

BIG WALNUT LOCAL SCHOOLS

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The Eagle Examiner

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APRIL 2018

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



**A MESSAGE FROM SUPERINTENDENT
ANGIE POLLOCK**



Happy spring,

There is so much that changes throughout any given school year – students grow, learn new things, and develop great friendships. Yet, even with changes, there

are also some constants. And for our school district, one thing that never changes is the strong support our community gives us every year. We are able to provide an exceptional educational experience for our students because of the support of our community and the vision of a very dedicated school board.

Part of our exceptional educational experience includes many student activities in May. From class trips to Heartland Camp and Washington D.C., to prom and graduation, our students are very active in the spring. We are excited to celebrate these milestones with our students and partner with our community to help our students have a safe and enjoyable end of the year.

As the year winds down, please know that we remain committed to constantly improving academic achievement, planning for community development and growth, and maintaining financial responsibility. I encourage you to view our Quality Profile on our web site to get a glimpse of the district’s progress. Although this document will be updated over the summer, it highlights our priorities and how we reflect what the community values in our schools.

Thank you for your continued support! Have a great end of the school year.

SAVE THE DATE

Big Walnut High School Graduation

SATURDAY, MAY 19 @ 7:30 P.M.
HIGH SCHOOL STADIUM

(IF INCLEMENT WEATHER OCCURS,
CEREMONY WILL BE MOVED TO BWHS GYMNASIUM.)



Congrats Seniors!



BIG WALNUT LOCAL SCHOOLS

Message from the Board

Ridgemont Gophers, from pre-schoolers to seniors, go to school in a single, cutting-edge building in rural Hardin Co. You can read about them in *Irresistable: A Story of How Passionate Leadership and Smart Design Changed a School and a Community*. After voters trounced two bond issues, it's a great story of what the citizens in and around Ridgeway and Mt. Victory did to rally around the approach (and success) of their FFA students and teacher, Stephanie Jolliff. It took two more attempts to pass a bond issue for a new building, finally winning 649-478 in March 2012. Where the feds and the state may impose mandates, first-time Superintendent Emmy Beeson listened and built a foundation around local buy-in.

Ridgemont is one example that Big Walnut staff have visited and will visit, and several years ago, I happened to hear



Superintendent Beeson present with the Ridgemont architects. Although its enrollment is much smaller, the approach of Ms. Jolliff with agricultural science and then Superintendent Beeson matches Big Walnut's 2020 Vision to inspire and guide by personalizing instruction, engaging learners and growing minds. It would be a long time before it would ever get to build another school, so when Ridgemont broke ground in the spring of 2014, staff wrote down the following principles first:

We are moving from a bureaucratic institution to a learning organization. We have designed a 21st-Century learning facility in our new PreK-12 building. Both our building and our instructional designs are founded on these principles. At Ridgemont, we believe in:

- *Service and project-based learning which addresses real world problems for real world audiences.*
- *Customized student learning based on student need and*

readiness which uses technology as a primary tool.

- *Deeper, amplified learning which makes principles one and two purposeful and engaging to students.*

Ridgemont emphasizes lifelong learning. So it is probably no surprise that Emmy Beeson is now the superintendent of Tolles Career & Technical Center in Plain City, serving both high school and adult students. As we continue the design and building process, I think we will all learn some things about the construction labor shortage and many opportunities in the trades.

Sincerely,

Andy Wecker
Big Walnut Board of Education
President

Anonymous Donor Kick-Starts Accessible Playground Campaign

Buy your brick today and be a part of tomorrow's legacy

Article by Souders Elementary PTO

Play is vital to every child's growth and well-being. While play abilities are different among children, the need for play and the right to the opportunity to play are not. The Souders Community Playground project was created by Souders Elementary PTO with the mission to partner with Big

Walnut area leaders, businesses and residents to raise funds to build a more accessible, inclusive playground that welcomes kids of all abilities to learn and grow together.

The project has a fundraising goal of \$100,000. Recently an anonymous donor gifted a significant contribution through The Columbus Foundation. The

donor provided \$15,000 to the campaign and pledged an additional \$10,000 match to the PTO's fundraising efforts. The cost of commercial play structures can range between \$30,000 and \$500,000, and inclusive playground elements can cost as much as \$10,000 each. Rubber surfacing that makes a playground more accessible for anyone with

mobility challenges and safer for everyone is costly. The new playground will allow all children to play with one another and create a sense of community. Children with disabilities will receive the same developmental benefits as their peers. Children without disabilities will develop healthy concepts of diversity and

Continued on page 3

BIG WALNUT LOCAL SCHOOLS

PUPP Taxes:

Positive Revenue Contributions from Utilities

Article by Treasurer Jeremy Buskirk

Another source of funds for Big Walnut Local Schools is Tangible Personal Property Tax (TPP). Over a decade ago, school districts throughout Ohio received taxes on general businesses' tangible personal property, which is assessed on the value of such things as machinery, equipment, and inventories used in the course of business. The Ohio General Assembly, however, began a phase-out of these taxes in 2005 with the passage of House Bill 66, which was fully implemented by 2011.

