



# JOSH MANDEL

## STATE TREASURER OF OHIO

### DAYTON

— Ohio Treasurer Josh Mandel stood today with Dayton Public School officials and announced a partnership between the Ohio Treasurer’s office and the largest school district in Southwest Ohio to place their spending online at OhioCheckbook.com. Last year, Treasurer Mandel launched OhioCheckbook.com, which sets a new national standard for government transparency and for the first time in Ohio history puts all state spending information on the internet. OhioCheckbook.com recently earned Ohio the number one ranking in the country for government transparency.

### Treasurer

Mandel was joined at today’s announcement by Dayton Public Schools Superintendent Lori L. Ward and Board of Education Members Dr. Robert C. Walker, Dr. Adil Baguirov, Nancy A. Nerny, Hazel Rountree, Shelia Taylor, Ronald C. Lee and Joe Lacey. Dayton Public Schools is the first entity in Montgomery County to partner with OhioCheckbook.com. Dayton Public Schools is also the fourth school district in Ohio and second and largest school district in Southwest Ohio to announce a partnership with the Treasurer’s office to place their spending online.

### On

April 7th, Treasurer Mandel sent a letter to 18,062 local government and school officials representing 3,962 local governments throughout the state calling on them to place their checkbook level data on OhioCheckbook.com and extending an invitation to partner with his office at no cost to local governments. These local governments include cities, counties, townships, schools, library districts and other special districts.

“I

believe the people of Dayton have a right to know how their tax money is being spent and I applaud local leaders here for partnering with the Treasurer’s office to post their finances on OhioCheckbook.com,” said Treasurer Mandel. “My vision is to create an army of citizen watchdogs who are empowered to hold public officials accountable.”



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"We as a board and a district are always embracing best practices in every aspect of our governance and administration," said Dayton Board of Education President Dr. Robert Walker. "We believe being a part of OhioCheckbook.com is another opportunity for us to increase our financial transparency, and will create additional value to our already-strong financial picture."

"Our voters and taxpayers will be pleased to find Dayton Public Schools raises fiscal accountability and transparency to the highest level not only in Ohio, but in the entire nation," said Dayton Board of Education Member Dr. Adil Baguirov. "DPS became one of the very first big urban districts to set this new bar of excellence, and members of this board will continue the path to modernization and transformation of the school district."

A large coalition of statewide and local government organizations have expressed support for OhioCheckbook.com and local government transparency, including:

Ohio Municipal  
League  
Ohio Township  
Association  
Ohio Association  
of School Business Officials  
Buckeye  
Association of School Administrators  
County  
Commissioner Association of Ohio  
County Auditor  
Association of Ohio  
Ohio Newspaper  
Association  
Ohio Society of  
CPAs

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Buckeye  
Institute  
Common Cause  
Ohio

OhioCheckbook.com was launched on December 2, 2014, marking the first time in Ohio history when citizens could actually see every expenditure in state government. Since its launch, OhioCheckbook.com has received overwhelming support from newspapers and groups across the state and, as of June 12, 2015, there have been more than 235,000 total searches on the site.

OhioCheckbook.com displays more than \$408 billion in spending over the past seven years, including more than 112 million transactions. The website includes cutting-edge features such as:

- “Google-style” contextual search capabilities, to allow users to sort by keyword, department, category or vendor;
- Fully dynamic interactive charts to drill down on state spending;
- Functionality to compare state spending year-over-year or among agencies; and,
- Capability to share charts or checks with social media networks, and direct contact for agency fiscal offices.

In March, the U.S. Public Interest Research Group (U.S. PIRG) released their annual “Following the Money 2015” report and Treasurer Mandel earned Ohio the number one transparency ranking in the country for providing online access to government spending data. Ohio was prominently featured in the report after climbing from 46th to 1st in spending transparency as a result of Treasurer Mandel’s release of OhioCheckbook.com. Due to the launch of OhioCheckbook.com, Ohio received a perfect score

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of 100 points this year &ndash; the highest score in the history of the U.S. PIRG transparency rankings.

The Treasurer's office is partnering with OpenGov, a leading Silicon Valley government technology company, to provide residents of Ohio the ability to view and search local government expenditures in a user-friendly, digital format. "Ohio is setting the standard for financial transparency on an unprecedented scale. We are excited to partner with the Treasurer's office to bring world-class technology to communities large and small across the state," said Zachary Bookman, CEO of OpenGov.

For more information visit [OhioCheckbook.com](http://OhioCheckbook.com).

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