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BIG WALNUT LOCAL SCHOOLS

The Eagle Examiner

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AUGUST 2018

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

A MESSAGE FROM SUPERINTENDENT ANGIE POLLOCK

It is hard to believe that school starts in less than two weeks! We have had a busy summer hiring new staff, working on security renovations, designing the new buildings, and performing the due diligence on our land purchase.

While this work is certainly rewarding, we are ready to renew our commitment to reaching our 2020 Vision for academics and focus on our core mission of inspiring and guiding each student to his or her maximum potential. Our vision is that by the year 2020, all of our 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. We have made great strides in reaching this vision and will continue to work with our staff to make sure that our students are getting the skills they need to be successful in a world where 65% of future jobs do not even exist. At the elementary level, we continue to teach students the importance of a growth mindset so they are not afraid to tackle challenges in both the classroom and in life. Throughout their educational experience at Big Walnut, we want students to develop the skills employers want to see in the areas of creativity, collaboration, critical thinking, and communication. For more information on our 2020 Vision, please visit our web page at bwls.net, and click on the "Academic Vision" tab on the left side of the page.

I am looking forward to working with BWHS journalism seniors, Stephanie Smith and Lauren Speelman (pictured above), who will be helping this year on our *Eagle Examiner*. The students will be helping our crew with writing, editing, and designing our newsletter. This will be a great learning opportunity for our students, and they will get the opportunity to gain real-life experience in journalism.

In this edition, you will find general back-to-school information, staff changes, and important dates for each of our buildings. As a special note, in an effort to continue to increase safety and security, bus routes and class placements for elementary students will be mailed home instead of posted at the buildings. We look forward to seeing you soon. Enjoy your last few days of summer break and have a fantastic school year!

BIG WALNUT LOCAL SCHOOLS

Message from the Board

Board President
Andy Wecker

"Some of the highest achievers in school have never dealt with failure and lack the humility or flexibility to deal with situations that are complex or uncertain. Being good at traditional school doesn't always translate well to life beyond school."

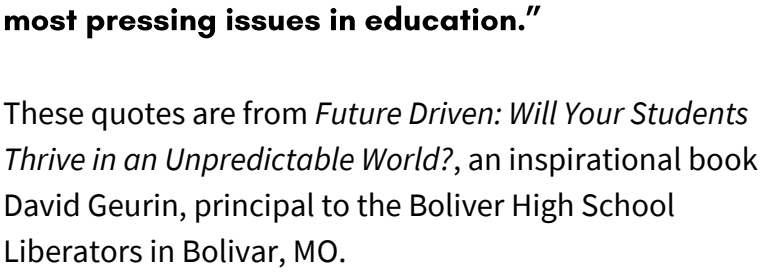
"[T]he shift of agency to the learner is one of our most pressing issues in education."

These quotes are from *Future Driven: Will Your Students Thrive in an Unpredictable World?*, an inspirational book by David Geurin, principal to the Boliver High School Liberators in Bolivar, MO.

Life offers fewer opportunities to reflect, so it's good to make more of them. From last fall's bond issue until recently putting land under contract for a new high school and elementary school site, much of our discussion has been on enrollment and building capacity.

Back-to-school season this year is a chance to shift our focus back to what is going on in our buildings. I've written before how our construction manager has a Jr. Builder Program in which it makes its staff available to go into buildings, or take students and teachers through our construction site over the next several years. That may prove to be a great example of a bridge between formal schooling and the outside world that can engage students in a way we've not been able to do before.

By the time you read this, you may be wondering where did the summer go? But I'd like to invite you to also look forward to the year ahead in Big Walnut.



