

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



Superintendent's Report

TO: The Belmond-Klemme School Board
FROM: Dan Frazier, Superintendent
DATE: Tuesday, November 17, 2020
RE: Superintendent's Report on School District Business

**Belmond-Klemme Certified Enrollment Report as of October 1:
Enrollment Declines for Fourth Straight Year**

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

CERTIFIED ENROLLMENT	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016
Resident Public Students Attending our District	630	638	646	657	682
Resident Public Students Attending another District	136	137	144	141	130
Actual Enrollment	766	775	792	798	812
Non-Resident Public Students Attending our District	54	48	48	31	38
PK 4 Students Attending Preschool Program	13	21	16	17	18
Total School Age Students in our District	684	686	694	688	720
Limited English Proficient Weighting	14	14	11	12	13

As of Thursday, October 1, 2020, the enrollment for the Belmond-Klemme Community School District, upon which our district budget will be based for the next fiscal year, was 684 students PK-12.

Student Head Count

On our October 1 count day, we recorded the following numbers of students in each grade:

	October 1 of 2020			2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
	Enrolled	Section	Ave Size	Enroll	Enroll	Enroll	Enroll	Enroll
<u>Jacobson Elementary</u>								
PK w/IEP	3			1			2	0
Kindergarten	54	3	18.0	46	48	56	44	60
Grade 1	45	2	22.5	41	40	34	54	48
Grade 2	42	2	21.0	44	41	54	49	64
Grade 3	43	2	21.5	41	56	46	70	54
Grade 4	46	2	23.0	49	46	71	53	44
Grade 5	50	2	25.0	44	70	55	51	56
Grade 6	42	2	21.0	66	59	52	60	66
Elem Total	325	15	21.7	332	360	368	383	392
	-7							
<u>Jr/Sr High School</u>								
Grade 7	66	3	22.0	56	50	64	62	58
Grade 8	50	2	25.0	51	67	62	60	48
Grade 9	51	2	25.5	72	63	62	50	45
Grade 10	70	3	23.3	67	61	46	42	56
Grade 11	62	3	20.7	60	53	38	55	65
Grade 12	60	2	30.0	50	42	50	68	48
HS Total	359	15	23.9	356	336	322	337	320
	3							
GRAND	684			688	696	690	720	712
	Down							
	-4	At	\$7,048	Per Student =				(\$28,192)
	Students							

This year our official enrollment count is down 4 students K-12. This will cost our budget for next year around \$30,000. This deficit could require us to make some staffing adjustments.

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

2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
160	154	151	128	150	155	162

After four years of decline, the Iowa Department of Education continues to predict that Belmont-Klemme will see some stability in its enrollment. See the table below.

ACTUAL ENROLLMENTS				
2014-2015	2015-2016	2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-2019
793.2	801.3	812.2	797.6	791.5

ENROLLMENT PROJECTIONS				
2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024
793.3	817.5	829.4	793.2	804.5

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

On the Passing of Jason Englert

We lost a member of our Belmond-Klemme family. It is with deep and profound sorrow that I announce the sudden and untimely passing of Talented and Gifted teacher Mr. Jason Englert, 38.

Mr. Englert was found alone in his home at mid-afternoon on Sunday, November 8, 2020. Details are unavailable at this time. If or when information becomes available that the school district can share, we will do so.

The Belmond-Klemme Community School District immediately activated its crisis plan. Additional counseling and support was available to students and staff this week.



A native of Royal, Iowa, Mr. Englert graduated in 2007 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in mathematics and biology from the University of Northern Iowa. The last few years, he was teaching 7-12 mathematics for the Manson-Northwest Webster Community School District. He recently completed advanced certification allowing him to teach Talented and Gifted education. He was delighted to come to Belmond-Klemme and lead our Talented and Gifted program.

Mr. Englert had a cheerful demeanor and a positive attitude, and he had wonderful rapport with his students. In addition to his teaching duties, Mr. Englert also coached junior high volleyball, junior high girls basketball, and was scheduled to coach varsity girls track in the spring.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Jason's parents and other extended family and friends.

Condolences may be sent to:

John Englert at P.O. Box 18, Royal, Iowa 51357

Go Fund Me for Jason's Family

Jason Englert's father John Englert has been hit very hard by the untimely and unexpected loss of his son. Moreover, Jason unfortunately did not carry life insurance, other than his teacher retirement fund (IPERS) policy which takes considerable time to request and process through the state agency.