While TPP has been phased out for many companies, public utilities including electric, rural electric, natural gas, pipeline, water works, water transportation, and heating companies are still subject to Public Utility Personal Property (PUPP) tax, which is a form of TPP. Personal property for public utilities includes all plant and equipment that is either owned or leased by the utility in the course of their operations.

Taxpayer	Assessed Valuation
AEP Ohio Transmission Company, Inc.	\$103,918,660
Ohio Power Company	\$19,330,610
Columbia Gas of Ohio	\$5,161,600
Consolidated Electric Company	\$2,560,530
Batter Utility of Ohio, LLC	\$1,108,690
Total	\$132,080,090
All other Taxpayers	\$99,290
Total Tax Year 2016 Assessed Valuations	\$132,179,380

As you drive down State Route 37, you can see the AEP Vassell Substation. The substation provides energy conversion equipment, which is a prime example of PUPP and provides an understanding of why this category of funding on our five-year forecast has increased significantly over the last five years. We appreciate this sizable investment in our community



Treasurer Jeremy Buskirk with his staff receiving the Ohio Auditor of State Award With Distinction

(see assessed valuation chart) because it provides resources that kept us from needing to request additional mills when our substitute emergency levy was approved in May 2015.

While the same general equation applies to both real estate and PUPP taxes, the assessment rates can vary depending on the type of utility. Another difference of the PUPP tax is that a utility is taxed at the full millage rate, unlike a reduced "effective" rate used for real estate. Additionally, PUPP is subject to depreciation factors over time, which reduces the taxable cost that is reported. So, if further investment is not made into the existing equipment, a reduction in resources can be seen over a period of time.

Every community has a unique composition, and the resources provided can vary greatly. Hopefully, this brief explanation of the PUPP tax gives greater insight into the financial workings of our school district.

Souders' Playground

Continued from page 2

acceptance. All children will enjoy the opportunity to exercise, which is essential to good health and a lifetime of wellness. The playground will serve all Souders students and be a more inclusive play resource for respectful use by anyone in the community during non-school hours, including all children across the school district and the more than 1,200 families who comprise the Big Walnut Soccer Association.



"I want this playground so I can play with my brother who cannot use his arms. When Marco can't play, I feel sad that he can't enjoy what other kids get to enjoy."
- Nico Ranalli, 4th grade

Pictured between his brothers and Souders Elementary students Rocco and Nico Ranalli, Marco Ranalli is a Souders preschooler who has a significant physical impairment. Updating his school's playground will make it easier for Marco to play with his classmates and brothers. According to Student Services, approximately ten percent of Big Walnut students have a form of disability.

To raise the money needed to build a more accessible playground for the Big Walnut community, the project planning committee is selling engraved bricks and granite tiles, which will be used to build an outdoor seating area near the new playground. Brick and tile options are available for individuals, families, businesses and other organizations and can be personalized with names, messages, clipart and logos.

Please join Souders Elementary in making a statement: Our community is an inclusive one—everyone belongs. For more information and to order a brick or tile, visit <http://ptosouders.com> and click on "Playground Project."



March's STUDENTS & ARTISTS OF THE MONTH



Student of the Month: Aidan Hernandez-Jenkins from Big Walnut Middle School pictured with his family



Student of the Month: Virginia Shicks from Harrison Street Elementary School pictured with her family



Artist of the Month: Alexa DeGenova from Big Walnut Middle School pictured with her family



Artist of the Month: Madilyn Clever from Harrison Street Elementary School

SUNBURY/ BIG WALNUT AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



Community Expo & Job Fair

Hosted by Sunbury/Big Walnut Area Chamber of Commerce and Big Walnut Local Schools

"Living, Learning & Working in the Big Walnut Area"

Thursday, April 26, 2018

5:00 - 8:00 pm

**Big Walnut High School Gymnasium
555 S. Old 3C Highway, Sunbury, Ohio**

Free Admission and Pizza from Jet's! Concessions available!

5:30pm: Big Walnut 3rd grade Recorder performance!

6:00pm: Big Walnut Jazz Band on the stage!

6:30pm: Various acts from Lex Center of the Performing Arts!