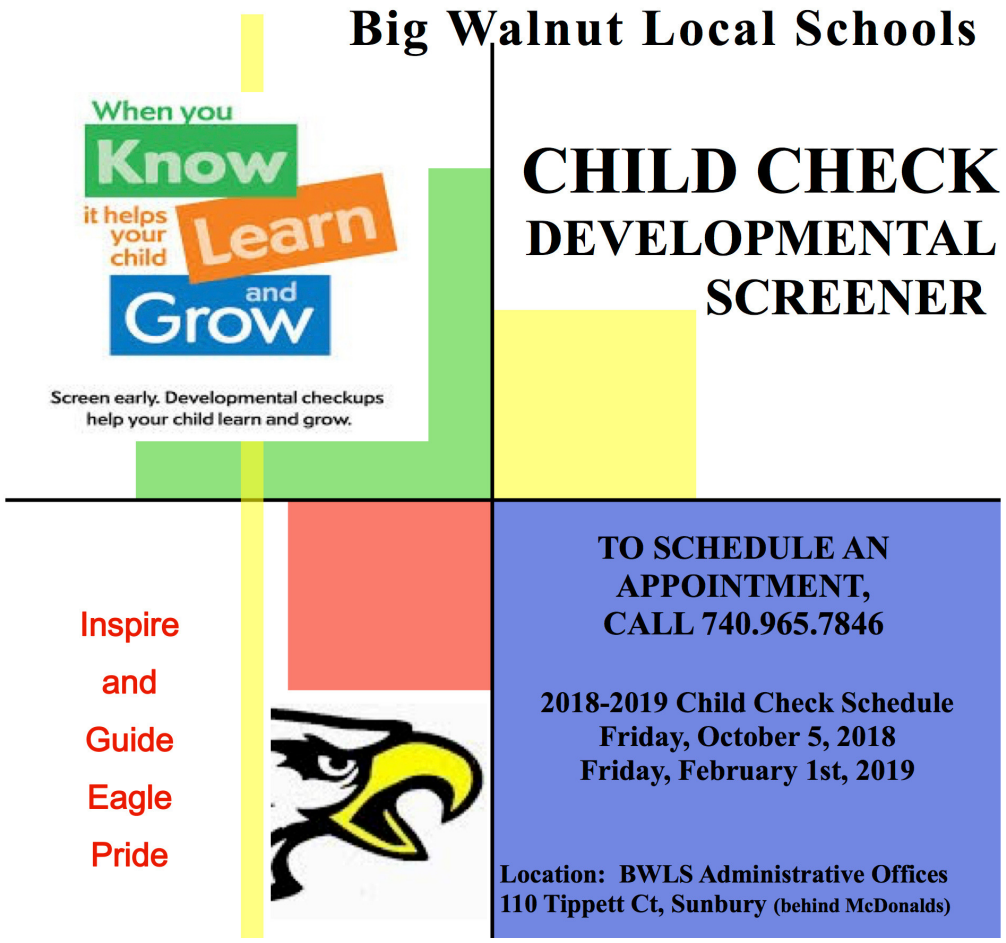
Andy Wecker
President
Big Walnut Board of Education

Development in Big Walnut

Treasurer
Jeremy Buskirk

With the recent announcement of an alleged new commercial development coming into our district, many people have asked about the benefit to the schools. We work very hard to follow development, and it should be noted many times developers want to "make a splash" and provide information that does not always align with reality. Recently, Tanger Outlet Mall was built in our district. It was reported at one point during the planning phases of this development that our school district would receive $2 million in tax revenue per year; however, we actually receive a little less than $300,000 in property taxes from this development. Additionally, we receive a $100,000 payment in lieu of taxes, totaling far less than indicated. While this is more revenue than if nothing had been built at this location, it is far from the windfall that developers promoted. This difference is due to tax incentive tools that divert taxes from the schools and other local governments to subsidize infrastructure in these areas, as well as idealistic valuation projections.

As a school district, our boundaries encompass six townships and two villages and serve a diverse, growing population. We, however, have minimal abilities to generate additional revenues to keep up with growth outside of voter approval. We strive to be a good partner with local governments, but it is important to note that schools are not responsible for growth and development. Local governments make the decisions that drive growth and school districts have to evaluate the impact, express the challenges that the decision creates, and accommodate the changes that occur from the final decision.



Child Check is for ages 3-5; it is not a Kindergarten screener, nor is it required for Preschool peers.

