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BIG WALNUT LOCAL SCHOOLS

The Eagle Examiner

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

A MESSAGE FROM SUPERINTENDENT ANGIE HAMBERG

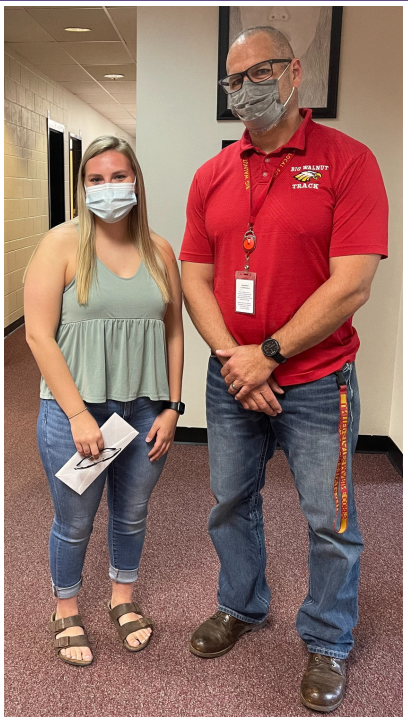


Despite the craziness of this year, there is so much to celebrate as we end the 2020-2021 school year and eagerly anticipate the next school year.

On Saturday, May 22, we honored our seniors during the 71st Big Walnut High School commencement. It was a perfect evening and an opportunity to recognize these students and their hard work over the past 13 years. Graduates Lindsey Stevens and Kaelyn Lortz delivered great messages to their classmates. As I listened, I was reminded of the truly remarkable privilege it is to serve as superintendent of this great district. I am grateful for the opportunity to play a role in the experiences of these graduating seniors and all of our students.

As we wrap up this year, we are busy planning the logistics for the 2021-2022 school year. I am starting to get lots of questions about whether or not the students will be required to wear masks next year. As you are probably aware, all health orders dropped as of June 2 (with some exceptions that don't impact schools). At this time, it is optional to wear masks on our campuses. We will continue to monitor throughout the summer, but masks are currently not required. As we all know, things could change quickly, so I will let you know if something changes.

Please see Treasurer Jeremy Buskirk and Board President Brad Schneider's columns for information on our finances. We strive to be fiscally responsible and maintain transparency with our community. As we continue to grow and deal with fluctuations in funding, we are finding it more difficult to meet all of our students' needs, especially in the critical areas of mental health, counseling, and nursing. Our Board of Education has been discussing these challenges and the funds needed to meet our students' needs. You can view these conversations by visiting our website, selecting Board of Education from the District drop-down menu, and clicking the red link "Board Meeting Streaming Video." As always, we are happy to answer any questions you have.



 **CONGRATULATIONS TO THIS YEAR'S
PURPLE STAR SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS,
EMMA BLAIR AND MYKAELA YANO**
Both students are pictured with BWHS Assistant Principal, Mr. Jim Hall

MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD PRESIDENT

Brad Schneider

If you have students in our district, you are perhaps spending this time of year reflecting on the past school year while looking forward to the next year.

Our administrative team is also reflecting and visioning. While that work is consistent with our district practices, one of the outputs of that process, which is published this time of year, is our 5-year financial forecast.

Our treasurer, Jeremy Buskirk, delivered our most recent forecast at our last board meeting. The forecast encompasses a host of assumptions related to development, growth, government activity, and market trends to help us anticipate our financial position for the near



future. If you have some time, I would encourage you to take a look at that report, and read the detailed assumptions.

I think you will find a consistent record of our entire administrative team collaborating over the past years, as well as planning for the future, to provide the best educational experience possible for our students while maximizing current and future resources.

You will also notice that the costs of residential growth in our community, without complimentary industrial or commercial growth, continues to create a funding challenge. Further, the state of Ohio continues to experience population decline, despite the growth in population in our area. This means we should continue to expect

state funding models to be more focused on benefitting districts that are losing population.

I feel our administration has done an amazing job of absorbing over 33% enrollment growth without requesting new operating levies from our community. But if you look at our forecast, its assumptions, and the services we are providing currently, it becomes apparent that the strategies we've chosen to reduce services to stretch our operating dollars can only go so far. Soon the mathematical facts of rapid growth will require all of us to decide what types of services we want, and which ones we will forgo, to keep our financial position structurally sound.



