

**Belmond-Klemme Community  
School District**  
Belmond, Iowa 50421



**Superintendent's Report**

**TO:** The Belmond-Klemme School Board  
**FROM:** Dan Frazier, Superintendent  
**DATE:** Tuesday, October 18, 2022  
**RE:** Superintendent's Report on School District Business

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**BK Certified Enrollment Falls Sharply for 2022**

Thirty-five fewer students are attending Belmond-Klemme Schools this year as compared to last year. As of Friday, October 1, 2022, the enrollment for the Belmond-Klemme Community School District, upon which our district budget will be based for the next fiscal year, was 653 students PK-12. Last October, it was 688.

Each year the state of Iowa asks each public school to do a count of its students on October 1 to determine the amount of state aid the school will get in the next fiscal year. This is known as the certified budget enrollment.

The Belmond-Klemme certified budget enrollment count includes all resident students served in Belmond-Klemme classrooms, any dual enrollment students, any home school assistance students, and all resident students attending school elsewhere under Open Enrollment. The official report summary filed with the Department of Education reads as follows:

**Summary—Certified Enrollment, October 1, 2022**

<b>CERTIFIED ENROLLMENT</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2017</b>
Resident Public Students Attending our District	599	626	630	638	646	657
Resident Public Students Attending another District	141	130	136	137	144	141
Actual Enrollment	740	756	766	775	792	798
Non-Resident Public Students Attending our District	54	62	54	48	48	31
PK 4 Students Attending Preschool Program	15	14	13	21	16	17
Total School Age Students in our District	<b>653</b>	<b>688</b>	<b>684</b>	<b>686</b>	<b>694</b>	<b>688</b>
Limited English Proficient Weighting	18	17	14	14	11	12

A drop of 35 students represents a financial budget cut of a quarter-million dollars (\$252,945).

### Enrollment Changes of Area Schools

Enrolments reflect actual students served over five years: October 2015 to October 2020.

School District	2015	2020	Percent Change
Belmond-Klemme	712.3	684.0	-3.97%
CAL	236.1	110.0	-53.41%
Central Springs	741.4	718.6	-3.08%
Charles City	1,535.2	1,562.9	1.80%
Clear Lake	1,289.3	1,403.1	8.83%
Forest City	1,107.5	1,074.7	-2.96%
Garner-Hayfield-Ventura	1,015.9	908.9	-10.53%
Hampton-Dumont	1,183.6	1,224.1	3.42%
Iowa Falls	1,154.8	1,188.1	2.88%
Lake Mills	641.3	614.7	-4.15%
Mason City	3,745.9	3,440.1	-8.16%
Rudd-Rockford-Marble Rock	458.0	386.0	-15.72%
West Fork	652.4	677.7	3.88%
West Hancock	598.7	566.4	-5.39%

### Enrollment Projections

The Iowa Department of Education prepares enrollment projections for each public school district in Iowa. The Department calculates the birth rate for each school district and the likely effect on student population.

#### Wright County Birth Rates

2013	2014	2015	2016	2017*	2018	2019	2020
150	155	162	168	146	154	160	164

\*Many of this year's kindergarteners were born in 2017.

The Iowa Department of Education continues to predict that Belmond-Klemme will continue to decline significantly in its enrollment. See the table below.

ACTUAL ENROLLMENTS					ENROLLMENT PROJECTIONS				
2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025	2025-2026	2026-2027
798	792	775	766	756	737	724	711	698	684

Note: the numbers above are based only on resident enrollment.

## **Federal Security Funds Coming**

The State of Iowa announced in June that \$100 million in federal funds will be directed toward school safety improvements. The School Safety Improvement Fund will provide up to \$50,000 per school building for recommended safety measures.

The state plan also creates a School Safety Bureau which will coordinate violence prevention efforts among schools, law enforcement, and parents. The bureau will work as a hub for law enforcement and school staff to train for emergency response situations. It will also create a system to anonymously report threats, by app, phone, and website.

The plan includes emergency radios for all school buildings. Radios for Belmond-Klemme have been ordered and will be on the same frequency as the two other Wright County schools as well as all county law enforcement and emergency services.

Before BK can access any of its funds, it must first work with Homeland Security on a vulnerability assessment. The BK high school assessment took place on Monday morning, October 17. Both the Jacobson Elementary School assessment and the Alternative Learning Center assessment were held on Tuesday, October 18.

## **Student Vax**

Tentatively, Wright County Health will be in our high school building to deliver both flu shots and covid booster shots to students on Friday, October 21, 2022.

## **Meet and Confer**

Although some topics are off-limits when it comes time for contract bargaining, anything can potentially be discussed away from the bargaining table. In some states, these meetings are called *Meet and Confer* sessions.

Under Iowa's collective bargaining law, some topics are strictly illegal to discuss at the bargaining table. Those topics include insurance, supplemental pay, transfer procedures, evaluation procedures, staff reduction procedures, and a few others.

A few other topics are permissive, meaning both sides have to agree to include them in bargaining. If either party objects, that party may unilaterally eliminate the topic from bargaining sessions and from the contract. Those permissive topics that may be negotiated in good faith include hours, vacations, holidays, leaves of absence, in-service training, grievance procedures, and several other matters mutually agreed upon. Base wages is the only mandatory subject of bargaining.

In the interest of further fostering a good relationship between the two associations and the Board and administration, I suggest that our party offer to meet with representatives of two associations for autumn *Meet and Confer* sessions.

## America's teacher shortage is 'a teacher respect issue,' Education Secretary says

The coronavirus pandemic ramped up pressure on teachers, many of whom had to teach classes remotely or live with the fear of catching COVID-19 while teaching in-person.

Consequently, some educators have chosen to leave the teaching profession altogether. On a recent episode of "Influencers with Andy Serwer," Education Secretary Miguel Cardona attributed [recent teacher shortages in the US](#) to relatively low pay and a lack of respect for the profession.

"I feel the teacher shortage issue is a symptom of a teacher respect issue, really," Cardona told Yahoo Finance's editor-in-chief. "The days of teachers having two to three jobs to make ends meet — that's unacceptable. We need to challenge that. But it still happens."

Schools across the United States report that they have an insufficient number of teachers. According to [a national survey](#) released this week by the National Education Association, 53% of public schools reported being understaffed at the beginning of the 2022-23 school year, and 60% said they had been struggling with shortages since the start of the pandemic.

According to [another National Education Association survey released in January](#), 55% of educators say they'll leave teaching earlier than planned. That's compared to 37% in the previous August.

*Written by Dylan Croll for Yahoo! Finance. Posted Thu, October 6, 2022 at 4:22 PM*  
 Read the whole article at  
<https://finance.yahoo.com/news/education-secretary-teacher-shortage-is-a-teacher-respect-issue-212257932.html>

## Calendar of Upcoming Board Events

October 21, 2022	7:00 P.M., Home Football Game versus Lake Mills
October 26, 2022	End of First Quarter
October 27, 2022	5:00 – 7:00 P.M. Grand Opening of the High School
October 27, 2022	7:00 P.M. Band Concert, Grades 5 – 12
November 1 & 3	Parent-teacher Conferences
November 4, 2022	School Will be in Session
November 4 & 5	7:00 P.M., School Play
November 6, 2022	Daylight Saving Time ends
November 8, 2022	Election Day
November 11, 2022	Veterans Day
November 15, 2022	7:00 P.M., Regular School Board Meeting
November 16, 2021	Pre-convention IASB
November 17, 2021	IASB Annual Convention
November 23, 2022	Comp Day for Conferences – No School
November 24, 2022	Thanksgiving Day

*Public Document: For distribution at the school board meeting.*