

BIG WALNUT LOCAL SCHOOLS

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BIG WALNUT LOCAL SCHOOLS

The Eagle Examiner



JULY 2019

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



A MESSAGE FROM SUPERINTENDENT ANGIE HAMBERG

I hope you are having a great summer and FINALLY enjoying this warm weather. Summertime at the district office is when we reflect and set goals to continuously improve our efforts to inspire and guide each student to his or her maximum potential.

During the summer months, we are also busy enrolling new students. We recently enrolled our 4000th student-- and counting-- as more and more families choose to join us in calling the Big Walnut community “home.” **Ten years ago, we had 3,032 students; with our current enrollment, we show an approximate increase of 25% more students in the last decade.** As we prepare for the new school year, and the new students headed our way, I would like to take a moment to share information on our financial challenges as we continue to see student enrollment growth.

I have heard a few comments lately that the district must be “swimming in cash” or that we must have money for anything we want with all of the kids moving in and the nice houses being built in the district. These statements could not be farther from the truth. As a largely residential district that is considered wealthy by the state (based on number of students, property wealth and incomes), we do not get much state aid and are very reliant on local residential property and income taxes to operate.

Most of our new housing is single-family housing with kids (students). By cross-referencing our student enrollment database with property sales and new builds between 2015-2018, we have been able to determine that, in houses that were purchased or built by families with children, we are seeing approximately 1.7 students from each home. **It takes about 4 additional houses without children to offset expenses incurred by each home with children that is bought or built in our community.** As more families move into the district with children, this balance is harder to achieve. Our cost-saving efforts over the last decade have helped us stay ahead of this curve, but as the rate of growth continues to increase, we realize that cuts alone will not allow us to sustain the current standard of service that you have come to expect; **the district will need additional revenue as we grow to continue to operate at the same level.**

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WE JUST ENROLLED OUR
4000TH STUDENT



A 25% INCREASE IN THE
LAST DECADE

MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD



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

Brad Schneider, President

In the opening of one of the books about a trek of self-discovery, the author is instructed, "The curse can be broken if you complete the task."

This quote was one of those that stopped me for a moment.

If I think of that quote in the context of education, it makes me think of our district and its mission. Not just to inspire and guide, but also the part of our mission which at times is truncated, "*to each person's maximum potential.*"

Education is about giving our students the tools to continuously evolve and improve. It is a process that creates opportunities for both success and failure.

It should also be one that allows for our students to learn how to respond to failure, whether it is inside or outside the classroom. I'm glad this is a focus of our district.

Our students are facing their own "curses" everyday: a bad grade, a break-up, not making the team, a missed note, uncertainty at home, and more. The more we help them deal with these "failures," the better equipped they are with the skills to complete the task. Completion breeds confidence.

If we can't give our students the tools to be confident and persistent in the face of adversity, how can we expect them to reach their maximum potential?

On a relaxing weekend where I only had 2 baseball/softball tournaments to get to, I decided to pick up my list of unread, interesting books and try to make a dent in it.



School's Out!

POWER UP for Summer Fun!



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CLEANERS
AND
LAUNDRY



STRETCHING RESOURCES TO SERVE OUR STUDENTS AND PROTECT OUR COMMUNITY'S ASSETS



**Treasurer
Jeremy Buskirk**

Big Walnut Local Schools has numerous accounts that we track and monitor, but the three major budget areas that revenue flows to are general day-to-day operations, debt/bond-funded building projects and permanent improvement purchases/projects. The majority of these budget areas are funded through local resources, such as real estate taxes, personal property taxes from public utilities, income taxes and other

miscellaneous receipts, with additional support coming from state resources.

The graphic to the right shows the revenue percentages as they relate to general fund resources, which provide for day-to-day operations and illustrates the flow of resources to major budget areas. We do our best to monitor costs, structure spending, and be frugal in each of these areas to make our dollars stretch as far as possible.

SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE

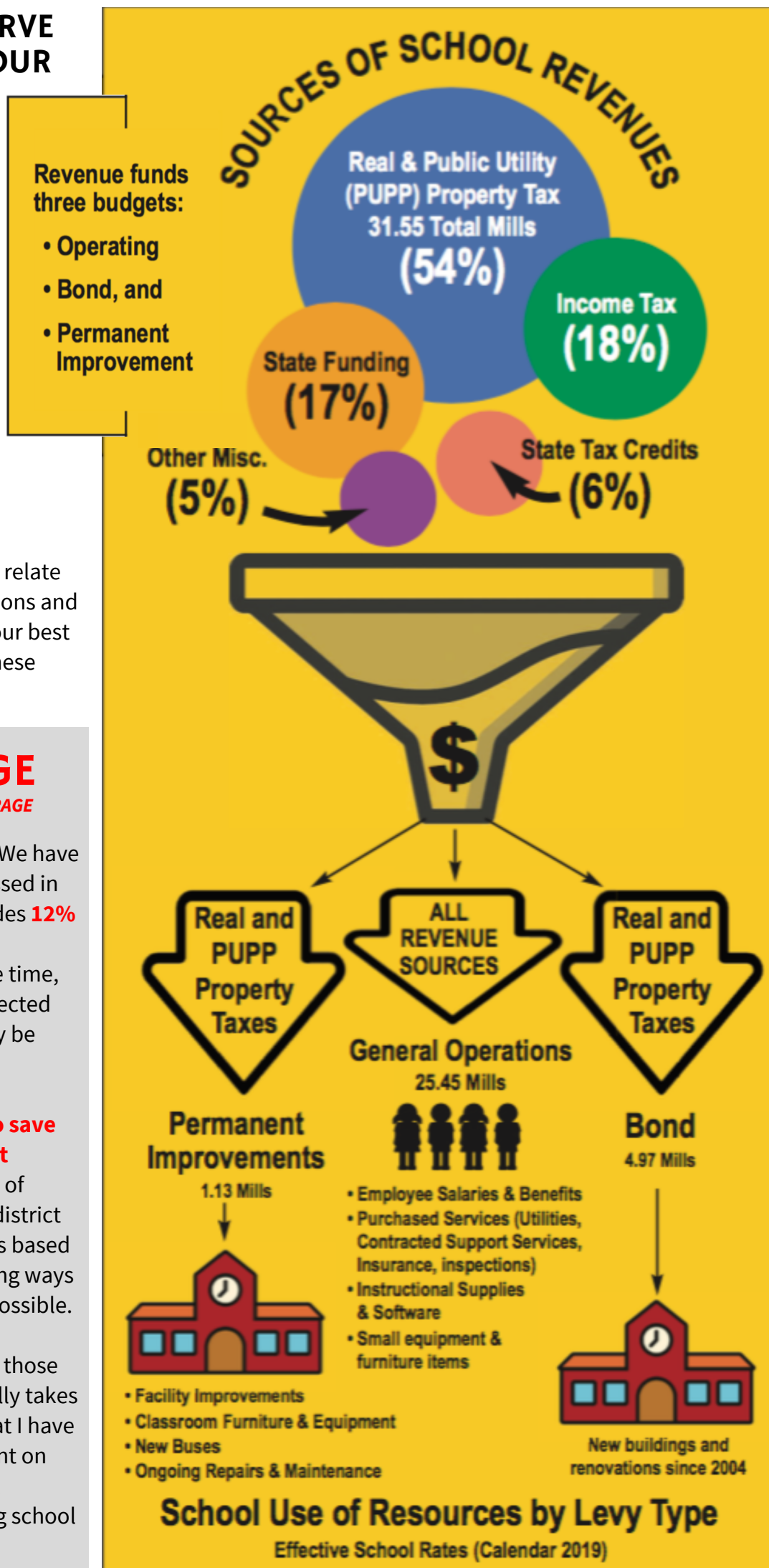
CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

Our next ballot issue will most likely be coming up in 2020. We have a five-year Substitute Replacement Levy that was originally passed in 2010 and renewed in 2015 that will be expiring. This levy provides **12% of our operational funds**. Our board of education is currently discussing when to place the renewal on the ballot. At the same time, we are working with school finance consultants, analyzing projected enrollment, and discussing what additional ballot requests may be needed over the next several years.

Our board and administration members are working hard to save money and cut expenses wherever we can to keep any ballot requests as low as possible. For example, the reconfiguration of Harrison Street Elementary to a preschool center will save the district at least \$500,000 per year, which equals .5 mill of property taxes based on our current property valuations. We are constantly evaluating ways to do things more efficiently to stretch our resources as far as possible.

Paying school tax is sometimes frustrating for empty nesters or those whose children aren't in school yet, but as you can see, it actually takes years of taxes to pay for one child's education. I don't know that I have ever met anyone who likes paying taxes, but our district is reliant on local revenues to make sure our students get an education that prepares them to be successful adults in today's world. A strong school system is the foundation for an excellent community and helps contribute to strong property values.

School finance is confusing and constantly changing. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to reach out to me or Treasurer Jeremy Buskirk.