9th ANNUAL HARLEM TOWNSHIP DAYS

AUGUST 18 & 19

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EXHIBITS, HISTORY, ENTERTAINMENT

CRAFT & FOOD VENDORS

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SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE

SATURDAY SCHEDULE

9:00 am OPEN

10:00 am PARADE (Community Park)

11:00 am TRACTOR TUG PULL
(Next to Firehouse across from Community Park)

MAIN TENT ATTRACTIONS

11:00 - 12:00 pm FOUR HARMONY'S SAKE

12:30 - 1:30 pm PAULETTE'S PRINCESS PARTIES
(Entertainment for kids; Elsa, Moana, Pirate)

2:00 - 3:00 pm WESTERVILLE PROMENADERS
(Interactive Square Dance)

4:00 - 5:00 pm ALLEY VINTAGE COSTUME SHOW

5:00 pm KEN BUELL MEMORIAL AUCTION

5:30 - 6:30 pm DILLION JARRELL, COUNTRY MUSIC

7:00 - 8:45 pm FRANKLIN XPRESS, ROCK n ROLL

9:15 pm FIREWORKS!

HISTORY TENT

SATURDAY

1:00-2:00 pm
Johnny Appleseed
2:30-3:30 pm
Fanny Crosby
3:30-4:30 pm
Elizabeth Van Lew
Northern Spy
4:30-5:30 pm
Jesse James
Confederate Rebel
& Outlaw
5:30-6:30 pm
Mark Twain

SUNDAY

12:00-3:00 pm
Civil War
Re-enactor & displays

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

8:00 - 10:15 am PANCAKE BREAKFAST w Chris Cakes

9:00 am - 12:00 pm CAR SHOW REGISTRATION

12:00 - 4:00 pm CAR SHOW

MAIN TENT ATTRACTIONS

10:30 - 11:30 am COMMUNITY CHURCH SERVICE
(Non-denominational)

12:00 - 1:00 pm STILL CLIMBING, CHRISTIAN BLUEGRASS

1:00 pm KIDS PEDAL TRACTOR PULL
(located on basketball court – Trophies Awarded))

1:45 -2:15 pm MATT JERGENS, OUT-OF-HAND
(Entertainment for kids & kids-at-heart adults!)

3:00 - 4:00 pm Pete Conrad

4:00 pm WEEKEND AWARDS PRESENTED

5:00 pm CLOSING

FOR KIDS

SATURDAY 1:00 – 5:00 pm
Bungee Jump, Big Baller, Circus Combo Bounce
Pony Rides 4:30 – 8:30 pm
(Adults, come ride a Clydesdale!)

FOR KIDS

SUNDAY 12:00 – 4:00 PM
Wrecking Ball, Velcro Wall, Fire truck Bounce

Lots of extras for kids, both days!

Meet the newest member of our family, Dr. Jillian Gray. She's a pediatric dentist. We really like her, and know you will too. She currently lives in Clintonville with her husband, Evan, son, Oliver, daughter, Lachlan, and dog, Remi. She likes cooking, exploring local stores and restaurants, crafting, woodworking, and learning new things. Dr. Jillian is looking forward to being a part of our community, and meeting the pediatric needs of your littlest family members.

P: 740.965.4090 F: 740.965.9921
W: www.anthonydental.com
A: 257 W. Granville St., Suite #200
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COMMUNITY LIBRARY

Calm Those Back-to-School Jitters

by Rachel Coffield

It's crazy how fast summer break has rushed by. The stress-free days that smell of suntan lotion and taste of popsicles will soon revolve back into the steady routine of homework and set bedtimes. For many students, going back to school is old hat – dust off the lunchbox and book bag, purchase school supplies, and check the class list to see who you will be spending time with the next school year.

First-day jitters are a normal part of going back to school, but for some the anxiety of going back to school can feel more like paralyzing fear. What is my teacher like? What if no one likes me? What if I don't know the answer? Will I have wheelbarrow-loads of homework the first night? What if I can't find my classroom? If I miss the bus, will I have to spend the night?! I feel like I'm going to be sick!

For these students, and especially for those entering kindergarten and facing the unknown, it may be beneficial to read a first day of school book with a loved one. This allows them to realize that they are not the only ones facing first day jitters, and it shows them solutions to possible problems that they might have dreamt up. Reading together adds a sense of comfort and opens the door for communication, so you can help them address any of their unsaid fears before the big day. Keep in mind, however, when using "bibliotherapy," it is important not to dwell too long or deep on the same subject. Like most things in life, a little bit goes a long way.

