

Big Walnut Local Schools
110 Tippet Court
Sunbury, Ohio 43074

NONPROFIT STD
U.S POSTAGE
PAID
GALENA, OHIO
PERMIT NO. 19

*****ECRWSEDDM****

LOCAL
POSTAL CUSTOMER



THE EAGLE EXAMINER

August 2016

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

BACK TO SCHOOL EDITION



THIS DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

- will be mailed quarterly to update the community about Big Walnut Local Schools
- is mailed using Every Door Direct Mail through the United States Postal Service to reduce postage costs

8¢ The cost of postage for each newspaper to be mailed

12¢ The cost to print each newspaper

10,000 The number of newspapers printed and delivered

A Message From Our Superintendent: *Angie Pollock*



@angiepollockBW
@AngiePollock2

Welcome to the 2016-2017 school year! Whether you are a returning Golden Eagle or new to Big Walnut, we are excited to have you join us for what is sure to be a great year. We are looking forward to lots of exciting learning opportunities for our students as our staff members inspire and guide them to their maximum potential!

As our district continues to grow, we strive to communicate well with all stakeholders in our community. In addition to our website (bwls.net) and our social media updates, we hope that you find this district-wide newsletter informative. We would like to thank Buckeye Valley Superintendent Andy Miller and Lynnette Rice, who coordinates their district newsletter, for sharing great resources for publishing and mailing this newsletter cost-effectively. We welcome your feedback on how to make our newsletter fit your needs (bwnews@bwls.net).

Throughout the year, we will be working toward implementing our Big Walnut 2020 Vision. There are lots of ways to join us in this journey, including following our hashtag #BWLS2020 to see our vision in action! I also hope you can join us at our

State of the Schools event on November 1. Last year we changed the format to an interactive experience that was centered around our four goal areas-- Academic Achievement (including live classroom models), Communication, Planning for Growth, and Fiscal Responsibility; we received great feedback on this format and plan to make it even better this year.

Finally, as you are probably aware, our district is growing quickly as more development and more residents move to the Sunbury and Galena areas. Please check our website (under the Quick Links tab, then select "Planning for Growth") for information about our enrollment study and the bond issue that will be on the ballot in November. I encourage you to attend the informative events throughout the fall and please contact me if you have specific questions about our facility needs.

Go Eagles!
Angie Pollock

Our goal is that by the year 2020, all of our classrooms will offer experiences that:

PERSONALIZE INSTRUCTION

Teacher is constantly aware of individual student abilities, interests, and/or learning styles and uses that information to make instructional decisions.

ENGAGE STUDENTS

Students are immersed in the classroom atmosphere-- lessons are meaningful, relevant, and add immediate value to their learning.

GROW MINDS

Teacher collects student data and uses it to drive instruction and make class decisions in order to promote student growth.

DID YOU KNOW?

In 1873, Sunbury consolidated the local one-room schoolhouses into a new school located on Harrison Street. More than 100 years later in 1974, the original building was removed to make room for another addition to the school.

Spotlight Reduced Student Fees (See page 7)



What is Title I?

Title I, Part A of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), is one of the nation's oldest and largest federally-funded education programs. This program provides additional targeted funding to our district to meet the needs of educationally at-risk students. Title I services four buildings in the Big Walnut School District: Harrison Street Elementary, Hylen Souders Elementary, Big Walnut Elementary and Big Walnut Intermediate. The goal of Title I is to provide extra instructional services and activities which support students identified as not meeting or most at-risk of not meeting the state's challenging performance standards in reading and or math.

Big Walnut Academics

Director of Academic Achievement: Jen Young

🐦 @jen_young



In the near future, the state will release the annual Local Report Card (LRC) for each school district. The state uses this report card as a way to measure the performance of school

districts. The unfortunate reality is that the LRC is based on various data sets that have changed every year for the past three years. This makes us hesitant to compare the scores with this year to the scores from the past. It will be several years before we regain continuity and we can rely on the validity of the data that we are getting from the state.

that the assessments we do give are timely and being used to determine our instructional course for each individual. The committee chose to adopt the STAR Assessment in Reading and Math (Renaissance Learning) for kindergarten through eighth grade. This assessment will be given three times per year to monitor students' progression, but will decrease the amount of tests given and will decrease the testing time to twenty minutes per test. The committee met with many experts in the field and collaborated with a variety of other school districts from around Central Ohio. We are eager to see how this assessment tool and the data it provides will impact our instruction for students.

