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The Eagle Examiner

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DECEMBER 2018

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



A MESSAGE FROM SUPERINTENDENT ANGIE POLLOCK



Happy Holidays! December is traditionally a time to give back, and I am excited to share that our Big Walnut community has once again given back to our families in need. This year, 113 families were adopted for the holidays. Thank you to all who helped to grant these Big Walnut kids' holiday wishes and to BW employee Linda Klamfoth, who organizes this program.

Since 2015, our district has been working to implement our 2020 Vision for Instruction. We know that employers are looking for workers who are strong communicators, collaborators, and creative critical thinkers. We want to provide students the tools to be successful in these areas and in today's workplace. Our goal is that by the year 2020, each classroom will personalize instruction to fit each student's needs, engage students in real-world connections, and ensure that all students are growing academically, socially, and emotionally.

In Board President Andy Wecker's article this month, you can read about Ohio's Strategic Plan: *Each Child, Our Future*. The infographic on the next page summarizes ODE's vision, and Mr. Wecker's article includes a link to the entire plan. There are many similarities in our 2020 Vision and this plan; we are pleased to see Ohio moving away from an over-emphasis on testing, toward a balance of the following domains: Foundational Knowledge and Skills, Well-Rounded Content, Leadership and Reasoning, and Social-Emotional Learning.

At Big Walnut, we will continue to focus on all four domains, and we continue to look for ways to improve in each area. Thank you for partnering with us to provide our students with a great education.

Have an enjoyable break!



THEY'RE COMING BACK!

WHEN: TUESDAY, MARCH 5 AT 6:30 P.M.

WHERE: BIG WALNUT HIGH SCHOOL GYM

Hope to see you there!

BIG WALNUT LOCAL SCHOOLS

Message from the Board

Echoes of Big Walnut 2020 Vision from the Ohio Department of Education?

“I have never let my schooling interfere with my education,” Mark Twain said.

With the pace of change, education-- as opposed to mere schooling-- is more important than ever. To Twain, that includes a working man’s Ph.D., as well as making the step between being a student who believes what he’s been taught and becoming enough of a learner or citizen to consider, apply and question that same knowledge.

Recently the Ohio Department of Education (ODE) rolled out *Each Child, Our Future*. Along with some of the other elements, its “One Goal” gave me some hope that “college and career readiness” might take on a healthier balance. For high schoolers, the materials state that, “In high school, each child should see the relevance of his or her learning, be exposed to practical, real-world work settings and begin to define his or her future.”



President Andy Wecker, Mindy Meyer, Vice President Brad Schneider, Doug Crowl, Liana Lee

The aim of the plan is that Ohio will increase annually the percentage of its high school graduates who, one year after graduation, are:

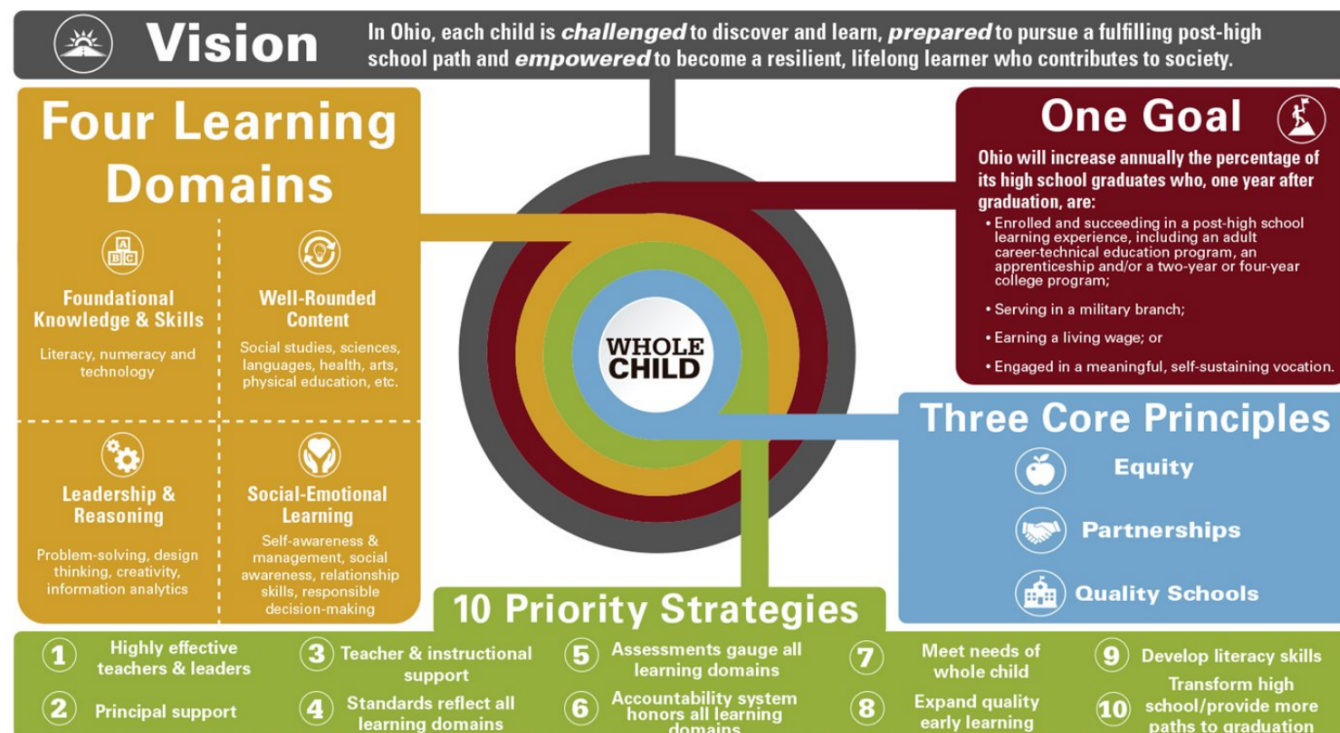
- Enrolled and succeeding in a post-high school learning experience, including an adult career-technical education program, an apprenticeship and/or a two-year or four-year college program;

- Serving in a military branch;
- Earning a living wage; or
- Engaged in a meaningful, self-sustaining vocation.

One can be forgiven for suspecting that those working in formal education-- especially ODE and higher education-- often see more formal education as the solution to every problem. Every profession and trade can be prone to losing sight of the end user in the course of delivering the service. Formal education can be more than just a pipeline out of a community. K12, career tech, and community colleges can also act as a way to prepare young people to meet the needs and opportunities within their communities. With *Each Child, Our Future*, I saw some validation for what Big Walnut started 3 years ago with our 2020 Vision. That encourages me for students in the rest of Ohio, from our Big 3-Cs to our small towns.

#EachChildOurFuture

In Ohio, each child is *challenged, prepared and empowered*.



To compare for yourself, you can go to:
<http://www.bigwalnut.k12.oh.us/AcademicAchievement.aspx> and
<http://education.ohio.gov/About/Ohios-Strategic-Plan-for-Education>

Andy Wecker
 President
 Big Walnut Board of Education

HOW IS THE BW STAFF PREPARING TO IMPLEMENT THESE VISIONS?

Check out the back page to learn more.

BIG WALNUT LOCAL SCHOOLS



2020 VISION SPOTLIGHT OF THE MONTH

On November 9, Hylen Souders Elementary was pleased to welcome a group of students from the Delaware Area Career Center (DACC) as part of our Career Connections program. Career Connections helps students develop a realistic plan for their future, focusing on college and career readiness.

Souders students learned from current DACC students about potential careers in dental assisting, pharmacy, laboratory services and phlebotomy through engaging, hands-on activities. All 3rd and 4th grade students attended the different stations. They made their own dental impressions, created blood models and raced to see who could be the first to correctly spell Amoxicillin.

When asked about his favorite part of the program, 4th grade student Charlie Barnes said, "I really liked the hands-on part, it was very interesting. I also thought it was cool to hear from students instead of adults, they were easy to relate to."

Souders is currently planning another visit from DACC, with a focus on different career options. In addition, we will have two mornings of career exploration led by our staff. Staff members will work with small groups of K-4 students to share something they are passionate about, and lead a discussion about potential careers that students can explore if they share the same interests. Golf, dog training and journalism are just a few of the areas that will be explored.



Students participated in three different hands-on learning experiences all led by DACC students.



Thank you to Big Walnut's Laura Gallo, DACC's Lisa-Marie Reinhart, and the DACC students for creating this experience for our students.