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HAPPY Retirement

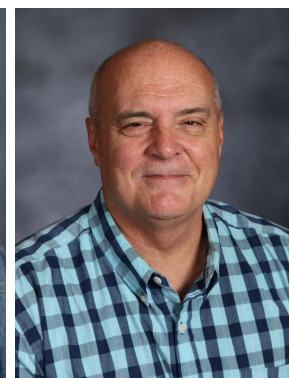
Thank you for your years of service to our Big Walnut students!



Laura Forman
Transportation



Laura Lawrence
Student Services



Bob Scott
Big Walnut Middle School



Gene Simpkins
Big Walnut High School



Patti Tarney
Big Walnut Elementary



Mardissa Thorpe
Transportation

May's STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

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



Vera Chung from Big Walnut Elementary



Nathan Rentz from Big Walnut Intermediate



5-YEAR FORECAST UPDATE



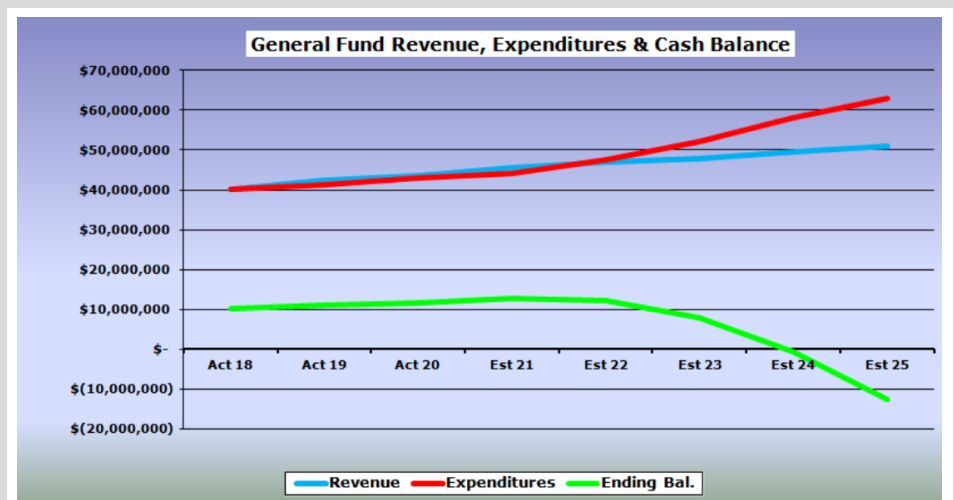
**Treasurer
Jeremy Buskirk**

The dust is beginning to settle on a year that was full of uncertainties. While the year has been filled with challenges, frustrations, and surprises, it has also been a year filled with some hope and happiness. I think we can say that this year has ended up better than expected in both our classrooms and with our District finances. As I shared with the Board at our May meeting, however, our overall district picture remains the same as we plan for the challenges of growth, hopes for additional student supports, and desires to provide more opportunities for our students through class offerings. As a District, we try to cautiously project out revenue expectations and carefully manage our expenses, which has allowed us to push out our anticipated need to dip into our reserves in our cash balance.

We were fortunate to see some increased revenues from our property taxes from both county reappraisals as well as new community members. Although we did have a decrease in our income tax receipts, it was less than we had expected. We were happy to receive back a portion of the May 2020 State budget cut even though approximately \$250,000 of the budget cuts for Big Walnut still remain, creating less basic state funding support than we would have expected prior to the pandemic. We were also aided by federal stimulus funds that helped offset our State cuts the last two years and helped with unexpected pandemic-related costs.

We are always trying to operate lean and provide a cost-effective education. Over the last several years, this has included partnering with all of our staff on watching expenses and making insurance changes due to rising costs, but it has also meant doing without services that we need to better support and educate our students. As we entered last year, a lot of careful planning went into how to accomplish in-person school, along with a virtual learning program, and meet required protocols. As always, our Big Walnut team (teachers and all other supporting staff) came together and provided our students a great experience. As we prepare for the next few years, additional support services that some of our neighboring districts are able to provide will be needed; these include nursing, tutoring, and counseling/mental health services.