Our students are more than just a number on a test. We strive to get to know each student's individual needs, passions, backgrounds, and learning styles so that we can prepare them to not just do well on tests, but to also be successful citizens in the 21st Century. This year we will be releasing our first annual Big Walnut Quality Profile. The Quality Profile movement was started by a group of superintendents that felt that the LRC released by the state was unreliable and did not give a true picture of how their school districts served their students' needs beyond just state test scores. Our Quality Profile will be released this fall as a companion to the LRC. It will provide a holistic picture of Big Walnut, including academic achievement, finances, student activities, and community outreach. It is our desire to show the community who we are as a school community and how we are working together with the community to develop 21st-Century citizens.

7th - 12th Grade Immunization Clinic

The Delaware General Health District, in partnership with Big Walnut Middle School and Big Walnut High School, will be holding an immunization clinic to help meet the needs for the new Meningococcal requirement for 7th and 12th graders. The clinic will take place on **September 9, 2016** during school hours. Parents do not need to be present.

Reaching All Learners

Director of Student Services: Laura Lawrence

🐦 @LauraLawrenceBW



All students can learn, given the appropriate supports. The Student Services Department oversees the health, welfare, and learning needs of all students. Visit our district

website to learn about the individual departments within Student Services (English Language Learners, Health/Nursing Services, Home Schooling, Homeless Awareness/Education, Intervention Services, Mental Health/Behavioral Services, Preschool Education and Special Education Services). If you suspect your child has a disability or if you feel he or she needs additional services or interventions, please schedule a conference with your child's teacher.

As a district, we believe that the ultimate purpose of assessment is to drive personalized instruction that meets the needs of all learners. The data that we receive from the state is often delayed, and the assessment tools are not personalized to meet each student's individual needs. Because of this, we are cautious in using the state data as our only means of determining how we will inspire and guide our students.

Last year, we conducted an Assessment Inventory of the district, led by 35 teachers, administrators, and student services staff. The purpose of this inventory was to determine the validity and practicality of each assessment we give as a district, including those required by the state. One of our top priorities as a committee was to reduce the amount of time we spend assessing students, but also to ensure

How To Enroll Your Child

If you are new to the district, please follow the steps below and complete and return all documents to the building that your child will attend:

1. Go to our website at www.bwls.net. Under the Parents/Community tab, click on *Student Registration*, then print off *Student Registration Form* and complete. Forms are also available at each building.
2. Provide a copy of your child's birth certificate. If you do not have a birth certificate, you may contact the Delaware Health District at (740) 368 - 1700.
3. Provide Proof of Residency (current utility bill, lease, mortgage statement, tax statement).
 - If you are staying with family or friends, please complete the Residency Affidavit. Signatures need to be notarized, and proof of residency provided by the person who owns or rents the property.
4. Provide custody or guardianship paperwork, if applicable.
5. If there is an IEP or 504 plan in place, please provide a current copy.

If you have any questions, please contact Central Office at (740) 965 - 3010.

College and Career Readiness Focus for BW



We are excited to have Penny Sturtevant, former BWMS principal and BWHS counselor, as our College and Career Readiness Coordinator. In this role, Mrs. Sturtevant will be working with our Director of Academic Achievement and our BWHS principal to develop a vision for expanding our College Credit Plus (CCP) options for students. Currently, we offer English Composition I and II, World Civilizations, and College Algebra and are working to add more courses as we grow.

Additionally, Mrs. Sturtevant will be developing a K-12 program in career exploration and development for our students. She is currently researching and visiting with other districts to design programming for our students. Our goal is to expose students to more career options throughout their school experience and to create learning activities where they can learn or practice essential skills (reading and writing) while learning about potential career fields. By the time they reach high school, our goal is to tailor their learning experiences with college coursework, internships, and other experiences that capitalize on their interests and future plans.



Athletic Information

Athletic Director: Brian Shelton

Twitter: @sheltonOSU1

Athletic Forms

All student athletic forms can be completed online at Final Forms:

<https://bigwalnut-oh.finalforms.com/>

Access the sports physical form here:
tinyurl.com/BWphysicalform

Pay-to-Participate Fees

High School \$150.00 per person per sport

Middle School \$75.00 per person per sport
w/ District Family Cap of \$300.00

Sports Schedules

All fall sports teams schedules are completed and are available on the athletic website:
www.bigwalnutathletics.net.