BW Finance Committee to Help Focus on the Future



Treasurer
Jeremy Buskirk

Delaware County is the fastest growing county in Ohio, and the Big Walnut community is seeing this growth as well. As a school district, our core business is to help students grow and to continuously challenge them academically. We work hard from an operational standpoint to plan for community growth and provide resources to facilitate academic achievement as efficiently as we can.

The Big Walnut Schools' governing team believes it is important to engage our community in an effort to improve communication, plan for community development and growth, and maintain financial responsibility in our District. As a way to continue to develop input and relationships with the business sector in our community, we are developing a finance committee with the following goals in mind:

- To obtain advice and counsel that enhances the effectiveness of the decision-making process with respect to financial and business issues.
- To serve as an avenue to improve public awareness of the Big Walnut School District's finance issues and to inform the District governing team of community perspectives related to finance.
- To enhance communication between all stakeholders.

We are looking for members of our community that either live or work within the Big Walnut enrollment area, have a vested interest in the district, and have expertise in a financial field to be a part of this committee. We will plan to have a meeting at least quarterly prior to the start of the work day and share on topics such as the five-year forecast, financial audits, annual financial report, levy planning, benchmarking data, policies and procedures, and other financial matters.

You will find a copy of the finance committee by-laws, application form, and contact information on the Treasurer's page of the District website at <http://www.bwls.net/Treasurer.aspx>. Interested individuals are requested to send a completed application form along with a letter stating interest to the District Treasurer, Jeremy Buskirk (jeremybuskirk@bwls.net).

November's STUDENT & ARTIST OF THE MONTH



Artist of the Month: Silas Stewart from Big Walnut Elementary School is pictured with his family and Board member Mindy Meyer



Student of the Month: Hayden Krous from Big Walnut Elementary School is pictured with his family and Board member Liana Lee

SUNBURY / BIG WALNUT AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

A big **THANK YOU** to all the generous sponsors that made the 2018 Christmas on the Square a great success!!

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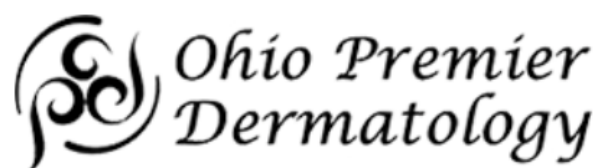
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COMMUNITY LIBRARY

Community Library Offering Passports

Are you thinking of traveling out of the country this winter to escape the cold weather? Or maybe you need to travel on business or visit family overseas. The Community Library in Sunbury can help. Beginning Tuesday, January 8, the Community Library will be offering Passport Services.



Community Library will accept passport applications by appointment only. Appointments will be available weekly on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Saturday.

To request an appointment, call **740-965-3901** or email requests to passports@yourcl.org. We will offer photo services on a walk-in basis whenever possible. More information about the passport process and traveling abroad can be found at <https://travel.state.gov>.

To help you prepare for your overseas trip, the Community Library offers an extensive collection of travel guidebooks. In addition to local collection, we offer a wide variety of travel ebooks through the Ohio Digital Library. We also provide two online language learning programs, Mango Languages and Transparent Languages. Ebooks and online resources can be accessed with your library account through our website at www.yourcl.org. If you don't have an account, you can apply at register.yourcl.org.

If you have any questions or need further assistance, please contact us at **740-965-3901**, visit us online at www.yourcl.org, or stop by the library at 44 Burrer Drive, Sunbury.

Chauncey Montgomery
Director/Fiscal Director



Community Library
Serving the Big Walnut Area



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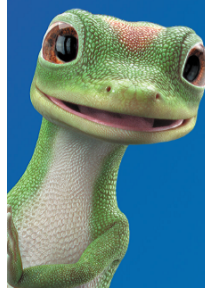
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BIG WALNUT LOCAL SCHOOLS



Preserving Our History as We Build Our Future



Director of Facilities
Doug Swartz

Residents and visitors to historic Sunbury, Galena and all of the Big Walnut area, get the opportunity everyday to immerse themselves in the architectural, natural, and even living testaments to the people, places, and events that shaped our school district community.

One such historical artifact came into view this past summer when a dome-topped, column-like stone was discovered at Harrison Street Elementary, the former Sunbury High School that has served all grade levels of students in the Big Walnut Local Schools for over 100 years.

