

Big Walnut Local Schools
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THE EAGLE EXAMINER

Sponsored by the Sunbury / Big Walnut Area Chamber of Commerce

December 2017

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



From the students and staff at Big Walnut,
Thank You Voters



A Message From Our Superintendent: *Angie Pollock*



Facebook icon @angiepollockBW

Twitter icon @AngiePollock2

In this time of giving thanks, we are especially appreciative of the passage of our district's November 7 combined bond and permanent improvement levy. We are so thankful that the passage of this ballot issue will help us continue to provide our children with a great education.

The November 7 ballot issue was so critical and really was about what the future of education will look like in Big Walnut. Here is what passage of that issue means and why we are so grateful:

-We no longer have to delay critical building repairs. In fact, we can provide much-needed fixes to our existing buildings so that we can protect the investment in these buildings.

- All buildings will be scheduled to receive updated security features, including redesigned entries that funnel visitors into the offices.
- We will upgrade electrical systems so that the buildings can support modern learning technology.
- We can keep pace with enrollment increases. The new high school will provide more space and will allow us to efficiently utilize other school buildings as younger students move into larger spaces.
- When the new high school opens, we will no longer have to divert funds from the daily operating budget to pay for trailers. Instead, we can use those dollars for how they should be used: daily operational expenses like utilities, teachers, and classroom supplies.

It is easy to see why we are so thankful and relieved. In the coming weeks, we will announce a timeline for the new building projects. There is a lot of work and planning that needs to take place with the assessment of potential land sites and building design. Once we have hired an architect, we will be working through the timeline and process for community involvement in the design of our schools. These buildings will belong to the Big Walnut community, and we will make sure that they reflect our community's priorities.

In addition to updates in our monthly newsletters, you can also check our website, bwls.net, for information as it becomes available.

Have a wonderful holiday season full of great memories with family and friends.



Big Walnut Local Schools

A Message From Our Board

The Big Walnut Board of Education thanks voters for supporting the recent ballot issue for new and updated facilities. There was not a “no-cost” option to dealing with increasing enrollment, and the board appreciates that voters supported a long-term bricks-and-mortar solution over an ad hoc alternative with trailers. In addition, even with passing this ballot issue, Big Walnut will continue to be one of the lowest cost districts in Central Ohio.

As part of our observances for Veterans Day, BW Middle School Assistant Principal/Athletic Director Darin Prince told the board that during the military appreciation football game tailgate, he had the opportunity to meet several active duty military members from our community. Active duty military members, especially officers, change stations several times during their career. Joint Force Headquarters for the Ohio National Guard is located in the NW Columbus/Dublin area. Mr. Prince asked several why they ended up in Big Walnut, to which they replied that Big



Walnut is at the top of the list for most recommended places to live while stationed there. According to these soldiers, one of the biggest reasons for that recommendation was the school system.

This board will work to maintain that same quality and value that attracted these soldiers.

A few things make Big Walnut unique for me, and I want to keep it that way. It is a three generation community. Young families can afford to start here, and grandparents and retirees can afford to stay here. We have people from all stations of life. And we have more than our fair share of people who make, fix, raise and grow things.

Shifting gears - Big Walnut teachers, coaches, club advisors, athletic directors and principals are always looking for ways to help our students learn and develop through competition, both academically and through extracurricular activities. But they could not do it without community boosters. This month, I would like to highlight the Big Walnut Athletic Boosters (BWAB), which supports 30+ teams and roughly 1,200 athletes in our middle and high schools. Please contact Doug Taylor, BWAB President, at (614) 288-9997 or Doug.BWAB@yahoo.com to see how you can help in terms of your time, talents or financial support.

