Annual Report

2025-2026

Board of Education

John Henry Miller, President
Maynard Miller, Vice-President
Mark Hochstetler
Joe Miller
Roy Schlabach

Administrative Officers

Joy Zuercher-Pyle, Superintendent
Sandy Hadsell, Treasurer

Report prepared by: Joy Zuercher-Pyle, *superintendent* & Sandy Hadsell, *treasurer*

BH

Dear Friends,

Beacon Hill Community School is grateful to have wrapped up its second year of providing quality educational service for grades K-12 after the school's inception in 2011 serving grades 7-12. Beacon Hill Community School offers educational opportunities to include valuable character education, meaningful career preparation, and rigorous standards-based achievement. Students attending Beacon Hill attain treasured friendships, core academic and personal growth, and applicable skills that prepare them for a lifetime of success.

Amongst our growth across the last several years, education at Beacon Hill continues to consist of project-based, hands-on academics, blended learning opportunities, and career-preparation. Various partnerships are formed between our communities, families, staff and alumni to ensure current and future success for our students. We are honored to expand our role in our local communities as an integral part of children's growth, and we are thankful for the continued partnerships developed throughout the years.

As we look to continue to refine our work serving grades K-12, our promise is to continue to provide all our students with a well-rounded educational opportunities that foster continuous growth academically, socially, and emotionally in order to launch them towards life-long success. We promise to provide our communities and partners with citizens prepared to contribute to the community and the workforce.

Together, we partner to strengthen our communities

Joy Zuercher-Pyle

Beacon Hill Community School Annual Report

I. School Information & Activities

Board Members

The Beacon Hill Community School Governance Board was comprised of five (5) Board members, listed at right, who represented families, local businesses, and community members in the area. The Governance Board reviews policies and procedures, processes curriculum and academic improvement updates, and monitors school finances and annual goals for student achievement and progress monthly.

John Henry Miller	President
Maynard Miller	Vice President
Joe Miller	Member
Mark Hochstetler	Member
Roy Schlabach	Member

Mission & Vision

Beacon Hill Community School provides a guiding light for our community's career and educational needs.

We strive to provide a strong academic foundation aligned with a pathway for life-long career and educational pursuits and employment opportunities.

Overview

Beacon Hill Community School operated as a site-based, community school sponsored by the Office of School Sponsorship with the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce (DEW). Beacon Hill Community School completed its second year of operation at its new location, 8746 S. Market St. Mt. Eaton OH; this school building was formerly utilized as Mt. Eaton Elementary. The 2024-2025 school year was the fourteenth full year of operation for Beacon Hill Community School, but only the second year serving all grades K-12. The Superintendent was Joy Zuercher-Pyle and the Treasurer was Sandy Hadsell. The educational program is designed to consider the dominant student demographic of the Plain community whose cultural beliefs limit traditional participation beyond 8th grade, as well as those who would like to seek education beyond 8th grade but desire the flexibility to step into the workforce before high school graduation.

Staffing & Programming

The staff for the 2025-2026 school year at Beacon Hill experienced minimal turnover from the previous year, allowing for the opportunity for team and program development. Team members included one (1) Superintendent (with teaching roles in addition to administrative duties), a K-4 Principal, and one (1) Treasurer. Additionally, there were (19) instructional staff members which included fifteen (15) full-time teachers and four (4) part-time instructors and aides. Support staff included two (2) full-time administrative assistants, two (2) school cafeteria staff , two (2) custodial staff, one (1) school nurse, and multiple shared-service contracts for personnel such as EMIS coordinator, Technology Service personnel, speech therapist, and school psychologist.

The instructional staff at Beacon Hill provided traditional classroom academic instruction, vocational education, technological education, supplemental online curriculum, career readiness preparation, and community service experiences at a variety of levels and depths across grade K-12. The school heavily emphasizes life skills in every area of their teaching alongside the integral academic skills necessary for success. The staff was proud to spend its second year refining programming, developing consistency in routines and expectations, and further strengthening teamwork. Staff completed professional development aligned to ONEPlan initiatives and learning goals through course work, training, workshops and/or professional learning communities.

All students in grades 5-12 have the opportunity to take Life Skills (Home Economics and Trades) classes daily. Careers and Financial Literacy courses are also included in the middle grades to ensure that this instruction happens before students exit formal education after 8th grade. Additionally, students in grades 7 and 8 have the opportunity to learn high German taught by member of the Amish community, and students can choose to take weekly guitar classes, if desired, using the school-owned guitars.