Eagle Spirit

Sign up for a Fan Account on the athletic website. You can sign up to receive text messages, and/or emails about your favorite team(s).

Big Walnut Athletic Season Passes

Family full-year season pass: \$230.00

New 2-year full-year family pass: \$400.00

Family winter season only: \$100.00

All-season adult season pass: \$70.00

Adult fall or winter only: \$30.00

All-season student pass: \$45.00

Student fall or winter only: \$20.00

Senior citizen pass is FREE for ages 60 +

Passes are available in the High School Athletic Office.

Do You Understand Child Find?

As part of our district's Child Find mission to identify and provide services to children with educational disabilities and as required by Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act (IDEA), we are committed to the location, identification, and provision of a Free and Appropriate Public Education (FAPE) for all children between the ages of 3-21 having a disability and residing within our school district.

If you know of a child with a disability, or have a child suspected of having a disability, who is not currently receiving appropriate educational or related services, a referral can be made to our Student Services Department. Additionally, BWLS offers a free Child Check developmental screening for children ages 3-5 living within our district. If you suspect your preschool child may have an educational disability, please call Heidi Koon at (740) 965-7846 to schedule a screening. Children who qualify for special education services will participate in a ½ day preschool program in our district.

2016-2017 Child Check Screening Schedule

Friday, November 11, 2016

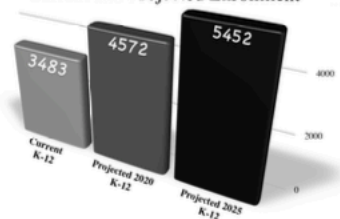
Friday, February 10, 2017

Upcoming Events

August 5	BHWS Fall Athletic Picture Day See website for schedule	Various times and locations
August 8	Fall OHSA Parent Meeting - All BWMS/BWHS sports	6:00 p.m. BWHS Auditorium

We're Growing!

Current and Projected Enrollment



Based on "Most Likely" projects from the FutureThink Enrollment Study

BW Facility Improvements

Assistant Superintendent: Mark Cooper

Twitter: @_MarkCooper



Several capital improvement projects have occurred over the summer. All classroom floors at Hylen Souders Elementary School were

refinished. At General Rosecrans Elementary, tile floors were coated with a special finish that will prevent annual stripping and rewaxing for several years to come, which will save the district on the costs of materials and labor. Big Walnut High School has had many technology infrastructure updates to permit a stronger and faster wireless connection within the building. Also, the high school gymnasium floor has had many areas replaced due to safety concerns, the football visitor press box has been repaired for the upcoming season, and we are exploring options for making our high school tennis courts playable.

The new central office located at 110 Tippet Court has been renovated, and central office staff have been moved into this space. This move has opened up seven full-size classrooms for Big Walnut Intermediate School, five of which will be used for enrollment growth this year, and many other smaller rooms for use by the students and staff. Across the district, paving and patching repairs have occurred in many building drives and parking lots. It has been a busy summer for our maintenance and custodial staffs preparing the buildings and grounds for another great school year, and we appreciate all of their hard work. There are many improvement projects on our master list for the coming years. We will continue to prioritize and complete these tasks within district budget limitations.

BUILDING SNAPSHOTS



Big Walnut High School

Principal: *Andy Jados*
Assistant Principal: *Kelley Bloomer*
Assistant Principal: *Jim Hall*



I am very excited for the start of the next school year. We have added 5 new teachers to handle our growth and to help keep our class sizes to a manageable level.

Jados

BWHS is kicking off the 1:1 Initiative this year, which means each student will have a touchscreen Chromebook. The device is another tool for our staff to use to prepare students for the 21st Century.

Our first BWHS Academic Booster meeting of the year will be on August 8th at 6:30 in our Innovation Center. This group, which formed last school year, will continue to work on ways to promote and support academics for all students. Please join us.

One of our building goals this year will be to increase and enhance our communication with parents and families. One way we would like to do this is to gather more information on how we could improve in this area. Please take our survey on communication <http://tinyurl.com/hz2k7x3>. Thank you.

