BIG WALNUT LOCAL SCHOOLS
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BIG WALNUT LOCAL SCHOOLS

The Eagle Examiner

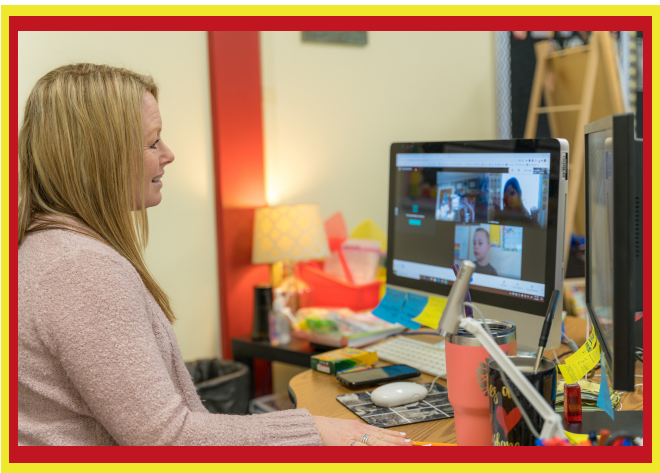
MARCH 2021 *Our mission is to inspire and guide each student to his or her maximum potential.*

A MESSAGE FROM SUPERINTENDENT ANGIE HAMBERG

One year ago this month, we received the astonishing news that our schools would be closed for two weeks-- an "extended spring break" according to the governor. Two weeks quickly turned into the rest of the school year, the March election was postponed, and we all found ourselves at home for a few months.

Fast forward a year, and I am determined to make 2021 a much better year than 2020! As more doses of the vaccine are available for Ohioans, I am hopeful there is a light at the end of the tunnel. I know it has been a long year of safety protocols and quarantine, but our kids have persevered through these challenges.

Despite the challenges of the last year, I am extremely proud that we have figured out how to keep our kids in our buildings five days a week, while also offering an option for families who preferred learning remotely this school year. In all honesty, when the school year started, we were hoping we could stay in-person for at least the first quarter. Now that we are in the third quarter and heading into the home stretch of the year, I am extremely grateful for the hard work of our students, staff, and families in making this year the best it could be for our students.



We are currently analyzing different options for our Virtual Learning Program (VLP) next year. If you are a current VLP family, you should have received a survey. At this time, we are not sure if we will offer VLP as an option or not. We will continue to communicate with you as we work through this process.

As we are wrapping up the year, we are currently working with the Delaware General Health District to plan our graduation ceremony for the Big Walnut Class of 2021. We look forward to honoring our seniors at the ceremony on Saturday, May 22. Due to the capacity limitations of our gym, we are not using it for a back-up if there is bad weather. Instead, we ask that graduates and their families please hold Sunday, May 23 as a rain date for an outdoor ceremony.

Finally, please read Treasurer Jeremy Buskirk's update on page 2 regarding the tumultuous impact from the pandemic on our funding. While we are in a much better place than we were a year ago, we have not received near the high level of coronavirus funds that other districts have received. Jeremy shares insights on current funding and our needs as we continue to grow. This will be part of a bigger conversation on our District's finances over the next few months as we continue to communicate our funding challenges to our community.

FEDERAL FUNDS HELP OFFSET STATE FUNDING CUTS

Treasurer
Jeremy Buskirk

It is hard to believe that it was just about a year ago when all our lives were unsettled by the coronavirus. Since the arrival of this virus, individuals, businesses, schools, and other community partners have been trying to figure out how to hang on and recover from this situation. One grouping of financial resources that has been provided over the last year is assistance from the various approved federal stimulus packages. I am sure that you have heard many conversations regarding these funds, and it could be easy to think that these are a windfall for our schools. I wanted to take a moment to share how our District has been impacted by these funds and how they fit into the broader financial picture. As we discuss these funds, it is important to keep in mind that nearly all federal funds have specific "allowable uses" and cannot be used for just anything we want. Instead, we are required to develop a plan to carefully allocate the funds to meet the purpose for which they are provided.

Our District has received three different one-time allocations of funds that are often referred to as CARES Act funds (see table below). Each of these allocations is intended to help meet pandemic-related needs that we may not have been able to provide within the constraints of our current budget. Last spring, we were provided with our first round of federal aid through the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ESSER) and the amount that Big Walnut received was about $179,000. As we were putting our plan together for these funds, we knew we would need to be able to support a virtual option for education with connectivity, support, and some equipment, as well as safety protocols for in-person instruction. These areas were the specific focus for these funds.

