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Kendra Williams, ETHS Chief Financial Officer

ETHS Digest: Popular Annual Financial Report (PAFR)

District 202—a snapshot of the district's finances for the prior year, as well as general information that highlights student achievement, academic initiatives, partnerships,

The selected financial information is taken from statements found in our audited Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR) for the last fiscal year, a detailed report prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP). The PAFR, however, is unaudited and summarizes, in an accessible manner, the financial data reported in the ACFR.

10th consecutive year, Officers Association of the United States and Canada, which reviews this publication, *ETHS Digest* an Award for Outstanding Achievement in

Popular Annual Financial Reporting, a prestigious national award recognizing

standards for preparation of state and

a government unit must publish a PAFR whose contents conform to program standards of creativity, presentation, understandability, and reader appeal. We believe *ETHS Digest*, which reflects the fiscal year, continues to conform to those standards.

The ETHS administration and school board firmly believe in public scrutiny and transparency of the district finances. Full copies of the district's financial documents, including the ACFR that contains detailed financial information, are v c c



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Students and faculty

2021-22

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- Student ethnic distribution: Am. Indian–0.3%, Asian–5.5%, Black/African American–24.6%, Hispanic-Latino–20.1%, Native Hawaiian–0.2%, Two or more races–4.2%, White–45.2%
- Low-income enrollment – 33% (2019-20)
- Number of certified teachers – 274 (77%)
- 4-yr. graduation rate – 93% (2020)
- 5-yr. graduation rate — 94% (2019)
- College attendance rate – 83% (Class of 2019)

ETHS class of 2021 profile

- 15 National Merit Semifinalists, 4 Commended



2021-22

2021-22 was a challenging year financially for many school districts, including ETHS. Not only did the state continue to implement its new Evidence Based Funding program, which leaves ETHS's state-aid funding flat with no expected in

crease, worldwide distribution problems, labor shortages, war in Ukraine, inflation, and the risk of a recession caused all

In addition, other major financial threats to the district remain on the horizon. The state is still considering a property tax freeze to assist taxpayers seeking financial help due to COVID's impact on the economy and their lives. A lingering financial threat from the state is the potential pension reform issue, which would shift normal pension costs for certified staff to local districts, and could amount to over \$2 million in new costs annually for ETHS. In addition, tax-caps

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federal sources. The operating budget includes the Education (General), Operations and Maintenance, Transportation Funds, and Working Cash Funds, as referenced in the district's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report. The district's operating budget makes up 87% of all revenues well as 89% of all expenditures. The funds excluded from the operating budget are the Municipal Retirement, Debt Service, Capital Projects, and Fire Prevention Funds. The operating revenue budget of \$114 million was up 15% over the previous year. Increased revenues come from small increases in the Consumer Price Index and also from new property

Property taxes and other taxes, at 71.1%, continue to be the

Property Taxes.

eral entities, including District 202. ETHS's portion of the total property tax bill is just over 25%. This percentage has remained constant or slightly reduced over the past five years. For FY 22, property taxes represented 69% of the total ETHS operating revenue. In addition, property taxes pay for the Bond and Interest Fund, which covers annual debt service on outstanding bonds, and the Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund, which pays retirement benefits for non-certified staff. The Operations & Maintenance Fund and Transportation Fund are also partially supported by property taxes.

growth of taxes to 5% or the Illinois Consumer Price Index, whichever is lower. The district fiscal year straddles the current and previous years' levies (2.3% for 2020, 1.4% for

of these rates. Property taxes for the operating funds were \$78.9 million for FY 22.

Corporate Personal Property Replacement Taxes (CPRT) are part of the state income taxes and generally reflect the state of the Illinois economy. The CPRT goes into the Education, Operations-Maintenance, and IMRF funds. District 202 received \$6.3 million for FY 22.

Other Local Revenues come from tuition, interest on investments, food-service income, student fees, Tax Increment

\$3.8 million in FY 22 in Other Local Revenues, approximately 81% higher than FY 21. The amount budgeted for other

Evidence Based Funding

General State Aid

egorical aid payments. This revenue source remained flat for FY 22 at just under \$3 million. Future declines are highly

State Categorical Aid is aimed at specific needs and pro

The operating expenditure budget proposed for District 202 is \$86 million. This includes all the operating funds—Education, Operations and Maintenance, Transportation, and Working Cash funds. This represents a 7.9% increase over FY 21. For the operating funds, salaries and benefits continue to dominate the costs. Salaries represent 68% of the budget and fringe benefits are at 8.2%—therefore, approximately 76% of the budget is personnel cost-related.

Salaries are mainly determined by negotiated contracts with the six labor unions in District 202. Actual salaries amounted to approximately \$59 million, up 5.8% over FY 21.

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For the 14th year, the Association of School Business Officials International awarded ETHS its Certificate of Excellence in Financial Reporting award for its FY 21 *Annual Comprehensive Financial Report* fewer than 10% of Illinois school districts.

Also for the 14th year, the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) awarded ETHS their Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for having met

or exceeded the program's high standards for financial reporting and accountability. Fewer than 5% of Illinois schools

ETHS has maintained its Moody's Aaa bond rating since 2008. This highest possible rating allows the District to bor



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In April 2022, *U.S. News & World Report* released its “Best High Schools” rankings for 2022, placing ETHS at 41 in Illinois and 955 in the nation. Overall, ETHS received a score of 94.65 out of 100 on the national rankings scorecard.

U.S. News
schools, out of a review of nearly 24,000 in all 50 states
According to the *U.S. News*

country include a mix of traditional, charter and magnet

tations; participated in and passed a variety of college-level exams; and graduated in high proportions.

this year’s ranking: Took at least 1 AP exam (63%). Passed at least 1 AP exam (48%), Math proficiency (50%), Reading proficiency (53%), Science proficiency (47%), Graduation

On April 21, the ETHS

The last two years have been difficult for families and students that have targeted young Black males and have taken

In response, ETHS staff and alumni created a non-profit organization in February 2021 to serve Evanston youth and their families that have fallen victim to systemic racism,



ETHS's Geometry in Construction (GIC) program was honored in June

Award for its extraordinary contributions to affordable housing in Evanston by Community Partners for Affordable Housing (CPAH).

with CPAH and the City of Evanston to build multiple homes for low-to-moderate income families. GIS provides

construction of a single-family home. The course is offered for both regular and honors credit. In addition to the

perience in home design, floor and wall construction, roofing, sheathing, siding, window installation, painting and trim work.

Rob Anthony (far left), CPAH President, and Amy Rosenfeld Kaufman (far right), CPAH Director of Development and Community Relations, congratulate ETHS staff members (L to Rt.) Matthew Kaiser, Shelley Gates, Eric Witherspoon, Kendra Williams, and Dale Leibforth on receiving a community partner award.

Since 2009, ETHS has daily served students and staff about two school-owned lots, dubbed Edible Acre 1 and 2, at



The ETHS Foundation is the development department for ETHS. In partnership with District 202 and the Alumni