So before the big day, stop by the Community Library to pick up a back to school book to ease your little one back into the school routine. The library is located at 44 Burrer Drive in Sunbury. Or visit us at https://www.yourcl.org.

BIG WALNUT LOCAL SCHOOLS

2020 VISION

SPOTLIGHT OF THE MONTH

Big Walnut collaborated with Otterbein University to obtain a grant from the Martha Holden Jennings Foundation in order to bring authentic learning experiences into the classroom. The vision was to train staff so they can learn how to implement Problem Based Learning (PBL) and creative-design techniques into their classrooms. The goal of this type of approach to learning is for students to solve a problem brought to them by a local industry partner, while learning necessary skills and content.

This past July, eight of our high school teachers (Jennifer Zimmer, Kristen Macklin, Mark Robinson, Charlie Smith, Mike Adams, Alan Frank, Ashley Dicken, Lisa Danne) spent a week at Otterbein's The Point with Dr. Michael Hudoba (an engineering professor at Otterbein) learning how to implement PBL into their classrooms. During the week, the teachers identified a local industry partner to work with and began identifying relevant problems the students could work to solve during the first semester this school year. These relationships with the industry partners will continue as the students work to solve the problems and ultimately pitch their solutions to the businesses.

This opportunity and partnership with Otterbein University will increase the students' skills in problem solving, critical thinking, communicating complex issues, developing professional presentations, and collaborating with others. This is an incredible opportunity to increase our students' awareness of career opportunities and leadership roles within the community.

Our staff at Otterbein's The Point working together on a project

During their week-long training, they gained new skills and developed their projects for their students

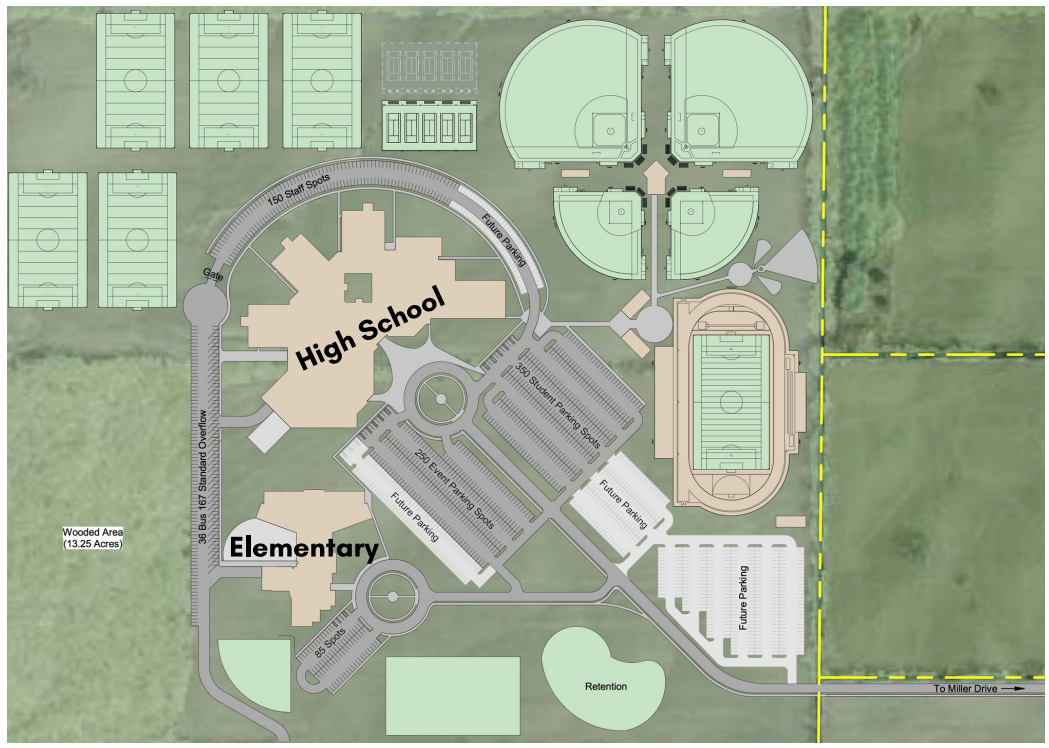
CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

Director of Facilities Doug Swartz

This month we want to take the opportunity to update the community on where we stand with two important projects funded by the recently passed bond issue.