As a reminder, this school is one of the 5 schools that is benefiting from the November 2017 bond issue in the form of a \$2M security improvements project. The HSE project involves the reworking of the office/entrance areas and will result in the main school day entrance moving to the back door by the playground. The work is anticipated to be completed over the winter break.

As construction progressed, the aforementioned 3' high stone was discovered by the contractors while reworking the parking lot in late summer. Due to its weight, it was placed in the grass and appeared headed for the dumpster. As luck would have it, a small dirt covered-brass plaque was evident to a school administrator and an inquiry commenced.



The plaque reads: CLIFTON MILLER
SHRUBBERY-- 1932.

A Google search revealed a set of newspaper articles involving Mr. Miller, a bus driver for Sunbury Schools in the 1930's. The first articles made note of his fine efforts to transport students to and from school during the blizzard of 1936-1937. The 2nd article was a light-hearted Aprils Fool's folly in which Mr.

Miller ultimately took all of the students for ice cream after school as a gift to them. (Read more at tinyurl.com/sunburyhistory)

It turns out that Mr. Miller's sense of civic duty was not limited to the perils and fun of snow storms and ice cream. Further investigation led to a discussion between HSE Building Secretary Melissa Evans and local Big Walnut Historian Mr. Red Edwards.

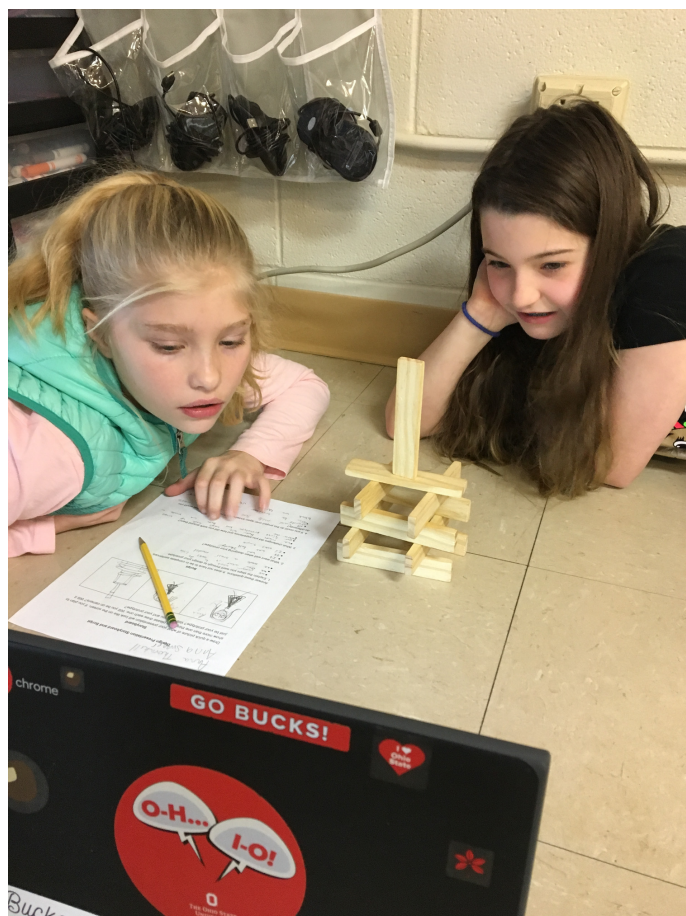
Mr. Edwards shared that the plaque was actually a tribute to Mr. Miller by the school board in appreciation of Mr. Miller's gift of providing landscaping around much of the Sunbury School. The plaque had been installed in the the gardens shortly after the installation. Years of repositioning of this community asset had taken a toll on the public nature of this plaque until its recent "discovery" in Aug. 2018.

So the next time you see those flashing lights on a school bus, please stop and obey the laws and remember that, like Mr. Miller, all of us can do amazing things-- big and small-- to contribute to the historical fabric of this great school community.

In terms of the next life of this memorial plaque, it is being stored at the District bus compound on Kintner while the District develops a plan to reintroduce this historical marker into the community.



During GRE's Eagle Ed day, where students chose what they wanted to learn, students created pictures as part of their art expression.



Students at BWI created videos of how they used the design process to create products in STEM class.