We hope you'll join us!



Big Walnut Local Schools

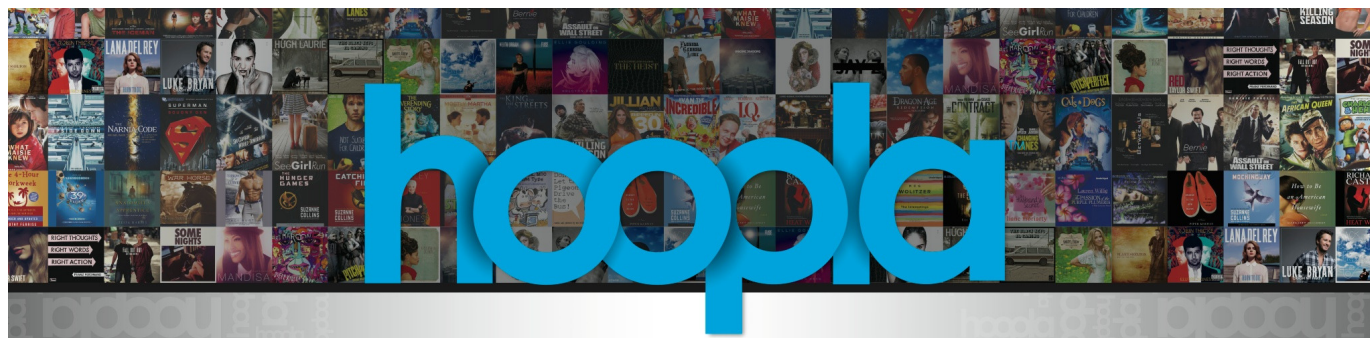
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Sunbury Chiropractic Center · The Sunbury News · Tanger Outlets
Sunbury-Galena Town Money Saver · Westar OB/GYN

COMMUNITY LIBRARY

Streaming Movies and Music Now Available at the Community Library

As more and more content goes online, the Community Library in Sunbury wanted to expand our collection so patrons can easily and conveniently access what they need. Starting May 1, the library will offer streaming movies, music, and much more through a new online service, Hoopla.



Similar to other streaming services like Amazon Prime and Netflix, Hoopla is a program that allows patrons to use their library account to electronically borrow movies, television episodes, and music albums. The catalog boasts over 500,000 titles available to stream right from your smartphone, tablet, or web browser. However, unlike other streaming audio and video services, there are no monthly subscription fees. It is totally free to Community Library members.

To access the new service, visit the library's website at www.yourcl.org and click on the link to Hoopla. You will need a library card to set up your Hoopla account. Once your account is established, you can browse titles and simply click "Borrow" when you find a movie or album you wish to enjoy. You can check out 10 titles a month. Movies and television episodes are available for three days. Music can be borrowed for one week. When the lending period expires, titles are automatically removed from your account.

If you have any questions about this new service, please contact the Community Library at 740-965-3901 or ask@yourcl.org. If you need a library account, visit register.yourcl.org.



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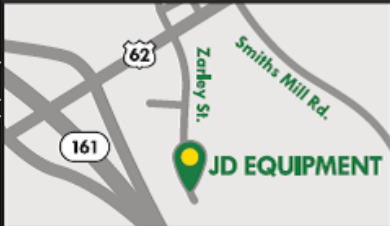
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BIG WALNUT LOCAL SCHOOLS



2020 VISION

SPOTLIGHT OF THE MONTH

The Big Walnut 2020 Vision focuses on creating classroom experiences that are personalized, engaging, and focused on growth. This eliminates the one-size-fits-all mentality of education; however, this requires a lot of rethinking and reassessing the way teachers teach and how classrooms look. Instructional coaching is the path we've chosen to support staff in this shift. Big Walnut has six instructional coaches throughout the district: elementary- Ginna Crawford, Katie Grijak, Susan Monfort, and Sarah Sandrock; secondary- Jason Manly and Jen Wilson.

The role of an instructional coach is to provide support to staff when it comes to teaching and learning. Just like a coach on a sports team, our coaches provide extra assistance and feedback to those "in the game." Even though each day looks different, most days are spent planning with a teacher about an upcoming lesson, sitting in on a team meeting discussing student data and how to use that information to drive instruction, and/or modeling or co-teaching best practices in the classroom. Another key component of their day is finding specific resources that allow teachers to differentiate their lessons to meet the needs of each student.



Our coaches leading a professional development training on how to help make students better writers.