We received additional funds from the Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF) last summer as we were putting together a plan, which included health and safety considerations for our students and staff. Almost every dollar of the approximately $201,000 has gone toward previously unbudgeted costs that would allow us to meet protocols and ensure a safe environment. One area of spending included personal protective equipment, such as face shields, masks, gloves, and gowns. Another main use of these funds was public health expenses for items like hand sanitizer, clear dividers, disinfecting wipes, and cleaning products, as well as supplies to accommodate social distancing.

WHILE ONE-TIME FEDERAL STIMULUS ALLOCATIONS COVER OUR STATE REVENUE REDUCTIONS, WE CONTINUE TO SEE FUTURE CHALLENGES AS OUR STUDENT NEEDS GROW.

In December, we received notice that we would be getting additional funds from the approved stimulus package and just recently learned that our amount would be almost $670,000. We are currently preparing a plan on how we will utilize these funds. We plan to use these funds to help provide additional support for any students who may need learning recovery, along with our staffing costs. This would allow us to maintain our operations, despite lost state revenues and lower than anticipated growth in some of our local resources.

ONE-TIME FEDERAL STIMULUS FUNDS

District	ESSER #1	CRF	ESSER #2	Total COVID Assistance
Big Walnut Local	179,126.90	201,205.10	669,937.12	$1,050,269.12
Buckeye Valley Local	183,341.13	146,569.07	723,090.17	$1,053,000.37
Canal Winchester Local	836,824.91	205,331.88	3,481,030.73	$4,523,187.52
Delaware City	584,398.18	273,169.86	2,179,102.11	$3,036,670.15
Dublin City	1,113,042.62	836,794.98	4,762,882.85	$6,712,720.45
Groveport Madison Local	1,958,028.70	362,349.31	8,464,404.37	$10,784,782.38
Johnstown-Monroe Local	109,859.60	73,115.26	432,982.90	$615,957.76
Olentangy Local	247,029.94	1,023,093.89	-	$1,270,123.83
Westerville City	2,075,999.08	786,430.49	9,505,880.65	$12,368,310.22
Worthington City	749,263.69	496,946.65	3,273,595.89	$4,519,806.23

While every school district has its challenges depending on the diverse composition in the community and student population, this same diversity can impact the amount of funding each district receives. We have created the table (located on page 3) to show how we compare with school districts that we generally compete with in athletics in Central Ohio, and you can see that the level of support provided can vary. Both of the ESSER fund allocations were awarded based on a formula utilizing economically disadvantaged populations rather than the total student count. In addition, our state funding formula

Continued on top of page 3

takes into account the assumed wealth of a district in the amount of state revenue provided. These factors can cause great variations in funds received regardless of the district's size. Big Walnut is considered a wealthier district, and as such, we generally receive fewer state resources than some districts of a similar size.

We have been very fortunate this school year to have incredibly dedicated staff in our District who have made it possible for the majority of our students to attend school in person.

Despite budget reductions of about $814,000 and the additional pandemic-related costs discussed previously, our District is essentially in a cost-neutral position at this point due to the one-time federal funds we have received. We are definitely thankful for the funds we have received, but by no means has Big Walnut been provided with a windfall. We will continue to work hard and plan effectively, however, to utilize our limited resources to provide a great education and service for our community and students.