Congratulations to the BWMS OMEA (Ohio Music Education Association) District 10 Honors Band members. We are very proud of your hard work.



“I want to become a Firefighter Paramedic because I like the idea of being able to help people whenever they need it.

Coming to DACC has given me a head start on my career goals and the opportunity to meet new friends who will be friends for life.”

- Tanner Merdeath
FireService Training Junior
DACC & Big Walnut

Tanner Merdeath

Fire Service Training junior at DACC & Big Walnut

Offensive and Defensive Lineman for the Big Walnut Football Team

Defense for the Big Walnut Lacrosse Team

Plans on attending college after graduation to become even more employable as a Firefighter/Paramedic

What kind of students attend DACC?

According to Tanner, DACC students are:

- Devoted to their college/career path
- Motivated to want to come to school every day
- Willing to put in the work it takes to get the job done

Differentiate yourself on your resume & college application.

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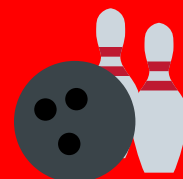
BIG WALNUT LOCAL SCHOOLS: STUDENT RAGE PAGE

Striking Back: Big Walnut Bowling

When the winter sports season begins, many sports come to mind. Most people don't think of bowling, though they should because to BW bowlers, it's more than a sport. Senior Ale Hernandez says, "I never expected to love to bowl so much, but with the memories I've created, and friends I have made along the way, it's becoming my favorite high school experience." Last season, both the boys and girls varsity teams conquered sectionals. They surpassed over 30 teams, then competed against 15 teams in districts. This year their hope is to go further. The coach of both teams, Scott Morrison, says, "We had a great season last year; better than we've had in a long time, but I believe both teams will exceed my expectations for this upcoming season. I can see states being a real possibility." The team started their season on November 29, playing against Worthington Christian. With Coach Morrison's confidence and last year's stats, we can expect both teams to come out on top. The team has a long season ahead of them, and hopefully many victories to follow!

Did You Know?

Trying to roll a strike?
Don't look at the pins, look
at the arrows on the lanes.



-Autumn Leidtke, senior

Bravo for Bair

Big Walnut's new English teacher, Layne Bair, directed her first theater production at Big Walnut. The students put on a fantastic show this past November titled *Lend Me a Tenor*. "The students are my favorite part of directing," Bair says. "Just like in my classroom, my job as a director is to educate." Bair juggles numerous English classes and upcoming shows, and the next one is *Mamma Mia!* in the spring. Students had lots of fun practicing their Italian accents in *Lend Me a Tenor*, and many students are excited for the *Mamma Mia!* auditions. However, these productions take lots of time, commitment, memorizing lines and blocking. The students work for weeks and weeks for the perfected result you see on opening night. "There were definitely a few moments in *Lend Me a Tenor* where students would just nail a difficult scene, and I'd have to stop myself from reacting like a crazy person," Bair said. Memorization is key, along with sacrificing time to make the production polished. The day of opening night, actors and actresses wear their costumes to school, whether it's a gladiator costume or a big, poofy dress, to encourage students to go to the show. Bair is proud of their work and said, "it's really exciting to watch a role evolve over the work and time we put into blocking our shows, and I love being the person who helps to shape that."



BIG WALNUT LOCAL SCHOOLS: STUDENT RAGE PAGE

Taking on Tigerland

This past month on November 16, Big Walnut High School had the honor of hosting students from Columbus East High School in a continuation of a student exchange program. Select BW students made the trip to Columbus East in October.

The exchange was inspired by a book entitled *Tigerland* by Will Haygood. The premise of the book elaborates on what life was like for a predominantly African-American/black school over 50 years ago. Haygood uses the book as an opportunity to educate students on how we have evolved and how we can continue to evolve as a society.

At the first exchange, when BW students ventured to Columbus East, students from both schools heard Mr. Haygood speak and participated in a discussion about how the students themselves can make a positive impact in their communities. Having the opportunity to be a part of this, both sets of students were able to open their minds and experience a different and new environment. Haygood lead the discussions and randomly selected students to answer questions regarding race. He asked the following question, "What would be the first thing you would say if an African American came up to you?" With a somewhat quizzical look on her face, Big Walnut senior Tori Rammelsberg replied, "Hello?" This simple answer seems obvious now, but 50 years ago, this was not the case, proving Haygood's point perfectly.

