



Belmond-Klemme Community School District

Interim Superintendent's Report, Chris Bergman, 3.21.24

Special Meeting Date

This meeting has been moved to March 27, 2024 at 7:00 in the Jr.-Sr. High School Library.

School Improvement Advisory Committee (SIAC)

The next SIAC meeting is scheduled for March 25th. The agenda for this meeting includes the following topics: bullying/harassment, social emotional learning, readiness for college, career and postsecondary, safety and security, school calendar, focus questions (educational needs), and next steps for the 2024-2025 school year.

Safety and Security

The United Methodist Church in Belmond will be hosting a viewing of GRIDSHOCK: A Film About Sex Trafficking in Iowa on Tuesday, April 9th at 7:00 PM. I have used this viewing as a tool for educating students, staff and families in another district I served. [GRIDSHOCK Overview](#). I highly recommend B-K school district and community stakeholders consider attending this event.

Along with Principals and the Director of Building and Grounds, I will attend a Wright County Safety meeting on March 25th at Clarion.

Calendar/Legislation

The bill regarding moving the start date for schools did not survive the 2nd funnel week. Although this legislation is unlikely to be added to any pending/future legislation, the calendar hearing and board recommendation will take place at the April 18th meeting; most likely, the August 23rd start date calendar will be the recommendation.

Stakeholders from the following groups have been provided time for reflection, feedback, questions, clarification, collaboration, consultation, and conversation regarding the proposed calendar drafts which were created with the following goals and constraints in mind and have undergone multiple revisions resulting in an addition of 4 Early Out PD experiences:

- Front-end collaboration, consultation and feedback
- Setting an intentional focus on students
- Increase student academic, social and emotional growth
- Increased professional learning time for staff
- Compliance - Start Date of August 23rd (current legislation) and Start Date of August 20 (currently in the legislative process resulting in two calendar options)
- Compliance regarding state and BKCSO School Board requirements for number of student days/hours - 180/1080 and teacher contract days - 187

- Compliance regarding state requirements for graduating seniors (see below)
- Balancing quarters/semesters
- Conferences prior to the end of the quarter so students/parents/guardians are aware of current student progress and any steps needed for improvement/meeting class requirements (Mainly impacts the high school)
- Desire of all stakeholders to end in May
- Consistency
- Days off connected to holidays/breaks, Mondays and Fridays
- Alignment with the NIACC calendar to accommodate students taking college classes
- Flexibility for staff (virtual days for certifications, “making up snow days, etc.”)
- Virtual and Individualized PD (balance of state-/district-required, building goal-oriented, choice, and build-your-own options) These days will be labeled on the calendar as “flex days” and up to 3 total can be used with snow days, if needed.
- Safety PD prior to the 2024-2025 school year
- Adherence to the BKCSO tradition of hosting graduation on the 3rd Sunday of May
- Benefit to retiring staff if the teacher contract ends in May (not an educational driver, a benefit of the calendar to staff)

General Notes

- No Early Outs were added prior to holiday breaks, as nobody is learning in this event. An Early Out does not serve an educational purpose in this case.
- The exception to the above statement is that an Early Out was added to the last day of the school year in order for teachers to begin the logistical pieces of checking out and provide time for principals to walk through classrooms to ensure the process is occurring prior to the actual check-out.
- November was a “heavy” month for Early Outs due to an additional two days for conferences, so an originally scheduled Early Out on November 13th was moved to April 23rd. Elementary conferences begin at 2:00 to accommodate the number of scheduled “slots” for all families to be able to sign up, so an Early Out is necessary.
- The Friday prior to spring break week is a teacher compensation day and allows for one less disruption in families’ schedules.

Alternative Programming

Callie Stein and James from the Alternative Programming Planning Team and Diena Mennenga (business lens) will attend the conference below to learn more about how to integrate work-based learning into next steps for our students and staff. This information reaches beyond the Alternative Programming conversation, and the team will share back to the entire Jr.-Sr. High Staff. A report will be given to the board during the April meeting.

[Iowa STEM Class/Work](#)

State Reporting

The B-K Universal K-12 Desk Audit for 2023-2024 has been reviewed by the Department of Education and has been approved. The purpose of the desk audit is to provide a process for the continued

accreditation of local education agencies (LEAs). Accreditation monitoring requires a comprehensive desk audit of all accredited LEAs (Iowa Code § 256.11(10)(a)(1)).

The audit requires a timely submission by a local education agency of information required by the department on forms provided by the department (Iowa Code § 256.11(10)(a)(1)).

This audit contains information regarding the following:

1. Board Policy on Licensed Employee Qualifications
2. Board Policy on Recruitment
3. Board Policy on Selection
4. Board Policy on Licensed Employee Evaluation
5. Board Policy on Compulsory Attendance
6. Board Policy on Parent and Family Engagement Districtwide Policy

K-3 Screening and Progress Monitoring in Panorama [§279.68](#) [§279.68](#)

District Professional Development Plan “The district professional development plan shall include a description of the means by which the school district will provide access to all teachers in the district to professional development programs or offerings that meet the requirements of subsection 1. The plan shall align all professional development with the school district’s long-range student learning goals and the Iowa teaching standards. The plan shall indicate the school district’s approved professional development provider or providers.” [284.6\(3\)](#)

School Improvement Advisory Committee (Iowa Code § 280.12)

Provide upload(s) of or link(s) to the School Improvement Advisory Committee meeting minutes indicating discussion of the following: Reference: [§ 280.12](#)

1. Major educational needs.
2. Student learning goals.
3. Long-range and annual improvement goals that include, but are not limited to, the state indicators that address reading, mathematics, and science achievement.
4. Desired levels of student performance.
5. Progress toward meeting the goals for:
 1. Student learning goals
 2. Desired levels of student performance
6. Harassment or bullying prevention goals, programs, training, and other initiatives.

High School Program (281—IAC 12.5)

High Quality Instructional Materials (ESEA section 5223(b)(1) and Iowa Code 284.6)

NIACC Career Center Grant

This grant is in review today, January 18, 2024. Information will be shared as soon as the grant is awarded/denied. On March 27th, I have a meeting scheduled with President Schulz to learn the current status and any next steps.

Transportation

At this time last year, a report of outside-of-the-district instances was given. Per Brandon Allen, Director of Transportation, we do not have any instances of this at present.

Communication

[March Community Newsletter](#)

Professional Learning

As shared in an earlier communication, I was invited to serve on the state-wide professional development team for School Administrators of Iowa. I have engaged in all other meetings virtually; however, our final meeting is being hosted in-person at SAI on April 4th. At this meeting, we will analyze all promising practices proposals for the conference next year and determine the speakers and sessions for the entire fall 2024 conference for all administrators in the state.

Calendar Events

3.25.24	Wright County Safety Meeting @ 9:00 SIAC @ 6:00-7:30 (Jr.-Sr. High School Media Center)
3.21.24	Board Meeting @ 7:00 (Jr.-Sr. High School Media Center)
3.27.24	Public Hearing @ 7:00 (Jr.-Sr. High School Media Center)
3.28.24	Innovative Solutions: Addressing Teacher Shortages, Clear Lake AEA
3.29.24	No School (Good Friday)
4.5.24	School Administrators of Iowa (SAI) Professional Development State-Wide Planning Team (Clive)
4.18.24	Board Meeting @ 7:00 (Jr.-Sr. High School Media Center)
5.16.24	Board Meeting @ 7:00 (Jr.-Sr. High School Media Center)
5.27.24	No School (Memorial Day)
5.31.24	Last Day of School
6.20.24	Board Meeting @ 7:00 (Jacobson Elementary)