BIG WALNUT
LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Board of Education Meeting Program **Date of Presentation: May 14, 2015**

Program Overview:
We would like to celebrate the efforts of Melissa Eckelbarger and her students in working towards, and within, a Next Generation Learning Environment in our social studies department in the high school. Melissa has developed a differentiated approach to her lessons, employing her "T" structure that allows the student to select the pathway to learning that focuses on acquiring information from: Technology, Textbook, or Teacher.
Using their experiences, supported by a PowerPoint that contains photographic and video examples, Mrs. Eckelbarger and her students will share their perspectives from their time together interacting and learning together in this NGLE environment.

Connection to the BWLSD Continuous Improvement Plan:
Our presentation is intended to address the BWLSD CIP goal:

1. ***Improve Academic Achievement:*** **Work in collaborative teams to improve student learning-use data and research and focus on results.**

A. Provide teachers with training and tools to effectively differentiate for students at all levels.

C. Design classroom instruction and assessments around best practices.

Staff to be Featured:	**Students to be Featured:**
Melissa Eckelbarger	Alyssa Zumpone Serena Small Clare Mexicott Nicholas Flury Zach MacDonald

To further enhance your interaction with this presentation, potential topics for consideration are below:

- What reactions have you heard from students as they work through the various components of this project?
  My students really like the different choices they are given- everything from working alone or with a partner, what method (T group) they use to learn the essential content, how they apply the content to a subjective scenario or topic of interest, and then how they present the information to their classmates.

- How is student understanding deepened in the core content areas through Project Based Learning?
  Students often feel that history courses are all about memorizing facts that happened a long time ago and sometimes have a hard time feeling any connection to the material. When giving students not only a lot of choice in the projects, but also helping them connect the essential content to something they are interested in, that is when the student becomes engaged and invested in the content and the learning heightens to a level that could not be achieved without PBL.

- How has this project made you think about the subject differently? **(students)**

_____ _____
Principal's Signature **Angie Pollock, Assistant Superintendent**