OHIO SCHOOLS FOR *Balanced* PROPERTY TAX REFORM

It's time for statewide reform on the way schools are funded.

PROPERTY TAXES ARE HIGHER THAN EVER

Ohio now **45th** in the nation in state funding for public schools.

In 1991, homeowners and farmers paid **47%** of school property taxes.

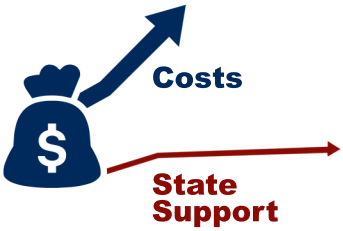


Today, they pay nearly **70%**

WHY? Tax policy shifts have reduced or eliminated business and utility contributions, while declining state revenue has slowed school funding. **The result:** *homeowners and farmers are carrying a greater share than ever before.*

SCHOOLS ARE DOING MORE WITH LESS

The cost of running schools goes up every year, but the state's support hasn't kept up.



In **22** years state school funding has grown less than **1%** a year when adjusted for inflation.

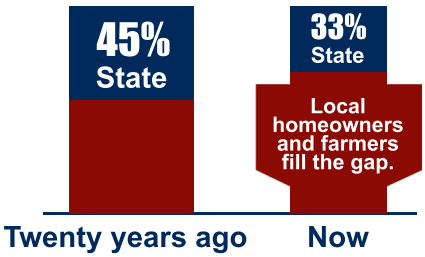
Schools are being asked to do more with the same money.

Schools have:

- → Consolidated. There are 75% fewer districts than a century ago.
- → Shared Services.
- → Delayed Facility Updates/Maintenance.
- → Increased Safety and Security Measures.
- → Delivered Quality Results and Accountability.

OHIO IS OUT OF BALANCE

The state has shifted the cost of education directly onto homeowners.



Strong schools are the foundation of strong communities, but the funding system weakens both.

WHAT YOU CAN DO:

- ✓ Talk to your legislators. Tell them balanced reform is needed.
- ✓ Share these facts with neighbors and community members.
- ✓ Ask: What would losing teachers, programs, or services mean in our community?
- ✓ **Tell your local story.**