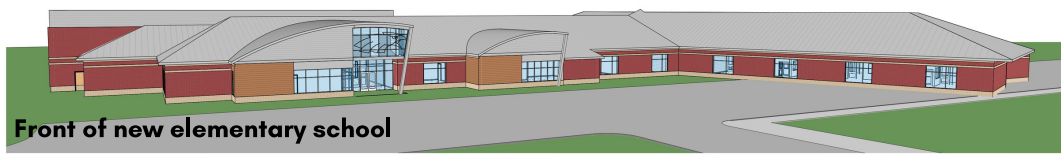
The security improvement projects at Big Walnut Elementary, Hylen Souders Elementary, Harrison Street Elementary, Big Walnut Intermediate and Big Walnut High School, are all slated to be operational for the start of the 2018-2019 school year. These upgrades allow us to standardize safety protocols at all five schools.

Because we received good bids for the initial five schools, we will be undertaking minor safety upgrades at the two remaining schools - General Rosecrans Elementary and Big Walnut Middle School. While the buildings will be safe and operational to start school, the remainder of the projects will be completed during evenings and weekends after the school year begins.

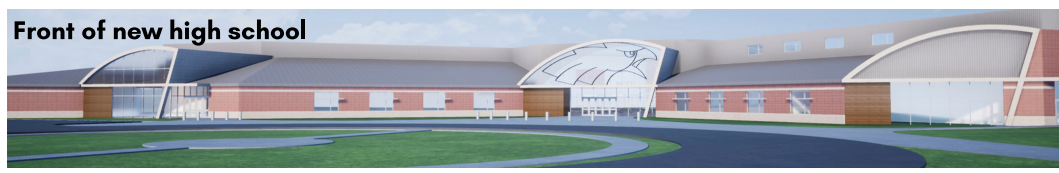


The above site plan draft incorporates the **potential** forecasted full build-out of the new school site, including both school facilities, a football stadium and parking, as well as other athletic facilities (tennis courts, athletic practice fields, baseball and softball fields, additional parking, etc.). Decisions regarding timing of these phases will be tied to available funds, community input and operational goals and objectives.

Below are **initial concepts** for the exteriors of the two new buildings.



Front of new elementary school



Front of new high school

Best Wishes for the 2018-19 School Year

We're honored to regularly sponsor local youth and look forward to all the amazing things they'll do this year.

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BIG WALNUT LOCAL SCHOOLS

Back-to-School Information

Bus Routes and Schedules

Bus routes for PreK-4 will be mailed to individual homes with class schedules and will be available on PowerSchool on August 8 for grades 5-12.

School Fees

Preschool Tuition (typical peers)- $165/month*
Full Day Kindergarten Tuition- $175/month*
Grades PreK-4 School Fee- $55.00
Grades 5-8 School Fee- $45.00
Grades 9-12 School Fee- $80.00
Grades 5-12 Technology Fee- $20.00

** Monthly tuition is due on the first of each month for nine months (beginning in September and ending in May). Security deposit will be applied to May tuition.*

Lunch Menus & Accounts

- Lunch menus for each building can be found at tinyurl.com/BW18lunchmenus
- To add money to your child's account, go to www.payschoolscentral.com
- Elementary & Intermediate Breakfast Price = $1.50
- Elementary & Intermediate Lunch Price = $2.75
- Middle & High School Breakfast Price = $2.25
- Middle & High School Lunch Price = $3.00

Free & Reduced Meals

The BWLS 2018-19 program policy for Free & Reduced Price Meals or Milk for students is now available. This policy is for families who are unable to pay the full price of meals or milk served under the National School Lunch and School Breakfast, After School Care Snack or Special Milk Program. To read the full notice, go to the district's website (www.bwls.net), then click *Food Service Department.* You will find the Free & Reduced Price Meals application on the Food Service page as well.

Principal
Andy Jados

Assistant Principal
Kelley Bloomer

Assistant Principal
Jim Hall

What is new this year?

The BWHS Academic Boosters group has purchased a yard sign for every student who received a five, the highest score possible, on his or her AP exam. They will be delivering these to each student in August. This parent group has also purchased two recognition boards to be hung in our atrium. One will recognize our students who scored a 32 or higher on the ACT and the other will focus on students who have enlisted into our military. Many thanks to this group for their ongoing support of our students.

