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The Eagle Examiner



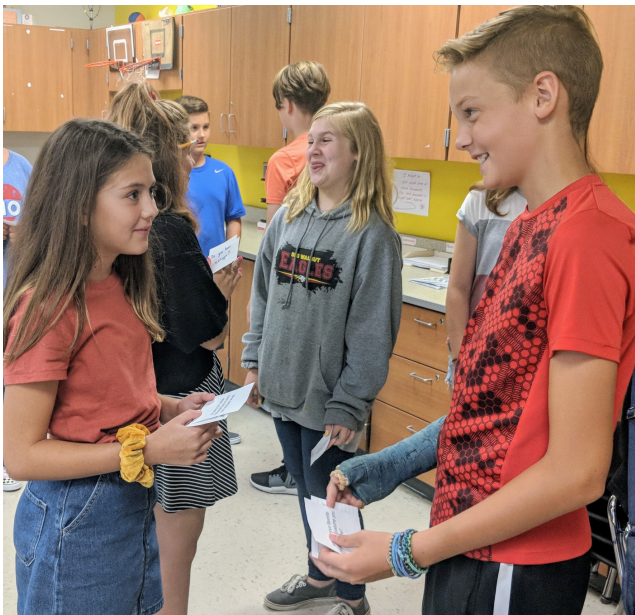
Quality 2020 Profile *edition*

OCTOBER 2020

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



Pictures of students for this edition were taken during the 2019-2020 school year prior to COVID-19.



www.bwls.net

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Dear Big Walnut Community,

We are pleased to continue offering our annual Quality Profile to our taxpayers. This resource showcases all we do to “inspire and guide each student to his or her maximum potential” each day.

As we enter the 2020-2021 school year, we remain focused on working toward our Big Walnut Academic Vision. Our expectation is that all

teachers are routinely personalizing instruction, engaging students, and ensuring student growth. Our academic focus this year, during the pandemic, is to help teachers think outside the box in regards to meeting the Vision, despite the many logistical challenges. We will continue to support all of our teachers in meeting the Vision

this year, and in years to come, by providing them with opportunities for peer classroom visits inside and outside the district and other forms of professional learning.

In addition to our focus on academics, we also strive to provide a whole-child education to our students. In this Quality Profile, you will find information on academics, student culture, community engagement, facilities, and finances. We are committed to continuous improvement in all of these areas and will continue to partner with our community through groups such as the Facility Committee, the Finance Committee, and the Academic Advisory Council to help us continue to improve.

As we work to accomplish our mission and vision, we will focus on our work in the following areas:

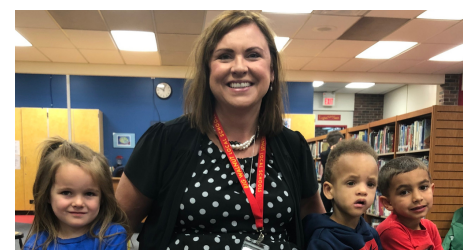
- **Improve Academic Achievement:** Work collaboratively to personalize instruction, engage students, and grow minds.
- **Promote Whole-Child Development:** Support students’ social, emotional, and physical well-being.
- **Optimize Capital and Human Resources:** Provide capital and human resources to foster student growth.
- **Demonstrate Financial Responsibility:** Maintain a fiscally-stable district that is accountable to our community.

Please visit us at bwls.net, or contact any of our buildings/central office, if you have questions or to learn more about Big Walnut. Thank you for your continued support!

