



CHIPP REPORT

WINTER 2026

MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT



Dear Chippewa Community,

If it feels like winter arrived with a little extra enthusiasm this year, you are not alone. The recent stretch of record-setting snow brought us back-to-back-to-back snow days and what many jokingly dubbed “Snowmageddon.” While the snow gave us some unexpected time at home, it also reminded us just how much we rely on one

another when conditions are at their toughest.

I want to begin by saying thank you. During this winter weather, our transportation team, maintenance crew, custodians, village, township, and county crews, administrators, and staff worked tirelessly behind the scenes. Families were flexible, patient, and supportive, and our community once again showed what it means to pull together. Even when Mother Nature has other plans, Chippewa rises to the challenge.

Looking ahead, I am excited to continue finding new ways to connect with our community. One opportunity is “Tim Time” coffee chats. These informal gatherings will give families, staff, and community members a chance to stop by, ask questions, share ideas, and talk about what is happening across the district. More dates and locations will be shared soon, so please be on the

lookout. I look forward to these conversations and the chance to listen and learn together.

Beyond these highlights, there is so much positive momentum across our district. From classrooms to construction projects and student achievements to staff dedication, good things are happening every day. Our students continue to impress us, our staff continues to go above and beyond, and our community continues to show unwavering support.

As you read on, you will find more information about the bus safety grant we were recently awarded, updates on new kindergarten enrollment laws, as well as a fun look at progress on the CIS construction project. There is a lot to celebrate and even more to look forward to.

Thank you for your continued partnership, trust, and support of Chippewa Local Schools. Together, we are navigating winter weather, embracing opportunities, and working every day to support our students and their futures.

Stay warm, and as always, GO CHIPPS!

Tim Adams
Superintendent

Progress You Can See

Our newest addition is taking shape, with bright kindergarten windows installed and ready. Ceilings are now fireproofed for safety, and construction is underway on a new restroom designed specifically

for students with multiple disabilities. Every detail brings us one step closer to creating a space where every Chipp can thrive.



From the Treasurer's Chair



Our Schools, Our Community: Understanding Ohio's New Property Tax Changes

Chippewa Local Schools remains committed to providing students with strong educational opportunities while carefully managing public funds. The Treasurer's Office works closely with district leadership to support staff, maintain programs and plan responsibly for the future.

As Ohio introduces major changes to property tax laws, residents may wonder how these updates could affect school funding and our district.

How Schools Are Funded

School funding is a partnership between the state and local communities. Chippewa's revenue comes from four main sources:

- Local property taxes: 41.7%
- State funding: 31.6%
- Local income tax: 16.2%
- Federal grants: 5.7%

Over time, the state's share of funding has declined, placing increased reliance on local taxpayers. As a result, local funding now carries a larger portion of the responsibility.

Why Property Taxes May Feel Higher

Homeowners are carrying a greater share of school funding than in the past. Statewide, homeowners paid about 46% of school property taxes in 1991. Today, that figure is nearly 68%, largely due to statewide funding decisions that shifted more responsibility to property owners.

Recent increases in property values have also added to concerns. During Wayne County's 2023 reappraisal, residential values within

the Chippewa district rose approximately 38.6%.

New Property Tax Laws

Reforms passed in late 2025 will first appear on July 2026 tax bills. Two laws directly affect school funding:

- **House Bill 186:** Limits school property tax growth by tying increases to inflation and, for districts on the 20-mill floor like Chippewa, increases credits provided to homeowners.
- **House Bill 335:** Requires counties to reduce certain inside millage when property values rise faster than inflation.

These changes are intended to provide taxpayer relief but are projected to reduce property tax revenue for our district.

Looking Ahead

The new laws create financial challenges. While the state funding formula assumes districts will rely more on local revenue, these reforms restrict that growth. At the same time, school operating costs continue to rise, particularly staffing costs, which account for roughly two-thirds of school spending statewide.

Chippewa Local Schools remains committed to:

- Responsible budgeting
- Transparency with the community
- Long-term financial stability

Through careful planning and responsible financial decisions, the district is preparing for future uncertainty while keeping students at the center of every decision.

Our priority remains unchanged: providing a high-quality education while honoring the trust and investment of our taxpayers.

Ken Gasser
Incoming Treasurer

Marshall Named All-American

Give it up for Delaney Marshall, who has earned All-American honors from the United Soccer Coaches Association after a phenomenal season on the field. Her determination, leadership, and standout play lifted the Lady Chipps and caught national attention. This incredible honor reflects both her individual talent and the strength of Chippewa athletics. Congratulations, Delaney, and thank you for making Chippewa proud!



Robotics Team Takes Top Honors

Chippewa students, led by Mrs. Kick, wowed the competition with a stellar robotics performance, earning 1st through 4th place overall out of 30 entries. Their success showcased sharp problem-solving, precise technical skills, and impressive teamwork. It was a powerful display of innovation and collaboration that put Chippewa robotics in a league of its own.