Important dates

August 14- Eagles First Flight (Freshman/New Student Orientation), 7:30 a.m.
August 15- First Day of School
August 22- Curriculum Night, 6:30 p.m.
September 3- No School (Labor Day)
September 10- Academic Boosters, 6:30 p.m.

What is this year's focus?

Our teachers have been focusing on creating multiple opportunities for students to show they understand the content- meaning every teacher will allow reassessments/retakes in some way, allowing the curriculum to be more flexible. The purpose for this is so our teachers can ensure their students have a better understanding of the content.

New staff members to BWHS

Eric Bidlack (Social Studies)
Layne Bair and Zach Westhoven (English)
Chad Saathoff (Science)
Beth Collins (Science full-year substitute)
Leah Shaw (English full-year substitute)

BIG WALNUT LOCAL SCHOOLS

Back-to-School Information

Principal
Gary Hankins

Assistant Principal
Sarah Wytzka

What's new this year?

We saw academic gains by switching to an extended time block for English Language Arts and math. This year we're going to continue with that schedule; however, this year each teacher will only be teaching one subject. The goal is that each teacher can hone in on the content and skills needed for that course.

What is this year's focus?

This year we'll be examining Ohio's Learning Standards and updating our learning targets. We want students to know what we expect of them in each and every classroom. Throughout the year, building administrators will randomly interview students to ensure the learning targets are embedded in student learning. We will continue working with the standards to update curriculum, which will help the BWI faculty to meet the needs of each and every student.

New staff to BWI

Milea Sarap (English Language Arts- previously at BWE)

Important dates

August 7- First PTO Meeting, 7:00 p.m. (at BWMS)
August 8- Classes Posted on PowerSchool, 8:00 a.m.
August 14- Open House, 2:00 p.m.
August 15- First Day of School
August 20- Curriculum Night, 6:00 p.m.
September 3- No School (Labor Day)

Principal
Josh Frame

Assistant Principal
Nick Powell

What's new this year?

Students will find a 30-minute advisory program embedded into the schedule this year to provide opportunities for one-on-one teaching, reassessment, interventions, activity/club interests and much more. We've designed this program to help students and staff form strong relationships and provide ongoing support for middle school learners. It serves as the hub of student experiences to develop soft-skills (e.g. communication, collaboration, etc.), while supporting common bonds between our students. Also, we're very excited to have Nick Powell transition from Intervention Specialist to Assistant Principal/ Athletic Director.

What is this year's focus?

We want our teachers' focus to be on providing effective feedback to students on their learning. Expect that your student will receive descriptive feedback from adults and peers at BWMS as we focus on a growth mindset and continuous improvement.

What is a Growth Mindset?

As a district, we use the term growth mindset when referring to the beliefs students have about their intelligence. When someone has a growth mindset, he or she believes work ethic and effort make him/her stronger and failure/ not understanding a concept is a challenge rather than a weakness.

New staff to BWMS

Jenni Hutras (Intervention Specialist)
Rachel Kelly (Choir/Musical Theatre)
Sarah Price (Intervention Specialist)
Dawn Boehm (Educational Aide- previously at BWI)
Mary Candelaria (Educational Aide- previously at BWI)
Annie Inscho (Educational Aide- previously at BWI)
Stephanie Pearlmutter (Intervention Specialist- previously at BWI)
Paula Sieradzki (English and Social Studies- previously at BWI)

Important dates

August 7- First PTO Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
August 8- Classes Posted on PowerSchool, 8:00 a.m.
August 14- Meet & Greet, 2:00 p.m.
August 15- First Day of School
August 21- Curriculum Night, 6:00 p.m.
September 3- No School (Labor Day)

BIG WALNUT LOCAL SCHOOLS

Elementary Back-to-School Information

What's new this year?

Semester Report Cards- We are very excited to be transitioning to semesters this year in order to give teachers more time to teach and less time to test! A "Keys to Success" section will be added to the report cards. We based these indicators on the top employability skills needed in a 21st-Century workplace. Students will be taught how to be good collaborators, communicators, problem solvers, responsible citizens, and self-directed learners.

