

BIG WALNUT LOCAL SCHOOLS
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OCTOBER 2021

Our mission is to inspire and guide each student to his or her maximum potential.



BIG WALNUT LOCAL SCHOOLS

The Eagle Examiner

A MESSAGE FROM SUPERINTENDENT ANGIE HAMBERG



If you are not aware, three of our five Board of Education seats are up on this November’s ballot. As this is the majority of the Board, I would encourage you to thoroughly research the six candidates running for these seats, and be sure to vote in the election on November 2.

Recently, the Big Walnut Civic Association, in conjunction with The Community Library and the Delaware Area Career Center’s Digital Design students, created videos for our community members to learn more about the six candidates. You can find the videos on their website, bigwalnutcivicassociation.com. (Scan the QR code to view the videos.)

Typically, when the District has a levy on the ballot for operating funds or a bond issue for construction, we may see negative statements and misinformation being shared online about the District. I have never, however, seen this during a Board of Education race before. Regardless of who the candidate is, please do not assume that everything you read about our district on Facebook or in campaign literature is accurate. For example, we do not, nor do we plan to, teach Critical Race Theory (CRT), a college-level curriculum, in our schools. Quite frankly, I had to Google it last winter when we first started getting emails and calls on it. We do teach students about different cultures and to be respectful of people from all backgrounds. Creating a safe, welcoming environment for all students continues to be a priority.



Another claim being made is that the District has wasteful spending, and we are not transparent. We take great pride in stretching our tax dollars as far as possible to provide our growing student population with a great educational experience. Please see Treasurer Jeremy Buskirk’s article on page 5 to learn more about what financial information we share on our website. Jeremy is a very kind, approachable person, so I would encourage you to reach out to him if you have any questions about our finances.

Thank you in advance for taking the time to learn more about each candidate and making an informed decision on November 2.



PLEASE REMEMBER TO VOTE
ON ELECTION DAY November 2

MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD PRESIDENT

Brad Schneider

Today's message is going to be a bit of a rerun if you follow this space regularly, but I think it is an important message to repeat.

We have an amazing group of staff members who serve our students and community.

For nearly 20 months they have been continuously adapting in every fashion imaginable to be a steady, guiding force for growth and development for our children.

They have been leaders, supporters, drivers, and catalysts during a chaotic time, where we have all struggled to stay positive, focused, and dedicated.

They have inspired the accomplishments of our students



Doug Crowl, Vice President Liana Lee, President Brad Schneider, Sherri Dorsch, Stephen P. Fujii

when the environment around them has never been more challenging for students or educators.

They have helped our students feel safe and comfortable when many aspects of our society are conspiring to make people feel uncomfortable and threatened.

When many things have occurred that have been designed to challenge people in positions of authority, they have not wavered in their personal relationships with our students that continue to produce mutual respect, regardless of their personal feelings at any particular time.

