Big Walnut Local Schools
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THE EAGLE EXAMINER

Sponsored by the Sunbury / Big Walnut Area Chamber of Commerce

September 2017

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

@angiepollockBW
@AngiePollock2

A Message From Our Superintendent: *Angie Pollock*

We started off another great school year and I am pleased with the excitement and learning that is taking place. Our teachers and staff do a great job educating students, and we do it at a much lower tax rate than most area schools.

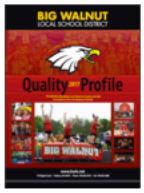
This school year, we are pleased to welcome all of the new students and their families to our Big Walnut community. Without a doubt, the schools and the community are two significant reasons why people choose to move here and raise a family.

Big Walnut is a special place. We have a strong appreciation for the past and for those who have made our area such a desirable one. We also recognize that although our schools cannot control the growth that occurs (as that is up to local governmental entities), we can do our part to make sure that our students have adequate classroom space. This remains a key area of focus for our schools as it directly impacts our ability to meet the educational needs of students. You can read more about this and about the Tuesday, November 7 ballot issue for our schools online at bwls.net (click on the November Ballot Issue Info link on the left side of the page).

If you attended a district curriculum night, you should have already received our district's Quality Profile report which shows how our schools are performing in key areas. That document is not just limited to academics. It shows how we are rising to meet the operational and financial challenges facing our schools, too.

Finally, please join us on Monday, September 25 at 6:30 p.m. at Big Walnut Intermediate for our State of the Schools event that focuses on our four district goals. We will feature model classrooms and share information about our finances and upcoming ballot issue.

Thank you, as always, for choosing and supporting our Big Walnut students and schools.



To access a digital copy, go to bwls.net, then click on the Quality Profile link located on the left side of the page.

Lifelong Learning at the Community Library

One of the Community Library's goals is to promote lifelong learning. We want to ensure that Big Walnut area residents have access to the information they need to explore topics of personal interest.
While the Community Library collects a wide-range of books to assist lifelong learners, we also provide a variety of online resources, available at http://databases.yourcl.org, to help individuals learn new concepts or brush up on existing skills.
Following are just a few that may be of interest:

Gale Courses
Gale Courses contains hundreds of self-paced online courses that are easy to use and offered through a network of colleges and universities. All courses are monitored by an instructor and encourage interaction.

LearningExpress Library
The LearningExpress Library is an interactive platform of practice tests and tutorials designed to help students and adult learners succeed on the academic and licensing tests.

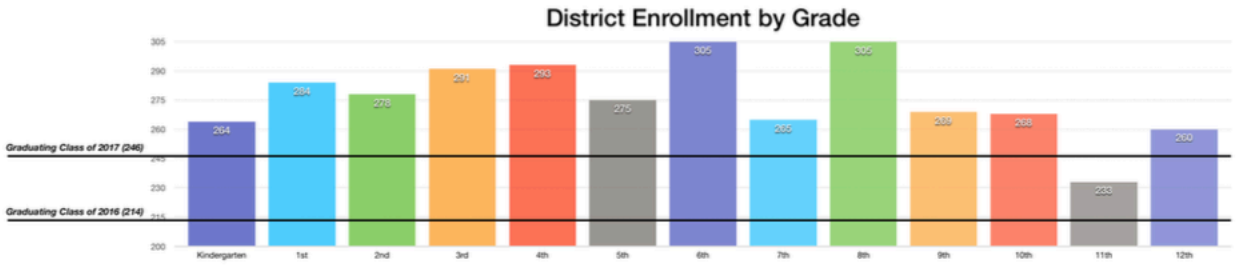
Lynda.com
Lynda.com helps users learn business, software, technology, and creative skills through a large and diverse video library of engaging, top-quality courses taught by recognized industry experts.

Mango Languages
Mango is an online language learning system teaching practical conversation skills for real communication. It's the fast, easy, and effective way to learn to speak a foreign language.

All online resources offered through the library are free, but may require a library account. If you need to create an account our update an existing account, visit us at 44 Burrer Drive in Sunbury.