Sincerely,

Andy Wecker
President, Big Walnut Board of Education

BW Teachers Experience Innovation in Other Districts



On November 27, the last day of Thanksgiving break for students, we had a professional development day for our teaching staff. We



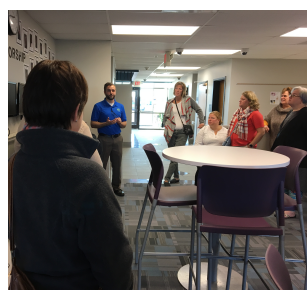
Otterbein's The Point



Marysville's Early College High School



PAST Foundation & Metro HS



Olentangy's STEM Academy



Hilliard Station Sixth Grade School



Columbus State

Teacher Testimonials



Rob Firchau
Big Walnut Intermediate

I believe that the Big Walnut 2020 Vision is important because it provides freedom. This freedom is experienced not only in the way teachers are able to personalize the instruction of their students, but in the infinite ways that students are allowed to uniquely express their learning. Freedom allows for the engagement of students, but it also provides the spark igniting the eternal flame of curiosity. Most importantly, this freedom provides the opportunity to grow the minds of students and teachers alike, going boldly beyond the curriculum in order to experience the joy and wonder of exploration and discovery.



Susan Monfort
Big Walnut Elementary

When I think of Big Walnut I think of an amazing family! A family that is committed through its 2020 Vision to making sure that each of its children is equipped with tools to succeed in a world that is changing and evolving very quickly. By working to meet individual student needs and by giving students a voice and choice in their learning, they grow. By engaging students in opportunities where they work collaboratively as critical thinkers, they flourish. What a privilege it is to be part of such a caring learning community that recognizes the importance of constantly reflecting on ways to help students reach their maximum potential!

Big Walnut Local Schools

Big Walnut Celebrates Veterans Day



Our local veterans taught Souders Elementary students how to properly fold a flag.



Harrison Street students showed their appreciation for our local vets.



All students had the opportunity to thank our soldiers at Big Walnut Elementary.



Band and choir students played patriotic songs to honor our vets at Big Walnut Intermediate, and student council members gave flags to each service member recognized.



Students at General Rosecrans Elementary sang and read tributes to our local heroes.



Our MS students held a breakfast to honor our veterans.

Educational Options Night

During this educational night, hear about programs offered at the high school and speak with staff about the various courses offered. There will be presentations on AP, honors courses, Delaware Area Career Center, Flex Credit, College Credit Plus, and much more.

Who: Parents of current 8th-11th grade students
When: February 1, 2018 from 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
Where: BWHS

Student Showcase Night

The evening will highlight and display student work from all subjects and grades. In addition, a summer opportunities fair and information on the College Credit Plus Program will be available.

Who: Parents of current 6th-8th grade students
When: February 8, 2018 from 4:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
Where: BWMS

Freshman Family Orientation Night

This event gives families an opportunity to hear about the high school and receive information on classes and scheduling. The evening will also include an opportunity to meet with both core and elective teachers.

Who: Current 8th grade families
When: February 12, 2018 from 6:30 p.m.
Where: BWHS



If you have any questions about these events, contact our College and Career Readiness Coordinator, Penny Sturtevant, at (740) 965-7753 or email her at pennysturtevant@bwls.net.

Community Library

Library Provides 24/7 Pick-up

At the Community Library in Sunbury, we understand that life can get busy. Sometimes it is a challenge to make it to the library during open hours. Just because the library closes at the end of the day, does not mean you should not have access to books, movies, and other resources you need.

We are excited to announce that patrons are no longer limited to getting materials only when we are open. With the generous support of the Community Library Foundation, we have recently installed a locker system on the front of the library. This new service allows patrons to pick up materials 24 hours a day, seven days a week, which gives patrons access to materials in the early morning, late evening, and all day Sunday.

To use the service, patrons notify the library that they wish to have their hold requests placed in the 24/7 lockers. To access the materials, patrons simply swipe their card to open their assigned locker. Items remain in the lockers for 24 hours. Items not picked up will go back on the regular hold shelf for a week, where they can be picked up during regular hours at the front desk or at the drive-through.

If you have any questions about the 24/7 lockers or wish to use the service, please contact the Community Library at 740-965-3901 or ask@yourcl.org. If you need a library card, visit <http://register.yourcl.org>.



Sometimes it's hard to talk about mental health & substance abuse, but the conversation is too important not to have.

We are here to help.

For our network of providers go to DMMHRSB.org



**Delaware-Morrow Mental Health
& Recovery Services Board**

A big **THANK YOU** to all the generous sponsors that made the 2017 Christmas on the Square a great success!!