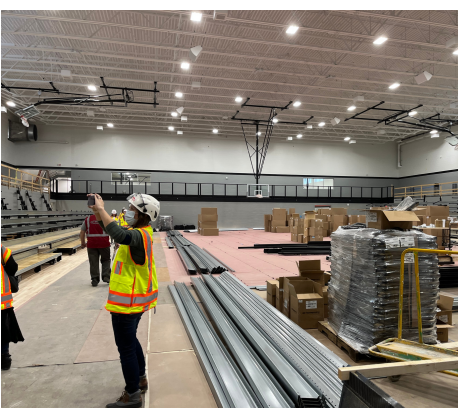
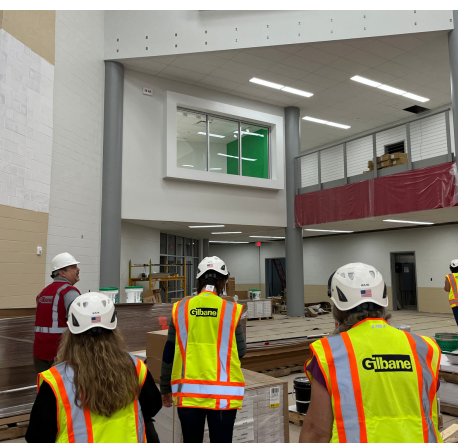
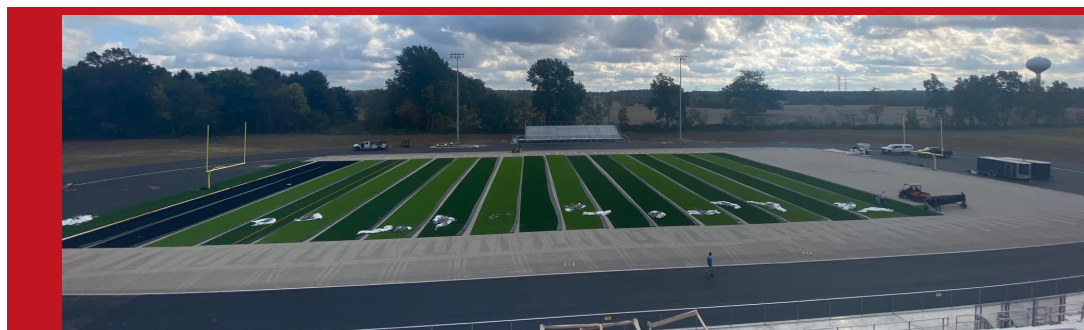
The next time you have the chance, please express your gratitude for our staff and their efforts.

Never have they been challenged more so than now to be the steadying assets to our community that they have always been. I hope you can join me in sharing appreciation for the dedicated staff members who continue to Inspire and Guide our students throughout these challenging times.



CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

Below are pictures of the staff touring the new Big Walnut High School facilities



The turf field was recently installed

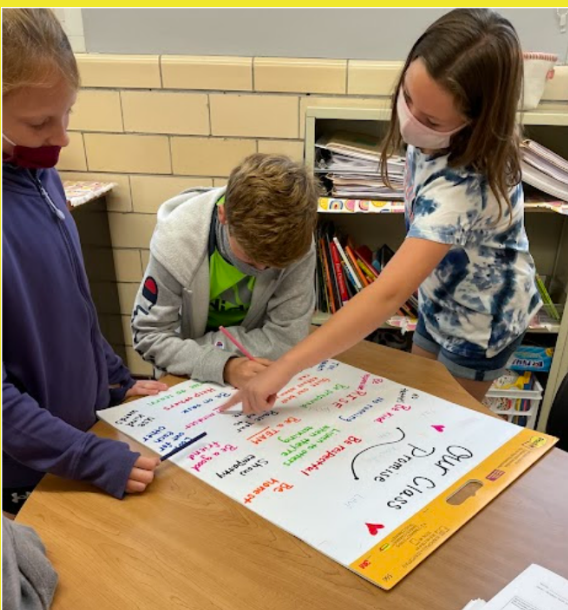




OUR EAGLE PROFILE IN ACTION

This year, we introduced our Big Walnut Eagle Profile. We believe in teaching students more than "just facts." The Eagle Profile details how students take facts and content knowledge to collaborate, communicate, and problem solve, so they can strive to become responsible citizens and adaptable learners. Check out more information at <https://www.bwls.net/AcademicAchievement.aspx>.

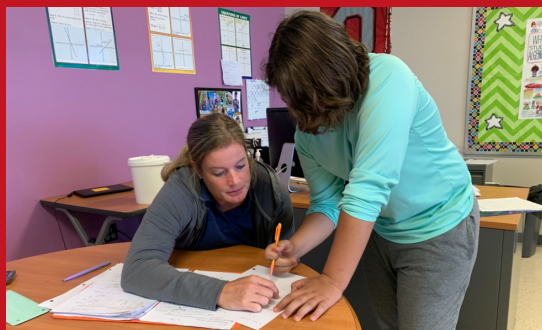
RESPONSIBLE CITIZEN



Students work together to develop the expectations for a productive and caring learning environment. Often times, this is called a "class promise" and students take part in signing this important reminder for how they will treat each other in class.