Our New Staff Members & Transfers:

English/ Drama: Megan Corbin
Science: Kayla DeMuth
Intervention Specialist: Justin Morrison
Social Studies: Quin Thomas
Math: Brett Bartlett

Upcoming Events

August 8	Academic Boosters	6:30
August 24	Open House	6:30 - 8:30
September 7	Evening of Excellence	7:00 - 8:30
September 28	Parent/Teacher Conferences	3:30 - 7:30

Follow us: [Twitter](#) @AndyJados



Big Walnut Middle School

Principal: *Josh Frame*
Assistant Principal: *Darin Prince*



Frame

Greetings, Big Walnut friends and families. I am privileged and excited to be the lead-learner and new principal at BWMS. We are ready to SOAR in 2016-17 and inspire and guide each student to his or her maximum potential. The BWMS administration and staff look forward to a wonderful year as we strive to provide personalized and innovative learning experiences that not only help our students connect to classroom content but also to their peers, teachers and the greater Big Walnut learning community. To further support enrichment of our students, we encourage getting involved at BWMS. Students can pursue interests in the arts, community service, student leadership, academics, athletics and more. We believe all of these experiences will support social and emotional development and supplement the growth mindset built daily within our classrooms. Welcome back and Go Eagles!

Our New Staff Members & Transfers:

7th Grade Math: Danielle Acra
7th/8th Science: Jason Crawford
7th/8th Wellness: Robin Keating
Choir & Drama: Taylor Leonard
Assistant Principal: Darin Prince

Upcoming Events

August 10	Student Schedules Posted Online	3:00 p.m.
August 16	Meet & Greet	2:00 p.m.
August 23	Curriculum Night	6:00 p.m.

Follow us: [Twitter](#) [Facebook](#) [Instagram](#) @BigWalnutMS



Big Walnut Intermediate

Principal: *Ryan McLane*
Assistant Principal: *Sarah Wytzka*



McLane

On behalf of the entire staff at BWI, I would like to welcome everyone as we look forward to another exciting school year. I hope you enjoyed your summer, and we look forward to working together to ensure your child reaches his or her maximum potential here at BWI.

As we are growing, we need to add additional "specials" courses for our students. Our incoming 5th grade class is the largest class in the district at around 300 students. We surveyed student interests and discussed areas in which we could better meet student needs. As a result, we are excited to announce that we have added Drama/Public Speaking and Wellness as specials for our BWI students. We believe that intermediate school is the perfect level to provide instruction on public speaking skills and to focus on important wellness topics such as drug prevention and mental health. We have also expanded our technology course to focus on all STEM areas.

Our New Staff Members & Transfers:

STEM: Bob Keep
Intervention Specialist: Larry Leach
6th Grade Science: Megan Massingill
6th Grade Wellness: Robin Keating
Drama/Public Speaking: Kelly Byanski

Upcoming Events

August 11	Class Lists Posted	3:00 p.m.
August 16	Meet & Greet	2:00 p.m.
August 23	Curriculum Night	6:00 p.m.

Follow us: [Twitter](#) [Facebook](#) [Instagram](#) @bwioh



Big Walnut Elementary

Principal: *Annie Clark*



Welcome back BWE families. We look forward to seeing all of your smiles and hearing all about your summer adventures! This school year will be filled with exciting learning and new challenges for your kiddos. We will be starting our STEM program as a special this year and we

will also be adding some new features to our already fabulous PBIS program. We are so happy to have preschool back at BWE this year. They will be a wonderful addition to our BWE family. The BWE staff is excited to begin inspiring and guiding all students this year. Enjoy the remainder of your summer, and we will see you soon!

Our New Staff Members & Transfers:

Preschool Teacher: Anna Cordas
Preschool Assistant: Dawna Coletta
Teaching Assistant: Kelly Mazzi
STEM: Lindsey Frim
First Grade: Taylor Bojc

Follow us:



@BigWalnutbwe



General Rosecrans Elementary

Principal: *MeganRose Forman*



Welcome back, fabulous GRE families! We are so thrilled to continue our marvelous mission of inspiring and guiding each student. We look forward to another phenomenal year of continuing to strengthen our personalization for each student and experiencing new

means of learning for the 2016-2017 school year. We look forward to inspiring our 21st-Century learners to create, communicate, collaborate, and critically think their way through personalized and engaging learning so they can be guided to reach their maximum potential. We also continue to be thankful for all of your previous support and know that with hard work, encouragement, and all of our continued support, our kiddos will accomplish tremendous things.