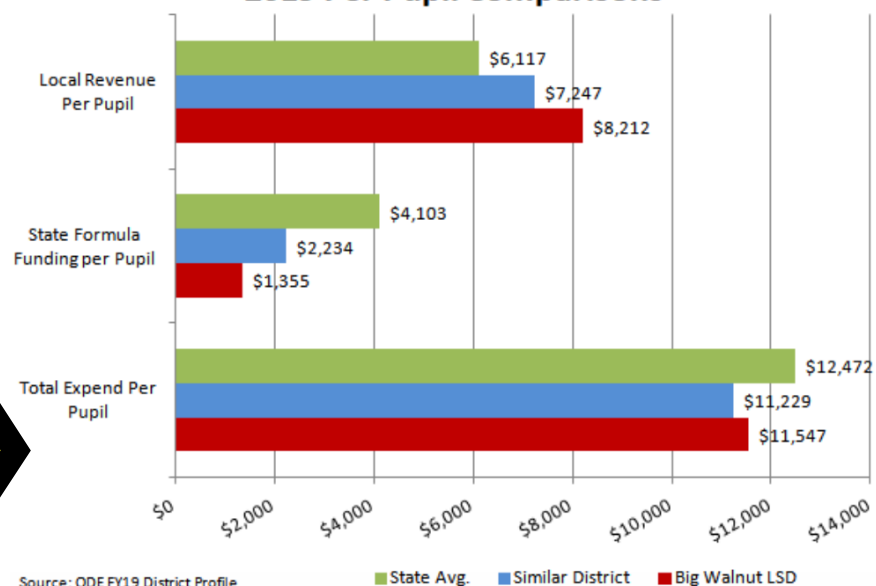
Go Eagles,

Angie Hamberg

Angie Hamberg
Superintendent

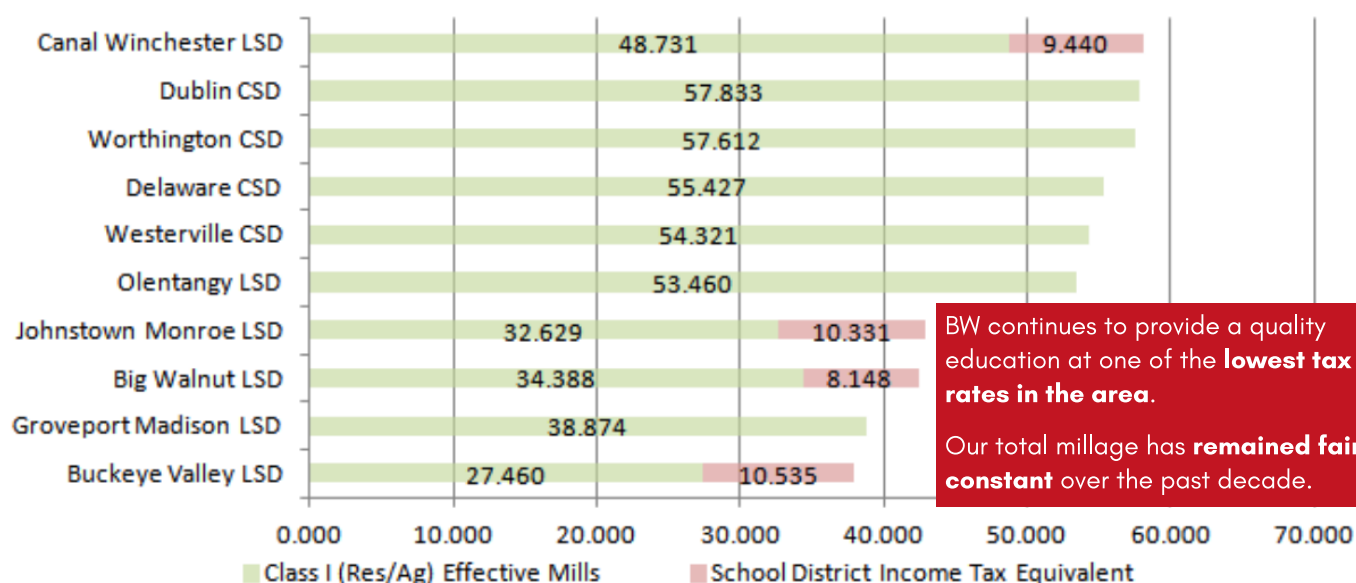


2019 Per Pupil Comparisons

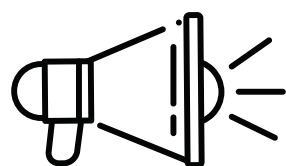


We receive less state money than similar districts. Our cost per pupil is comparable to similar districts and under the state average.