Enrollment & Demographic Understandings

The student population served by Beacon Hill Community School is dominantly from the surrounding Amish and Mennonite communities within the Wayne, Holmes, Tuscarawas, and Stark counties. Formal education for students from these communities generally concludes at the end of eighth grade, with families invoking Yoder vs. Wisconsin for their child to leave formal school entirely.

Beacon Hill was originally established to provide formal education for an under-served population in a specific school district within Wayne County. The elimination of specially designed middle school units in area districts in August 2010 resulted in a need for additional educational opportunities for middle school aged students in the immediate geographical area.

After thirteen years of this model, Beacon Hill responded to the heavy community desire for additional educational options for the elementary grades and opened as a K-12 school in 2024-2025, which brought in students from eight school districts within four counties during the school year.

At the opening of 2025-2026 school year, 190 students were enrolled. Throughout the year, three students withdrew, all to homeschool. The final enrollment on the last day of the school year was 187 students. With no 12th graders for the school year, there were no high school graduates in May. Beacon Hill continues to seek to serve the needs of the community, which is to develop life-skills and strong academics at a young age to prepare young people to be successful workers and thoughtful members of the local community.

Community Partnerships

Community is a major component of Beacon Hill's programming. Beacon Hill Academy partners with Plain community businesses and agencies in our attendance area for community service, field trips, job shadowing, and guest speakers and panels to promote life skills and employment opportunities for our students.

Dozens of businesses across the area hosted Beacon Hill students for a variety of job-shadowing experiences in the fall. Career-readiness activities were not only incorporated through field trips in collaboration with area businesses, but also through Career Day activities including a question and answer panel of a handful of community business leaders from across our area, a job fair of more than fifteen businesses, and mock-interviews held with 8th graders. Students provided service to the community through activities such as roadside cleanup, yard-care, quality time with individuals in nursing homes, help at local festivals and benefits, among others. Continuous collaboration with family owned small businesses were vital partnerships offering wonderful opportunities and post-graduate employment to the students.

Beacon Hill Academy contracted services for special education and student testing through the Tri-County ESC, mental health services through Anazao Community Partners, and technology services through the Tri-County Computer Services Association. Beacon Hill also continued to collaborate closely with the Paint Township Mt Eaton Fire and EMS, Mt. Eaton Police Department, Wayne County Sheriff's Department, and the Wayne County Emergency Management Agency to ensure readiness for student safety in potential emergency situations.

Successes and Challenges

In the previous school year, 2024-2025, Beacon Hill experienced great transition in launching a major expansion that included adding six grade levels, more-than-tripling enrollment, more-than-tripling the staff , moving locations to take over an aged school facility and grounds, and adding many new elements such as building and grounds maintenance, school lunch programming, among others.

This means that in 2024-2025:

- -approximately 83% of the students enrolled were brand new to Beacon Hill
- -approximately 80% of Beacon Hill staff were brand new to Beacon Hill
- -the facility, grounds, and the majority of amenities/furnishings were unfamiliar to the staff
- -the majority of curriculum used was new to Beacon Hill
- -Beacon Hill programming, processes, and routines were being developed as the year progressed

As Beacon Hill began its second year as a K-12 school in the fall of 2025, the staff was excited to enter a year with increased familiarity of our team, the students and families, our demographic and general community, and the building and grounds and therefore resources available to everyone; a year of experience together allowed the team to move from the intense in-the-moment creation of our school in 2024-2025 into year of programming development, strengthening, and refinement in 2025-2026. With some understanding of the students, families, community, and the needs present in the building, the team was able to work together in 2025-2026 to develop a wide range of academic programs and initiatives throughout the year, with some programs piloting in 2025-2026, and some prepared during the school year to launch in 2026-2027. The team is incredibly proud of what Beacon Hill has put together in only two short years as a K-12 building.