Our New Staff Members & Transfers:

Half-Day Kindergarten: Kelly Rowe
Third Grade: Ashley Kurena
Third Grade: Maggie Pharazyn
Intervention Specialist: Sarah Faeth

Follow us:



General Rosecrans
Elementary



Harrison Street Elementary

Principal: *Kim Castiglione*



To our amazing Harrison Street family... welcome back, welcome back! We are at the brink of an exciting new adventure for the 2016-2017 school year, which is sure to include some beloved and old traditions, some new and exciting events, and, above all, some amazing learning experiences! We look forward to inspiring our 21st-

Century learners to create, communicate, collaborate, and critically think their way through personalized and engaging learning so they can be guided to reach their maximum potential. We know that with hard work and dedication, your encouragement, and the support of our entire HSE community, our kiddos can reach for the stars and accomplish some fantastic things... all with huge smiles on their faces and in their hearts! We can't wait to see you soon to start our new adventure! To kick off the school year, join us for our outdoor movie night on August 13 at 8:45 p.m. (\$1 entry for HSE PTO).

Our Staff Transfers:

STEM: Lindsey Frim
Tutor: Jeff Stanford

Follow us:



Harrison Street Elementary



Hylen Souders Elementary

Principal: *AJ Hoffman*



We hope you and your students had a fantastic summer and share in our excitement to get the year started. The Souders' staff is enthusiastically anticipating the opportunity to inspire and guide each of your students this year. We are looking forward to helping each child reach his or her maximum potential as we provide a personalized and engaging learning experience. We aspire to encourage our students to think critically about the world around them and immerse every student in individualized opportunities to hone their 21st- Century skills. Below you will find the newest additions to our staff as well as some important dates. We look forward to seeing each of you in the fall.

Follow us: Hylen Souders Elementary

Elementary Upcoming Events

August 11	Class Lists Posted	3:00 p.m.
August 16	Meet & Greet	3:00 - 4:00
August 25	Curriculum Night	6:00 p.m.

Our New Staff Members & Transfers:

Kindergarten: Katie DeWitt
Second Grade: Kelly O'Brien
STEM: Natalie Siclair
Intervention Aide: Laura Gallo
Intervention Aide: Kara Wampler

Transportation Information

Director of Administrative Services: Ron McClure



We are currently in the process of preparing each of the 31 bus routes for the 2016-2017 school year. Bus pick-up and drop-off times will be posted at your student's school on August

11, 2016 at 3:00 p.m. If you have any questions **after the routes are posted**, please feel free to contact the transportation department at 740-965-8967.

We take pride in getting your child safely to and from school every day. We ask that you help us by encouraging your child to follow a few safety procedures, many of which are based on Ohio Revised Code (ORC), such as:

- Be at designated bus stop five minutes prior to the bus arriving (ORC 3301-83-08 C1). *Helpful hint – On dark mornings, a flashlight or cell phone light helps the driver to see your child at their bus stop.*

- Follow the bus driver's hand signals. This is for his or her safety (ORC 3301-83-13 C6)!

- Observe classroom behavior, sit properly in his or her seat, and only bring items on the bus that can fit on his or her lap (ORC 3301-83-08 C6; ORC 3301-83-08 C12).

- Upon safe return, follow the driver's instructions and hand signals. Encourage your child's cooperation and the need to be a defensive walker (ORC 3301-83-13 C6).

- Remain in his or her designated place of safety until the bus has departed (ORC 3301-83-13 B6).

One last item that will help our substitute drivers is the presence of your house number on both sides of the mailbox or mailbox post.

Thank you in advance for your help and support with these safety guidelines. We are looking forward to another safe and happy school year.