ADAPTABLE LEARNER

In our classes, students conference with teachers, taking feedback and applying it to their learning.



Not only do our students receive feedback from our teaching staff, they also work in small groups and provide feedback to their classmates.



PROBLEM SOLVER



In AP Statistics, students collected data with five rubber bands. Students then completed a regression of the data to create a linear equation, used a residual plot to verify the data is in fact linear, and then used their linear equation to predict how many rubber bands it would take for Barbie to reach the bottom floor from the top floor without actually touching the ground.

In our middle school Pre-Engineering class, students had to use trial and error, along with knowledge they learned in class, to determine how to build a closed circuit. Learning opportunities like this allow for students to experiment and adjust their solutions to reach the outcomes they seek.



COLLABORATOR

Students in Big Walnut spend a large portion of their school days collaborating with their classmates. Walking down the halls of any of our schools, you will see students working in teams to accomplish a common goal.



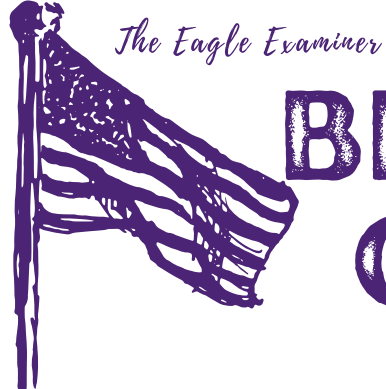
COMMUNICATOR

In a Speech and Theatrical Literature class, students practiced being good communicators through class presentations on a topic of interest chosen by each student. Being a good communicator means that we can articulate thoughts effectively.



The student to the right built a model to represent connections to the text and presented those connections to her peers.





BIG WALNUT CELEBRATES OUR MILITARY FAMILIES

Purple Star became a true “first in the nation” military, family-friendly initiative for our K-12 schools with real and measurable criteria. Ohio founded and launched *The Purple Star Award* for military, family-friendly schools in the 2016-17 school year after extensive research, focus groups, conference calls, and online surveys. It launched in April at the National Museum of the US Air Force in Dayton, Ohio.

Former middle school assistant principal and Major in the Ohio National Guard, Darin Prince, started Big Walnut's first *Purple Star* school in 2017. We are now one of a handful of districts around the state that have all buildings recognized as *Purple Star* buildings, including our newest schools, The Early Learning Center at Harrison Street and Prairie Run Elementary.

Ohio uses Big Walnut as a template and model framework of a genuinely coordinated district, network, and team. Big Walnut is also being recognized around the country for our support of military students and their families.

Matt Cox, principal at Hylen Souders Elementary and Purple Star District Liaison, is part of the *Purple Star Advisory Board* for Ohio, where he was asked to assist in writing the criteria for a statewide recognition program for *Purple Star* liaisons. Other members of the Purple Star committee also devote their time and effort to supporting our families. Koby Donohue, one of BWMS committee members, organized the 2021 football tailgate. Check out the pictures below and on page 5.



WHAT WE DO:

- We currently have about 80 students in our district with an active-military connection.
- We have 2 or more liaisons in every building. Liaisons meet with students and contact families regularly. We also share resources with families. Our committee is entirely volunteer based.
- We have both district-and building-level events. We typically hold 3 district-level events each year. We just had our football tailgate with approximately 100 people attending. We host a winter event, similar to fall tailgate, and a Purple Up Week in April. Individual buildings plan Patriots' Day and Veterans Day events. Individual schools do other events as well.
- We provided 2 scholarships, \$1,000 each, to graduating seniors with a military connection.
- Our *Purple Star Committee* works with *Buckeye Military Moms*, which is an organization of mothers who have sons and/or daughters currently serving, or have served, in any branch of the U.S. Military. We donated over \$1,500 from our district's hat day to *Buckeye Military Moms*. Our biggest collaboration with the organization is sending “We Care” packages to American troops deployed around the world. The money collected, as well as the cards and letters donated, help fill these boxes.
- We have engaged many local businesses to support our district's efforts. Even though we budgeted \$1,000 for our tailgate event, everything was donated. Costco donated water and paper products, BB Bakery donated the cookies, and Firehouse Tavern donated the food for our entire event.
- All buildings have *Purple Star* information and resources on their websites. Families can sign up there as military-connected families.