II. Progress Towards ONEPLan Academic Goals

ONEPlan Goals & Current Progress

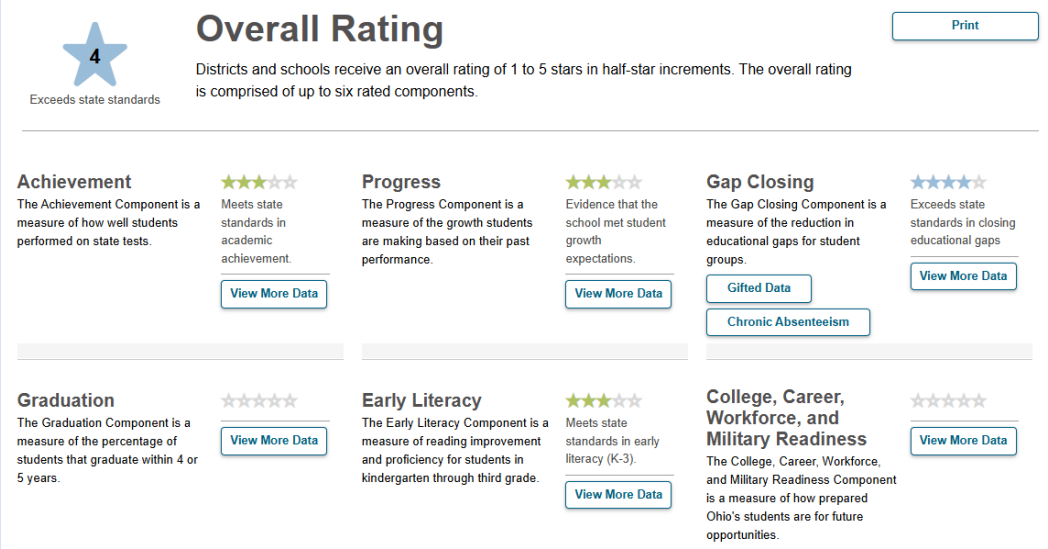
GOAL	CURRENT PROGRESS	GOAL MET?
Goal #1 : By June 2027, 100% of our students will meet or exceed expected growth in each subject area as measured by state and school-approved curriculum measures.		
Student Measure #1: Each semester, 100% of students will meet or exceed expected growth on the reading iReady assessment.	In spring 2026, 40% of students made 100% or more annual growth on reading i-Ready assessments based upon i-Ready growth reports. The median percent progress of all students was 77%.	*No*
Student Measure #2: Each semester, 100% of students will meet or exceed expected growth on the math iReady assessment.	In spring 2026, 36% of students made 100% or more annual growth on math i-Ready assessments as compared to their beginning-of-year assessments based upon i-Ready growth reports. The median percent progress of all students was 62%.	*No*
Student Measure #3: Quarterly, 100% of students will meet or exceed expected growth on content-specific assessments.	In the 2025-2026 school year, aligned vocabulary based initiatives for all content areas focused on Greek and Latin roots and determining the meaning of parts of unknown words were created to be launched and assessed in 2026-2027. These content specific assessments especially support language and vocabulary needs in goal #3 that extend to all content areas.	*No*
Goal #2 : By June 2027, 100% of staff and students will use the vision, mission, and motto of Beacon Hill Community School to align expectations and ensure that implementation of job responsibilities contributes to a positive school climate and culture as measured by student BOSS (Binder of Student Success) binder portfolios and other school-approved implementation tools.		
Student Measure #1: Annually, 100% of students will set goals that align with the vision, mission, and motto as evidenced by goal sheets in the BOSS binders. (Evidence: BOSS Binder Intervention Goal Sheets)	In 2025-2026, Beacon Hill established a united organization for BOSS binders and classroom leadership structure for meaningful completion and accountability. Entering FY27, all BHCS students have BOSS binders established that move with them to their new classrooms. Student Goal Sheets are completed in Q1 with goals geared towards academics, personal achievements, and character traits. In 2026-2027,	*Yes*

	students are prepared to revisit goals with the assistance of classroom teachers/advisors.	
Goal #3 : By June 2027, 100% of students will improve their vocabulary skills as evidenced by school-created vocabulary/language assessments.		
Student Measure #1: Quarterly, 100% of EL students will improve in the vocabulary domain in the iReady assessment.	Sixty (60) percent of current students identified as EL showed improvement on the vocabulary domain on the i-Ready assessment for the 2025-2026 school year.	*No*
Student Measure #2: Annually, 100% of applicable EL students will take the OELPA.	100% of EL students attending BHCS took the OELPA assessment in 2025-2026.	*Yes*
Student Measure #3: Annually, 100% of applicable EL students will take and show improvement on the OELPA.	100% of EL students attending BHCS took the OELPA assessment in 2025-2026 and 62.5% of students improved in their scores. Also noteworthy: Current EL students had a median progress of 135% in overall reading growth across the entire year in 2025-2026 based on i-Ready diagnostic growth data	*Yes*

