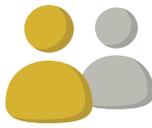# Audit Highlights

Van Buren Local School District was chosen for a performance audit based on the projected deficit fund balances on the November 2019 Five Year Forecast. The Ohio Performance Team provided this audit at no cost to the District in order to identify opportunities for reduced expenditures and increased operational performance.

## GENERAL AUDIT FINDINGS

» The District's May 2020 Five Year Forecast showed an improved financial condition due to projected reductions in staffing over the course of the forecast period.

» The District recently passed a new income tax which will generate approximately $2.6 million in new revenue in FY2023.

» Compensation for staffing within the District is comparable to local peer averages.

## TIER 1
### RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on peer performance and best practices, can be implemented at any time.

» The District could reduce staffing based on peer averages and eliminate 8.0 general education positions to save more than $500,000 annually.

» If the District reduces the General Fund subsidy for extracurricular activities to be in line with local peers, it could save approximately $122,000 annually.

## TIER 2
### RECOMMENDATIONS

Additional considerations beyond peer performance and best practices that are subject to future negotiations, if warranted by declining financial condition.

» If the District stops paying the employee portion of retirement contributions for central office administrators, it would save approximately $138,200 annually.

» The District could implement a salary base and step freeze for all employees in order to save $267,400 annually.

## TIER 3
### RECOMMENDATIONS

Further cuts that would be possible, only if the financial condition declines, but could significantly impact operations.

» The District could eliminate additional staffing (which may bring salaries below peer averages) in order to reduce expenditures including:

- 10.0 additional general education teachers;
- 1.0 building secretary position; and,
- 1.0 building principal position.

Efficient  •  Effective  •  Transparent