for the remaining fiscal years.

ADVANCES-IN (Line 2.05)

No advances are anticipated in FY 2025.

TOTAL OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (Line 2.070)

These amounts are not a significant revenue source for the district.

EXPENDITURE ASSUMPTIONS

PERSONAL SERVICES (Line 3.010)

Personal service costs are estimated to be approximately \$5,932,357 during fiscal year 2025. This line item includes salaries paid to all employees including part-time employees, supplemental contracts, over-time, and classified substitutes used by the District. Substantial costs in this line item that have been extremely volatile are substitute employee salaries. The forecast is based on **current staffing levels**. It also includes anticipated salary step increases based upon approved contracts with BEA (through FY 2027) and OAPSE (through FY2027).

The district has chosen to recode certain staff member's salary to the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ARP ESSER) as allowed by the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations. This falls under the districts use of other activities necessary to maintain and to continue to employ the existing staff due to the previous years deficit spending. **These expenses have returned to the general fund in FY2025 which is reflected in the forecast.** Student Wellness and Success funds are used for two staff member salaries.

Other factors that could impact the forecast but are not included in the numbers, are the possible elimination of position through attrition, replacing senior teachers with lower paid teachers, and restructuring administrative positions.

EMPLOYEE BENEFITS (Line 3.020)

Fringe Benefits are estimated at \$2,254,655 during fiscal year 2025. Included in this line item are wage driven benefits such as SERS/STRS contributions, Medicare contributions, the SERS Surcharge, Worker's Compensation premiums, and unemployment costs. Please note that these types of benefits will increase in accordance with employee raises. Health care costs are based on schedule of benefits, anticipated number of employees participating in the program, and current monthly premiums. Insurance premiums are a significant part of this line item. Fiscal Year 2026-2029 increases of 8% per year, which is the current federal average.

PURCHASED SERVICES (Line 3.030)

This line is used to account for all service-related expenditures. These include utilities, ESC contracted services, and professional services contracts. Purchased services are anticipated to be approximately \$1,962,621 during fiscal year 2025. A consistent increase of 1.5% annually is projected from fiscal years 2026 through 2029 to incorporate inflationary costs. The nature of these expenses can be extremely volatile and may fluctuate significantly on an annual basis.

SUPPLIES AND MATERIALS (Line 3.040)

Supplies and Materials are projected at \$500,000 for fiscal year 2025. The increase is due to the district purchasing new K-5 ELA curriculum. As a result of recent legislation, the School District is no longer required to either spend and/or set-aside monies each year for instructional materials, supplies, and textbooks. While this is no longer a requirement, the district still believes that it is necessary to allocate resources annually to instructional supplies and will continue to invest these dollars accordingly. A flat dollar amount is projected for fiscal years 2026 through 2029. Other expenditures included within this line-item are maintenance/janitorial supplies, bus supplies, bus fuel, technology supplies, etc.

CAPITAL OUTLAY (Line 3.050)

Capital Outlay projected for fiscal year 2025 is projected at \$500,000. The reason for the increase on this line item in FY2025 is due to a full replacement of the district's chiller and controls. Fiscal years 2026-2029 address regular capital maintenance needs and the purchase of a new school bus each fiscal year. Please note that the District continues to make minor capital improvements and/or upgrades to equipment as funds become available. The longer the District operates without making equipment upgrades, as well as making capital improvements, a greater amount of dollars will be needed in the future to remedy these neglected areas.

OTHER OBJECTS (Line 4.300)

This line includes fees paid to the County Auditors for processing tax settlements, state auditor fees, and liability insurance. Other Objects expenditures are projected at \$130,000 for fiscal year 2025 based on anticipated increases. Other Objects expenditures are expected to remain consistent through fiscal year 2029.

PRINCIPAL/INTEREST (Lines 4.010, 4.050, 4.055, 4.060)

This line item includes our district lighting project that was made in 2015. The district will be making principal payments of about \$25,000 until 2030. The district's I-PAD lease has returned to the general fund in FY2025. Our stadium improvement project loan payments are reflected on this line as well.

OPERATING TRANSFERS-OUT (Line 5.01)

Operating Transfers-Out is projected to be \$50,000.

OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (Line 5.02)

No significant advances are expected for fiscal year 2025-2029.