

BELMONT COMMUNITY SCHOOL
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING MINUTES
Regular Monthly Board Meeting
December 18, 2024 – 7:00 PM

Board Members Present: Vaughn Mester (arrived at 7:45), Jamie Heinrichs, Laura Bahr, BJ Galle,
Peter Bonin, Kim Schmelz, and 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: 5

Virtual Attendees: 1

I. CALL TO ORDER

Vice-President Lauren Runde called the meeting to order at 7pm. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

II. COMMUNICATION AND PUBLIC COMMENTS

A. Public Comments

IV. REPORTS

A. FFA Presentation

Mr. Heisner and 3 FFA Officers gave an update on what the Belmont FFA Chapter has done so far this year. They also gave an update on upcoming events. There are 79 students in 8th-12th grade involved in FFA in Belmont.

B. School Report Card Presentation

Mrs. Brania presented the School Report Card. Our overall District Score is a 69.5 which is considered Meets Expectations. Our MS/HS scored a 62.7 Meets Expectation. Our Elementary School scored a 78.8 Exceeds Expectations. Jamie asked if the administration thought other districts would share what they are doing differently, what is working for them, or what they use for curriculum? Mr. Buchs stated that most school administrators are willing to share ideas and that a lot of networking happens during conference meetings. BJ asked if it was possible to administration could create more of the tables instead of the graphs to show more categories. Mrs. Bendorf said that she created the ones in the document, and they do take a lot of time and information because the percentages shift every year. She can work on putting more together if it is wanted. Laura asked how absenteeism fits in. Mrs. Bendorf stated that the State does not recognize medical notes, but Truancy Law does. She tries to educate parents on the importance of being present in school. She stated that the State flags any student who has missed 10% of the school year. We have 180 school days scheduled, if a student is gone 18 days or more, whether it be for medical reasons or not, the State flags the student as chronically absent.

C. School Board

No reports

D. Activities Director

Brandon Wiese prepared a report. He wanted to congratulate Mr. Lehnherr and Mrs. Edge on their successful concerts. He added that he is working on next year's sports schedules. He also stated that our B/P Wrestling team is Team of the Week in Wisconsin.

E. Student Services

Denise Brania prepared a report. She stated that six 4th and 5th graders went to SWTC to a Gifted and Talented Session of Math 24. They all did a great job. Mr. Wolch took a leadership group to a Leadership Bootcamp to CESA3.

F. Principal

Dana Bendorf prepared a report.

G. Superintendent

Beau Buchs prepared a report. He stated that the tax bill was pretty close to what was predicted. The district was able to levy a little more, so that amount did go up. There is a staff holiday party this Friday.

V. ACTION ITEMS

A. Approval of Consent Agenda

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

B. Personnel Transactions

a. Appointments:

1. Luke Fugate – Volunteer HS Wrestling Coach
2. Joe Williams– Volunteer HS Wrestling Coach

b. Resignations:

1. Justin Flogel – Custodian (effective May 10, 2025)

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

C. Approval of District Policy Updates 0164, 0174.1, 2340, 3120.04, 3120.08, 3431, 5200, 5330, 5430, 5460, 5505, 5610, 5771, 6423, 7540.05, 7544, 8395, 8500, 8531, 8540, 8550, 8600, and 8660.

Lauren/Laura motion and second to approve the Policy Updates as presented. Carried 7-0

D. Approval of 2025-26 School Calendar.

Pete/BJ motion and second to approve the 2025-26 School Calendar as presented. Carried 6-0

E. Approval of 2025-26 High School Coursebook

Mr. Wolch presented the High School Coursebook.

Lauren/Jamie motion and second to approve the 2025-26 High School Coursebook as presented. Carried 7-0

F. Approval of Belmont Life Blocks Program.

Mr. Wolch stated that CESA has created a Social/Emotional Curriculum. CESA chose a few schools to pilot the program and asked Belmont to participate in 9 lessons. Teachers in students RTI homeroom will instruct the 20-minute lesson and give feedback to Mr. Wolch and CESA3.

Laura/Kim motion and second to approve the Belmont Life Blocks Program. Carried 7-0

VI. DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Elementary Math Curriculum Update

Mrs. Bendorf would like to thank all of the teachers who were willing to take the time and complete the proper trainings to pilot possible math curriculum. Those teachers also facilitated observations of their peers. Lauren asked if CESA was trained in the curriculums we are looking

at. Mrs. Bendorf is not sure about CESA, but each of the companies have training opportunities if purchased.

B. First Reading of Policy 5610.03

Mr. Buchs stated that this is a new policy that is in addition to the policy about suspension and expulsion. It talks about alternatives to expulsion and reentry plans.

C. Parking Lot Project and Bidding Process

Mr. Buchs stated that he gave the Buildings and Grounds Committee a draft of a possible bid. His timeline goal is to have half the cost on this year's budget and to start the project June 9th. The goal is to publish the bid in the paper in January. The school will be looking at the pitch on the parking lot to make sure water is flowing where it should be.

VII. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Buchs wanted to say that Madison Abundant Life Christian Schools are in our thoughts. We are continuously monitoring our School Safety Plan to make sure our building is secure.

VII. ADJOURN

BJ/Pete motion and second to adjourn at 8:01 pm. Carried 7-0