

October 7, 2014

Wapakoneta first stop in 'Another Billion Back' campaign

By Kelly Doran

WAPAKONETA — Wapakoneta schools accepted a symbolic check for \$48,618 from the Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation as part of its Another Billion Back campaign.

Representatives from the BWC came to the Wapakoneta bus garage on Tuesday to begin the campaign. Publicity is important to the campaign, said Steve Buehrer, administrator and CEO of the BWC, so that employers cash their checks. The attention to the money also made employers more conscious of what they used the money for, Buehrer said. Last year the BWC had a Billion Back campaign, in which it also gave a billion back to public and private employers.

“As you saw today, the city schools here in Wapakoneta are going to get about \$48,000, that’s good news, that helps educate children, but obviously these checks are also going to go into the private sector and that helps grow jobs and buy safety equipment and do all the things that make our economy strong,” Buehrer said.

Read more here: http://www.limaohio.com/news/news-news_education/50450684/Wapakoneta-first-stop-in-Another-Billion-Back-campaign



October 7, 2014

Rebates coming from Ohio BWC

By Tricia Bell

The Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation kicking off their Another Billion Back initiative by delivering a \$48,000 check to officials with the Wapakoneta School District. The agency will be sending rebate checks to Ohio businesses and public employers over the next few months.

The bureau did the same thing last year during its Billion Dollar Back program. The Ohio BWC is basically an insurance company, with employers paying premiums each year. Some of that money is invested, and the state expected to get investment returns of about four percent. Instead they got 13 percent returns. The unexpected money is funding the second round of rebates. Agency administrator/CEO, Steve Buehrer hopes employers spend the money to improve the safety, health and wellness of Ohio's workforce.

Wapakoneta superintendent, Keith Horner says the rebate will offset the costs of recent safety upgrades such as additional cameras and fencing.

The school also took advantage of the bureau's expanded safety grant program. Last year, \$15 million in matching funds were given out for safety upgrades. The school bought lifts for mechanics using \$40,000 from the state. Buehrer says the safety grant program has been extended for the next two years.

See video here: <http://www.hometownstations.com/story/26728606/rebates-coming-from-ohio-bwc>