TRANSPARENCY CONTINUES TO BE DISTRICT GOAL



**Treasurer
Jeremy Buskirk**

I just recently completed my fourth year as Big Walnut's District treasurer, but this community has been the place I have called home for almost 15 years. Many choices and decisions direct each one of us on a specific career path. School finance and the government accounting world is where I have landed. When I applied and ultimately accepted the offer from the Board in 2017, it was partly because I thought this was something I could do to be involved in and serve the community I live in and care about. I believe that this same story is shared throughout our district, including teachers, administrators, aides, custodians, substitute teachers, and so many others. I share all this because I hope it is not lost on anyone reading this that there are many individuals invested in our schools that are doing their best for our students.

As treasurer, one of my many desires for this role is to fulfill our District financial goal to "demonstrate financial responsibility by maintaining a fiscally stable district that is accountable to our community." To meet this goal, I do my best to provide relevant updates and information to all interested parties. I, along with others who write articles each month, are trying to share current information to ensure our community is aware of what is going on. All editions of *The Eagle Examiner* are available on our District website; scan the QR code for easy access.



SCAN ME

I also wanted to share specific financial resources that have been available for years and can be found on the Treasurer's page of our District website. One of the most helpful things to understand the big financial picture of any school district is to look at the five-year forecast. This is a document that presents the actual revenues and expenditures in the general fund for the previous three years, and then attempts to project out the same revenues and expenditures for the next five school years, including the current school year. There is a lot of analysis, planning, and research that goes into preparing the five-year forecast document, and the notes to the forecast are a great way to understand the details behind the numbers. Another document I put together is a monthly financial report that provides a detailed budget versus actual analysis of our general operating funds, a summary budget to actual analysis for all other funds, cash position reporting of all district funds, a check register for the month, and a detailed report of our investment and cash accounts. A final financial document I want to share is our comprehensive annual financial report (CAFR), which is prepared using generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP). This report provides many reports, district details, and statistics as of the end of our fiscal/school year. However, I think that this report can become a little confusing because it accounts for revenues, expenditures, assets, liabilities, and balances on an accrual basis, which is not like our own cash-basis home finances, but it attempts to account for expected and possible financial transactions.

Finally, I realize that school finances can seem confusing, but I take my charge of being part of an educational organization seriously. I do my best to educate on what is going on and how things work because the last thing I want is for our community to assume, accuse, and jump to conclusions. I am sure I will not hit the mark every time, but I will, nonetheless, keep trying. Please reach out if you have any questions.

CORRECTION FROM LAST MONTH'S EDITION

BIG WALNUT HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETICS

Hall of Fame Class of 2021



Ellie Jindra



Megan Zirger

AGE-FRIENDLY

Delaware County

News for an Age-Friendly Community

Small Steps. Big Impact.



ST. MICHAEL'S COMMUNITY GARDEN

Made possible with grant funding from AARP, a family foundation, and the Ohio State University Extension Master Gardener's Program, the garden at St. Michael's Community will include an ADA path, six raised garden beds, benches, and a fence to keep the critters out.

Cooking classes and horticulture education will be held with the residents.

This project brings many benefits to the residents by offering participation in outdoor activities, education, reducing feelings of loneliness and boredom, as well as intergenerational activities that includes partnerships with local youth groups.

SAGES & SEEKERS PROGRAM

Sages & Seekers is an 8-week evidenced-based, intergenerational program facilitated by HelpLine of Delaware and Morrow Counties, Inc. and Connections Volunteer Center.

Working with Delaware City Schools and Big Walnut Local Schools, Sages & Seekers connects students with older adults in the community.

For more information, contact Elaine Miller, Community Engagement Coordinator, Connections, at emiller@helplinedelmor.org or call 740-363-5000, ext. 304.