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Big Walnut Local Schools

Big Walnut Mechanics Use Innovation to Save District Money

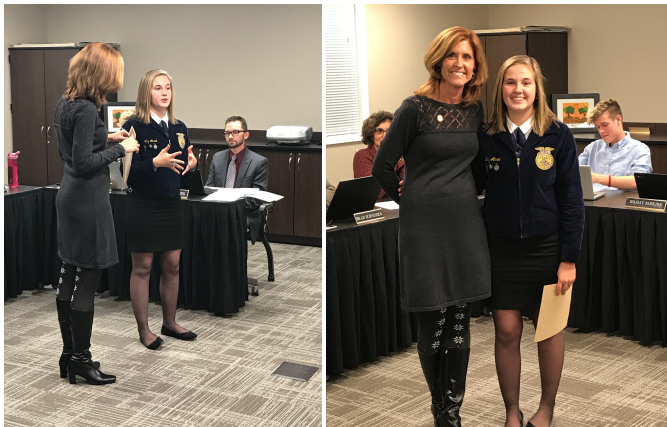


Last winter, mechanics Pat O’Quin and Steve Johnson, and retired mechanic Larry Patterson, converted one of our old buses into a new salt spreader that is constructed of stainless steel and saved the district \$15,000. Our old spreader was completely rusted out and had outlived its lifespan, so these gentlemen used the type of innovation that we have come to expect from our mechanics to build a “new” spreader. The Red Snow Slayer is ready for winter weather this year, but we are hoping that we have another mild winter and are able to save on salt costs.

In addition to the salt truck, our mechanics are responsible for servicing 8 vehicles (including maintenance trucks and vans), 43 buses, and 7 tractors and mowers. They do a phenomenal job, and we are appreciative of the long life that we are able to get from the vehicles due to their skill and hard work. While we do contract some outside services, our mechanics are able to provide the majority of servicing to our fleet.



Our Facilities Committee reconvened on November 28, after the passage of our ballot issue, to discuss land requirements and the construction process. Stay tuned!



Sophomore Liz Ansel was recognized at our November board meeting for her accomplishment as a National Semi-Finalist in public speaking at the FFA National Convention. She is pictured above with board member Mindy Meyer.

Student & Artist of the Month



November Student of the Month:

Justin Cochran from Harrison Street Elementary is pictured with his family and Board President Andy Wecker.



November Student of the Month:

Ashley Fisher from Big Walnut Middle School is pictured with her family and Board Vice President Brad Schneider.



November Artist of the Month:

Natalie Slone from Harrison Street Elementary is pictured with her family and Board President Andy Wecker.

Community News

Area Elementary Pumpkin Decorating Contest

Two area elementary schools were challenged this Halloween season to get their creative juices going for the competition of a Halloween Decorating Contest. This was sponsored primarily, and executed, by Howard Hanna Realcom Realty, with additional help from Barristers Title Co., Meijer, and Pizza Hut in Sunbury.

Each class was to decorate a pumpkin for judging and the winning classrooms were treated to a pizza party, as well as a PUMPKIN trophy for their classroom.

The results were as follows:

General Rosecrans Elementary winners-

Mrs. Dixon's 1st Grade
Mr. Patterson's 2nd Grade
Mr. Hardin's 3rd Grade
Mrs. Kurena's 3rd Grade

Hylen Souders Elementary winners-

Mrs. Tarney's Kindergarten
Mrs. Cannell's 1st Grade
Mrs. Desormeaux's 4th Grade

Since this was our first year to hold this competition and the results were so enthusiastic, we are planning on expanding in 2018 to all Big Walnut elementary schools.

Thanks for all that were involved and we are glad the students had so much fun!



Merry Christmas from all of us at Forman Realtors

*One of the real joys of the holiday season
is the opportunity to express our deep appreciation
and to wish you the very best for the New Year.*

Thank you for another year in this amazing community.



Forman REALTORS



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
- Worker’s Compensation
- Massage Therapy
- Sports physicals, nutrition, orthotics and more



Proudly serving the Sunbury community for over 35 years!



