

**Belmont Community School
Board of Education Meeting Minutes**

Regular Monthly Board Meeting

November 15, 2021

Closed Session – 6:30 PM

Regular Session – 7:00 PM

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

Absent: None

Administration Present: District Administrator Beau Buchs

Principal Dana Bendorf

Dean of Students Jeff Crase

Director of Student Services Denise Brania

Virtual Attendees: 8

I. CALL TO ORDER

A. Pledge of Allegiance

Pete Bonin made a motion, seconded by BJ Galle to move into closed session per sec. 19.85(1)(c), Wisconsin Statutes to discuss the performance considerations related to two or three different staff members. Motion passed 7-0.

The staff performance of three teachers was discussed.

Pete Bonin made a motion, seconded by Laura Bahr to move back into open session at 7:07 p.m. Motion passed 7-0.

II. COMMUNICATION AND PUBLIC COMMENTS

A. Public Comments

No comments

IV. REPORTS

A. Other Organizations

No comments

B. School Board

No comments

C. School Board Committee

No comments

D. Student Services

Mrs. Brania prepared a written report for the board. She updated the board on the CPEN the school purchases to help students who struggle with reading. Special Education Staff meeting at the end of the month. The school is piloting the Rosetta Stone Language program for a 3-month trial for a student. RTI had a flex Friday last week. Students were able to choose from a variety of staff lead enrichment activities. Students could choose from yoga, cooking, quiet reading time, magic tricks, 3 on 3 basketball tournament, and golf putting skills. First assessment for ACCESS testing will be held between December 1, 2021-January 28, 2022. The PreACT 8/9 and PreACT will be given this week. School and district report cards for the 2020-21 school year public release will be November 16th.

E. Principal

Mrs. Bendorf prepared a written report for the board. Staff has done a great job completing SLOs and PPGs. Started alternating staff meeting between after school and in the morning. There has been really good discussion at the meetings with collaboration of subject areas. The staff is currently concentrating on the ELA curriculum and looking into different companies. The Veteran's Day Program was a success. Thank you to everyone involved in making the program a success. Winter sports are starting, all high school sports have

started practicing. The musical was fantastic, thank you to all involved. A course description book was shared out for teachers to make corrections/additions. The course book will be available and approved during the December or January meeting.

F. Superintendent

Mr. Buchs prepared a written report for the board. He attended the PAC meeting at CESA on Friday, potential GEAR funds \$120 per pupil we will get estimated around \$43,000. Districts are wondering what long term state funding look like. We currently have one case of COVID in the building. The Hudl camera was installed in the elementary gym today. Looking at possibly installing a handrail to the first few rows of bleachers. Rural Excavating will be back to correct the elevation on the bus building site before Wednesday. Lee McCaville will remove the tree by the Ag Shop window. New trees will be planted in the spring. Football field has been prepared for the winter and students have been asked to stay off the field until the ground freezes. Kelly, the new custodian is catching on quickly and doing a great job. Elf the musical was amazing. Everyone involved did a great job. Congrats to athletes that ended their seasons. Anna and Carter received 2nd team all-conference for Cross Country. Reese and Rylee received 2nd team all-conference in Volleyball. Ashley, Chloe, and Lauren received honorable mention all-conference in Volleyball. Waylon, Casin, and Noah received 1st team all-conference for football. Ty received 2nd team all-conference in football. Konner, Colton, and Fischer received honorable mention for football. The FFA Judging Team had a competition in River Ridge. The Dairy Judging team consisting of Kalli, Delaney, Tori, and Maverick received 2nd as a team. Kalli finished 1st place as an individual. Hannah finished 16th and Tucker finished 21st in livestock. Tax bills will go out in December, levy was discussed and a letter was included in the newsletter. Anyone is able receive the newsletter, please let the office know if you would like to be added to the email or mailing list. There was a meeting with Upper 90 to generate ideas for big picture projects. Kim stated that it was helpful to have new eyes on our building and everyone had good ideas. There are some open positions, we are in need of a JH wrestling coach, JH track coach, and a long term custodian.