Andrea Watson (Drea Watson, dreawatson16@gmail.com), a former teaching colleague of Jason's, has started a GoFundMe to help Jason's family with final expenses. Drea said she wanted to make sure that Jason's dad is taken care of first and foremost. However, if she exceeds her goal, she will work with the family to make a donation in Jason's name to a cause supporting education, stem, tag, etc. You can find the fund at the link below:

<https://www.gofundme.com/f/in-honor-of-jason-englert>

Message from a Teacher Colleague

Here is something I received on Wednesday last week from a teacher in Manson, Jason Englert's school the last few years:

Mr. Frazier,

My name is Kathy Dudley and I'm the French teacher at MNW and a good friend of Jason's. I just wanted to let you know how excited he was to become a part of your school district. He was welcomed with open arms, appreciated, and he truly loved working there. This is a very difficult time for all his friends here at MNW and I'm sure you are feeling a huge sense of loss as well. In closing, whatever it is that you and your district does to make people feel at home when they begin employment please continue to do. Jason loved his job, his co-workers, and the community.

Sincerely,

Kathy Dudley <kdudley@manson-nw.k12.ia.us>

Initial Responses to Computer Survey Appear Positive

During the summer of 2017, we purchased MacBook laptops for every student in grades 5 through 12 to become a one-to-one school. At that time, we were planning on the devices lasting for four years and then rotating out. We financed the laptops for four years, and now they are paid off. That means during the spring of 2021 (this coming semester), we need to decide on our path forward for our one-to-one technology initiative.

October 16, teachers were provided a link to a Google Form survey regarding how our one-to-one laptop initiative has gone these past four years. The 28 teachers who responded to the survey said,

- Our one-to-one laptop initiative was a good idea and a worthy investment say 100% of those taking the survey, rating the decision either a 4 or 5 (on a scale of 1-5).
- 100% of respondents believe computing devices are necessary for grades 9 through 12. 96% (27 out of 28) of respondents believe computing devices are necessary for grades 7 and 8.
- 56% of respondents rate as a 5 (on a scale of 1-5) the MacBooks as a good a choice for grades 5-12 these past four years. 15% are open to other options.
- A 58% of respondents appear to want to continue with MacBooks for the next four years. However, 20% are receptive to iPads with clamshell keyboard cases. Another 12% would like to switch to a PC device like a Windows-based laptop.

Computer Science Lifts Students' Job Options

Maybe we should put this stronger financial position into expanding our instruction of computer skills? Currently we have no specific instruction of computers and keyboarding in grades K-6.

Below are excerpts from a post that was published last week on the Gallup blog:

OCTOBER 15, 2020

Educators Say Computer Science Lifts Students' Job Options

BY STEPHANIE MARKEN AND CHRIS STEPHENSON

With computing driving innovation in almost every field -- art, business, communications, healthcare, STEM, etc. -- it is important for students to be exposed to computer science education early to help ensure they can thrive in their careers and as informed citizens.

A new Google/Gallup study finds that eight in 10 U.S. school district superintendents either "strongly agree" (42%) or agree (38%) that having computer science education would significantly improve the future career options for students in their school district. Another 14% are neutral on this question, and only 6% disagree.

Implications

It is only through continued commitment, effort and action that there can be equitable access to computer science education.

Snow Days or Virtual Learning Days

When we did distance learning during the pandemic last April and May, one of the things we learned during our experience was that online instruction is simply not as good as in-class teaching for most students in grades K-12. This was a fairly universal opinion among our faculty and administration.

This school year, the Iowa Department of Education will allow schools to do online learning on snow emergency days and count the snow days as days of instruction. Many schools (most of whom did voluntary learning last spring) plan to do online instruction on snow days.

A small group of our BK teachers would like our school to do online teaching on snow days this winter. This way they could avoid doing make-up days in May. Others favor our traditional method to make up the days in-person at the end of the year. We believe the quality of instruction will be higher.

Calendar of Upcoming Board Events

November 25 – 29	No School – Thanksgiving Break
December 17, 2020	7:00 P.M., Regular School Board Meeting
December 23 – 30	No School – Christmas Break
January 4, 2021	School Resumes
January 18, 2021	Teacher PD Day – No School
January 21, 2021	7:00 P.M., Regular School Board Meeting
February 3, 2021	1:00 P.M. Dismissal for Teacher PD
February 15, 2021	Presidents' Day – No School
February 18, 2021	7:00 P.M., Regular School Board Meeting