School District Property Tax Millage Comparison



BW continues to provide a quality education at one of the **lowest tax rates in the area**. Our total millage has **remained fairly constant** over the past decade.



COMING SOON

We will be sending out a survey within the next few months to gather input from the community on focus areas for the District. More details will be posted on our social media channels and website.

The Big Walnut Local District provides instruction, support, and extra-curricular opportunities to 4,000+ students, while employing over 400 individuals to provide these services. In addition to educating our students, we make our facilities available to thousands of community members. We are able to provide these community benefits through the support of our taxpayers.

The majority of our funds are local resources such as real estate taxes, personal property taxes from public utilities, income taxes, and other miscellaneous receipts, with additional support coming from the State. These resources are tracked and monitored through numerous accounts, but the three major budget areas are general day-to-day operations, debt/bond-funded building projects, and permanent improvement purchases/projects.

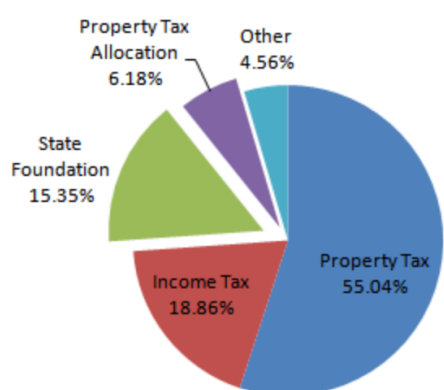
The graphic to the right shows the revenue percentages as they relate to general fund resources, which provide for day-to-day operations, and illustrates the flow of resources to major budget areas. The graphics to the left provide further snapshots regarding our funds and how we compare to other districts. As our student enrollment continues to increase, having enough revenue to maintain and improve student programming becomes more and more challenging.

We are committed to providing outstanding benefits to our students, and we do our best to monitor costs, structure spending, and plan for the future in order to maximize the value to our entire community. Our community not only shows support by providing operating resources, but also by volunteering multiple hours, like the Finance Committee members (pictured below).