If you have any questions about our online resources, contact us at 740-965-3901 or ask@yourcl.org.

Big Walnut Local Schools



A Message From Our Board

The new school year brings excitement and focus to the important work and planning for our schools. As a parent and board member, I appreciate that our schools are always pushing to improve in the here-and-now while looking ahead. We do that with both our operations and programming, in terms of academics, athletics, music, art, drama, shop and FFA.

Much of this year's planning and focus is around our facilities. Our district is on the Tuesday, November 7 ballot for a combined bond and permanent improvement issue. This ballot issue affects all of us and warrants a full understanding by our stakeholders as to what it means if it passes and what it means if it fails.

Without a doubt, our facilities represent the single most important issue facing our schools today and directly impact our fiscal stability as a school system. At a certain point, it also affects the quality of education that we provide students. Please take the time to inform yourself as to what is on the ballot and why, and be sure to reach out to any of us with questions.

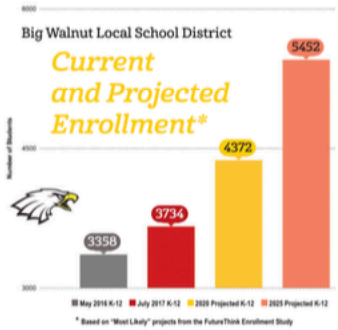
Sincerely,

Andy Wecker
President, Big Walnut Board of Education

We are continuing to gain students- especially at the elementary level as families tend to move when their children are younger.

We do not have room for these class sizes in our current high school. This graph shows how our younger grades are significantly larger than the graduating classes of 2016 and 2017.

In addition to the students listed above, we also have 134 preschool students, half of which are students with special needs.



School Issue on Tues, Nov. 7 Ballot

Over the last several years, we have worked hard to evaluate ou growth and assess district needs. This process includes looking at enrollment projections that show that our enrollment continues to grow at a steady rate.

One thing is clear: enrollment is going up and new housing starts show that more new students are headed our way for years to come. The need for a new high school and elementary school are not the only needs that exist. There are significant needs at our existing schools, such as: **updating security features to better prevent unauthorized intrusions; upgrading electrical systems at the schools so they can support modern learning technology; and upgrading HVAC equipment in our aging buildings.**

All of these issues would be addressed through the Tuesday, November 7 ballot issue. This issue contains a combined bond issue (for new construction) and permanent improvement levy (for upkeep and updates of existing buildings).

"Regardless of what residents decide, it is important to know that there is no zero cost solution. If the ballot issue does not pass, it will not eliminate the costs associated with adding trailers to accommodate the growth we are experiencing."

-Angie Pollock, Superintendent

Trying to accommodate the enrollment increase without adding additional buildings would mean that we would have to divert money away from the classroom to remedy what we can through the purchase of trailers. Doing so only creates a problem on the operating side of the budget.

Big Walnut Local Schools

What does the bond cost me if I'm a home owner?

