

**BEMIDJI AREA SCHOOLS
BEMIDJI, MINNESOTA**

DATE: NOVEMBER 19, 2018

TO: BOARD OF EDUCATION

FROM: TIM LUTZ, SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

SUBJECT: HISTORIC BEMIDJI HIGH SCHOOL ARCH

COMMENTS:

Members of the Bemidji High School alumni have formed a group that calls itself “Old Bemidji High School Remembered.” This organization has salvaged one of the entryways – an arched entrance - of the old high school building in the hope that they could find a location somewhere on ISD 31 property to place the arched entrance as a historic landmark to remember the old BHS building.

They are hoping to place the arch between the current site of the Boys and Girls Club of Bemidji and JW Smith Elementary School. Specifically, they would like to place the arch on a section at the north end of Minnesota Ave presenting it in such a manner as to invoke the memory of driving up Beltrami Avenue to the old Bemidji High School. The group is asking for an area of about 35’ x 60’ of school district property about 15 feet north of the sidewalk with a 30 feet setback from the JW Smith property line.

If the school board is willing to support this request and give the committee a letter indicating its support for building the arch on school property, the committee would be able to look for masons willing and able to do the reconstruction and start a fundraising campaign.

The board is being asked to pass a motion supporting the location of the arch on the property of JW Smith Elementary. The group is looking for the support of the school board on the location of the arch so they can move forward soliciting funds. We are not committing to providing any financial assistance by passing this motion.

ACTION:

The motion was offered by ____, seconded by ____, and carried () to support the location of the arch on the property of JW Smith Elementary.