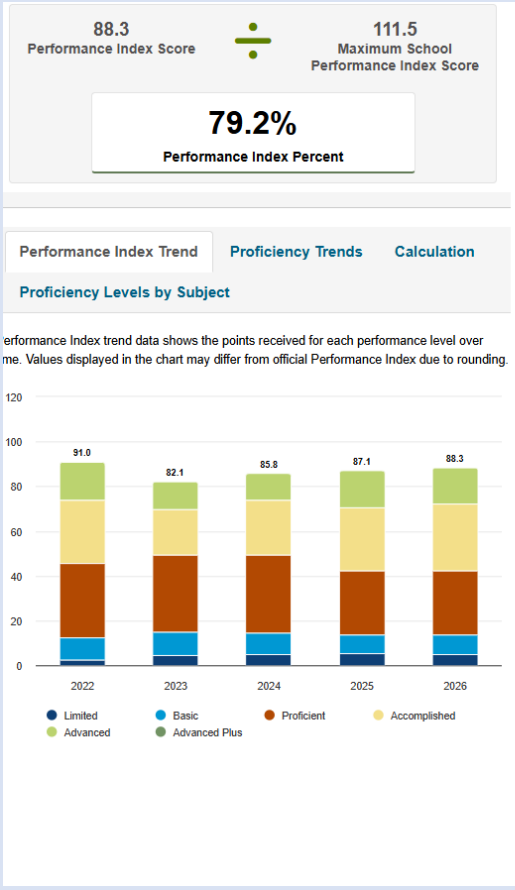
2025-2026 Report Card & State Testing Results

Beacon Hill is proud to have improved scores and growth already in the second year of K-12 programming, moving to a 4-star overall report card rating, as shown below, even with 43% of our students identified as English Learners.

OVERVIEW



ACHIEVEMENT- Student Indicators Met

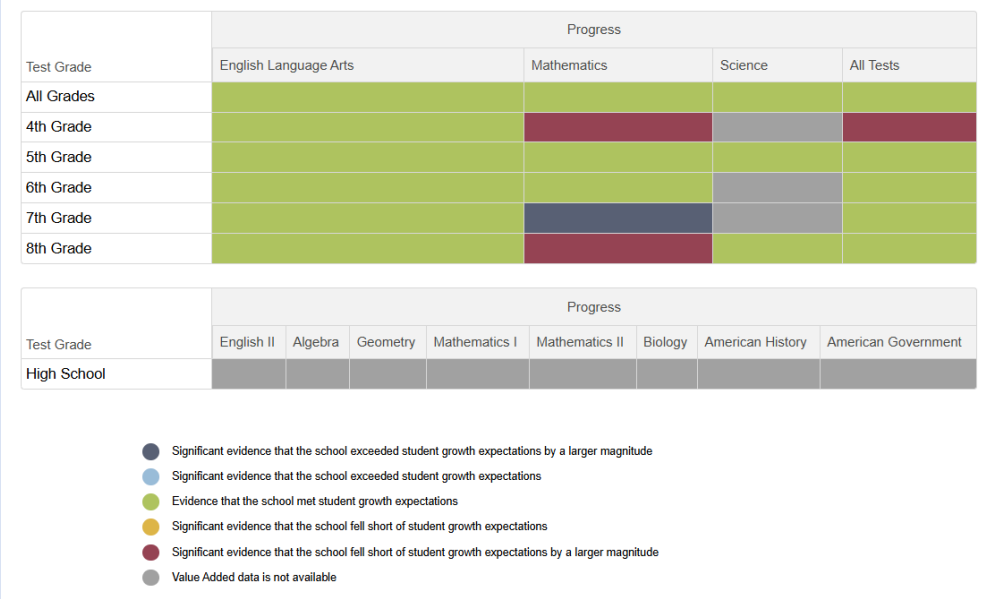


Proficiency by Tested Grade | Comparison by Tested Grade | Trend by Tested Grade | Proficiency by Enrolled Grade