Fundations- This research-based phonics program will be implemented in all of our elementaries in grades Pre-K through 2nd grade.

Digital Citizenship- This year we will be working with our students to learn more about online safety, privacy, and being responsible. Our goal is to teach them how to create a positive digital footprint.

What is this year's focus?

Instructional Software- This year we have aligned our instructional software (e.g. online programs such as Lexia and Freckle) for grades K-2 and for grades 3-4. This will provide teachers with valuable data to guide decisions made in the classroom.

6+1 Writing Traits- We introduced the 6+1 Writing Traits last year, and will continue to improve our writing instruction by providing our teachers with professional development and resources throughout the year.

Important dates

August 7- PTO Meeting, 7:00 p.m. (HSE)
August 9- Class Posting Available (on PowerSchool's Parent Portal & letter home)
August 9- PTO Meeting, 6:30 p.m. (GRE)
August 14- Meet and Greet, 3:00-4:00 p.m.
August 15- First Day of School (Grades 1-4)
August 20- First Day of School (Grades Pre-K and Kindergarten)
August 23- Curriculum Night, 6:00 p.m.
September 3- No School (Labor Day)
September 11- PTO Meeting, 7:00 p.m. (HSE)
September 12- PTO Meeting, 7:00 p.m. (BWE)

Big Walnut Elementary

Principal
Annie Clark

New staff members

Kelsie Ryan (Kindergarten)
Sarah Isler (4th grade)
Erin Erjavec (Pre-K- previously at GRE)
Trina Roberts (Pre-K aide- previously at HSE)

General Rosecrans Elementary

Principal
Kate Thoma

New staff members

Taylor Budd (Intervention Specialist)
Gabi Rader (Kindergarten)
Tonya Stevens (Kindergarten)

Harrison Street Elementary

Principal
Kim Castiglione

New staff members

Yvonne Grubb (Attendance Secretary)

Hylen Souders Elementary

Principal
Matt Cox

New staff members

Sabine Hahn (Art)
Julie Heitz (Kindergarten- previously at GRE)

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

DATE	EVENT	TIMES	LOCATION
Aug 11	Farmer's Market	9am-Noon	Sunbury Square
Aug 11	Movie on the Square-Pirates of the Caribbean *Presented by Big Walnut Civic Association*	Dusk	Sunbury Square
Aug 18	Sunbury Sizzle & Sound	11am-11pm	Sunbury Square
Aug 18	Farmer's Market	9am-Noon	Middlefield Bank
Aug 18	Harlem Township Days ***Fireworks at 9:15pm**	8am-9pm	Community Park, Center Village
Aug 18	Movies at McNamara Park – Coco *Presented by Genoa Township*	Dusk	McNamara Park
Aug 19	Harlem Township Days	8am-5pm	Community Park, Center Village
Aug 25	Farmer's Market	9am-Noon	Sunbury Square
Aug 25	Galena Summerfest	11am-11pm	Galena Square
Sept 1	Farmer's Market	9am-Noon	Sunbury Square
Sept 3	Ox Roast & Flea Market	7am-5:00 pm	Sunbury Square
Sept 8	Veteran's Pancake Breakfast	8am-11:30am	Legion Hall
Sept 8	Farmer's Market	9am-Noon	Sunbury Square
Sept 8	Concert on the Square-Chili Cook-off	6pm-8pm	Sunbury Square
Sept 15	Farmer's Market	9am-Noon	Sunbury Square
Sept 22	Farmer's Market	9am-Noon	Sunbury Square
Sept 23	Big Nut Strut	2:00 PM	General Rosecrans Elementary
Sept 23	Farmer's Market	9am-Noon	Sunbury Square

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
777 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: Gary Hankins
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: Kate Thoma
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
Galena, OH 43021
Principal: Matt Cox
Phone: (740) 965-3200
FAX: (740) 965-3986

District Website:
www.bwls.net

PowerSchool:
http://tinyurl.com/BWparentportal

School Fees/Lunch Payment:
www.payschoolscentral.com

Eagle-i:
http://tinyurl.com/BWeaglei
Sign up to receive building emails, texts, etc.

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 Tippett Court
Sunbury OH, 43074
Superintendent: Angie Pollock
Phone: (740) 965-3010
FAX: (740) 965-4688

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