ESTIMATED COST PER MONTH FOR $100,000 MARKET VALUE

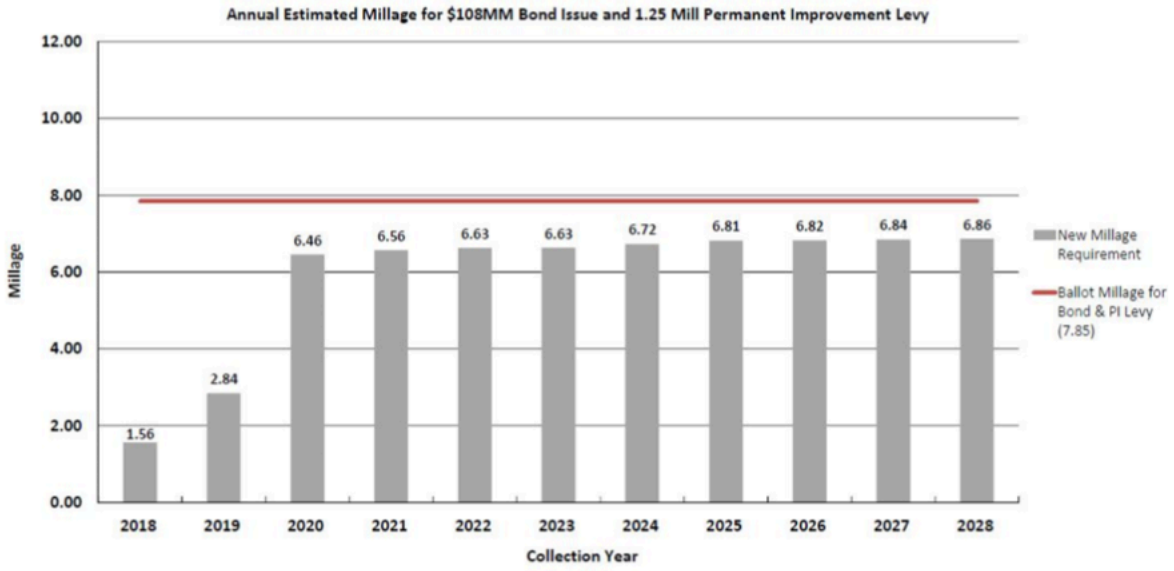
	2018	2019	2020	2021	Total (Ballot)
Estimated Cost	$4.55	$8.28	$18.84	$19.13	$22.90
Estimated Millage	1.56	2.84	6.46	6.56	7.85

ESTIMATED COST PER YEAR FOR $100,000 MARKET VALUE

	2018	2019	2020	2021	Total (Ballot)
Estimated Cost	$54.60	$99.40	$226.10	$229.60	$274.75
Estimated Millage	1.56	2.84	6.46	6.56	7.85

Combined Issue: 6.60 Mill Bond Issue & 1.25 Mill P.I. Levy

The total millage for the combined ballot issue is 7.85 mills. This amount includes 6.60 mills for the bond issue and 1.25 mills for the permanent improvement levy. ***Based on estimated growth of property value in the community and a plan of finance that phases in the bond issue debt during four separate years, the school district does not expect the full amount of 7.85 mills to be collected early in the repayment schedule, if at all.*** *This chart shows the estimated millage amounts and costs per $100,000 of market value during the first few years and eventually may reach the ballot amount toward the end of the 37-year repayment.*



Estimate only. Millage subject to change. Interest rate and assessed valuation growth estimates as of June 7, 2017. Actual millage levied depends on interest rates at time of issuance and annual assessed valuation growth.

District: Going Without, Delaying Fixes and Repairs

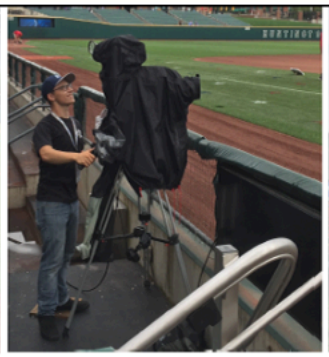
Mark Cooper, Assistant Superintendent

Residents often want to know how they stack up when compared with other school districts. In all, Big Walnut offers a great value.

We are a frugal district and we have a low tax rate. Frankly, we are so lean that there are building fixes and projects that need to occur, but we simply do not have the funds.

Right now, the district does not have dedicated funds for permanent improvement (PI) projects. PI projects are those that have a life of five years or more such as parking lot or roof replacements. So, when fixes are needed, the district either goes without or diverts funds from the operating funds, which are dedicated to the day-to-day operational costs of the school district such as teachers, utilities and supplies.

It is not ideal but it is what we have to work with right now. We simply cannot delay addressing safety and emergency repairs, but it makes it difficult to protect the operating dollars that should otherwise be dedicated to the classroom. Without a doubt, the biggest threat to our fiscal stability going forward is if our increasing enrollment goes unaddressed without a permanent solution.