	Tests Proficient	Tests Taken	Percent Proficient
Third Grade			
Third Grade English Language Arts	10	19	52.6%
Third Grade Mathematics	13	19	68.4%
Fourth Grade			
Fourth Grade English Language Arts	8	16	50.0%
Fourth Grade Mathematics	11	16	68.8%
Fifth Grade			
Fifth Grade English Language Arts	14	18	77.8%
Fifth Grade Mathematics	10	18	55.6%
Fifth Grade Science	12	18	66.7%
Sixth Grade			
Sixth Grade English Language Arts	12	15	80.0%
Sixth Grade Mathematics	12	15	80.0%
Seventh Grade			
Seventh Grade English Language Arts	14	23	60.9%
Seventh Grade Mathematics	18	23	78.3%
Eighth Grade			
Eighth Grade English Language Arts	22	30	73.3%
Eighth Grade Mathematics	22	30	73.3%
Eighth Grade Science	20	30	66.7%
High School			
High School Algebra I	< 10	< 10	NC
High School American US History	< 10	< 10	NC
High School English Language Arts II	< 10	< 10	NC
High School Geometry	< 10	< 10	NC

Updated 10-16-26

PROGRESS: Student Growth



Beacon Hill 2025-2026 state test performance can be more holistically understood with comparison to the passage rates across the state of Ohio.

2025-2026 Beacon Hill State Testing Results in Context

3rd Grade Math 2025-2026 State Test

State			120860	717	Percent 25% 13% 17% 20% 25% Count 30.2K 15.3K 20.2K 24.4K 30.8K	62%	**State Passing Rate: 62%**
District			19	725	Percent 5% 26% 11% 32% 26% Count 1 5 2 6 5	68%	**BH Passing Rate: 68%**

3rd Grade ELA 2025-2026 State Test

State			120515	712	Percent 24% 14% 19% 19% 24% Count 28.6K 17.3K 23.2K 23K 28.5K	62%	**State Passing Rate: 62%**
District			19	700	Percent 26% 21% 16% 26% 11% Count 5 4 3 5 2	53%	**BH Passing Rate: 53%**

4th Grade Math 2025-2026 State Test

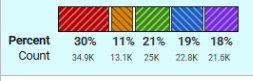
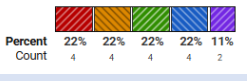
State			124741	726	Percent 23% 9% 16% 23% 28% Count 28.9K 11.6K 20.1K 28.9K 35.3K	68%	**State Passing Rate: 68%**
District			16	715	Percent 19% 13% 13% 44% 13% Count 3 2 2 7 2	69%	**BH Passing Rate: 69%**

4th Grade ELA 2025-2026 State Test

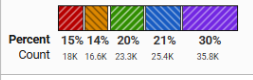
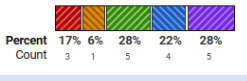
State			125589	712	Percent 23% 15% 20% 20% 23% Count 29.2K 18.3K 24.8K 25K 28.3K	62%	**State Passing Rate: 62%**
District			16	695	Percent 38% 13% 25% 13% 13% Count 6 2 4 2 2	50%	**BH Passing Rate: 50%**

Updated 10-16-26

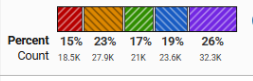
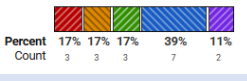
5th Grade Math 2025-2026 State Test

State			117461	710		59%	**State Passing Rate: 59%**
District			18	704		56%	**BH Passing Rate: 56%**

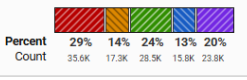
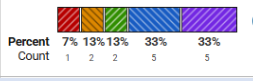
5th Grade ELA 2025-2026 State Test

State			119146	723		71%	**State Passing Rate: 68%**
District			18	725		78%	**BH Passing Rate: 75%**

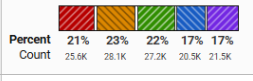
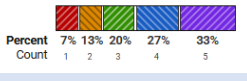
5th Grade Science 2025-2026 State Test

State			123231	718		62%	**State Passing Rate: 62%**
District			18	716		67%	**BH Passing Rate: 67%**

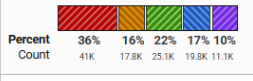
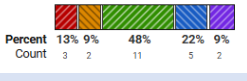
6th Grade Math 2025-2026 State Test

State			120999	705		56%	**State Passing Rate: 56%**
District			15	725		80%	**BH Passing Rate: 80%**

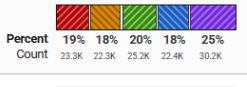
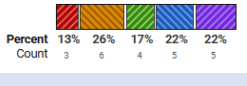
6th Grade ELA 2025-2026 State Test