District	Big Walnut Local	Buckeye Valley Local	Canal Winchester Local	Delaware City	Dublin City	Groveport Madison Local	Johnstown-Monroe Local	Olentangy Local	Westerville City	Worthington City
County	Delaware	Delaware	Franklin	Delaware	Franklin	Franklin	Licking	Delaware	Franklin	Franklin
Total FY19 State Foundation Funding	$6,357,827.65	$4,659,043.36	$19,258,585.73	$17,296,541.57	$21,554,736.23	$41,636,991.91	$5,062,752.13	$12,291,332.21	$44,726,010.98	$20,931,447.29
FY20 Excutive Order Reduction	($935,802.94)	($643,659.09)	($564,329.68)	($773,393.73)	($3,461,043.61)	($1,112,611.42)	($371,016.50)	($2,988,362.64)	($2,776,450.23)	($2,193,374.66)
FY20 HB 164 Payment	$375,206.38	$180,775.36	$0.00	$0.00	$1,054,716.82	$0.00	$0.00	$2,003,852.77	$0.00	$188,224.13
FY20 Net Reduction	($560,596.56)	($462,883.73)	($564,329.68)	($773,393.73)	($2,406,326.79)	($1,112,611.42)	($371,016.50)	($984,509.87)	($2,776,450.23)	($2,005,150.53)
Percent of State Foundation	-14.72%	-13.82%	-2.93%	-4.47%	-16.06%	-2.67%	-7.33%	-24.31%	-6.21%	-10.48%
FY21 Initial Reductions from FY19	($560,596.56)	($462,883.73)	($564,329.68)	($773,393.73)	($2,406,326.79)	($1,112,611.42)	($371,016.50)	($984,509.87)	($2,776,450.23)	($2,005,150.53)
FY21 Excutive Order Adjustment	$307,452.37	$253,862.95	$309,499.75	$424,158.39	$1,319,720.67	$610,198.21	$203,479.49	$539,942.47	$1,522,710.38	$1,099,700.43
Revised FY21 Net Reduction	($253,144.19)	($209,020.78)	($254,829.93)	($349,235.34)	($1,086,606.12)	($502,413.21)	($167,537.01)	($444,567.40)	($1,253,739.85)	($905,450.10)
Percent of State Foundation	-3.98%	-4.49%	-1.32%	-2.02%	-5.04%	-1.21%	-3.31%	-3.62%	-2.80%	-4.33%
Two-Year (FY20 & FY21) Reduced Funds	($813,740.75)	($671,904.51)	($819,159.61)	($1,122,629.07)	($3,492,932.91)	($1,615,024.63)	($538,553.51)	($1,429,077.27)	($4,030,190.08)	($2,910,600.63)
Benefit or (Loss) to Date Net of of Stimulus Funds	$236,528.37	$381,095.86	$3,704,027.91	$1,914,041.08	$3,219,787.54	$9,169,757.75	$77,404.25	($158,953.44)	$8,338,120.14	$1,609,205.60

February's STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

Due to COVID-19, pictures were taken with immediate family members only and not with Board members

Madailein Watters from Big Walnut High School

Adrian Riffle from Big Walnut Elementary

DISTRICT NURSE MEGAN TRUAX (PICTURED ABOVE), ALONG WITH FELLOW BWLS NURSE DAWN BOEHM, HELPED ADMINISTER VACCINES TO DELAWARE COUNTY EDUCATORS

UPDATED DELAWARE COUNTY QUARANTINE REQUIREMENTS

NON-HOUSEHOLD CONTACTS
(currently 14 days)

- 10 days of quarantine, return to school on day 11 once released by the district nurse
- Student-athletes are permitted to return to school on day 11 and athletic play on day 15

HOUSEHOLD CONTACTS
(currently 24 days)

- 20 days of quarantine, return to school on day 21 once released by the district nurse
- Student-athletes are permitted to return to school on day 21 and athletic play on day 25

BIG WALNUT MILITARY CONNECTIONS

Big Walnut Local Schools is a Purple Star Award winner for the past 4 years, which is recognized by the Ohio Department of Education for our strong commitment to students and families connected to the nation's military.

In an effort to better support students of military members, we work to identify and inform staff members of the military-connected students so they can provide special considerations and share available resources.

April is the Month of the Military Child, and this year we're teaming up with Big Walnut Apparel to show our support for our military families.

The flier to the right details how the community can show their support. Purchase a shirt. Buy a yard sign. Become a sponser. Make a donation. Help the military-connected families in the community.

Thank you to all who give, and don't forget to join us on April 15 for Purple Up Day to celebrate our local heroes and their families.

PURPLE UP Big Walnut

HONOR MILITARY KIDS BECAUSE THEY SERVE TOO

April 15th is Big Walnut's ***Purple Up Day***! It is our chance as a community to wear **purple** to show support and thank **military** children, and their families, for their strength and sacrifices.

We need your help to make this day a success and meet our goal of the entire community ***wearing purple on April 15th***!

Here are THREE ways you can participate:

1. Be a T-shirt Sponsor for a minimum donation of $200

- You will get your company name or individual name on the back of the t-shirts
- You will receive a ***FREE*** Purple Up sign to display at your business or home during the month of April, the official Month of the Military Child.
- Deadline to submit sponsorships is ***April 1, 2021***
- Go to **bigwalnutpurpleup.com** to purchase your sponsorship.