V. ACTION ITEMS

A. Approval of Consent Agenda

Laura asked about approving the annual meeting. Mr. Buchs stated that the meeting will be approved at the next Annual meeting. Pete asked if the FFA Nationals trip was able to be reimbursed? Mr. Buchs stated that the school was able to cancel those costs.

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

B. Personnel Transactions

Appointments:

1. Kelly Knight – Custodian
2. Wyatt Cooley – Head JH Wrestling Coach

Jamie/Laura motion and second to approve the personnel transactions listed on the November 15, 2021 Personnel Transaction Sheet. Carried 7-0

C. Approval of Snow Removal Bid

Lee McCarville was the only bid the district received. We did not pursue out of town bids. BJ asked if the bid was similar to past bids.

BJ/Lauren motion and second to accept the bid for snow removal from Lee McCarville for the 2021-22 School Year. Carried 7-0

D. Discussion & Possible Approval of Overnight Trip to Engineering Machine Design Contest

Mr. Crego has asked permission to take seven students to an overnight STEM contest. Mr. Buchs has asked the ECE group if they would pay toward the trips. Lauren asked if we could plan a back up chaperone in the event Mr. Crego could not attend. Mr. Buchs stated that he would look into have a back up.

Lauren/Laura motion and second to approve the overnight trip to St. Ansgar, IA for a STEM contest on February 13-14, 2022. Carried 7-0

E. Acceptance of Donation from Pat & Janet Keyes of \$500 to help pay for the Football Charter Bus to Merrill, WI on October 30th, 2021.

BJ/Pete motion and second to accept a donation of \$500 from Pat and Janet Keyes to help pay for the playoff football charter bus. Carried 7-0

F. Discussion and Possible Approval of Plan for Baseball Facility Upgrades

This has been a discussion during the buildings and grounds committee meetings. The committee would like to start collecting bids on upgrades. Laura asked if this motion was to approve upgrades. Mr. Buchs stated that a motion would only allow bids to be collected.

Vaughn/Kim motion and second to approve collecting bids on the baseball facility project. Carried 7-0

VI. DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. School Board Member Election 2022

Pete and Jamie are up for reelection in the spring. Paperwork is due from December 1st – January 4th

B. 2022-2023 School Calendar

The staff, parents and students completed a survey on how they would like to have the school calendar. Staff voted on having a Spring Break in March. Approval of the calendar will be next month. Laura asked if the calendar met the hours and how snow days were factored in. Mr. Buchs stated that there were snow days factored into the hours and that we were meeting the needed hours of instruction.

C. Potential Bell Schedule for 2022-23 School Year

Mrs. Bendorf has reworked the bell schedules. She has included RTI in all three schedules: the late start, early release and regular day. The elementary lunch will stay consistent on all days and will eat first. Laura asked if this updated schedule was looked at when calculating the hours of instruction for the 2022-23 school year. Mr. Buchs stated that it was not, but that the hours would be very similar.

D. Staff Christmas Party possibility for 4-7 pm on December 22nd.

Mr. Buchs asked the board if they would be interested in hosting a Christmas Party for the staff. Kim feels it would be a good idea. She believes it has come up in our board/staff interviews to have more interactions with staff.

E. Review of Wednesday, October 13th Board/Staff Interviews

Mr. Buchs created a document of the highlights from the interviews. Lauren mentioned that the kitchen has some tiles that are a trip hazard and needs to possibly be addressed.

F. Joint Task Force with Village Board to Identify ways to increase housing in Belmont Community School District

Mr. Buchs would like to have a couple of the School Board members and a couple of Village Board members make a task force. There is great opportunity of growth. This will help our school district and village become more successful. Lauren stated that we all should be continuing to talk around town to get people interested.

G. Strategic Plan – Next Steps

When looking long term if enrollment is increasing our planning will be easier. Mr. Buchs will make a Google Doc to help administration and the board collaborate with ideas and priorities.

VII. PUBLIC COMMENTS

No comments

VII. ADJOURN

BJ/Pete motion and second to adjourn the meeting at 8:07pm. Carried 7-0