Connect with Eagle-I

Sign Up for e-Communication Notifications:

tinyurl.com/BWeaglei

LUNCH MENUS

Elementary Schools

tinyurl.com/ELEAugustmenu



First Day Menu

Chicken Nuggets
Roll
Green Beans
Applesauce

Additional Entrees Offered:

PBJ, Eagle Munchable, Chef Salad, Bean Dip

Intermediate School

tinyurl.com/ISAugustmenu



First Day Menu

Chicken Nuggets w/
Pretzel or Hot Dog
Baked Beans
Applesauce

Additional Entrees Offered:

PBJ, Eagle Munchable & Chicken Tenders

Middle School

tinyurl.com/MSAugustmenu



First Day Menu

Chicken Nuggets w/
Pretzel or Hot Dog
Baked Beans
Applesauce

Additional Entrees Offered:

Eagle Munchable, PBJ, Wraps, Chef Salad

High School

tinyurl.com/HSAugustmenu



First Day Menu

Chicken Strips
w/ pretzel OR
Meatball Sub
Peas & Romaine Salad
Peaches or Pears

Additional Entrees Offered:

PBJ, Wraps, Chef Salad, Hummus, Yogurt, Bagels

NEW PARENT INFORMATION

Big Walnut High School

555 South Old 3C Highway
Sunbury OH, 43074
Principal: Andy Jados

Phone: (740) 965-3766
Guidance: (740) 965-2243
FAX: (740) 965-1954

Big Walnut Middle School

77 Cheshire Road
Sunbury OH, 43074
Principal: Josh Frame

Phone: (740) 965-3006
FAX: (740) 965-6471

Big Walnut Intermediate School

105 Baughman Street
Sunbury, OH 43074
Principal: Ryan McLane

Phone: (740) 965-7800
FAX: (740) 965-7801

Big Walnut Elementary School

940 South Old 3C Highway
Sunbury OH, 43074
Principal: Annie Clark

Phone: (740) 965-3902
FAX: (740) 965-3168

General Rosecrans Elementary

301 South Miller Drive
Sunbury OH, 43074
Principal: Megan Rose Forman

Phone: (740) 965-8900
FAX: (740) 965-8993

Harrison Street Elementary

70 Harrison Street
Sunbury OH, 43074
Principal: Kim Castiglione

Phone: (740) 965-7850
FAX: (740) 965-7851

Hylen Souders Elementary

4121 Miller Paul Road
Sunbury OH, 43074
Principal: AJ Hoffman

Phone: (740) 965-3200
FAX: (740) 965-3986

Administrative Services

(Transportation, Food Services)
117 North Kintner Parkway
Sunbury, OH 43074
Director: Ron McClure

Phone: (740) 965-8967
FAX: (740) 965-8984

Big Walnut Local Schools

Administrative Central Office
110 Tippet Court
Sunbury, OH 43074
Superintendent: Angie Pollock

Phone: (740) 965-3010
FAX: (740) 965-7838

School Hours:

Elementary: 8:45 - 3:35
AM KG/PS 8:45 - 11:30
PM KG/PS 12:50 - 3:35
Intermediate: 7:45 - 2:25
Middle School: 7:40 - 2:20
High School: 7:40 - 2:20

District Website:

www.bwls.net

PowerSchool:

tinyurl.com/BWpowerschool

School Fees/Lunch Payment:

www.payforit.net

A Message From Our Board

Welcome to the *Eagle Examiner* and the 2016/2017 school year!

I hope you enjoy this first edition of our district newsletter. The Board understands the importance of communicating to all residents in the Big Walnut community and the need to do so economically as well - we hope you agree that this is a great step in achieving that. The Big Walnut School District is a thread that ties our six townships (Berkshire, Genoa, Harlem, Kingston, Porter and Trenton) and our two villages (Galena and Sunbury) together. Whether you have students enrolled in Big Walnut or not, we want you to feel connected to the district, and by receiving this newsletter we hope to give you a better understanding of what we are doing and planning to do to keep Big Walnut a top-notch district!

The 2016/2017 school year is starting like so many others with much excitement and anticipation of what is in store. We are very



Vice-President Andy Wecker, President Mindy Meyer, Nicci Hess, Allison Fagan, Brad Schneider

proud of the direction the district is headed and excited to share some of the fantastic things that are happening as we move closer to reaching our Big Walnut 2020 Vision. As "state testing" and "mandates" are key buzzwords in education right now, I can assure you that our thinking has gone beyond just meeting these requirements. The Board and the Administration have set goals way above this for our students, and our staff is eagerly embracing the Vision of personalized instruction for each student.