2. Purchase the official Big Walnut Purple Up T-shirt for $15

- Go to **bigwalnutpurpleup.com** to purchase your t-shirts and be sure to wear them on April 15th.
- Businesses...why not buy shirts for your entire staff to wear!
- T-shirt sale begins March 8th and ends April 1st.

3. Purchase a yard sign for a minimum donation of $30

- You will receive a yard sign with stake to display at your business or home during the month of April.
- Please go to **bigwalnutpurpleup.com** to purchase your signs.

Proceeds go back to the Purple Up Committee to help fund special events for local military families and to establish a college scholarship fund for military children. Thank you for your support!

BIGWALNUTPURPLEUP.COM

Brought to you by **Big Walnut Apparel**, *130 E. Burrer St., Sunbury*
740.324.7766 customerservice@districtimage.com www.bigwalnutapparel.com

Sunbury Chiropractic
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Your local path to wellness™

Our team of skilled and respected chiropractors — Dr. Aaron Erndt, Dr. Gabe Mendenhall, Dr. Jeff Willoughby, Dr. Amanda Golden, Dr. A. Renee Allen, Dr. Kipp Hall, and Dr. David Young — look forward to helping you on your path to wellness using natural healing techniques.

What is Graston?

Graston Technique® is a form of instrument assisted soft tissue mobilization that enables the treatment of scar tissue and fascial restrictions with great success when the goal is to eliminate pain, increase range of motion, and restore normal function. Dr. Renee is certified in Graston Technique® (GT) therapy. With the use of a specialized instrument, Dr. Renee can effectively treat all soft tissue conditions, whether they are chronic, acute, or post-surgical.

Please contact us Monday through Saturday to set up an appointment at our Sunbury or Johnstown location and learn how chiropractic care can help you!

123 State Route 3 Sunbury, OH 43074 740-965-4301 www.sunburychiropractic.com
620 W. Coshocton St. Johnstown, OH 43031 740-967-BACK www.johnstownchiropractic.com

CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

Did you know? There are 3 wings on each floor of our new high school, totaling 9 wings/pods. Each will have its own restrooms, Extended Learning Area (ELA), two small group rooms, and one large group room.

Front of the building

Front area of the student dining area

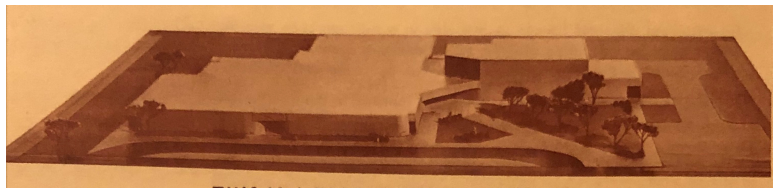
Extended learning area in one classroom wing

1 of 3 classroom wings by the delivery dock

Double classroom with movable wall

CONNECTIONS TO THE PAST

Artifacts and Stories from the Red Edwards' Big Walnut Museum



THIS IS A PICTURE OF A MODEL OF
THE BIG WALNUT MIDDLE SCHOOL

Construction on the Big Walnut Middle School, which will be located on 20 acres between Sunbury and Galena on the Old 3-C Highway, will be underway in July.

The school will be one of the most modern and flexible school buildings in the Central Ohio area. Its design reflects a national trend in educational thinking on school buildings. This will mean greater use of team teaching, teacher planning and self-teaching resulting in more time for individual help and counseling, allowing each child to develop his full potential in every area of learning.

The essence of the plans are that there will be three learning centers. each containing the equivalent of seven standard classrooms and a multi-purpose space. The three learning centers are clustered around a large research area or instructional materials center.

Room to expand to a fourth learning center has been provided.

The building will be without permanent inside walls having movable partitions, and storage cabinets on casters which can be moved at will. This permits the children in groups ranging from 90 to a class of 30 even down to the individual to "find the answer" among the innumerable books, tapes, slide films, models and project areas that make up the research center. There is a science area in each learning center for projects and exhibits.

This month we are excited to share a model of our current Big Walnut Elementary, which was originally planned as a middle school.