State			122759	705		56%	**State Passing Rate: 56%**
District			15	724		80%	**BH Passing Rate: 80%**

7th Grade Math 2025-2026 State Test

State			114846	702		49%	**State Passing Rate: 49%**
District			23	715		78%	**BH Passing Rate: 78%**

7th Grade ELA 2025-2026 State Test

State			123386	713		63%	**State Passing Rate: 63%**
District			23	713		61%	**BH Passing Rate: 61%**

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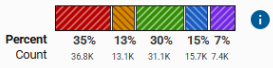
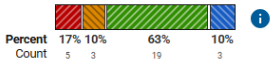
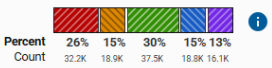
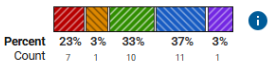
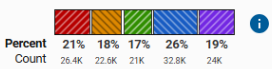
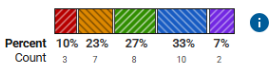
8th Grade Math 2025-2026 State Test

State			103920	702		52%	State Passing Rate: 52%
District			30	707		73%	BH Passing Rate: 73%

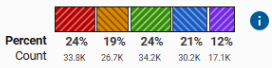
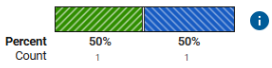
8th Grade ELA 2025-2026 State Test

State			123473	704		59%	State Passing Rate: 59%
District			30	706		73%	BH Passing Rate: 73%

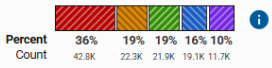
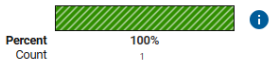
8th Grade Science 2025-2026 State Test

State			126776	717		61%	State Passing Rate: 61%
District			30	712		67%	BH Passing Rate: 67%

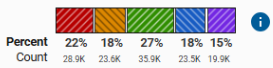
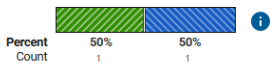
9th Grade Algebra 2025-2026 State Test

State			142052	709		57%	State Passing Rate: 57%
District			2	724		100%	BH Passing Rate: 100%

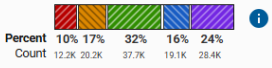
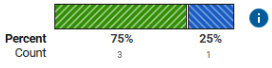
10 Grade (Geometry) 2025-2026 State Test

State			117787	699		45%	State Passing Rate: 45%
District			1	707		100%	BH Passing Rate: 100%

10th Grade ELA 2025-2026 State Test

State			131738	707		60%	State Passing Rate: 60%
District			2	723		100%	BH Passing Rate: 100%

9th & 10th Grade American History 2025-2026 State Test

State			117495	718		72%	State Passing Rate: 72% BH Passing Rate: 100%
District			4	721		100%	

Updated 10-16-26

III. Results Against Performance Standards

Beacon Hill's most recent Performance Standard ratings, as released by the Office of School Sponsorship in November 2025—which reflect the 2024-2025 school year--can be found on the school website; these can be referenced to understand the following reflections on areas of strength and necessary improvement. Ultimately, the school was proud to have achieved ratings of "Exceeds the Standard" and "Meets the Standard" in the majority of the lines of the Performance Standards Rubric. Simultaneously, the Beacon Hill team used this November 2025 feedback to analyze weaknesses, plan for necessary growth, and implement their plan during the 2025-2026 school year. The FY26 report card provides evidence of the fruits of the effort of the Beacon Hill team in these areas.

In reflecting upon the development of K-3 literacy programming (Line 14) after Beacon Hill's first year with these grades, the Performance Standard rubric and Beacon Hill team reflections identified a need for more effective and efficient data collection and analysis, especially within early literacy development. In 2025-2026, Beacon Hill's team explored options and secured a contract with Acadience, piloting in the spring of 2026 and preparing to fully launch use of the program in the 2026-2027 school year.

Additionally, in regards to concerns with absenteeism (line 20), the BH team saw a reduction in general morale of students and families in 2024-2025 with the tumult and reduced organization of the expansion and transition. While this reduction in school efficiency and organization was expected amidst the transition, school leadership recognized the need to expedite improvement in this area and ensure that Beacon Hill is a school building where student wish to be. The team has worked diligently to develop and strengthen the aligned behavioral and academic expectations across each grade band and to develop intentional connection and relationship at both teacher-to-student and student-to-student levels to improve consistency and connection within the school culture; additionally, the team has reflected upon and refined school attendance policies and implementation as well as methods of communication with parents to improve understanding of school routines and processes.