Over the past few years, we've significantly reduced the amount of money we have spent on external professional development and rely on our coaches to provide the training. Our coaches can customize the content to fit the needs of the staff, plus provide follow-up support to ensure implementation is done to fidelity. We've seen significant gains in instruction by having these six coaches assist in all aspects of the classroom- from planning habit lessons about leadership and collaboration, modeling effective writing instruction, leading team conversations across grade levels, providing resources to help with technology integration, and helping teachers try new strategies. As we continue towards our 2020 Vision, we truly value these positions because the impact they've had on transforming the classroom to a 21st-Century learning environment is overwhelmingly evident in our schools.



Assistant Superintendent Mark Cooper

School Safety Update

Since my article last month on school safety, we have remained focused on reviewing our current practices to minimize any safety threats to our students and staff. One of the expectations under our district vision is to have a safe, respectful, and welcoming environment. It is imperative that our students feel safe, and are indeed as safe as possible, when entering school grounds each day. It is also imperative that our students feel welcome in their daily learning

environment as this also has a direct impact on an individual's learning. With that in mind, our district safety committee met this past month, and will continue to meet regularly. This committee, which is comprised of representatives from local law enforcement, first responders, security experts, county EMA, parents, school board members, and staff, is tasked with reviewing our current plans and practices in place, incorporating additional practices and improvements, and continuing to balance an extremely safe, yet welcoming, learning environment.

Due to input from our committee in last month's meeting, we have already acted on additional measures to improve the safety of our students and staff. For example, we have worked very intentionally on ensuring that all exterior doors are locked and checked throughout the school day. If you are ever volunteering in our schools, please help us by ensuring that you do not leave a door propped open at any time. If you ever notice an open door, please check with a school staff member immediately to resolve the issue. Additionally, we are implementing more consistent protocols for building visitors using our audio-visual call buttons at building entrances. While some visitors may view this protocol as a nuisance to answer specific questions, I think we all can agree that knowing a visitor's intended purpose for the visit and the visitor's overall attitude can help to improve the safety of our students. With this understanding, please do not be offended or feel unwelcome if a school staff member or our school resource officer greets you at the door. Lastly, you can help us as a visitor to the building by making sure that other visitors do not follow you into the building. They will also need to use the call button to be questioned and permitted entry by office staff. While it is typical courtesy to hold the door open for someone in most settings, it can create a safety issue in a school setting. You can defend yourself if you feel impolite and at the same time help our schools to remain safe simply by saying, "I'm sorry, I can't hold the door open for safety reasons. Will you please check in with the office by using the call button?"

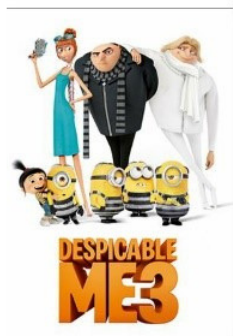
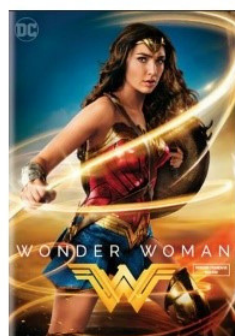
It is by working together, despite disagreements on societal issues, that we will continue to build a community that is aware of any potential concerns so we can fully address them for the protection of our kids. Thank you for your help.

SaferOhio Hotline

If you see or hear something, say something. Our district uses the Safer Schools Ohio anonymous tip line for anyone in the community to share information at any hour of the day with school officials and law enforcement about threats to student safety. Concerns can be reported by call or text to 1-844-SAFEROH (1-844-723-3764).

JUNE 9 Despicable Me 3
JULY 14 Wonder Woman
Start At Dusk
JULY 28 Beauty & The Beast
AUG 11 Pirates

Big Walnut Civic Association Summer Movies On The Square



Snacks and popcorn available for purchase

Be sure to mark your calendars for Movie on the Square Night! The Big Walnut Civic Association appreciates the continued support of our business community to make these events possible.

Sponsor for Despicable Me on June 9th is Anthony Dental Care located at 257 West Granville St. and Wonder Woman on July 14th is brought to you by Sunbury Chiropractic Center at 123 OH-3. All movies begin at dusk and are held on the Town Square.

Additional sponsorships are available. For more details, please contact Kathy Belcher at 740-965-2684.

Big Walnut Civic Association

learn about the SENIOR SERVICES LEVY



The Delaware County Senior Services Levy is on the ballot May 8.

The senior services levy helps older adults remain living safely at home, *where they want to be.*

If approved, the levy will allow us to **keep pace with the rapid growth of our older population** and ensure there is **no waiting list for services.**

Keep the care going.

LEARN MORE AT
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1This 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.



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Blooming & Booming in Big Walnut!

Check out this data!