MORE FINANCIAL AND DISTRICT INFORMATION CAN BE FOUND IN OUR 2019-2020 QUALITY PROFILE, WHICH WILL BE AVAILABLE AT ALL OF OUR BUILDINGS THIS AUGUST.

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TOO BUSY TO READ



I used to have more time to read. Then life got busy, and time got diverted to other obligations. I don't think I am alone. Many people confess that they don't have time to read. Life is too hectic, and we are all just too busy to read. Or are we?

Last year, Nielsen reported that adults spend almost six hours each day watching television or videos on computers, smartphones, and tablets. That's a quarter of one's day. This statistic makes me wonder if it's accurate to claim that we lack time to read. Perhaps we do have time to read, but we just don't make it a priority when it should be.

Reading needs to be an essential part of our lives. There are numerous reasons why we should read. Obviously, reading is an effective and proven method for communicating ideas. By reading we can learn new concepts or gain a better understanding of a topic. It also improves vocabulary, fluency, and comprehension. Additionally, studies have shown that reading is associated with improving concentration, reducing stress, and deepening the ability to think and empathize. Research also indicates that reading significantly reduces the development of dementia.

When considering the benefits of reading, beyond enjoyment, it seems ridiculous that we would say we are too busy to read. If we feel that we don't have time, then a quick assessment of how we spend our time may reveal we could sneak in more reading. Is it possible to exchange thirty minutes of television for thirty minutes of reading? I encourage you to make reading a part of your daily life.

If you need assistance locating a good book, sign up for NextReads at <https://bit.ly/2Ns942R>. NextReads is a monthly email from the Community Library in Sunbury that keeps you abreast of new books added to our collection. If you have any questions or comments, contact me at chauncey@yourcl.org or 740-965-3901.



Community Library
Serving the Big Walnut Area

This space was paid for by the Community Library.



Our team of skilled and respected chiropractors — Dr. Aaron Erndt, Dr. Gabe Mendenhall, Dr. Jeff Willoughby, Dr. Amanda Golden, and Dr. A. Renee Allen — look forward to helping you on your path to wellness using natural healing techniques. Our office, founded by Dr. Tom Erndt, has been active in the Sunbury, Ohio community for over 35 years. We effectively utilize state-of-the-art chiropractic techniques and rehabilitative treatments to restore proper spinal function and maximize the body's natural healing ability. We offer: Wellness Chiropractic Care, Family Practice, Personal Injury, Worker's Compensation, Massage Therapy, Sports Physicals, Nutrition Consultation, Orthotics, and more. Please contact us Monday through Saturday at 740-965-4301 to set up an appointment and learn how chiropractic care can help you!

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NEW PRAIRIE RUN ELEMENTARY AND HIGH SCHOOL **UPDATES**



**Director of Facilities
Doug Swartz**

With the rainy season finally coming to an end, farmers, golfers and landscape enthusiasts can finally begin to fully appreciate summer and the warmer temperatures. The same is true for the team of builders currently under contract to construct Prairie Run Elementary and the new Big Walnut High schools.

Mr. Excavator, the company contracted for site-work related components including storm water piping and detention ponds, has completed much of its contract. This work has led to the hiring of masons and other related firms by the District's Construction Manager at Risk, the Gilbane Building Company.

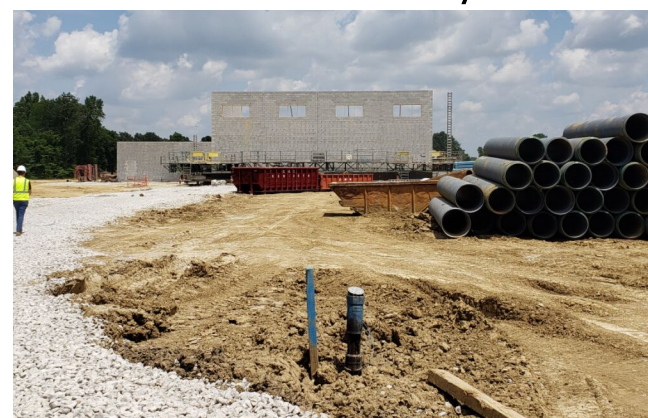
We are happy to report that we have walls going up for the elementary building! The photographs below show the progress as of the first week of July.

It is important to note the bottom center photo of the safety sign. The construction site is currently under the control and management of the Gilbane Building Company. As such, the public is advised to stay off of the site at all times as it is a construction zone. Tours of the two new schools will occur as we get closer to the opening dates in 2020 (Prairie Run Elementary) and 2022 (the new Big Walnut High School).