The image below provides a quick picture of our financial picture for the current year and the next 4 years. We have included services that were reduced in the last couple of years, as well as additional staffing required for anticipated enrollment growth and additional services to support whole-child development. As can be seen with our current projections, we anticipate being able to maintain operations for a short period of time, but ultimately, we will need the support of our community to provide a well-rounded educational experience for all the kids of our community.



HONORING OUR MULTI-SPORT ATHLETES

The emergence of sports clubs and specialization at an early age has limited the number of student-athletes who participate in multiple sports. Starting with the graduating class of 2011, we encouraged student-athletes to participate in more than one sport by providing a 12 Seasons of Greatness award to those who participate in three different sport seasons for all four years of high school. An asterisk is added for those student-athletes who not only participate, but actually earn 12 varsity letters in three different sport seasons for all four years of high school.

Tabatha Piper and Jacob Walaszek were the first recipients of this award out of 208 students from the graduating class of 2011, with Tabatha being the first student-athlete to earn an asterisk.

Congratulations to Mackenna Ames, Braden Buckler, Gabrielle Roberto, and Owen Wilhelm! These students earned the 12 Seasons of Greatness Award out of 273 students from the class of 2021.

Recently, NBC4i did a story on the 12 Seasons of Greatness which can be seen and read at tinyurl.com/BWathletics2021.



Mackenna Ames



Braden Buckler



Gabrielle Roberto



Owen Wilhelm

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Sports Physicals Are Available Now!

We offer convenient, efficient, and affordable sports physicals for athletes any time of the year. On designated days throughout the year, our office hosts special sports physical days where the money for the cost of the physical is donated back to the athlete's sports organization. Call today to get your athlete scheduled for an annual sports physical.

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www.johnstownchiropractic.com

Congrats CLASS OF 2021



Big Walnut High School held graduation on Saturday, May 22. We had 273 students who met the requirements for graduation, and 251 chose to walk during this event. We were also pleased to bring back the tradition of having students choose their diploma presenters, which we were not able to do last year due to COVID-19 restrictions. We had 90 presenters, including current and former teachers, career center instructors, and coaches. It was a beautiful evening, and we are incredibly proud of our graduates. We can't wait to see what they accomplish in the future!



AGE-FRIENDLY Delaware County

News for an Age-Friendly Community
Small Steps. Big Impact.

SENIOR SAFETY DAY + FREE EVENT!

TUESDAY, AUG. 3, 9 a.m.–5 p.m.
SourcePoint, 800 Cheshire Road, Delaware

Morning Session: Age-Friendly Delaware County

Featuring information on scams, identity theft, mental health awareness and resources, LifeCards, the special needs registry, weather warnings and notifications, crisis intervention, and more.

Afternoon Session: Driver Safety

Featuring discussions on driver safety as we age and free car fit assessments.

Hosted by SourcePoint in collaboration with community partners

AAA, City of Delaware Fire Dept., City of Delaware Police Dept., Delaware County Prosecutor, Delaware County Transit, Delaware Public Health District, DMMHRSB, Emergency Management Services, HelpLine, OhioHealth, Ohio State Highway Patrol.

Learn more and register at MySourcePoint.org/events



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MOBILITY MANAGEMENT

DCT aims to be a mobility leader—that's why we created delawaremobility.com as your guide to local transportation! You'll find resources for when DCT may not be the best option, including medical transportation, ride share services, bike path maps, and more.

Don't have access to the website? Call 740-513-2207, Monday–Friday, 9 a.m.–4 p.m., to help find the right resource for you or your loved ones!



**PRESERVATION
PARKS** DELAWARE COUNTY

Prefer to walk? Preservation Parks have trails for a variety of skill levels. These parks have accessible gravel trails:

- Blues Creek Park
- Emily Traphagen Park
- Gallant Woods Park
- Deer Haven Park
- Hogback Ridge Park



SHARE YOUR THOUGHTS WITH US!
morpc.org/mobilityplan

Support mobility of older adults, people with disabilities, and people with low income by participating in the survey!



