

**BELMONT COMMUNITY SCHOOL  
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING MINUTES**

Regular Monthly Board Meeting  
January 15, 2024 - 7:00 PM

Board Members Present: Vaughn Mester, Lauren Runde, Jamie Heinrichs, Laura Bahr, BJ Galle,  
Peter Bonin, and Kim Schmelz

Administration Present: District Administrator Beau Buchs  
Principal Dana Bendorf  
Director of Student Services Denise Brania  
Assistant Principal/Activities Director Brandon Wiese

In-person Attendees: 0

Virtual Attendees: 3

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

President Vaughn Mester called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

**II. COMMUNICATION AND PUBLIC COMMENTS**

**A. Public Comments**

No comments

**IV. REPORTS**

**A. School Board**

No report

**B. Assistant Principal/Activities Director**

Mr. Wiese prepared a written report. He stated that we are part of 5 different conferences for sports. There are a lot of co-ops being created and will shuffle some of the conferences around. Belmont is hosting the Six-Rivers All Star Games this year.

**C. Student Services**

Mrs. Brania prepared a written report.

**D. Principal**

Mrs. Bendorf prepared a written report. Mrs. Bendorf would like to give a staff shout out to Kaleen for her leadership of student teachers. She would also like to say thank you to the lunchroom staff for always having a smiling face and making lunch run smoothly. Especially Nancy for all she has done and is doing. She also mentioned that Diane has really stepped up while Nancy was away.

**E. Superintendent**

Mr. Buchs prepared a written report. K-3 will have ACT20 training that is required. They will have the training this summer through CESA. There will be a Board Retreat next Wednesday. Board members will be touring the building for areas of discussion for possible future referendum. They will also be talking about marketing the district, insurance costs, and long-term budgeting. Mr. Buchs also thanked the board for supporting the Staff Holiday Party.

**V. ACTION ITEMS**

**A. Approval of Consent Agenda**

Kim asked about last month's minutes and the Spanish Trip motion. She thought there was a part of the motion missing. Mr. Buchs will look into it and update as needed. Kim also asked about Legal Services in the Expenditures being high. Mr. Buchs stated that he will check on that and let the board know what he finds out.

Jamie/Vaughn motion and second to approve the consent agenda as presented. Carried 7-0

**B. Personnel Transactions**

Appointments:

Brooke Wiese – 2024 Summer School Coordinator

BJ/Lauren motion and second to approve the personnel transactions listed on the December 18, 2023, Personnel Transaction Sheet. Carried 7-0

C. Approval of Open Enrollment Caps for the 2024-2025 School Year

Mr. Buchs presented recommendations for open enrollment caps. He stated that special Education is almost at max right now. Pete asked about some of the max sizes. He was wondering if we would really have over 20 students per classroom without hiring another teacher. Jamie asked about capping PreK and wondered if we would really turn families away if we are trying to grow the district. Mr. Buchs stated that we are projecting a bigger class size for PreK next year, so we would only have a few open enrollment spots available. BJ asked if we are able to deny open enrollments if the student requires resources that the school is unable to provide. Mrs. Bendorf stated that we are able to deny open enrollment to a student if we are unable to provide needed resources, if they have an expulsion record, and if they are habitually truant.

Kim/Pete motion and second to approve the Open Enrollment Caps as presented for the 2024-2025 School Year. Carried 7-0

V. DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. School District Auditor Services

Mr. Buchs stated that Hawkins Ash would no longer serve as our audit service. He has reached out to three other auditors to see if they will consider serving us. He has a meeting scheduled with a firm out of Illinois and has sent information to Johnson Block in Mineral Point. He will keep the board updated with any new information he receives.

B. Budget Forecast Information

Mr. Buchs has been working with Baird and their forecast tool to project numbers. This tool will help us project numbers for future revenues and expenses, and we can show several scenarios as well. He as well as Jamie and Lauren hope to attend their referendum workshop at the State Convention on January 17<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Buchs will be attending a virtual workshop with Baird in February. He stated that the biggest thing to remind everyone is when we talk about State Funding is that inflation has been a factor without increasing revenue.

V. PUBLIC COMMENTS

No comments

VI. ADJOURN

BJ/Pete motion and second to adjourn the meeting at 7:30. Carried 7-0