Email/letter to business and community leaders

To: Local Business Leaders/Partners

Subject: Support <DISTRICT>: Bring State Tax Dollars Home

Thank you for your support of <DISTRICT>. We are grateful to have a strong local community that values education, our students and our staff.

It was monumental when the state legislature implemented a new school funding formula, the Fair School Funding Plan, into law. For decades, school funding has been inadequate, inequitable and overly reliant on local support through property and income taxes. This plan addresses those issues, but only when fully funded.

As you know, every dollar invested in our local schools impacts our local economy and your future workforce. Once fully implemented, the Fair School Funding Plan [will bring an additional OR provide at least] $<INSERT DOLLAR AMOUNT> annually in state funding to <DISTRICT>. This will create predictability and stability for our community when making decisions about what our local schools provide for our students to prepare them for future success.

However, due to current the phase-in, we are receiving only 1/3 of that amount from the state. Ohio is in a great financial position to fully fund the remaining amount in the next biennial budget. State tax revenues for fiscal year (FY) 2022 finished $2.7 billion above the state’s original estimates. The Office of Budget and Management (OBM) has increased the state’s revenue estimates for FY 2023 by $1.65 billion (6.3%). Additionally, legislators have maxed out the state’s rainy day fund at $2.7 billion which remains untapped. This means that the state’s average annual $400 million annual contribution will have to be invested somewhere else for the next two years.

I have already met with our state legislators to share our district’s support for the Fair School Funding Plan, the need to fully fund the formula, and the impact full funding will make locally for our students. You can join in supporting this legislation by also reaching out to State Senator <NAME> at <EMAIL ADDRESS> and Representative <NAME> at <EMAIL ADDRESS> to share your support for fully funding the formula.

I’m also attaching some facts about the plan to this email. I will be in touch soon to answer any questions you may have. Fully funding this formula has the potential to change the future of our district and Ohio’s education system. It is important for our legislators to hear from everyone in our community about the stability that a fully funded formula will provide.

Thank you for your ongoing support of our local schools.

Sincerely,

<SIGNATURE>