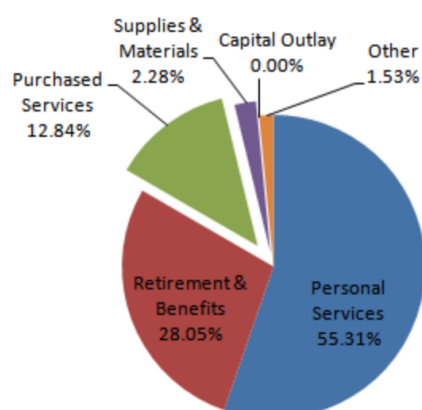


District Finance Committee

Fiscal Year 2020 General Operating Revenues

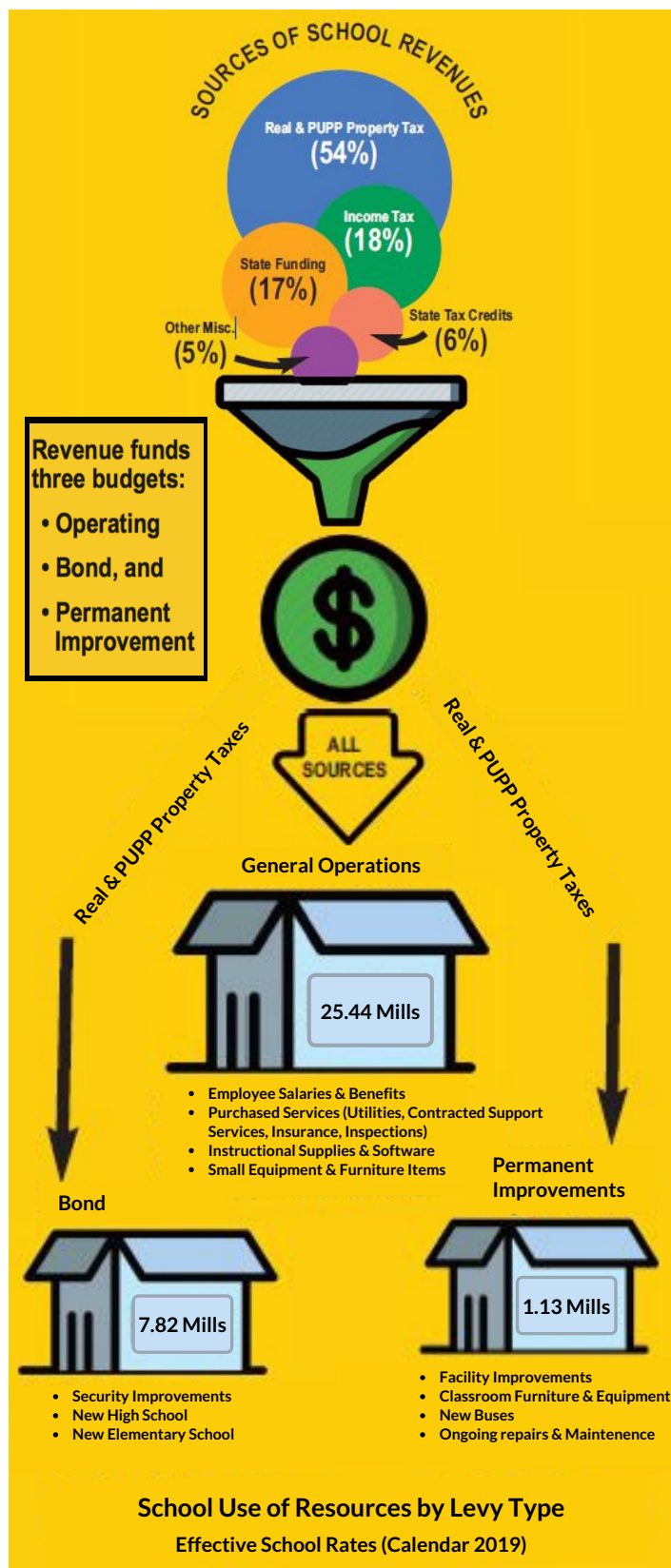


Fiscal Year 2020 General Operating Expenditures



Revenue funds three budgets:

- Operating
- Bond, and
- Permanent Improvement





In November 2017, our community passed a ballot issue to build a new elementary and high school and complete security renovations on our existing facilities.

This fall we welcomed students to our new Prairie Run Elementary school. This started one of the many transitions. The picture to the left details many of the changes. Additionally, Harrison Street Elementary became the Big Walnut Early Learning Center, which now houses our preschool students.



Big Walnut Intermediate is converted to an elementary school and a new elementary school is built

NEW BUILDING NEW USE ADDITION/RENOVATION NO CHANGE OF USE



Big Walnut Middle School is converted to an intermediate school

NEW BUILDING NEW USE ADDITION/RENOVATION NO CHANGE OF USE



Big Walnut High School is converted to a middle school

NEW BUILDING NEW USE ADDITION/RENOVATION NO CHANGE OF USE



A new high school is built

NEW BUILDING NEW USE ADDITION/RENOVATION NO CHANGE OF USE



The progress happens so quickly...



Winter 2019: Prairie Run Elementary getting under roof



Early summer 2020: View of Prairie Run Elementary from the second floor of the new high school



Fall 2020: Prairie Run Elementary welcomes students and staff



Early winter 2019: View of extended learning space in the 1st/2nd grade classroom wing



Fall 2020: Finished extended learning space where first/second graders can collaborate or relax with a great book

Gilbane
Gilbane Building Company

VSWC
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Throughout quarantine, our food service department worked hard to provide meals to students in need.



This past year, *Neighborhood Bridges* launched **Big Walnut Bridges (BWB)**, the first and only Bridge in Delaware County. The purpose of *BWB* is to bridge community needs with community resources. With the support of our community, *BWB* directly impacted over 80,000 students and families in 2020.



A Look at the New High School

Fall 2020: View from second floor corridor down into the future academic commons



Fall 2020: View from the stage looking out into the auditorium seating



Fall 2020: View of northern classroom wing



Fall 2020: View of upper running track in the main gym



6 of our 8
BW
schools
are
Purple
Star
Schools

Our district has over 50 students who have one or more family members currently serving in a branch of the military. Our Purple Star committee aims to host several district-wide events each year to join our military-connected families together.