Median Sales Price in Big Walnut School District YTD

March 2017	March 2018
\$291,900	\$337,450

Median Days on Market for Big Walnut School District

March 2017	March 2018
30 days	18 days

Great reasons to talk to me if thinking of listing your home!

*Information from CBR MLS - March 2018



Kari Stumpf
614.306.1967
karistumpf@remax.net
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Sunbury Chiropractic
Your path to wellness™



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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www.sunburychiropractic.com

BIG WALNUT LOCAL SCHOOLS: STUDENT RAGE PAGE

ALL BOOKED UP

Student athletes provide guidance and spend time with elementary school students through the 2nd and 7 program. Story and photos by Tabatha Piper



UPCOMING DATES:

4.20.18 Big Walnut Athletic Department Hall of Fame nominations due. See bigwalnutathletics.net for more information

5.7.18 Senior Academic & Athletic awards at 7:00pm BWHS Auditorium

5.8.18 Senior College Signing Day at 2:45pm BWHS Auditorium

The 2nd & 7 Foundation is a reading program that was started by former Ohio State football players Ryan Miller, Luke Fickell and Mike Vrabel (secondandseven.com).

I've been involved with the foundation for years and it's truly impacting. The mission of the foundation is to promote reading by providing free books and positive role models to kids in need, while encouraging young athletes of the community to pay it forward. The athletes will read to second graders, hence "2nd" grade only.

There is no cost, and we just ask the athletes to show up with great attitudes.

"Our goal is to promote reading and positive role models."

Athletes are introduced to the second grade students. Occasionally, coaches will attend and become involved.

Right now, student athletes are reading to the second graders at Big Walnut Elementary only, but we have plans to expand to the other elementary schools.

The program occurs at the end of the school day on the first Friday every month. Varsity athletes can participate in season, before season or after season.

Ultimately, our goal is to promote reading and positive

role models in the Big Walnut school and athletic communities.

BIG WALNUT LOCAL SCHOOLS: STUDENT RAGE PAGE

UNITED WE STAND

BWHS celebrated its first Unity Week March 26-29 with daily activities, clothing, video and food to show togetherness and embrace diversity in our student body.



UNITY WEEK:

3.26.18

We signed the pledge to "See something, and say something."

3.27.18

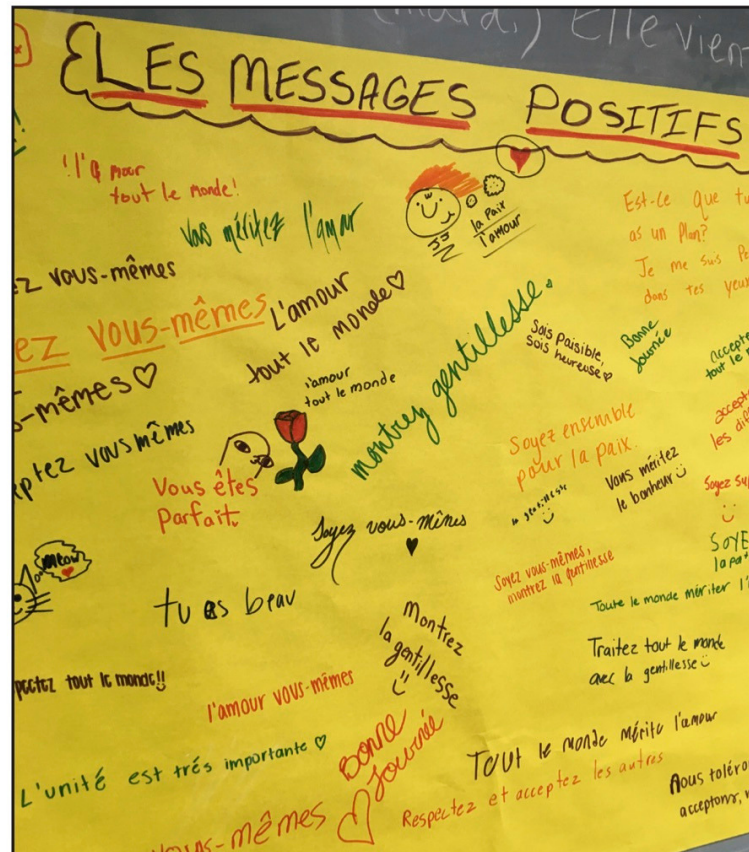
We wore gray to show support for mental health awareness.

3.28.18

We honored the victims of the MSDHS by talking to 17 new people.

3.29.

We wrote about who we are. We also wore tie-dye to show unity and embrace difference.



SUNBURY/ BIG WALNUT AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

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