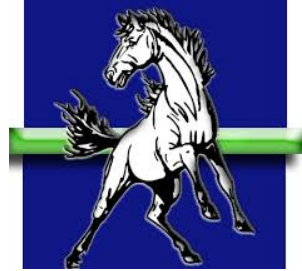


**Belmond-Klemme Community  
School District**  
Belmond, Iowa 50421



## Superintendent's Report

**TO:** The Belmond-Klemme School Board  
**FROM:** Dan Frazier, Superintendent  
**DATE:** Thursday, March 11, 2021  
**RE:** Superintendent's Report on School District Business

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### **USDA Extends Free School Meals until Sept. 30**

The USDA announced Tuesday that it would extend federal waivers to allow students access to free school meals until September 30. Diane Pratt-Heavner, director of media relations for the School Nutrition Association, said the organization is still concerned about funding for expanded meal services and hopes the expiration of waivers is pushed out even further because remote instruction may continue in the fall, but SNA applauds the move to ensure students and families will maintain access to curbside meals.

### **Over 90 Percent of Staff are Vaccinated**

Faculty and staff at Belmond-Klemme received their second dose of the Moderna vaccine against COVID-19 on Wednesday, March 10, 2021.

### **Grant for Outdoor Sound System**

Between the improvements already made at our outdoor stadia and the age on our current sound systems, Principal Greg Fisher and Activities Director Scott Meyer applied to the Jacobson Grant for support for new sound systems at a cost of \$29,758.75. They cited the district's investments already in stadia improvements such as the paving and the new bleachers as our matching contributions.

On Friday, February 26, Scott Meyer received a phone message from Joseph Sorenson, Vice President of Affiliate Relations, Community Foundation of Greater Des Moines, who helps oversee the Fund for Belmond (Jacobson Grant). Mr. Sorenson indicated we have been awarded \$27,500. That leaves \$2,258.75 our school district will have to contribute toward the project.

## 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:

January 15, February 4 and 5, February 16, and February 22.

This now puts our tentative last day for students on Friday, June 4, and check-out day for teachers on Monday, June 7.

## 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.

### **E.L. Summer School**

Our English Language Learner teachers are looking at an opportunity to use some of our federal CARES funding to benefit our EL students.

Subject to permission from the school board, the two teachers intend to target instruction toward EL students in a two-weeks session to reinforce skills at the end of the current school year (June). They would also like to give students a head start on the next school year with a three-week session in August.

Their plan will include bus services.

### **Phase II Project Issue**

The concrete slab in the Lockers/Training/Family Restroom Addition does not look good. There is, brownish color (probably ground-in dirt), milky film (improper hardener application), stains, and built-up spots. We are not comfortable with it. Architect Wineinger brought this installation to Kingland Construction's attention. They agreed to grind and reapply hardener at no cost to the school. The corrective work will occur this coming summer during school vacation.

### **BK Teacher Compensation Above Average**

Teacher pay within Belmond-Klemme Schools is higher than most schools in Iowa. Last year, the average total teacher salary for full-time Belmond-Klemme teachers was \$55,703. The state median was \$54,764. Our salary ranked 137th in Iowa out of 327 public school districts.

Our hiring base for new teachers this year is \$40,000. Our B-K base salary is well above both the state average starting salary of \$38,054, and the median new teacher starting salary of \$38,015.

## Calendar of Upcoming Board Events

March 25, 2021	End of Third Quarter
April 1-5, 2021	No School – Spring Break
April 2, 2021	Good Friday (Many regions)
April 4, 2021	Easter Sunday
April 15, 2021	7:00 P.M., Regular School Board Meeting
May 5, 2021	1:00 P.M. Dismissal for Teacher PD
May 20, 2021	Seniors' Last Day
May 20, 2021	7:00 P.M., Regular School Board Meeting
May 15, 2020	Peace Officers Memorial Day
May 23, 2020	Commencement
May 31, 2021	Memorial Day
June 4, 2021	Last Day for Students
June 7, 2021	Check-out Day for Teachers
June 17, 2021	7:00 P.M., Regular School Board Meeting