At the last home match of the season, daughter Andie and her volleyball team wore camouflage shirts to welcome home U.S. Army Lt. Col. Jon Stewart, who returned home after serving our country for over two years overseas in his latest deployment.



District Facilities Committee

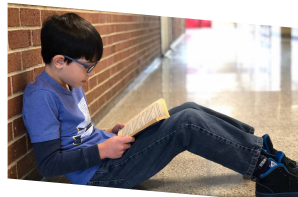


Our Road to the 2020 Vision

"Fifty years ago, before the Internet, it made sense for schools to teach kids 'just facts.' But in today's world there is no longer a competitive advantage in knowing more than the person next to you because knowledge has become a commodity available to all with the swipe of a finger."

Tony Wagner and Ted Dintersmith- *Most Likely to Succeed: Preparing Our Kids for the Innovation Era*

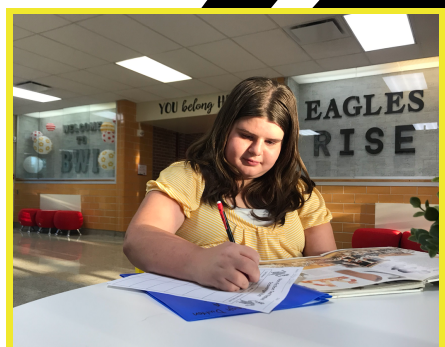
Five years ago, we released the 2020 Vision to ensure that each student will be successful in today's fast-paced, ever-evolving world. Employers are looking for people who are strong communicators, collaborators, and creative critical thinkers. Our expectation is that all classrooms will personalize instruction to fit each student's needs, engage students in real-world connections, and ensure that all students are growing academically, socially, and emotionally.



2017

- **Standards-Based Grading:** To more accurately assess what students know, grades PreK-4 switched from a traditional report card to one that communicates the level of mastery each child has on specific, grade-level standards.
- **Keys to Success:** We added an extra section of the report card to give students in grades PreK-4 feedback on top skills needed to be successful in today's world.
- **Homework Philosophy:** Based on research, BW PreK-4 students no longer have traditional homework. They are asked to read 20 minutes every night, play (without a screen), and sleep at least 8 hours each night.

- **Research and Development Project:** Teachers proposed plans to the District on how their classrooms would personalize, engage, and track growth. The approved plans became model classrooms for other teachers to observe and were showcased at our State of the Schools event where community members could observe a 21st-century classroom.
- **College Credit Plus (CCP):** BW staff began teaching CCP courses on our campus.
- **Eagle Extensions (EE):** Students in grades K-6 signed up for EE as an extra-curricular to extend the learning outside the classroom.



- **1:1 Technology Integration:** Each student in grades 7-12 was given his/her own Chromebook.
- **STEM specials:** Every student in grades K-6 participated in STEM once a week.

2016



2015

Our Vision is now our culture 2020



2019

- **Schoology Implementation:** BW implemented Schoology PreK-12 for all classes to use for learning and communication.
- **College Credit Plus:** BW offered 10 courses taught by our staff on our campus.
 - 265 students participated in CCP in 2019
 - 2240 college hours were earned
 - At the rate of \$300 per credit hour, it saved families \$672,000



2018

- **Reassessment Philosophy:** Teachers in grades 7-12 implemented reassessment policies allowing students to receive remediation before retaking an assessment.
- **Advisory:** All grade levels implemented some sort of advisory into their schedule. Even though it may look different at each level, students have the ability to receive individualized help and character-education lessons.



The **Academic Advisory Council**, made up of community members and district staff, provides a sounding board for academic decisions and our academic vision as we move into the future.



We value each individual and believe that each student is more than just a test score.

We strive to provide enrichment opportunities that ignite excitement and passion in our students. Our focus is on educating the whole child beyond the acquisition of knowledge.



