Bureau Valley Walnut Elementary

STORM REPORT

Issued: September 18th, 2026

Calendar of Events

September 2026

23 Board Meeting 6:00pm at Central Office
24 PreK & Thunder Field Trip to Tanner's Orchard
28 HC Dress Up Day: Pajama Day
29 HC Dress Up Day: Pink Day
30 HC Dress Up Day: Red, White & Blue

October 2026

1 HC Dress Up Day: Career Day
Ag In The Classroom
Begin Taking Parent Teacher Conference Appointments - (815)379-2900
Homecoming Parade 6:00pm
2 HC Dress Up Day: Storm Spirit Day
Homecoming Football Game 7:00pm
3 Storming Into Action 5K at Walnut Fall Fest 8:00am
7 Picture Retake Day
8 PreK-3rd Fire Safety Day
9 **11:00am DISMISSAL**
School Improvement Day
PM PreK ONLY 8:00-10:30am
No Lunch Served
End 1st Quarter
12 **NO SCHOOL** - Columbus Day
13 Parent Teacher Conferences 4-7:00pm
Book Fair Open 3:00-7:00pm
15 Parent Teacher Conferences 4-7:00pm
Book Fair Open 3:00-7:00pm
16 Report Cards Sent Home
19 PreK-5th Bus Safety Day
27 PreK/Thunder Field Trip to Freuh Farm
28 Board Meeting 6:00pm at Central Office
30 Halloween Parade 1:30pm

100%



ATTENDANCE

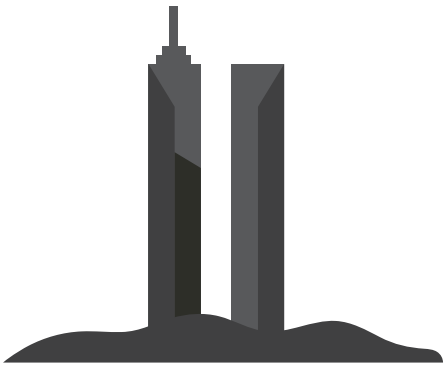
No one was absent on September 9th so we celebrated with ice cream! Way to show up!

Bureau Valley Walnut Elementary

Classroom Highlights

5TH GRADE
MR. DEMAY

5TH GRADE STUDENTS USED VR HEADSETS TO TAKE A VIRTUAL FIELD TRIP TO NEW YORK CITY, WHERE WE VISITED THE 9/11 MUSEUM AND MEMORIAL, AS WELL AS THE FLIGHT 93 MEMORIAL NEAR SHANKSVILLE, PENNSYLVANIA. STUDENTS HAD MEANINGFUL CONVERSATIONS ABOUT THE EVENTS OF SEPTEMBER 11, 2001, WITH A SPECIAL FOCUS ON REMEMBERING THE COURAGE, BRAVERY, AND ACTS OF HEROISM SHOWN BY FIRST RESPONDERS, VOLUNTEERS, AND SO MANY OTHERS. IT WAS A POWERFUL DAY OF LEARNING, REFLECTION, AND REMEMBRANCE.









Bureau Valley Walnut Elementary

Classroom Highlights

TITLE



Helping Your Child Become a Stronger Reader

Readers do brighter things!

Simple, research-based ways to support literacy at home

You don't need to be a reading teacher to help your child grow as a reader.
Small, consistent moments at home can make a big difference!

WORD READING

Help your child connect sounds with letters.

- Practice the letter-sound and spelling patterns your child is learning at school.
- Encourage your child to look carefully at all the letters in a word.
- Practice blending sounds together to read unfamiliar words.
- Practice breaking spoken words into individual sounds to support spelling.

When your child gets stuck, try:

- "Look carefully at the word."
- "What sounds do these letters represent?"
- "Blend the sounds together."
- "Now reread the sentence."

Try not to encourage guessing from the picture or the first letter. Pictures are wonderful for discussing a story, but developing readers need practice reading the words on the page.

FLUENCY

Accurate reading comes first. Smooth reading grows with practice.

- Have your child reread familiar books or short passages.
- Read a sentence aloud and have your child read it after you.
- Encourage appropriate phrasing and expression.
- Focus on accuracy and understanding—not speed alone.

COMPREHENSION

Reading is about understanding—not just saying the words.

- Before reading, talk about what your child already knows about the topic.
- While reading, pause occasionally to wonder, predict, or clarify.
- After reading, try questions such as:
  - "What happened?" "Why do you think that happened?"
  - "What did you learn?" "What was your favorite part? Why?"

VOCABULARY & KNOWLEDGE

The more children know about the world, the more they can understand when they read.

- Read aloud books that are more challenging than your child can read independently.
- Explain interesting new words during everyday conversations.
- Talk about science, nature, history, places, people, and experiences.
- Visit libraries, museums, parks, and other places that spark conversation and curiosity.

KEEP READING ALOUD!

Even when children begin reading on their own, keep reading to them.

Reading aloud gives children access to richer vocabulary, more complex language, new knowledge, and wonderful stories that may be beyond what they can currently read independently.

HAVE 10 MINUTES?

1. **3 minutes** — Practice sounds, words, or spelling patterns being taught at school.
2. **4 minutes** — Have your child read something at an appropriate level.
3. **3 minutes** — Read aloud to your child and talk about what you read.

Stronger Readers Brighter Tomorrows

Most importantly...

Make reading a positive experience.

Notice effort. Celebrate progress. Talk about books. Be curious together.

If you are concerned about your child's reading development, reach out to your child's teacher. Early identification and appropriate intervention can make an important difference.



Embracing Literacy ©

Research-informed literacy education for parents, teachers & students

Research base: National Reading Panel • Institute of Education Sciences (IES) • Florida Center for Reading Research (FCRR) • Reading Rockets • The Reading League

Bureau Valley Walnut Elementary

Parent Teacher Conferences

Tuesday, October 13th 4:00-7:00pm
Thursday, October 15th 4:00-7:00pm

Appointments open on October 1st. Please call the office at (815)379-2900 to set up an appointment.

The PTO Donation Drive is still accepting donations!

We're nearly half way to our goal!



BUREAU VALLEY WALNUT

PTO CASH DONATION DRIVE

the easiest fundraiser ever!

Here's where your money goes:

- FIELD TRIPS
- GAMES W/ GRANDPARENTS NIGHT
- THANKSGIVING STAFF MEAL
- GIRLS AND THEIR GUY DANCE
- MY MVP & ME KICKBALL GAME
- LAST DAY OF SCHOOL PICNIC
- TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK
- INCENTIVE ACTIVITIES
- CLASSROOM SUPPLIES
- ROLLERSKATING

On average, your student benefits from:

$34

worth of PTO sponsorship

OUR GOAL:

$6,000

Scan QR code to donate or checks payable to BV Walnut PTO