

BELMONT COMMUNITY SCHOOL
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING MINUTES
Regular Monthly Board Meeting
January 15, 2024 – 7:00 PM

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

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

In-person Attendees:

Virtual Attendees:

I. CALL TO ORDER

President Vaughn Mester called the meeting to order at 7pm. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

II. COMMUNICATION AND PUBLIC COMMENTS

A. Public Comments

No comments

IV. REPORTS

A. Trees for Tomorrow Presentation

Mrs. Aurit, Mrs. Parman, and 8th grade students presented their past trip to Trees for Tomorrow. The students had a lot of fun and would like students to continue to go on the trip for years to come. Mrs. Aurit would like to thank the Belmont Sportsmen's Club and Cushman's Greenhouse for their donations and fundraisers for the trip.

B. School Board

No reports

C. Activities Director

Brandon Wiese prepared a report. January has been one of the busiest months for activities. He has attended AD and WIAA meetings. They had conversations about; playoff expansion for 8-player football, conference realignment, playoff matrix for football, and scheduling. He shared that our middle school boys' basketball team was awarded the Sportsmanship Award for our conference. He stated that next weekend is the Hall of Fame recognition.

D. Student Services

Denise Brania prepared a report. She would like to thank the Belmont Remarkable Angels and Cathy Frontz for their help with family needs in our district. She stated that finals are this week for High School. She also stated that 7th and 8th grade finished i-Ready testing.

E. Principal

Dana Bendorf prepared a report. She stated that she had finished all formal observations and has seen a lot of great things happening in our classroom.

F. Superintendent

Beau Buchs prepared a report. He would like to thank Brandon for his work on putting together pictures and information for the Hall of Fame Recognition. He also thanked the board for sponsoring the Staff Holiday Party. The State School Board Convention is next week. Mr. Buchs and Kim will be attending and will give a summary next month of their takeaways. Shelly and Sanette have put a lot of work into CRDC Reporting. He is grateful for their time working on that report. He stated that Pete Bonin has decided not to run for school board once his term has ended. He would like to thank him for his time and commitment. Jamie will be running again for the School Board along with Todd Palzkill. Kristen Galle will be presenting the staff with AI training.

V. ACTION ITEMS

A. Approval of Consent Agenda

Kim/Jamie motion and second to approve the consent agenda as presented. Carried 6-0

B. Personnel Transactions

a. Appointments:

1. Dylan Taber – Volunteer MS Wrestling

BJ/Vaughn motion and second to approve the personnel transactions as presented. Carried 6-0

C. Approval of District Policy 5610.03

This policy is about alternatives to expulsion. The Board did a first reading of the policy last month.

Pete/Luara motion and second to approve the Policy 5610.03. Carried 6-0

D. Approval of Elementary Math Curriculum.

The Curriculum Committee would like to recommend Bridges for elementary math curriculum. BJ/Pete motion and second to approve the elementary school math curriculum (Bridges) at the cost of \$25,978.32. Carried 6-0

E. Approval of Open Enrollment Caps

DPI has stated some guidelines for Open Enrollment Caps. Mr. Buchs presented forms stating Belmont's projected class sizes and caps. There are caps for regular education students in the PreK-6th grades but 7-12 has no caps for regular education students. Mrs. Brania stated that we have currently 54 students in Special Education. We would have five possible openings for Special Education students, five possible openings for Occupational Therapy, 13 possible openings for Physical Therapy, and 5 possible openings for Speech and Language Therapy. Kim/Vaughn motion and second to approve the Open Enrollment Caps as presented for the 2025-26 School Year. Carried 6-0

VI. DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Parking Lot Project

Mr. Buchs stated that the Buildings, Grounds, and Transportation Committee would like to get a request for bids in the newspaper soon for the parking lot. They are hoping to have the work done in June, so that the payment can be split between this year and next year. Jamie asked if there was a guidance about water flow? Mr. Buchs stated that he and BJ met and would like to get a plot map of the parking lot. Mr. Buchs did reach out to Wiser Engineering to ask if we had

a plot map, would they be able to review elevations and let us know if the waterflow looks correct.

B. Lighting Upgrades

Mr. Buchs would like to start to upgrade the lighting on the MS/HS side of the building. He would like to start with the commons, and the two gyms. There are conversations on replacing just the bulbs or fully replacing the fixtures. He is also looking at classroom lighting on the MS/HS side. He recently received an email on Solar Energy. There are programs coming available to help schools consider and afford solar so it is something that we will want to keep looking for more information.

VII. PUBLIC COMMENTS

No comments

VII. ADJOURN

BJ/Pete motion and second to adjourn at 7:38 pm. Carried 6-0