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DBU BOWLING
Alumni Club of Delaware County

Delaware Buckeyes United Bowling for Scholarships

100% of the proceeds will be used to provide scholarships to Delaware County students offered through:

OSU Alumni Club of Delaware County
&
United Way of Delaware County, Women's Leadership Network

Sunday, October 8th
1PM check-in; 1:30 bowling begins
Delaware Lanes, 536 Sunbury Road, Delaware

$15/person; $75 team of six (use discount code TEAMOF6) includes Two games & shoes plus large pizza for each lane!

Prizes – Door, bowling & best costumed team!
Silent Auction! 50/50 Raffle!

Register: www.delawarebuckeyes.org
Questions:
osualumniclubdelaware@gmail.com or 614-561-1204

Sponsor a lane for $150; sponsorship benefits include:

- Signage with logo at the event
- Recognition through the OSU Alumni Club of Delaware County and United Way of Delaware County, Women's Leadership Network
- Opportunity to provide promotional items in bowler swag bags – pens, cups, pads, etc. (estimate 90 bowlers)

Email osualumniclubdelaware@gmail.com for details.

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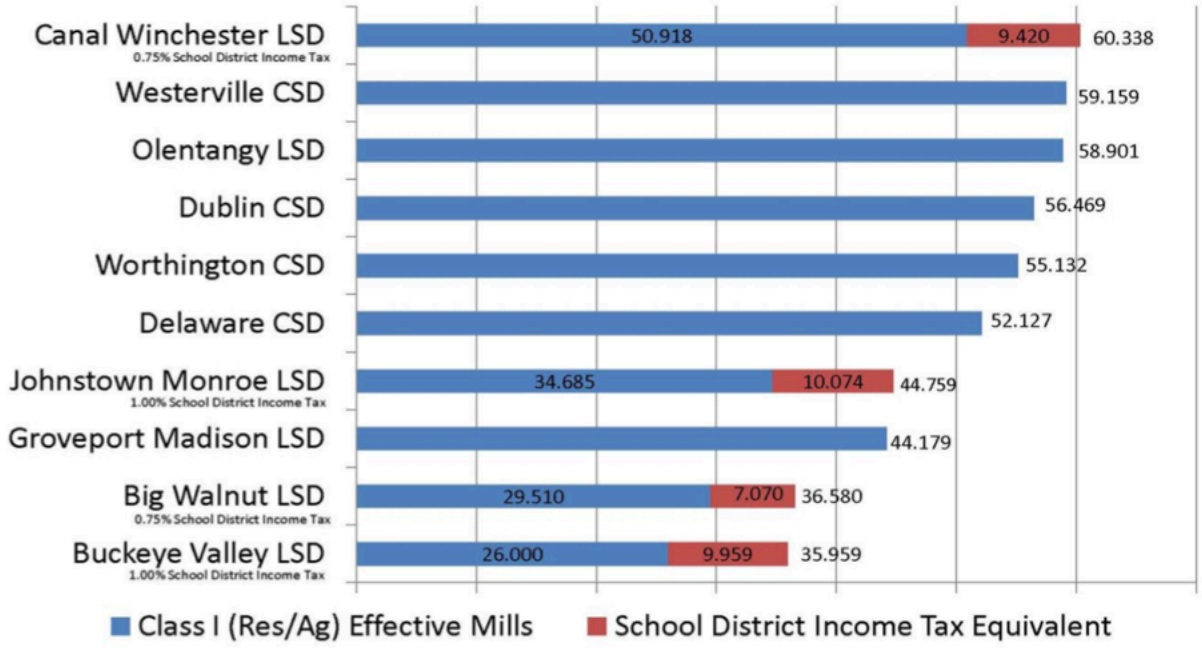
Contact the Sunbury/Big Walnut Area Chamber of Commerce to reserve your ad space today!

(740)965-2860
Or
info@SunburyBigWalnutChamber.com

Big Walnut Local Schools

Big Walnut residents pay a low tax rate and get a great value from their schools.

