



Thinking Outside the Box



I have been fortunate to work with you in our Beech Grove Schools since 2001. The last 11 years, I have worked as the Chief Financial Officer of the School District. Like you and many of our Beech Grove families, I want to make sure that every dollar is used as effectively and efficiently as possible. That's why we remain focused on expenditure efficiencies and lowering the cost of operating our programs - while still providing quality educational opportunities to the 3,000 students who attend our schools 180 days each year.

Here's what we have done to use your tax dollars to make a major and positive difference in our community:

- ▶ Working with our outstanding teaching staff, we established new standards in accountability and expectations to benefit our students and their families.
- ▶ To better prepare our teaching staff for the school year, we expanded our teacher and staff training programs.
- ▶ We participate in the Hoosier School Benefit Trust (HSBT) which has saved taxpayers millions of dollars by reducing healthcare costs. This has resulted in saving your tax dollars and reducing employee absences due to health issues.
- ▶ We saved \$150,000 by making changes to the staffs of our Custodial Department.
- ▶ We saved \$250,000 by hiring a new vendor for our Food Services. Note that we serve 3,971 meals to our students each day.
- ▶ Our new food vendor paid for renovations to food service areas, which saved us the costs of renovations to the facility.
- ▶ We made energy efficient upgrades in all gyms; reduced heating and air conditioning costs in all buildings; made upgrades and improvements to all roofs and made sure that they were under long-term warranties; and made energy efficient upgrades to all windows and doors.
- ▶ By using new technologies, we saved time on enrollments for health insurance for our employees; provided current resource information to our teachers; saved staff time by doing New Teacher Orientation online; made the payroll process simpler and more efficient; generated personnel reports in a more timely manner; provided you and other residents with complete information about our School Board agenda and meetings; and used new systems to provide parents with information about their child's progress in the classroom.
- ▶ To reduce insurance liability and save the costs for insurance, we made several changes in our buildings and with School policies.
- ▶ We conducted Safeschools.com trainings and adjusted work hours during Summer months to save on energy costs.
- ▶ We always DIY (Do It Yourself) when it comes to facilities maintenance. That's why we plow the snow, make parking lot improvements, fix potholes, and fix all minor maintenance problems ourselves.

All these efforts have resulted in saving your tax dollars. We will continue working every day to find the best cost-savings possible. Our employees remain committed to making a difference by also providing innovative ideas to save money.



@BeechGroveCS



Beech Grove City Schools

5334 Hornet Avenue
Beech Grove, IN 46107
www.bgcs.k12.in.us



@BeechGroveCitySchools

Beech Grove City Schools has worked very diligently and with a laser focus to make reductions in the budget over the last three years.

We have reduced staff and implemented efficiency to provide the opportunity to balance our budget while not eliminating any core classroom teachers.

Below are the efficiencies and reductions that have been made over the last three years by Beech Grove City Schools:

District Level Administration:	\$380,000
Building Level Administration:	\$200,000
Building Level Staff Changes:	\$220,000
Federal and State Programs:	\$430,000
Transportation Administration:	\$50,000
Total Budget Efficiency:	\$1,280,000

Despite all these positive efforts, reductions in State funding has cost our District over \$3 Million dollars annually, since 2009. That means less funds to support teachers and students; increased student safety needs without funding; buses that need to be replaced; and facilities that still need upgrades. **Please remember that the State of Indiana does not provide any funding for renovations and/or new construction of school facilities for Beech Grove.**

I hope that you will continue to learn more about the future needs in our Beech Grove Schools. We owe it to you and other taxpayers to use your tax dollars to provide quality educational opportunities for our students so that they will be prepared for the educational, employment and public service challenges of the future. If you ever need information about our Beech Grove School finances, please feel free to call me at 317-788-4481 or email me at tkeeley@bgcs.k12.in.us.

Thank you so much for your investment in our Beech Grove City Schools.

Dr. Tom Keeley

Assistant Superintendent



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