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#POSITIVEAGING

Did you know that ageism refers to the:

- Stereotypes (*how we think*)
- Prejudice (*how we feel*)
- Discrimination (*how we act*)

towards others or oneself based on age.

Ageism is everywhere, it's harmful, and—good news—it can be combatted. Aging is a natural, life-long process that everyone is engaged in. It's time for us to redefine what it means to age. Let's Disrupt Aging.

JOIN THE CONVERSATION. Check out our Positive Aging Campaign on Facebook.

“What you do after 50 can be just as amazing as what you've done before 30.”



CONCERT AT THE LIBRARY



One focus of the Community Library's mission is to enrich people's lives through lifelong learning. It's easy to associate books and reading with the lifelong learning process. However, there are many other human experiences that promote a well-educated individual including art, physical fitness, and music, to name a few.

To that end, the library strives to offer our community a range of experiences that facilitate the pursuit of knowledge and cultivate personal interests. One such experience is an annual live performance by

the Central Ohio Symphony. This year, the Central Ohio Symphony is sending the Village Brass Quintet to perform at the library.

The Village Brass Quintet has been performing since 1982. Unlike traditional brass bands that primarily play classical music, the Village Brass Quintet has an eclectic catalog of music including a variety of pieces from symphonic to more popular tunes.

Due to the diverse selection of music, this concert will appeal to music-lovers of all ages. What's more, thanks to the generosity of the Community Library Foundation and Community Library Friends, this concert is free to the public. It is an excellent opportunity for families to expose their children to live music in an inviting and comfortable environment.

This space was paid for by the Community Library.



The concert will be at the library on **Friday, October 22, at 7:00 p.m.**

While there is no cost to attend, we encourage you to register at events.yourcl.org or call the library at 740-965-3901.

The library is located at 44 Burrer Drive, in Sunbury.

We hope to see you at the concert.



Community Library
Serving the Big Walnut Area

ACCEPTING NEW PATIENTS



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OCTOBER IS NATIONAL PRINCIPALS MONTH!

Help us celebrate our amazing principals for their hard work and dedication to our students!

BWHS: Mr. Jados, Mrs. Bloomer, Mr. Hall

BWMS: Mr. Frame & Mr. Rucker

BWIS: Mrs. Sandrock & Mr. Powell

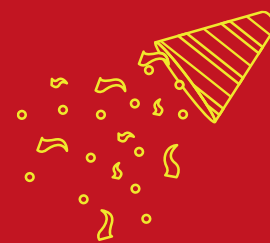
BWE: Mrs. Heitkamp

GRE: Mrs. Crawford

PRE: Mrs. Castiglione

SOU: Mr. Cox

ELC: Mrs. Clark



**THANK
YOU!**



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YOUR ADVERTISEMENT COULD GO HERE!

The Eagle Examiner is delivered
monthly to approximately
13,000 households in
our community.

For more information, email
jenniferwilson@bwls.net



Sunbury Chiropractic is celebrating 40 years of serving YOU!

Join us on Thursday, October 21, 2021 at Sunbury Chiropractic for our 40th Anniversary celebration. We will have cookies from Boy Mom Bakery, kolaches and coffee from Kolacheez Coffee Bar, and Dr. Tom Erndt will make a guest appearance to draw our raffle winners!

Be sure to enter our **FREE** raffle at every appointment between now and October 21, 2021.

Raffle prizes include:

1. 60-Minute Massage Gift Certificate
2. Two Olentangy Berlin High School Winter Athletics Season Passes
3. Dinner/Dessert Combo (\$100 PJ's Family Restaurant & \$25 Whit's Gift Cards)
4. \$100 Top Golf Gift Card
5. Family Plus Membership to the Columbus Zoo and Aquarium

Don't miss out on celebrating 40 years of service to the Sunbury community!

40th Anniversary Extravaganza Coupon

40% off

One in-office product*

Redeemable only at our Sunbury location on October 21, 2021.

One coupon per customer.

*Not valid on services. Coupon must be presented at time of purchase.