FUN CLASSES KIDS LOVE

TRY ONE WEEK ON US



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**Interested in advertising
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Eagle Examiner?**

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

2020 VISION

Spotlight of the Month



The middle school science team (Jason Crawford, Keri Kotchounian, Ryan Mocarski, Nick Powell, Bob Scott and Rich Smith) meets weekly to plan innovative and engaging activities to develop student knowledge and skills. With a high focus on hands-on and experiential learning, science students frequently interact with content through projects, labs and online simulations. For example, the 7th grade students develop a deeper understanding about forces and motion through the “Punkin Chunkin” construction project, while the 8th grade students interact with Newton’s Laws of Motion through a model car motion and analysis activity. When materials may prove difficult or unsafe for authentic lab experiences, BWMS incorporates online labs, which allow students to complete trials and practice scientific inquiry. Overall, the projects and hands-on focus within our science classes at BWMS help grow the skills of communication, collaboration, creativity and critical thinking necessary for the next generation of science and technology experts in the 21st Century.



Energy Unit with
Electrical Circuits



8th Grade Forces and
Motion - Newton's Laws



Periodic Table
Investigations



Investigating Physical &
Chemical Properties

Athletic Update

All-Ohio Award Winners



Senior
Caleb Pierce
Football
Honorable Mention



Senior
Emma Padgett
Girls Soccer
2nd Team



Junior
Eli Myers
Football
3rd Team



Junior
Kelsie Imertreijis
Volleyball
Honorable Mention

For a complete list of post-season awards, visit the athletic website.

New Athletic Website:
www.bigwalnutathletics.net



Varsity Coed Swimming/Diving



Varsity Wrestling



Varsity Girls Bowling



Varsity Boys Bowling



Varsity Gymnastics



Stay tuned for more winter sports photos in our January edition.

Big Walnut Local Schools: Student Rage Page

GIRLS SOCCER SHOWS POWER IN STATE TOURNAMENT

By Alex Williams

Greatness is not often achieved, but this season the girls soccer team went against all odds and did just that. Heading into the tournament the team was 10-2-4. The standard was set, and the team wanted nothing less than a spot in the Final Four.

"As a team we were prepared. Our coaches put us through practices for this exact moment," Junior Captain Grace Bodker said. The outcome of the tournament was one for the history books. Winning both districts and

regionals, the team advanced to the state final four.

"It didn't feel real. I was so excited," Bodker reminisced.

Although they lost their game against Indian Hill, the team still brought home two trophies and the privilege of being one of top four DII teams in the state.

Senior Captain Emma Padgett was proud. "We made it two steps further than we did last year and accomplished many of the goals we set in the beginning of the season."



Photo courtesy of Brian Shelton

QUEENS OF THE COURT

By Lauren Speelman

The team that beat out the girls for the State Championship was Padua Franciscan, who were the returning State Champs. The Eagles still ended their season with a phenomenal record of 25-4.

The volleyball team had an amazing season. While it wasn't the outcome they desired, they should still be very proud of this accomplishment.

All of the seniors agreed that this had been their favorite season out of all four years.

Senior Meredith Thomas said, "Every year we said that we were going to go to state, and this year we actually did it. I was so sad afterwards, but at the same time, so proud of everything that my team and I were able to accomplish this year."



All volleyball photos by Keri Rammelsberg.

Star Player Spotlight

Junior Mac Podraza has been committed to Big Ten school Maryland since sophomore year. Podraza chose Maryland because "I wanted to go somewhere that I could leave my own legacy, and not just live in someone else's shoes."



Mac Podraza



Kassie Bowmar

Being the only sophomore on varsity can be intimidating, but not for Kassie Bowmar. Bowmar stepped up this season when Senior outside hitter Emma Urhammer was unable to play due to an injury.