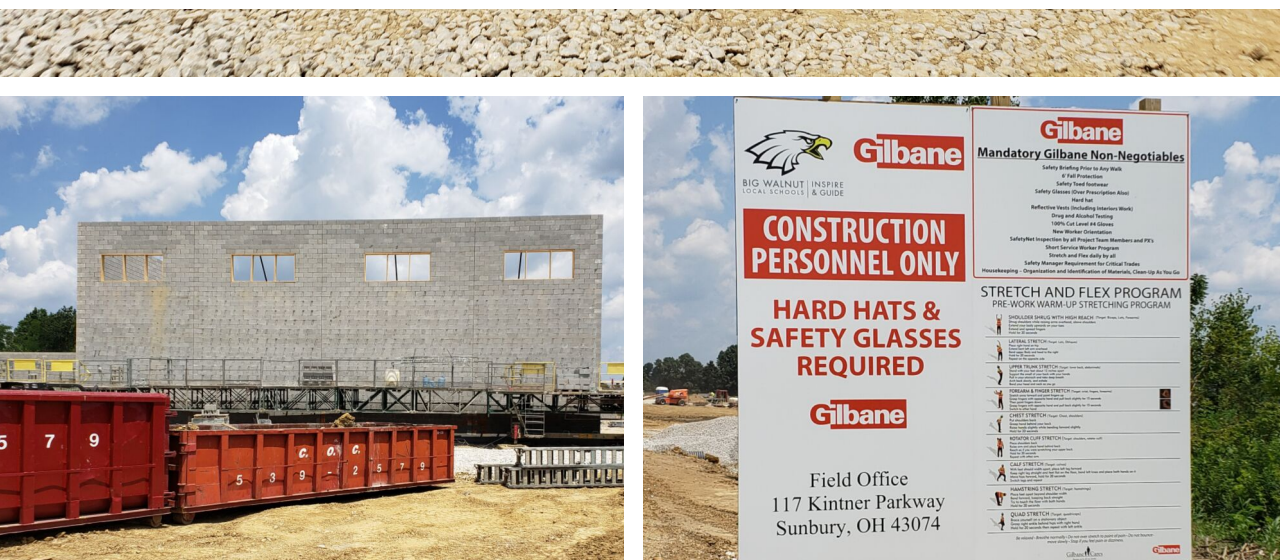


Prairie Run Elementary's office and gym walls

**Approaching the elementary gym from the south,
off of Kintner Parkway**



**The view standing in elementary cafeteria looking
north, down central classroom corridor**



South side of the elementary gym wall



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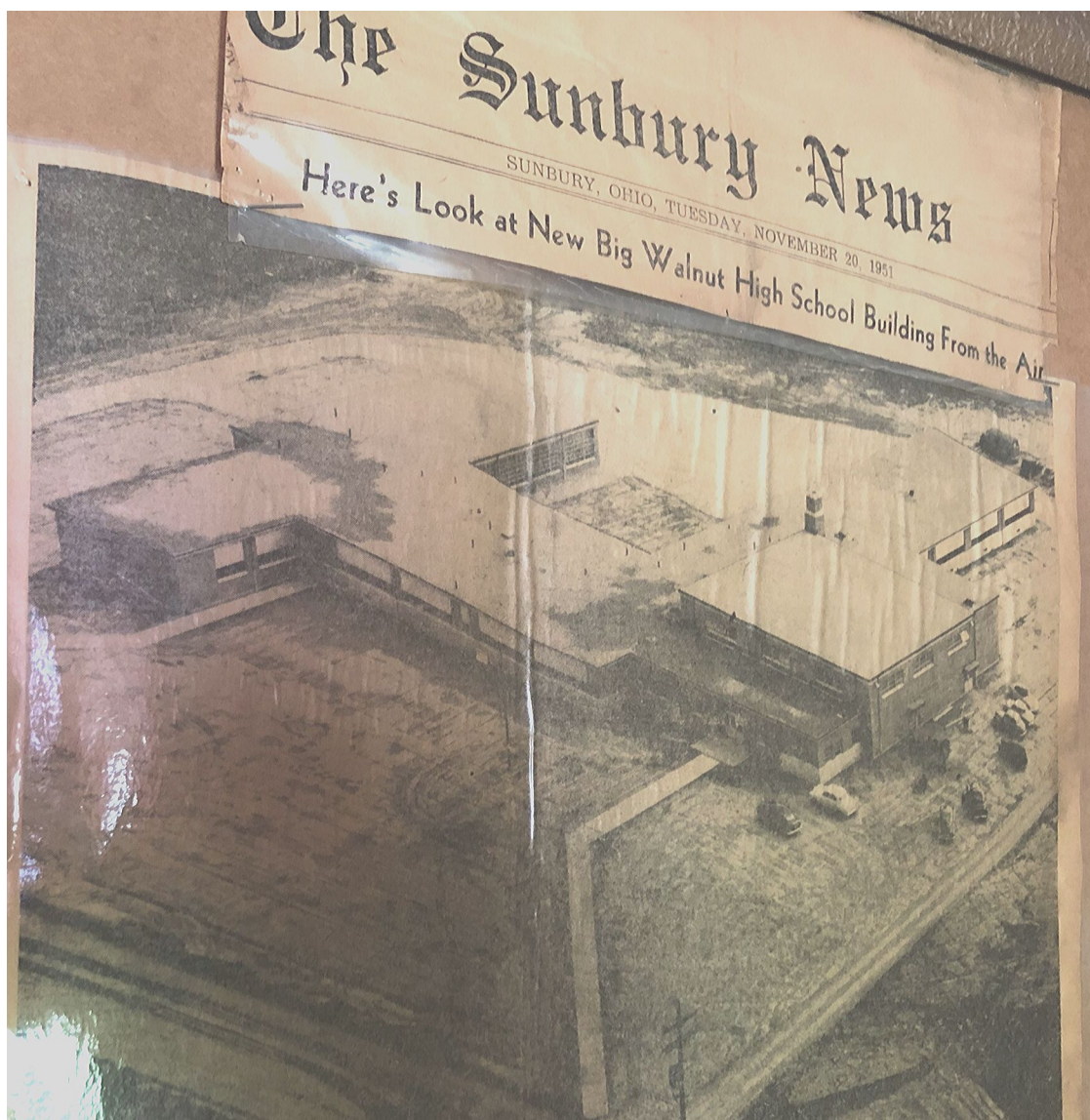
Visit Our Network of Care at www.dmmhrs.org
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text helpline to **898211** for support.



Delaware-Morrow Mental Health & Recovery Services Board
Supporting Wellness. Building Hope. Transforming Lives.

CONNECTIONS TO THE PAST

Artifacts and Stories from the Red Edwards' Big Walnut Museum






Don "Red" Edwards

This artifact comes from a November 1951 edition of *The Sunbury News*. It gives an aerial view of the "new" Big Walnut High School. This is currently Big Walnut Intermediate School, which holds two grade levels (fifth and sixth grade); however, when this building was first opened, it held five grade levels!



Big Walnut
Education
Foundation

Time to Shine— BW Class of 2020

Through generous gifts from businesses, families, and individuals, the BWEF was able to award \$116,500 to 97 students in 2019. With your help, we can do even more in 2020.

To learn more or make a gift, visit bigwalnuteducationfoundation.org.

Volunteer Board Members

Dave Brehm, Diana Butts, Warren Cox,
Nicci Scanlan Hess, Bob Hetterscheidt,
Linda Rano Jonard, Mark Predieri,