School District Mills Comparison



Sources: Delaware, Franklin and Licking County Auditor's Offices; Ohio Department of Education; Ohio Department of Taxation

Recently, residents received reappraisal notices from the Delaware County Auditor's office. Our district values will increase approximately 7.5%. People want to live in our district and this is driving home value prices. This is good news for most people as their single biggest asset is their home, and those values are strong in Big Walnut.

Our current and proposed bonds and our substitute replacement levy (passed in May of 2015) will all "roll back" (millage will reduce) based on the reappraisal values. This means residents will pay less millage on higher-valued property to collect the same amount.

Under Ohio law, our current expense levy millage cannot be reduced any farther as we are already at the state minimum (or 20-mill floor). As you can see above, most districts' tax rates far exceed Big Walnut's rate.

Visit the auditor's website (www.delawarecountyauditor.org) to see how you would be impacted by the proposed ballot issue. Click on the Tax Estimator link on the left side of the page, then enter your property information.

www.delawarecountyauditor.org

THANK YOU to the Big Walnut Community for another AMAZING Sizzle!!!

This event would not be possible without our sensational Sizzle Sponsors!!!

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Sunbury/Big Walnut Chamber of Commerce
PJ's Original Family Restaurant

Sunbury / Big Walnut Area Chamber of Commerce

It is hard to believe, but the fall season is nearly upon us! See what the Sunbury/Big Walnut Area Chamber of Commerce has to offer! Business and individual memberships are available. Among the many benefits of joining the chamber, is the opportunity it provides to truly have a finger on the pulse of what is happening in this community.

Mark your calendar for these three upcoming events:

Candidates Breakfast at the beautiful Northstar Golf Club, Friday, October 20th, 7:30 p.m. – 9:00 a.m. Free to members & their non-member guests! On the ballot this time around will be Big Walnut Schools' combined bond and permanent improvement levy, two issues combined into one vote, as well as candidates running for School Board, Township Trustee and Village Council.

A few weeks later, again at Northstar, will be the Chamber's Annual Dinner & Awards Ceremony, featuring a silent auction benefiting Big Walnut Friends Who Share, Thursday, November 9th. 6:30 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. Non-member guests are welcome to both of these events, accompanied by a Chamber member.

Please join us as we celebrate Christmas on the Square 2017, Saturday, December 2nd. Bring your family, friends and neighbors for a wonderful evening of holiday fun! The festivities begin at 4:00 p.m. on Sunbury Square and run until 8:00 p.m. From the lighted parade, carriage rides around the square and a visit with Santa & Mrs. Claus to ice sculpting, a donut-eating contest, the lighting of the village Christmas tree, carolers and many square businesses with open doors offering festive activities, this Sunbury tradition is sure to give you a good bit of Christmas spirit!

For more information on these and all Chamber & member-sponsored events, visit our website at sunburybigwalnutchamber.com or stop in the office. We are located right on Sunbury square!

John Fox, Executive Director
Sunbury/Big Walnut Area Chamber of Commerce

Sunbury Chiropractic Center

www.sunburychiropractic.com
123 State Route 3
Sunbury, OH 43074
(740) 965-4301

Our team of skilled, respected chiropractors — Dr. Tom Erndt, Dr. Aaron Erndt, Dr. Gabe Mendenhall, Dr. Jeff Willoughby, and Dr. Amanda Golden — look forward to meeting you and helping you feel better through natural healing techniques. Our office, founded by Dr. Tom Erndt, has been present and 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. Please contact us at 740-965-4301 to set up an appointment and learn how chiropractic care can help you!

Open Monday through Saturday, offering the following:

- Wellness Care
- Family Practice
- Personal Injury
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- Massage Therapy
- Sports physicals, nutrition, orthotics and more

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Best wishes to all for the 2017-18 school year!

Come see us on the Sunbury Village Square.

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Realtors, standing from left: Michael Pankuch, Linda Wehrle, Roland Higgins, Steve Barbeau, Kelly Forman, Jennifer Fielding, Don Poland. Sitting, from left: Martin Forman, Mike Forman

Big Walnut Local Schools

2020 VISION

Spotlight of the Month

BWHS Print Service

The BWHS Print Service was created in 2016 with a mission to provide high-quality education to Big Walnut students so they could learn about the process of running a small business, managing finances, designing/editing art and providing customers with first class work. This class aligns well with the 2020 Vision by connecting content to job-application skills.