In regards to English Learners and Gap Closing, progress noted in section 2 of this report (including a median Progress growth of 135% for EL students) provides evidence of the strides that Beacon Hill has taken in this area since the release of the November 2025 Performance Standard Framework. The Beacon Hill team has taken serious the OnePlan Goal 3 in developing aligned English language expectations, framework, support, and vocabulary development to support all students. While the school recognizes that 43% of our students were identified as EL in 2025-2026, it also knows that an additional 30% of our 2025-2026 students were previously identified as EL and had tested out by the beginning of the 2025-2026 school year; the school is also aware that the majority of the culturally Amish population continues to dominantly speak Pennsylvania Dutch when not present at school and may not use the English language regularly in their homes and communities. Therefore, 73% of Beacon Hill students have at one point been identified as EL and continue to use English in a limited capacity and are at risk of having vocabulary deficiencies.

For this reason, the school has worked to develop a multi-pronged approach that addressed explicit instruction in vocabulary development that is aligned along grades K-12, launched a independent reading program called Reading is Cool! to motivate students to spend time in the English language (whether through print books or audiobooks) outside of the school day, and heavily promoted the use of public resources such as local libraries and the Libby app in order to increase the number of words that students are exposed to daily. The growth demonstrated on the September 2026 School Report card shows improvement in this area.

IV: Financial Status

The Beacon Hill Academy treasurer was properly licensed and bonded and completed fiscal reporting for FY26 in an accurate manner. The treasurer provided written monthly financial reports to the Governing Authority and the Sponsor of the School. The reports were reviewed and approved by the Governance Board monthly. The annual audit was conducted in February 2026 by the office of the state Auditor and discussed in conjunction with the Office of School Sponsorship with no findings of concern.

The Treasurer promptly prepares and reports all budgets, forecasts, and expenditure reports as directed by state and OSS guidelines and shares monthly with the appropriate parties, including the governing board.

Currently, Beacon Hill is financially stable and does not have financial concerns. Rather, the school is making appropriate improvements to the school and the grounds and is preparing to build additional square footage to support the meaningful Lifeskills programming for which the school is known.

The "Exceeds the Standard" rating in the Fiscal Category provided by OSS in November 2025 can be seen as evidence in the Performance Framework, posted on the school website.

FY26 Annual Report Summary

FY26 Federal Funding Sources

Federal Grant	Total
Food Service	$45,782.92
Title I	$32,949.67
Title II-A	$844.08
Idea-B	$33,129.67
IDEA - Early Childhood	$160.72
Title III ELL	$676.00
Title IV-A	$5,809.56
School Wide Pool	$15,232.25
Rural Small Schools	$10,262.56
Total Funding	***$144,847.43***

FY26 State Funding Sources

Base Funding	$1,412,325.09
Casino Tax	$12,366.96
Facilities Funding	$184,661.42
Disadvantaged Pupils	$5,184.97
Career Tech Education	$14,997.26
English as Second Language	$110,572.18
Student Wellness	$68,866.51
Network Connectivity	$2,058.28
Total Funding	***$1,811,032.67***

Other Funding

DC Trip Fundraisers	$46,239.00
Principal's Fund Receipts	$2,556.00
Lunch Receipts	$30,460.85
Beacon Backers Donations	$244,623.12
Other Donations	$800.00
Interest	$6,381.36
Other Funding	$701.28
Total Funding	***$331,761.61***
Grand Total	$2,287,641.71

V: Sponsor Statement

A message from the Ohio Department of Education, Office of School Sponsorship:

Ohio Revised Code (ORC) 3314.03(C)(2) specifies that the sponsor of the school must "monitor and evaluate the academic and fiscal performance and the organization and operation of the community school on at least an annual basis."

The Ohio Department of Education and Workforce, Office of Ohio School Sponsorship evaluates its sponsored schools on the performance of Ohio School Report Card indicators and on performance measures as listed in the school's community school contract.

The Office of Ohio School Sponsorship monitors the performance of its sponsored community schools through attendance at governing board meetings, on-site visits, and review of compliance surveys, monthly financial reports, and other reports related to the school's academic, financial, and operational performance to ensure compliance with rule and law.