Jerry Rensi, and Kelly Forman Roberto



Big Walnut High School

**ATTENTION ALL UPCOMING
12th GRADERS!**
teen vaccine clinic

Required School Vaccines 2019

Grade 12 2 doses of Meningococcal (serogroup A, C, W and Y)

Additional Recommended Vaccines

Human Papilloma Virus (HPV)
Hepatitis A
Meningococcal B

A school vaccine clinic will be held on
September 11, 2019

Delaware General Health District School-based Teen Clinic

At least one week before clinic, go to forms.delawarehealth.org/forms/teenconsent
Enter **teen2019** in the Teen Consent Form Code box
Complete the electronic consent
Sign with a digital signature
Click "Submit" and a confirmation of submission will be received
Vaccine information statements are available at delawarehealth.org/clinic-forms

Big Walnut Middle School

**ATTENTION ALL UPCOMING
7th GRADERS!**
teen vaccine clinic

Required School Vaccines 2019

Grade 7 1 dose Tdap (tetanus, diphtheria, pertussis)
1 dose of Meningococcal (serogroup A, C, W and Y)

Additional Recommended Vaccines

Human Papilloma Virus (HPV)
Hepatitis A

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Most private insurance and all Medicaid plans accepted. VFC (Vaccines for Children) offered — No VFC eligible child will be refused shots due to inability to pay. VFC eligible children include those under 19 years of age who are uninsured, are American Indian or Alaskan Native. Students may also receive immunizations at other Health District clinics where appointments are recommended.

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