

# QUALITY PROFILE

2020

SYCAMORE
COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
*Our students. Our future.*

# FAST FACTS

**5,421**
Current enrollment

Students come from
**55**
countries, speaking
**30**
languages

**12.3%**
Qualify for free and reduced

**549**
Certified staff
**314**
Classified staff

# NAVIGATING COVID-19

In March 2020, Sycamore Community Schools moved to remote learning for the remainder of the school year as ordered by the state of Ohio. In September 2020, we welcomed our students back to school by giving families a choice between full-time face-to-face instruction or virtual classroom learning taught by Sycamore teachers with Sycamore curriculum.

Our 2020 Healthy Aves Plan includes strict facial covering policies, social distancing of 3-6 feet, frequent handwashing, and daily temperature assessments.



Face-to-face Enrollment



Virtual Classroom Learning

**September 3-December 31, 2020:**

**237***
COVID-19+ cases

**1414**
Quarantined due to close contacts

*We continue to see no definitive evidence of in-school transmission.

# HIGH FLYING AVIATORS

## 2021 Best Schools by Niche Report

**#4**
Best School Districts in Cincinnati

**#11**
Best School Districts in Ohio

**#133**
Best School Districts in America

**#11**
Best Public High Schools in Ohio

**Sycamore Community Schools Preschool Program given Step Up to Quality's 5 Star Award**

**Greater Cincinnati's Top 25 Elementary Schools by Cincinnati Business Journal**

**#9**
Maple Dale Elementary

**#10**
Montgomery Elementary

**#11**
Symmes Elementary

**#16**
Blue Ash Elementary

## 2020 Best High Schools by US News & World Report

**#28**
in Ohio High Schools

**95.25/100**
Overall Score

### Class of 2020

**14**
National Merit Finalists

**16**
National Merit Commended Scholars

**24**
Composite ACT Score

**74%**
of graduates attended college this Fall

### Class of 2021

**22**
National Merit Finalists

**12**
National Merit Commended Scholars

**25.2**
Composite ACT score

**OUT-OF-THIS-WORLD MOMENT:**
**Sycamore elementary students had the opportunity to chat with an astronaut onboard the International Space Station during radio contact on Feb. 20, 2020**

TOP WORK PLACES 2020

Sycamore Schools awarded 2020 Top Workplaces by the Cincinnati Enquirer

# PILOTING CHANGE

## Raising mental health awareness

- Sycamore Schools continue to provide better access to mental health services for students. All seven Sycamore schools have been staffed with school-based therapists since 2019. Cincinnati Children's Hospital and Medical Center (CCHMC) provides these on-site independently licensed therapists at no cost to the district to confidentially serve students with mental health needs.
- Sycamore Community Schools has partnered with 1N5, a local nonprofit organization, to provide mental health training and programming for students and staff.
- Our #SpeakUpAVES student group continues to raise awareness through marketing campaigns, participation in the 1N5 Warrior Run, and by publishing "Our Voices", a student-written newsletter for students about mental health.
- Sycamore Community Schools and CCHMC recently were awarded funding from Governor DeWine's K-12 Prevention Education Initiative. This one-time grant was awarded to schools through their mental health partners in 11 districts in Hamilton County to develop sustainable evidence-based mental health programming.
- As a part of House Bill 166, Sycamore Schools received $24,239.30. This funding was allocated to provide training and programming to support mental health education including suicide prevention training and programming, trauma-informed training for staff, and crisis prevention training for staff.



## COMMUNITY SHOUT OUT

Thank you to Diverse Books for Sycamore for raising $11,000 this summer to buy books featuring diverse characters for our K-6 classrooms.

## SYCAMORE SCHOOLS STANDS AGAINST RACISM

Since 2016, Sycamore Community Schools has made culturally responsive practices one of our top priorities to ensure all learners and families feel welcome, safe, valued, and heard. Our work began with training our staff on implicit bias, privilege, poverty, and equity literacy, utilizing some of the best culturally responsive resources in Greater Cincinnati and the country. The 2019-2020 school year focused on Teaching Tolerance's Speak Up Strategies at School, which helps guide students and staff on how to respond when someone—a student, a colleague, even a parent—uses biased language or stereotypes in school. Our team has been working to develop the first-of-its-kind equity study that will be rolled out in 2021. In June 2020, we took an additional stand against racism by joining a student-led March for Justice event.

# LAUNCHING OUR FUTURE

Sycamore Community Schools has completed the year-long design phase of our $127.5 million Master Facility Plan. Please look for additional information in the mail about the design plans for a new E.H. Greene Intermediate, Sycamore Junior High School, as well as designs for renovations at Symmes Elementary and Sycamore High School.