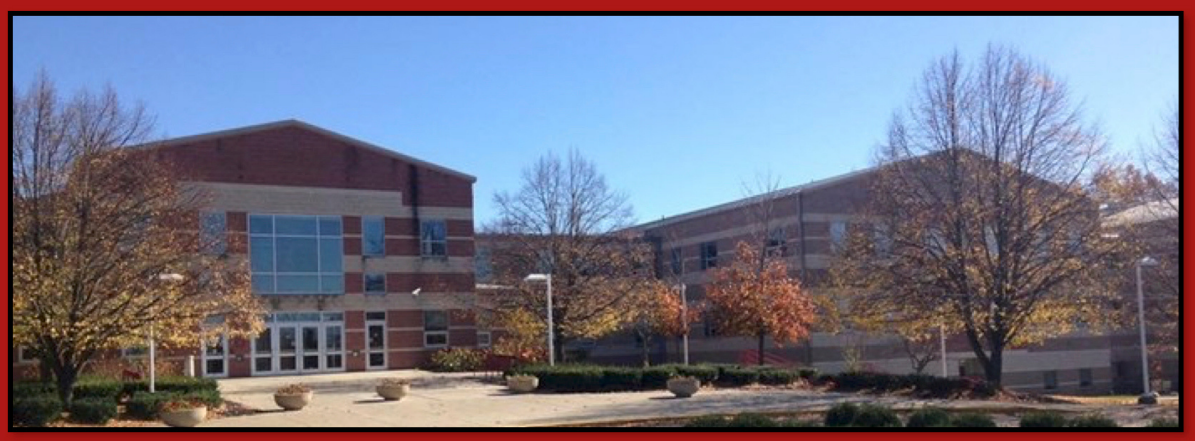
Don "Red" Edwards

Floors are treated with an acoustical covering, carpet, which contributes to more efficient environment for learning and teaching. The ceiling is acoustic tile and noise from various groups is no problem. With a minimum of distraction five or six classes meet simultaneously in the same learning center. There is brighter lighting permitting a variety of intricate tasks without strain for young eyes.

Pupils, lights, and gas fired hot water boilers combine to keep the school warm in the winter, mechanical air conditioning keeps it cool in warm weather. By extracting excess heat from high level fluorescent lighting and from heat generated by people the school retrieves heat energy. When the heat from these sources isn't enough hot water boilers supply heat to multi-zone roof top units. Fans in the units above each learning center pull interior air past light fixtures and into a plenum; dampers either dump this warm air outside on mild days or mix it with outside air and pump it back into the school. Damper positions are regulated by thermostats. In warm weather thermostat automatically close the dampers and turn on the cooling system.

The curriculum of the school will require every student to use the school library every day of

Thanks to the combined generosity of businesses, family, and friends, Big Walnut graduates have received over $1.8 million in scholarships since 1994.



In 2020, the Big Walnut Education Foundation awarded $92,500 to 73 BWHS graduates.

Donations of any value make a difference. You can join a giving society like these donors:

Soaring Eagle Society:
$20,000 and above

Fraternal Order of Eagles
Jeff Dingus Memorial
Mitchell Young Memorial
Multi Plastics Endowment
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Big Walnut Area Realtor's Association
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BW Class of 1957
Deck Masters
Eugena L. Hoke Memorial
Hetterscheidt Family
Immediate Health Assoc., Sunbury
Judy Denton
Mazzi Family
Tanger Outlets
Wagner Family

Scholarships are available for Big Walnut seniors and graduates for 4-year and 2-year degrees in addition to trade programs. Applications are due April 7th, 2021. See bigwalnuteducationfoundation.org to learn more.

B W
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Big Walnut Education Foundation

Volunteer Board Members

Dave Brehm, Diana Butts, Warren Cox, Nicci Scanlan Hess, Bob Hetterscheidt, Linda Rano Jonard, Mark Predieri, Jerry Rensi, and Kelly Forman Roberto

The Big Walnut Education Foundation appreciates and values all donors who have contributed at any level. Please contact us in the event of an error or omission.

WHAT SHOULD I READ NEXT?

A common question we are asked at the Community Library in Sunbury is, “What should I read next?” While it may be assumed that librarians spend all their time reading, like mere-mortals our time is limited and other activities compete for that time. In other words, we do not know as much as we would like about all the books in our collection. However, we do have tools to help us connect readers with good books. What is more, the tools we use are also available to you in our catalog.