The BWHS Print Service is a large format print group that specializes in the design and production of graphics and wall art. In addition to the Big Walnut School District market, the BWHS Print Service prints for all types of clients throughout the Sunbury area and has grown to become a trusted leader in the large format printing industry since it was founded.

At the BWHS Print Service, students are always looking for exciting ways to push their knowledge and learning forward to help bring customers' work into the spotlight. Out-of-the-box thinking has paved the road to amazing results with large wall wraps, beautiful large scale prints and creative design.

Ready to get your project off the ground? We're always happy to help out with any questions you may have. You can email us at BWHSPrintService@gmail.com, or call us from 2:20-3:20 p.m. Monday through Friday at (740) 965-3766 ext. 1015.

JOIN US FOR STATE OF THE SCHOOLS

Featuring model classrooms, student-led booths, and information on our upcoming ballot issue.

Monday, September 25, 2017
Big Walnut Intermediate
6:30 p.m.

Quick Q&A on the Nov. 7 Ballot Issue

What is on the November 7 ballot for our schools?
A combined bond and permanent improvement levy.

What will the ballot issue provide?
The bond issue will provide a new high school and additional elementary school. All current buildings will continue to be used.

The permanent improvement issue will establish important funding for the regular upkeep and maintenance of our buildings such as security updates to better prevent unauthorized intrusions and electrical system upgrades to support modern learning technology.

Is this the same ballot issue put forth last November?
No. The new building projects are the same as they both are needed right now. The board scaled back the request on the original bond issue funds to care for existing buildings, and has shifted to a smaller permanent improvement levy request to cover some of the needs of those buildings. It's not that there were unnecessary projects from that original request; the decision has been made to postpone some projects based on community feedback regarding the size of the ballot issue.

What happens if it passes?
Then we can move forward immediately with security renovations on existing buildings and design of new buildings to protect the quality that we expect in our schools.

What happens if it fails?
If it fails, then overcrowding worsens and we only further delay a long-term solution. More trailers and short-term fixes only serve to divert funds from the classroom and drain our operating budget.

DID YOU KNOW?

With our 1:1 Chromebook initiative, we are able to significantly reduce textbook and workbook costs. We are in no way eliminating all traditional textbooks and workbooks; however, teachers are using the Chromebooks as a tool to create new learning opportunities and significantly reduce the need for traditional textbooks and workbooks.

Cost Breakdown of Instructional Tools

	Cost per item	Number of classes	Total	Life span	Total per year per student
Textbook	$100.00	4 (English, math, science, social studies)	$400.00	5 years	$80.00
Workbook	$20.00	4 (English, math, science, social studies)	$80.00	1 year	$80.00
Chromebook	$200.00	Any / All classes	$200.00	4 years	$50.00

Big Walnut Local Schools

Scoreboard Generates Revenue

Brian Shelton, Athletic Director

We are excited to announce our football scoreboard project will be paid in full this fall. Three years ago, I approached the school board with an idea to raise funds for a financially struggling athletic department while upgrading a 25-year-old scoreboard that was beyond repair.

We met with several schools who were doing similar projects and having tremendous success. The Big Walnut School District paid $107,000 for the scoreboard to get the project underway with the intent the scoreboard would be paid for through advertising dollars within 4 years. We are pleased to say that this goal has been exceeded, as the scoreboard will be paid off this year, one year ahead of schedule.

This project is an investment for the future of our athletic department. Once paid in full, we will use a portion of revenue from the scoreboard to help pay for the salary of our strength and conditioning coach, who has the role of training our student athletes with proper form and technique to prevent injuries. With physical maturity varying greatly between our students, this is a critical position.

If a new high school is built, the scoreboard will be moved to the new location.