CIS Spelling Stars Shine Bright

Fifteen brave fifth- and sixth-graders took the spotlight in December for the CIS Spelling Bee, and they did an incredible job under pressure. After a fierce competition, sixth grader Liahna claimed first place, with Kaiden earning second and Addalyn rounding out the top three. We're proud of all our participants for showing focus, confidence, and spelling savvy! What a buzzworthy event!



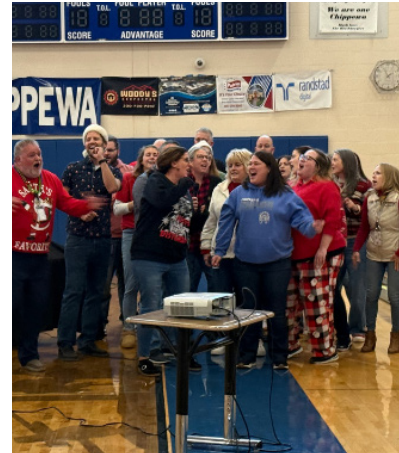
Learning from Learners

Chippewa teachers took a deep dive into student-led learning during recent professional development sessions. Focusing on strategies like extended wait time, student-led questioning, and accountable talk, educators explored new ways to elevate student voice and ownership in the classroom. It's all part of our commitment to keeping instruction dynamic, responsive, and empowering for every learner.



Holiday Cheer Hits a High Note

The entire Chippewa student body and staff packed the Serpentine Fieldhouse for a schoolwide pep rally bursting with holiday spirit. With festive karaoke, big laughs, and community pride, the event brought energy and joy to the season. It was a celebration of tradition, togetherness, and what makes being a Chipp so special.



Holiday Harmonies

Our band and choir students filled the season with music, sharing festive performances that showcased months of dedication and growth. Under the direction of Mr. Hann and Mrs. Knight, each group took the stage with pride, delivering joyful sounds that brought the audience to their feet. It was a celebration of talent, teamwork, and holiday cheer!



Kindness Club Brings Joy

The CIS Kindness Club launched the new year with a burst of positivity, transforming lockers into surprise moments of encouragement with handwritten notes designed to uplift and inspire. From happy smiles to boosted confidence, these thoughtful messages spread contagious joy while setting the tone for a year filled with kindness and connection.



Chippewa Local School District


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STAY CONNECTED!

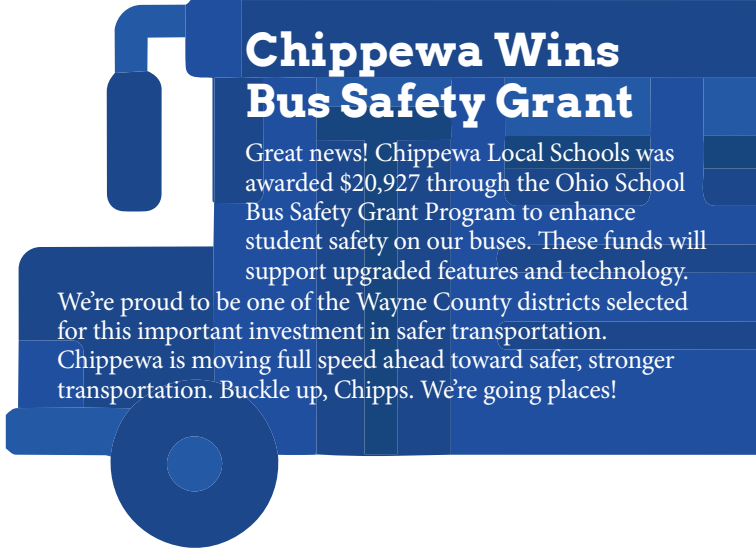
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Standing Ovation for the Stage

Chippewa's performing arts students brought the house down with their hilarious, high-energy production of Puffs. Filled with sharp wit, big laughs, and unforgettable characters, the show highlighted student creativity, collaboration, along with confident stage presence. The audience was all smiles as the cast delivered a performance worthy of a standing ovation in addition to a spot in Chippewa theater history.

Chippewa Wins Bus Safety Grant

Great news! Chippewa Local Schools was awarded \$20,927 through the Ohio School Bus Safety Grant Program to enhance student safety on our buses. These funds will support upgraded features and technology.

We're proud to be one of the Wayne County districts selected for this important investment in safer transportation. Chippewa is moving full speed ahead toward safer, stronger transportation. Buckle up, Chippis. We're going places!



Countdown to Kindergarten!

Great news, families! A new Ohio law means kids who turn five by the first day of school can now start kindergarten. Registration and early screening are online, quick and easy to find at Chippewaschools.org. For questions, call (330) 658-2522 or email Mrs. Jamie Zollinger at Jamie.Zollinger@chippewaschools.com.