Our all-girls robotic team from Big Walnut Intermediate enjoyed showing their skills at their first Lego Robotics Competition



Our FFA Program won many awards this past year, including being a National Team Event Winner at the Food Science & Technology Career Development Event



MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD PRESIDENT

Brad Schneider

How can we measure success? It's a challenging question for all of us in our personal and professional lives. The challenge is not any different for our school district.

The state of Ohio and its report card system is an attempt to measure success for school districts. But like many measurement tools, the larger the scope the tool is trying to measure, the less likely it is to measure things that are particularly important to us.

If our district used the state report card system as its primary tool for measuring success, we would miss many opportunities to quantify the impact of our entire district. Further, the quirks of 2020 would have left us in a position to make it extremely difficult to report results to you



Doug Crowl, Vice President Liana Lee, President Brad Schneider, Sherri Dorsch, Stephen P. Fujii

were we only to rely on the state's measurement of success. Fortunately, we have been publishing our own Quality Profile for a few years. This Quality Profile provides a more comprehensive view of the impact of the district on our students.

While standardized testing is an effective tool to measure success, it is only one tool. We also utilize internal assessment practices that allow us to measure individual student progress and diagnose specific opportunities to improve the academic skills of our students. Our Quality Profile includes information on how we have implemented our Academic

Vision over the past five years, as we work to make sure all students receive an education that is personalized, engaging, and based on student growth.

In addition to the academic progress noted in the Quality Profile, we also show the impact of enrollment growth and your tax dollars within the district and in comparison to other districts. You will also see data related to the programs that support our academic success, along with information on the new facilities we are building for our students and our community.

Your questions are always welcome. If you would like more information about anything you are reading in our Quality Profile, we encourage you to reach out to the District directly.



BWLS PARENTS

Community fliers will **now be available in digital format** on our website.

These will no longer be sent home with your child.

Visit bwls.net/TheEaglesPost1.aspx

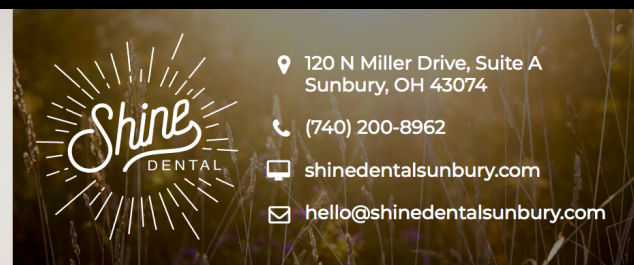


Dr. Katelyn Miller

We Support Our Community!

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Homework Help at the Community Library



Chauncey Montgomery
Director/ Fiscal Officer

This school year has definitely been much different from anything we have experienced before. Many of us are still adjusting to the new routines as a result of the increased safety measures. Remote learning also has its unique challenges. As we navigate these new learning environments together, we wanted to remind parents and students that the Community Library in Sunbury is always here and ready to help you throughout the school year.

We have a variety of great online resources for students at <http://students.yourcl.org>. Younger students needing general information can check out *Gale in Context* or

World Book. Each of these resources are great places to start if your child is doing a report or just needing an introduction and a little more information on a topic.

For students in middle and high school, we recommend *EBSCO Explora*, *Literary Reference Center*, and *Points of View Reference Center*. *EBSCO Explora* connects students with magazine and journal articles on a wide range of topics. *Literary Reference Center* contains biographies on authors and critical essays on their works. When working on persuasive essays and speeches, *Points of View Reference Center* contains articles on both sides of current issues.

If you can't find what you are looking for on our shelves, the library has access to thousands of items through our consortium catalog. Students can search a topic in the catalog, request the items, and simply pick them up at the library. If getting to the library

is a challenge, students can find ebooks in our digital collections through *Hoopla* and *Overdrive*. To connect to any of these collections, just visit the library website at <https://www.yourcl.org>.

The Community Library is ready to assist you with any of your academic needs. We hope these resources help. If you are having trouble accessing any of these services or finding information on a specific topic, feel free to reach out to us at ask@yourcl.org or 740-965-3901.

**For more information,
visit our website at
www.yourcl.org**



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