The Big Walnut Athletic Department would like to thank the following sponsors for their contribution to the scoreboard project:	
Sunbury Chiropractic - Aaron and Cindy Erndt	AEP - Ohio
Jet's Pizza - Robert Hayden	Firehouse Grill and Tavern - Jodi Teale
Hathaway Brown/Platinum Realty - Jerry Melvin	Eagle Insurance - BG Evans
State Security - Mike Neff	Nationwide Children's Hospital
State Farm - Joni Stanton	Heartland Home Cabinetry - Dominic Giordano
State Farm - Jessica Forman	Big Walnut Grill - Jon Self
Wizard Wraps - Alvin Barkaloo	

• Coming • SOON

Starting with our next edition, our BWHS Rage Page journalism staff will be gaining more real-world experience by writing and designing a page for this district newsletter. We are excited to share their work with our community.

Buying, building or refinancing a home is a big financial decision.

Get the payment you can afford and a $350[1] Hometown Checking Deposit credit.

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NMLS #728209 FCB NMLS# 479240

[1]This offer is valid for complete applications received through First Commonwealth Mortgage on January 16, 2017 through December 31, 2017. The loan must close and fund to be valid for this offer. Both new account holders and existing account holders who have a checking account with First Commonwealth Bank are eligible. New account holders must open their checking account within 30 calendar days of their loan funding. Current account holders must present the promo voucher at a local branch within 30 calendar days of their loan funding. Reward will be credited to active checking accounts within 30 calendar days from the date of deposit account opening or voucher redemption and will be identified as "Promotional Credit" on your checking account statement. Variable-Rate Annual Percentage Yield (APY) for the Hometown Checking + Interest Package varies by tier. For example, as of 8/7/2017, APY by tier is: 0.01% for $500+; 0.01% for $2,500+; 0.01% for $10,000+. Rate and APY may change after the account is opened. The minimum deposit to open the Hometown Checking account is $50. Fees may reduce earnings on the account. No minimum checking account deposit balance required to obtain Hometown Checking Deposit credit. Only one voucher per funded loan is redeemable. Not valid with any other offer or promotions. Offer subject to change without notice. The value of the reward may be reported on Internal Revenue Service (IRS) Form 1099 and may be considered taxable income. Please consult your tax advisor regarding your specific situation.

STAFF SPOTLIGHT: MRS. MARY MITTON SANCHEZ

Hometown: I was born in Oklahoma City, OK, but I was raised in Columbus, OH.
Current position: English, Journalism, and Speech teacher at BWHS
Years with the district: 2017-2018 will be my TENTH year working in the district!
Education: BS in English Education from Miami University; MA in Journalism from Kent State University; Reynolds Institute for High School Journalism Educators

Family stats: My husband, Dan, and I were married in 2015. We live in Westerville with our adorable Cockapoo, Gilbert.
Hobbies: I enjoy gardening, swimming, reading, and traveling. I traveled to Spain twice this summer, once to chaperone a school trip and once with my husband to visit his family.
What does #InspireAndGuide mean to you? Inspire and guide means building relationships with students so that they have support and guidance as they work to meet their goals.

Big Walnut Local Schools

WE HAD A GREAT START TO THE NEW SCHOOL YEAR!

In Physics class at BWHS, students are working in teams to create directions on how to build a structure out of Legos. Other classes will follow the instructions written by their peers.

Grade-level meetings at BWMS to discuss life at middle school

BWE's preschool students are ready for a great year

The BWE students enjoyed watching teachers model great behavior... and not so great behavior

Fourth grade at GRE getting straight to business talking about pre-historic Indians

BWMS science teachers explaining the solar eclipse

BWI's Mrs. Bridge helping a band member

Sharing our writing in second grade at GRE

Students in sixth grade working together to solve a problem at BWI

Planning and dreaming about how to design our STEM space in the library. It will be the HSE 4th grade legacy project.

Souders students amazed by the solar eclipse

Students in high school Spanish using song and movement to learn the language

Harrison Street students digging the new art space with Ms. Albertson