When looking for what to read next, visit https://www.yourcl.org and search our catalog for a book you read and enjoyed. When you see the title on the results page, click that title to view detailed information. Scroll down to see general information, such as the call number and item status. Under this information is a section, “Awards, Reviews, & Suggested Reads,” where you will find information to connect you with further reading.

If the title is in a series, you will first see all the titles in that series in the order they should be read. Below the series information, you will see read-alikes. These recommendations include similar titles, authors, and series, if applicable. By clicking on any of the recommended titles or authors, you will then get the option to find the recommendations in our collection, where you can then place a hold. For a quick tutorial, visit the Community Library’s YouTube channel at http://youtube.yourcl.org.

If you do not have time to search for your next book to read, sign up for our “Next Reads” digital newsletter. Monthly, you will receive email recommendations for new titles within the genres you prefer. To sign up, visit http://newsletter.yourcl.org. As always, you can also stop by the Community Library or contact us at 740-965-3901 or ask@yourcl.org for more help. We love connecting patrons with good books, so feel free to reach out, and we will do our best to find you a good book to read.

Community Library
Serving the Big Walnut Area

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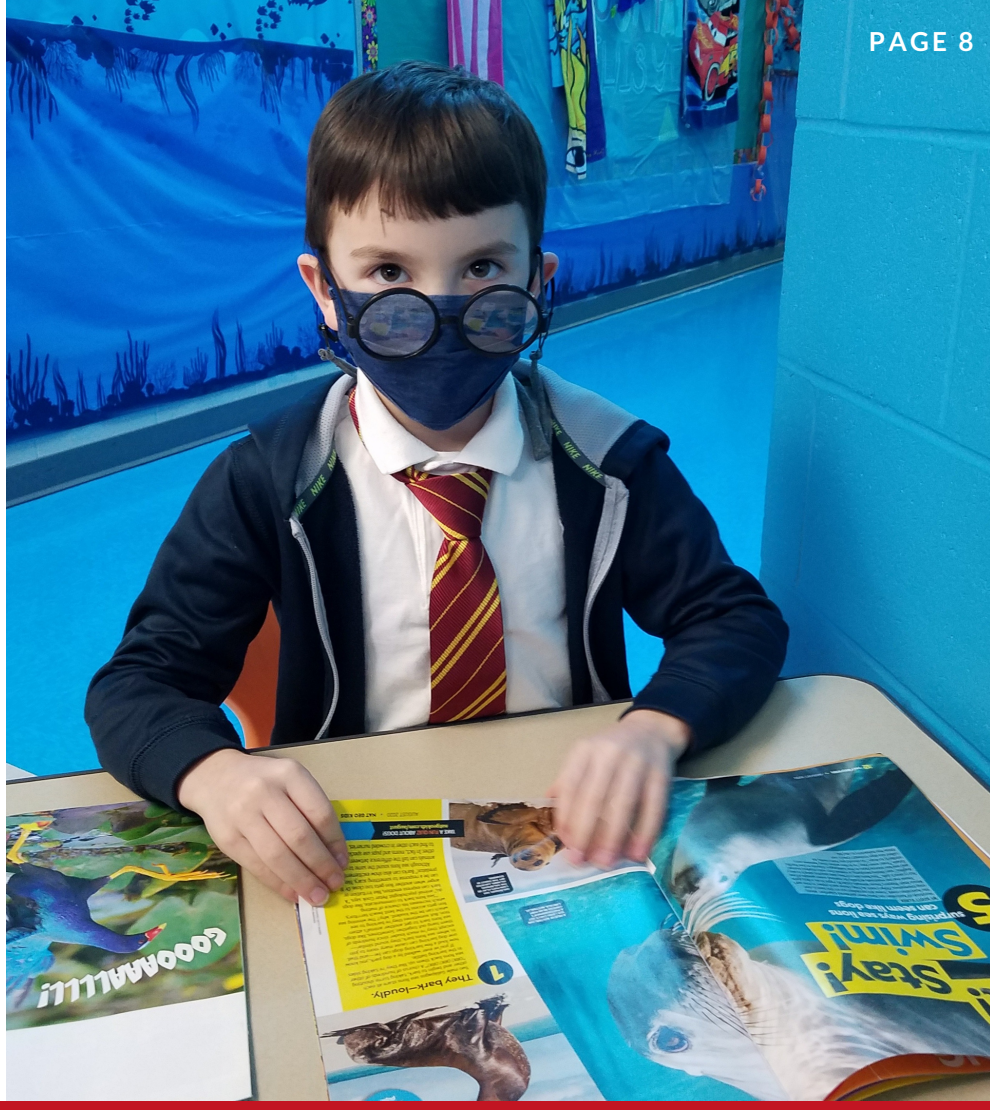
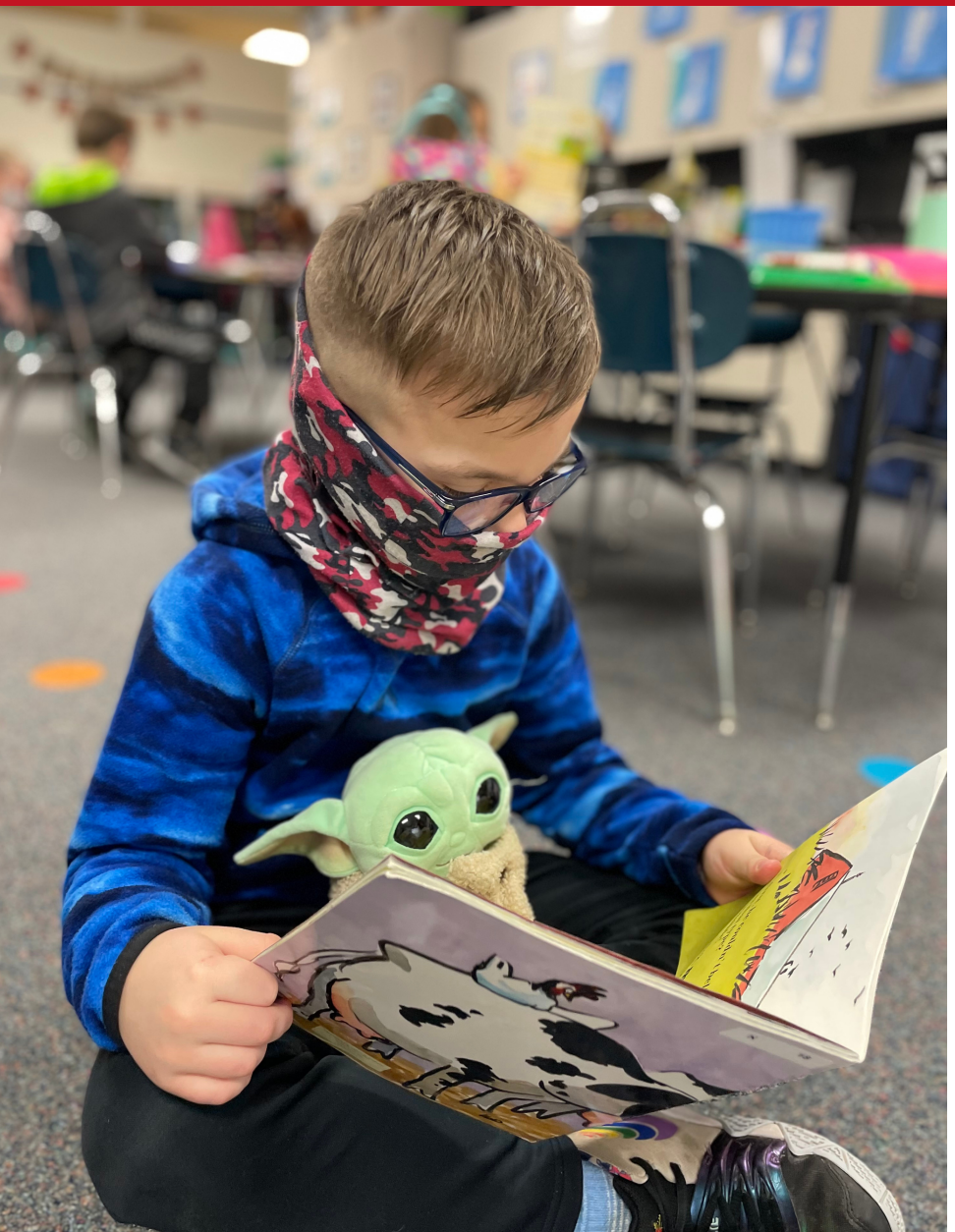
READ ACROSS AMERICA WEEK AT BIG WALNUT