

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



**Superintendent's Report**

**TO:** The Belmond-Klemme School Board  
**FROM:** Dan Frazier, Superintendent  
**DATE:** Thursday, March 16, 2023  
**RE:** Superintendent's Report on School District Business

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**Hiring Update**

<b>Posting</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Hiree</b>
2303.	Science, Physics, Chemistry	
2304.	Special Education, High School	
2305.	Industrial Technology	
2306.	Teacher, Lower Elementary	Trinity Shirk
2307.	Teacher, Upper Elementary	
2308.	Computers, High School	
2309.	Teacher, Lower Elementary	Bailee Frayne

**Current Job Openings**

- Science, Physics, Chemistry
- Special Education, High School
- Industrial Technology
- Teacher, Upper Elementary
- Computers, High School
- Custodian, Elementary, Evenings

**Efficiency in Hiring**

We were on track to hire a new teacher for lower elementary when we received a verbal resignation from our kindergarten teacher Kristiana Reinsmoen. As a result, we had the replacement hired before we had a vacancy posted. Yesterday, I received the signed contract back from Trinity Shirk, and later in the day I received the written resignation from Kristiana.

## **No Vocational Center in Sheffield**

For the last four years, we have been waiting for the vocational center sponsored by Sukup Manufacturing in Sheffield to be completed and ready for our BK students. We even cooperated with Hampton and West Fork on a calendar for this year as we were all expecting the center to open last August.

We recently received confirmation from NIACC that the Sheffield Center will not be ready even next year. Brian Wogen of NIACC recently stated, "it won't be up and running by next fall so that won't help you with your current situation."

We were hoping we might be able to use the Sheffield Center since we may be unable to hire an industrial technology teacher. Instead, we will be pursuing membership with Clarion and Eagle Grove at the vocational center in the old armory in Eagle Grove.

## **Teacher Leadership (TLC) Program Eliminated**

Among the many other issues lumped into the Voucher Bill that gives full funding to all private schools, the bill also eliminated TLC and TAG programs. Schools will retain the funding for these two programs, but all rules and standards have been eliminated. The programs are now completely optional.

For example, the original TLC law required TLC leaders and instructional coaches to have experience within the system they serve—which is good and right. Now those rules are gone. Anyone can be a TLC member, or none at all.

Across the state, a number of schools have already eliminated TLC and are using the dollars to fund other programs in their school. In times of scarcity such as these, schools will be forced to choose what is required over what is merely optional.

At this time, the Belmond-Klemme Board and Administration remain committed to our TLC program. We recognize the benefit to our staff and our students. Our BK TLC will remain in place for the foreseeable future.

## **Reynolds appoints Chad Aldis to lead Iowa Department of Education**

Gov. Kim Reynolds has named Chad Aldis to be the new director of the Iowa Department of Education.

Aldis is a think tank vice president at the Thomas B. Fordham Institute in Ohio since 2013. Supported by a private foundation, the Fordham Institute promotes standardized testing, charter schools, and private school choice. Aldis was one of the out-of-state experts the governor brought in to testify to the Iowa Legislature in favor of private school choice.

Aldis has a bachelor's degree in economics from the University of Mississippi and a law degree from Florida State University. He has never worked in education. Aldis vows to reform public education in Iowa.

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

## Denver Public Schools Data Breach Includes SSNs, Bank Info

Colorado's largest school district Denver discovered on Jan. 4, and has now informed all employees, that a data breach compromised Social Security numbers, bank account numbers, passport numbers, and other sensitive information.

## Calendar of Upcoming Board Events

March 15, 2023	First day contracts may be offered
April 1, 2023	April Fool's Day
April 7, 2023	Good Friday – No School
April 17, 2023	Tax Day
April 20, 2023	7:00 P.M., Regular School Board Meeting
April 22, 2023	Earth Day
April 26, 2023	Administrative Professionals Day
May 2, 2023	National Teacher Appreciation Day
May 3, 2023	Early Dismissal for Teacher PD
May 18, 2023	7:00 P.M., Regular School Board Meeting
May 21, 2023	2:00 P.M., Commencement
May 29, 2023	Memorial Day – No School
May 31, 2023	Statutory deadline for completion of bargaining
June 6, 2023	D-Day
June 15, 2023	7:00 P.M., Regular School Board Meeting
June 19, 2023	Juneteenth
June 21, 2023	June Solstice

## Snow Make Up Days

It may be too early to talk about snow make up days. However, as of today, we have missed the following school days for snow:

- December 16,
- December 21,
- January 3,
- January 19, and
- February 22.

This now puts our tentative last day for students on Monday, June 5, and check-out day for teachers on Tuesday, June 6.

## Snow Day Q & As from the Iowa Department of Education

**Question:** May local school boards forgive snow make-up days or hours?

**Answer:** No.

**Question:** May a school district get a waiver from the Iowa Department of Education to *NOT* make up snow days or hours.

**Answer:** No. The Department has no such authority.

**Question:** Do seniors have to make up “snow days”?

**Answer:** This is a local decision. Iowa Code 279.10 states, “the school district . . . may excuse a graduating senior who has met district or school requirements for graduation from attendance during the extended school calendar.”

**Question:** Must a school district make up days or hours when weather forces it to start late or let out early?

**Answer:**

**Days Calendar** - No.

**Hours Calendar** – No, as long as they meet the minimum of 1,080 hours. However, a local school board could decide voluntarily to make up the time that is lost by late starts and early dismissals. Making up these hours – especially if a district has had more than a couple of them – is sound educational practice.

**Question:** A school district has parent-teacher conferences planned on a Tuesday and Thursday evening yet to come in the school’s calendar. Staff and students will also go to the school on Friday of that same week. May the district count the hours spent on parent-teacher conference Tuesday and Thursday night as another day of student instruction on Saturday (a fifth consecutive day, Tuesday through Saturday) — even though staff and students would not attend school on Saturday?

**Answer:**

**Days Calendar** - Yes. 281 IAC 12.1(9) provides for this exception as long as the five consecutive days equals 30 hours of student instruction. Remember, parent-teacher conference time counts as student instruction.

**Hours Calendar** – Yes. Schools count hours of instruction. Parent-teacher conference time count as student instruction.