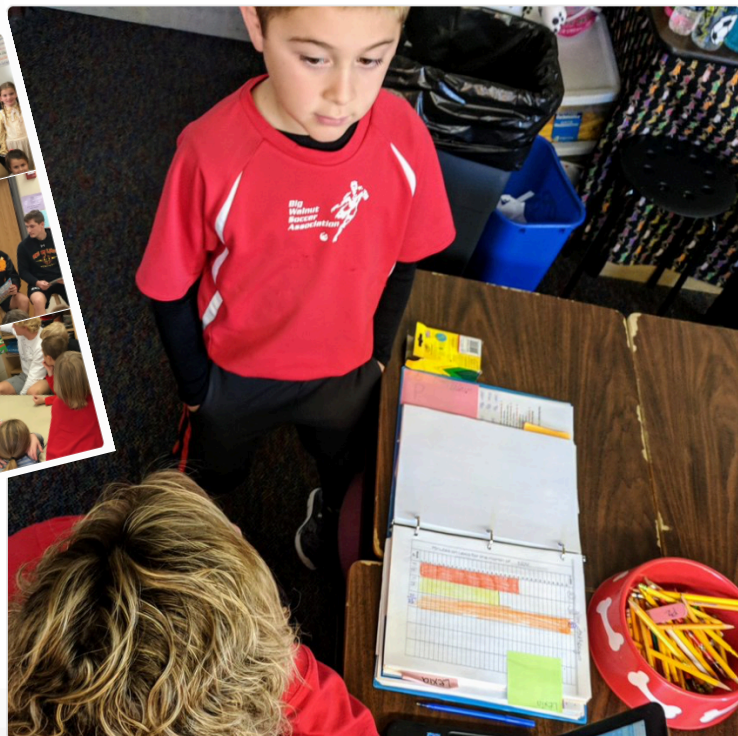
GO FOR THE KILL: Senior outside hitter Emma Urhammer goes up for the kill against Highland. **SAVED!:** Junior Emily Vance dives cross court to dig a ball against Newark. **LAUGH IT OFF:** Junior middle hitter Kaley Rammelsburg keeps it fun during a game.



Big Walnut Local Schools



Jen Young @jen_young_ · Dec 2
Harrison Street Elem is doing weekly 1:1 conferences with students to review data and set goals. Excellent example of students actively involved in their learning! #bwls2020 #InspireAndGuide @BWLS @KimCastiglione



DELAWARE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICTS
PRESENT THE...

2018 Transition Fair

Date: January 8, 2018

Time: 5:30-7:30

Location: Delaware Hayes HS
289 Euclid Ave
Delaware, OH 43015

For more information please contact
Kathie Burkman
burkmaka@delawarecityschools.net

In case of inclement weather the Transition Fair will be rescheduled for January 22, 2018

Break Out Sessions:
5:45 & 6:30

Social Security
- Roberta Carr

Accommodations in College
- Disability Services from
CSCC

Representatives from a variety of agencies will be available to share information about:

- Career and Technical Education Programs
- Independent Living Supports
- Bureau of Vocation Rehabilitation
- Estate Planning and Special Needs Trusts
- Job Training
- Financial Supports
- Employment Supports
- Transportation Options
- And many more

Directions: From West Central Avenue turn onto Euclid Ave (also a road sign that says Pacer Way). Take Euclid Ave north and the high school will be on your left hand side. **Park in the back parking lot off of Hayes Dr., not the parking on the side of the building.**



Co-Sponsored by: Big Walnut, Buckeye Valley, Delaware City, and Olentangy School Districts.

Big Walnut Local Schools

CHILD CHECK DEVELOPMENTAL SCREENER

When you
Know
it helps
your
child
Learn
and
Grow
Screen early. Developmental checkups
help your child learn and grow.

Inspire
and
Guide
Eagle
Pride



TO SCHEDULE AN
APPOINTMENT CALL
740.965.7846

2017-2018 Child Check Schedule
Friday, October 13, 2017
Friday, February 2, 2018

Location: BWLS Administrative Offices
110 Tippet Ct, Sunbury (behind McDonalds)

Child Check is an educational screening for children ages 3-5. Child Check is NOT a Kindergarten screening. This screening is provided by Big Walnut Local Schools and is free to families within the Big Walnut School District. The purpose is to provide parents with information regarding their child's development in: Speech and Language Skills, Gross/Fine Motor (Large & Small Muscle) Skills, Basic Academic Concepts, Vision and Hearing.

The screening can help parents determine how their child is developing in comparison to other children the same age. If a child has weaknesses, or is delayed in one or more of these areas then he/she will be referred for further testing. This additional testing is more comprehensive and will determine if the delay is significant enough to qualify for special education.

A child who passes the screener and is 4 years of age, is eligible to be a PEER Model in the Big Walnut Preschool Program. For more information regarding the PEER Model Program please call 740.965.7846 or email heidikoon@bwls.net.