We maintain the mission to inspire and guide each student to his or her maximum potential, but what you will see in the coming years is that the manner in which this is accomplished will be different for each student. We aren't trying to achieve a "cookie-cutter" outcome, but to meet each student at his or her place of need, assist each one to grow into an independent thinker, and help each find his or her passion in the process.

Thank you for helping to make this community and school district a wonderful place to live, grow and learn. Our children are the future and we hope you agree that there isn't a better place for them to be than Big Walnut!

With Eagle Pride,
Mindy Meyer
Board of Education President
@MindyMeyer1



Reduced Student Fees

Treasurer: Terri Eyerman



The Big Walnut Board of Education reviews and approves school fees annually. The Board is committed to keeping fees at a reasonable level.

Student fees for grades PK-8 will continue to be a flat fee of \$55 per student.

In the past years, student fees for grades 9-12 have been set by class and, based on the number of classes a student enrolled, could add up to a significant amount of money. This fee schedule may deter students from taking some classes due to the cost. Over the summer, district administration met to discuss this concern. The goal was to determine a

solution that would allow all students the same opportunities when enrolling for classes.

Additionally, in an effort to make our optional full-day kindergarten program more affordable, kindergarten tuition was also reduced for the 2017 school year. Our goal is to continue to reduce fees as we become more financially stable.

I am pleased to share the new high school and kindergarten fees for the 2017 school year:

	Previous	New
High School Fee	Cumulative per-class fee	\$100*
Kindergarten Tuition	\$275 /month	\$225 /month

*Includes a \$20 technology fee. There may be an additional cost for DACC courses, dues, AP testing, and extra-curricular activities.

A complete list of fees can be found on the district website: www.bwls.net.

Free & Reduced Info

If your child qualifies for free or reduced meals, your school fees will be free or reduced (half) as well.

To get the application and/ or learn more about the free and reduced program, go to tinyurl.com/BWfree-reduced.

Breakfast Elementary & Intermediate	Breakfast Middle & High School
\$ 1 . 2 5	\$ 2 . 0 0
Lunch Elementary & Intermediate	Lunch Middle & High School
\$ 2 . 5 0	\$ 2 . 7 5

*Reduced price is \$0.30 for breakfast and \$0.40 for lunch.

What is STEM?

STEM is a new course offering at the elementary and intermediate schools. The acronym STEM stands for Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math. These specials courses will provide students with lots of opportunities to problem-solve, collaborate, and communicate in new and exciting ways. We will be emphasizing Project-Based Learning (PBL), with the goal of putting students in learning situations that encourage them to create and innovate as they work on real-world problems.



This year's class of 212 graduates had 35 graduate with a 4.0 or higher, 71 honor court graduates, and 1 National Merit Scholar finalist. We are confident the class of 2016 has a bright future ahead of them!

CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 2016



Front row: Mark Inscho, Rina Hoge, Kelly Byanski, Tonia Carter, Emmy Kline, Cindy Erndt, Elizabeth Bryant, Barbara Dean, Annie Clark; Back row: Jen Neiset, Julie Ford, Stephanie Hoover, Amy Eikenberry, Wendy Weiler, Tina Costello, Lori Ferguson, Barbi Newman, Mike McGann

Golden Eagle Mentor Awards- Sponsored by Roush Honda

For the past 12 years, Big Walnut has partnered with Roush Honda to recognize staff and community members who go above and beyond in service to our students and our district. Since its inception, over 160 individuals have been recognized for their contributions to the Big Walnut Local Schools. These individuals are ordinary people doing extraordinary things. The nomination form for 2017 Golden Eagle Mentor Awards will be available in early April, so start thinking of someone worthy of this recognition! Thank you so much to our 2016 recipients and to Roush Honda for their generous support.

Big Walnut Alumni Hall of Fame

Our newly formed BWHS Principal's Student Leadership Team partnered with our BWHS principal, Andy Jados, to recognize our distinguished alumni. The first alumni

class members-- Theresa (Kelley) Dronsfield (Class of 1984), Martin Forman (Class of 1995), and Mendi (Myers) Priestas (Class of 1986)-- were honored by the student group at



a luncheon this spring. We appreciate the way our honorees model the importance of serving the community and were inspired by their messages to our students. Our student committee will be seeking nominations in the spring for the 2nd class of inductees.



Do you know someone we should spotlight?

If you know an alumni, business, or community member we should spotlight in our next edition, email us at bwnews@bwls.net.