While the Community Library in Sunbury always advocates for making reading a part of one's daily life, during the summer we make an extra effort to encourage reading in our community. Reading during the summer is one of the best ways for children to maintain achievement gains they made during the previous school year. Research has also shown that reading improves cognitive abilities and health for all ages. To that end, we offer a reading program during June and July for all patrons, from birth through adulthood.

Reading is not always an easy task for everyone. We may take our healthy eyesight, or the ability to correct our eyesight with

glasses or contacts, for granted. As I get older, I am more aware of my diminishing vision as I require more light and need to hold a book at a greater distance to read. This reminds me that for many individuals with vision impairments, reading can be a frustration.

At the Community Library, we strive to ensure all our patrons have access to books, regardless of their vision abilities. We offer a variety of options for readers with varying abilities. In our physical collection, we have a wide selection of large print titles. We also offer audiobooks for those who would rather listen to books.

In addition to our local collection of large print books and audiobooks, patrons can access ebooks and digital audiobooks through the Ohio Digital Library and Hoopla.



This space was paid for by the Community Library.

With ebooks, patrons can customize the size of the font to meet their needs. Digital audiobooks allow users to download a plethora of titles to a single device for easy access and convenient listening.

While our print and digital collections will meet the needs of most readers, patrons with more challenging impairments can take advantage of Ohio's Talking Book Service. Provided through the State Library of Ohio, the Talking Book Program offers free recorded books, magazines, and playback equipment to eligible blind and visually-impaired Ohioans.

Our hope is that every resident in our community has access to reading material, regardless of their abilities. If you want to get connected to any of the services mentioned above, please reach out to our staff at the Community Library. You can contact us at 740-965-3901 or ask@yourcl.org. For more information about our summer reading program, visit yourcl.org.

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21 years

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CLASSIC PERFORMANCES

OLD FRIENDS - REUNITED
Russell Moore, Mike Hartgrove, Terry Baucom, Alan Biby
plus a Guest. Thursday 10:00

*The Country Gentlemen Tribute Band &
Special Guest Doyle Lawson*
Thursday 7:30

SIDELINE & THE MACC OPRY
Saturday 10:00

Junior Sisk & Larry Stephenson
Wednesday 10:00

In 2019 The MACC Donated \$40,000.00 to St. Jude Childrens Research Hospital

Wednesday

String Therapy (12:00 p.m.)
Junior Sisk (1:15 p.m.)
Terry Baucom & Dukes of Drive (2:30 p.m.)
Kenny & Amanda Smith (3:45 p.m.)
Alan Bibey & Grasstowne (5:00 p.m.)
Larry Stephenson & Band (6:15 p.m.)
Ricky Wasson & Friends (7:30 p.m.)
Russell Moore & Illrd Tyme Out (8:45 p.m.)
Junior Sisk & Larry Stephenson (10:00 p.m.)

Thursday

Fast Track (12:00 p.m.)
Dave Adkins (1:15 p.m.)
Po' Ramblin' Boys (2:30 p.m.)
Appalachian Road Show (3:45 p.m.)
Caleb Daugherty (5:00 p.m.)
Doyle Lawson & Quicksilver (6:15 p.m.)
Country Gentlemen Tribute Band (7:30 p.m.)
Lonesome River Band (8:45 p.m.)
Russell Moore & Old Friends-Reunited (10:00 p.m.)

Friday

Clay Hess & Ron Block (12:00 p.m.)
Hammertowne (1:15 p.m.)
Donna Ulessia (2:30 p.m.)
High Fidelity (3:45 p.m.)
Don Rigsby & The Fly By Knights (5:00 p.m.)
SteelDrivers (6:15 p.m.)
Larry Sparks (7:30 p.m.)
Darin & Brooke Aldridge (8:45 p.m.)
Sideline (10:00 p.m.)

Saturday

Seth Mulder & Midnight Run (12:00 p.m.)
Carl Jackson-Larry Cordle-Jerry Salley (1:15 p.m.)
Joe Mullins & Radio Ramblers (2:30 p.m.)
Breaking Grass (3:45 p.m.)
Tim Shelton Syndicate (5:00 p.m.)
Jake Vanover & Jaelee Roberts (6:15 p.m.)
Billy Droze (7:30 p.m.)
Grascals (8:45 p.m.)
Sideline- MACC OPRY (10:00 p.m.)



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