

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

Regular Monthly Board Meeting

June 20, 2022

Regular Session 7:00 PM

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

Absent: Laura Bahr

Administration Present: District Administrator Beau Buchs
Principal Dana Bendorf - virtual
Dean of Students Jeff Crase

Virtual Attendees: 3

I. CALL TO ORDER

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

II. COMMUNICATION AND PUBLIC COMMENTS

A. Public Comments

Tonya Bonin gave an update on the Belmont Fair. They are looking to pay a high school helper for the fair to be an assistant to Laura Schaub or Maryellen Engelke. They are also looking for a replacement for the treasurer's position. She also brought up the fact that Belmont is hurting for daycares. She has reached out to Shullsburg and Southwestern to get some input on how they started up their day cares. She is willing to help start the process of helping gain information for a daycare.

III. REPORTS

A. School Board

B. Student Services – Mrs. Brania prepared a written report

C. Principal – Mrs. Bendorf prepared a written report.

D. Superintendent- Mr. Buchs prepared a written report. He gave a budget update. He stated that we should know more by August with any increase in state aid. We will continue to monitor budget costs for supplies, fuel, gas, electric, etc. He stated that we are still looking for a HS Spanish teacher, custodian and multiple extra duties such as coaching positions. The Memorial Hospital of Lafayette County will be holding free sports physicals for students going into 6th-12th grade on August 1st from 4:00-5:30 at the school.

IV. ACTION ITEMS

A. Approval of Consent Agenda

Kim had a question on the treasurer's report. She was wondering if we have any funds in interest bearing accounts. Mr. Buchs stated that he would have to check into that. BJ checked in on Fund 21 negative accounts. Mr. Buchs stated that some of those accounts are misconceiving, and he continues to monitor.

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

B. Personnel Transactions

Mr. Buchs added that Jannie DeHaan resigned from coaching JV Volleyball, JH Basketball, and Varsity Track and Field.

Other Transactions:

a. Shelly Knebel – request to be paid out for 5 vacation days that are unused.

- b. Roger Andrews – asked for a bus maintenance stipend. Mr. Buchs recommended that we pay a \$20/hour rate rather than a stipend for bus maintenance hours. Mr. Buchs shared that this is comparable to several other districts rate for the same work.

Pete asked if the bus drivers could use the school vehicles instead of their own. Mr. Buchs stated that they could. Discussion took place on the policy regarding paying out vacation days. Mr. Buchs researched it and reminded the board that it was in the staff handbook for non-certified staff to be paid for five vacation days per the policy.

BJ/Kim motion and second to approve the personnel transactions listed on the June 20, 2022 Personnel Transaction Sheet with changes. Carried 6-0

- C. Acceptance of Donation from the Sports Boosters for Senior Banners

The Sports Boosters would like to donate the senior banners for the 2022-23 school year.

Lauren/Jamie motion and second to accept the 2022-23 Senior Banners as a donation from the Belmont Sports Boosters. Carried 6-0

- D. Approval of Purchasing a new Server

During the TC Network meeting it was stated that the server needed to be updated. The school has ESSER Funds that could be used to purchase this. BJ asked how long a server usually lasts. Mr. Buchs stated that servers usually last about 10 years. Our current server is from 2009 or 2010.

BJ/Pete motion and second to approve the purchase of a new server from Dell at a cost of \$10,511.62. Carried 6-0

- E. Approval of Science Curriculum for Middle School, Biology, & Chemistry

Mrs. Bendorf stated the Science team is excited to have this curriculum so they can start planning.

Kim/Lauren motion and second to approve the Science Curriculum as presented for \$22,918.20. Carried 6-0

- F. Approval of Purchasing 12 Cleartouch Panels for Classrooms

Ordering these 12 would get our building closer to having all classrooms updated. We ordered 10 last year and staff are happy with them. The panels are being paid for with Esser III recovery funds.

Vaughn/Lauren motion and second to approve the purchase of 12 Cleartouch panels. Carried 6-0

V. DISCUSSION ITEMS

- A. AGR Report

Mrs. Bendorf presented the AGR Report to the Board. The AGR Report monitors progress for reading in math in kindergarten to 3rd grade. Pete stated that some of the percentages do not add up to 100. Mrs. Bendorf stated that some students have moved in and out of the district throughout the year. BJ asked if we would be able to create a report that would show our scores for over the past 3 years. Mrs. Bendorf stated that we could possibly get scores for the past 3 years. Lauren asked if we could look at the student scores in conjunction with the teachers that were piloting the new curriculum. Mrs. Bendorf stated that the piloting curriculum was a short-term pilot and there may not be enough data to get a true view.

- B. Update of Summer School

Brooke Wiese provided a packet with an update on Summer School. The teachers and helpers have provided great opportunities to the students. There has been an average of 75 students per day.

- C. Update on Summer Construction Projects

Work will begin in July on the baseball field project. The schedule is as follows:

*July 5, 2022 – July 8, 2022 – Disconnections as required to allow for demolition of the existing buildings.

*July 9, 2022 – July 10, 2022 – The school district will remove the current backstop for modifications and re-use.

*July 11, 2022 – July 22, 2022 – Earthwork scope including, drain tile, cuts & fills, dugout foundation excavation, and concrete slab on grade prep.

*July 18th, 2022 – July 22, 2022 – Form, Pour, and Strip concrete foundations for the new dugouts.

*July 18th, 2022 – July 22, 2022 – Install underground electrical conduits.

*July 25th, 2022 – July 29th 2022, - Form, Pour, and Strip all slab on grade concrete and dugout floors.

*August 1st 2022 – August 5th, 2022 – Lay all masonry for the new dugouts.

*August 8th, 2022 – August 12th, 2022 – Install new backstop fencing.

*August 15th, 2022 – Commence the wood framing and roofing portion of the dugouts.

The parking lot has been completed. We hope to have the lower lot seeded around the edges of the new parking lot soon. The lights have been installed in the HS parking lot as well so we should begin to see some savings on the electric bill as we moved from the Halogen lights to LED.

D. Review of the 2021-2022 School Year

Mr. Buchs stated that we started the year with a lot of uncertainty with COVID. But all in all, the year went really well. He feels that we are in a good position with only needing to fill one teaching position but have quite a few coaching positions. He stated that if we can continue to put students first, we will continue to go in the right direction.

E. Possibility of starting a Day Care

Mr. Buchs is open to reaching out to Southwestern Schools to see what their facility and budget is for their daycare. He does know that they run their daycare through their community fund. He stated some ideas of where a potential daycare could be housed. Kim stated that there is such a high need, and she was wondering if there are any grants available. It was stated that families could see that Belmont does not have many daycare openings and that could deter them from moving or open enrolling their children to our school. Pete asked if there was more funding for three-year-old schooling? BJ asked if we know why the day cares have closed? Some have closed due to retirement and other have closed for their own reasons. BJ asked if the school district would be able to fund and run this type of business or does it have to go through other avenues to fund it. He asked if it would be more manageable to have our 4K go all day to help with daycare. It would take the problem completely away but could help some families of school age children. Mr. Buchs stated that we could do a survey with parents to get their thoughts. Vaughn stated that this process will take time to look into and set up. It will not happen within the next year. BJ asked if we could talk to the daycares in town to see what their challenges are. Kim asked if there should be a committee to gather information. Lauren asked if we should contact the village to discuss. Mr. Buchs, Kim, and Lauren will form a committee to gather information with potential help from Tonya Bonin.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENTS

No Comment

VII. ADJOURN

BJ/Pete motion and second to adjourn the meeting at 7:58pm. Carried 6-0