Mr. Haygood was unable to come to Big Walnut on the day Columbus East students visited, but was able to call in and be a part of this experience. After hearing Haygood's words, one Big Walnut student reflects, "We couldn't see him, but I could hear the smile on his face. It was obvious how happy it made him to see that we were all together and sharing our experiences."

Students enjoyed this experience, and many of them walked away with newly formed friendships. Social media especially has made it very convenient for students to stay in contact. This experience shed light on the differences between two contrasting communities, but also brought out the similarities that connect us.



-Article by
Lauren V. Speelman

"This event was very important for our students to experience, since we have limited diversity in our community. The bonding that went on between the students from the two schools was amazing and long-lasting friendships were formed. This was a great day for students from both schools."

-Andy Jados, principal



SAVE THE DATE

BWHS Spring Sports Pictures- March 15, 2019

BWHS & BWMS Spring Sports PTP Fee- April 5, 2019

Senior Academic and Athletic Awards- May 6, 2019

BWHS Spring sports are starting to begin preseason workouts and open gyms. These schedules can be found on <https://bigwalnutathletics.net/> as they become available.

WHERE CAN I FIND MORE?

Need all the up-to-date information on all Big Walnut athletics? With already 91,000 hits, the athletics website is the place to get informed. Check it out @<https://bigwalnutathletics.net/>

BIG WALNUT LOCAL SCHOOLS



BWLS Staff Learns About Career Opportunities for Students

On November 26, Tim Harman from Columbus 2020 came to speak to the Big Walnut staff. Tim has a successful track record of implementing college recruiting and talent acquisition strategies, including multiple Fortune 500 companies. His presentation focused around the incredible speed at which our world, and Central Ohio in particular, is changing. He spoke about what employers are looking for and how we can help to ensure our students are prepared for that future. His presentation aligns to our 2020 Vision and our current book study, *Future Driven*, ensuring that our students are prepared to thrive in an unpredictable world. Following his presentation, our staff hopped on buses to venture around Central Ohio to see how other schools are reimagining education.

BWHS Print Shop Provides Valuable Service to Community

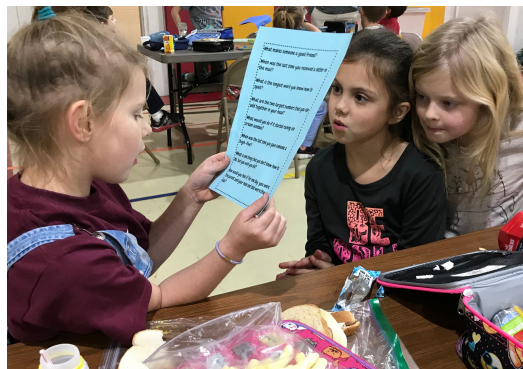
The BWHS Print Service is providing designs around the Sunbury Community. Signage at the new restaurant Surve was designed and created by our BWHS students. They also had the privilege to meet with Chief Kovach and Lieutenant Sexton from BST&G Fire Department to discuss the potential plans to rebrand, create and print student-designed artwork for their vehicles.

Check out what the BWHS Print Shop can do for you by following their Facebook page @BWPrintService



Students at BWHS presented their solutions to real-life industry problems to business professionals and Otterbein professors and leaders as part of our Martha Holding Jennings Grant PBL showcase.

To promote compassion and kindness around the school, BWE students "Mixed it Up" at lunch. Students were given a random color ticket that told them who to sit by, and provided conversation starters to help make new friends.



Students at HSE participate monthly in Eagle YOUNiversity where mixed K-4 groups take 45-minute "courses" in acting, gardening, cooking/baking, sports & fitness, cartoon & video making, and construction. After those experiences, students will choose two of those courses to dig further. Eagle YOUNiversity aims to spark student interest in real-life applications and extend learning in a new, imaginative way.



Career Connections at Souders is a day for kids to explore different careers. These students learned about careers in music.



For their energy unit, BWMS students built their own roller coasters. As part of this project, they Skyped with Jase Swinden from Great Coasters International in Sunbury, PA about his job as a mechanical engineer. He designs and oversees construction of wooden coasters all over the world.

Follow us on social media: @BWLSD