



**SUPERINTENDENT**

Tom Meyer  
Phone: 563.872.4001 ext. 260  
Fax: 563.872.3216

**OFFICERS**

Mike Reed  
President  
Penny Medinger  
Secretary/Treasurer

**DIRECTORS**

Janet Sieverding Vice President  
Allysen Bonifas Member  
Marty Ploessi Member  
Matt Wedeking Member

1601 State St. | Bellevue, IA 52031 | 563.872.4001 | www.bellevue.k12.ia.us

**BELLEVUE COMETS**  
COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

**Comet Highlights from the  
Board Meeting on Monday, August 8, 2022**

August 15	New Teacher Induction and Teacher Professional Learning
August 16-22	Teacher Professional Learning
August 18	Social for New Staff - River Ridge Brewery 7:15-8:30
August 23	1st Day of School for the 2022-2023 school year
September 5	No School - Labor Day
September 14	2-Hour Early Dismissal - Teacher Professional Learning
October 12 & 13	2-Hour Early Dismissal - Parent-Teacher Conferences (3:30-8:00)
October 14	No School
October 31	No School for Students - Teacher Professional Learning
November 17	IASB Annual Convention

To view a calendar of events see the following link:

<https://www.rivervalleyconference.org/public/genie/628/school/1/>

**APPROVED - Consent Agenda**

**Open Enrollment Requests**

- Harrison Bausman - Dubuque to Bellevue - 3rd Grade
- Brooklyn Bausman - Dubuque to Bellevue - PK (not necessarily an open enrollment at the PK level, but a recognition they will be attending)
- Maxwell Schmitz - Dubuque to Bellevue - 2nd Grade
- Annabelle Glasgow - Bellevue to Dubuque - Kindergarten
- Liam Huizenga - Andrew to Bellevue - 5th grade - His brother attends school in Bellevue in the Whole-Grade Sharing Agreement with the Andrew CSD

**Recommendations to Hire**

- Cheyanne Merrick - Volunteer Cheerleading Sponsor - Cheyanne graduated last school year, but is willing to help out with travel, practices, etc. as necessary.

**Recognize any Visitors**

FBLA representatives were in attendance to present - Mrs. Tracy Weber, Alyssa Wagner, Alivia Wagner, and Callie Recker

Tony Amsler, Iowa Legislative Candidate (State House) introduced himself to the Board and shared his background. Other candidates have been invited, or will be invited in the future.

### **Comet Curriculum**

The FBLA members share some of their learning experiences (beyond traditional education experiences) and reflections from the national convention in Chicago in June/July of 2022, including the variety of students who they met, interacted with, and competed against from across the nation and internationally. They also thanked the Board for providing some funding for their trip.



*FBLA members pictured, along with Tony Amsler*

### **Legislative Update**

Tony Amsler, a local candidate running for the House of Representatives attended the meeting to introduce himself as a candidate.

### **Registration Update and Curricular Planning**

Meyer provided an update on student enrollment at the meeting...at that time.

1. August 1 & 2 Registration Days - Good attendance overall and things went well overall. We had athletic parent meetings on Monday night from about 5:30 to 7:00, along with an elementary football camp. As a result, this period of time was about as busy as I have ever seen at registration. But, things as a whole went well during that time as well. Aside from that time, the average wait time throughout the days was likely less than five minutes when the paperwork was completed by the parents. The Board suggested a few changes that were noted and will be discussed to make the process quicker, along with online registration.

2. The **MS/HS has 6 students leaving** from last year's class lists at this time that we are aware of (maybe a couple of more who have not shown up who have been discussed that may be moving). At the same time, there are **15 new students entering** the district in grades 6-12. This includes 7 Whole-Grade Sharing students (6 MS and 1 HS) at this time (likely another 1-2 at the HS level yet), 3 Open Enrollment, and 4 transfer students (Marquette, Maquoketa, Homeschool, and Wisconsin). The **positive trend is +9 students**.
3. The **elementary has 6 students who have moved (3 families total)**, while also having **23 new students** who have registered, and 3 of these students are in 4-year-old preschool, with the other 20 in grades K-5. Therefore, the **positive trend is +17**.
4. Overall, this would mean a total of **+26 with students** coming in vs moving out of the district. This is not official but is a "positive" overall. Also, we must remember that we graduated a class of 51 students and an incoming class in kindergarten in this same range overall. With that being said, I believe we will have an increase in enrollment, but some other things also play a part in that in some manners as well, and we will not know until school starts and the official count in October. The enrollment trends do NOT include students who moved out of the district during the last school year. But, it appears we will have 340 students TK-5 this year, which would be an increase of 20 students in the building (this does not include any preschool enrollment for 3- or 4-year old).

Overall, I anticipate an increase in enrollment, but just unsure of what number currently.

### ESSER III Funds

The transparency of how the district will utilize the COVID-Relief funds (ESSER III Funds) is important for the school board to be aware of, along with our staff and community as a whole. Below is an overview.

The district received some federal government funds to assist with overcoming hardships from the pandemic. At this time, we utilized funds last school year and plan on utilizing these funds for multiple aspects to assist students and their learning, both directly and indirectly this school year as well (they must be used by September 30, 2024):

Some information on the use of these "COVID" funds from last year and this year (projected):

#### **FY22 ESSER use:**

- Learning Loss:
  - Clinton Community College - J Kilburg tutoring
  - Imagine Learning - online classes
  - August summer school salaries/benefits
  - Some of our reading teacher salaries/benefits at the elementary
- Regular ESSER:
  - One partial associate's salary (17%)
  - One full-teacher salary

- Band masks, instrument covers
- Hand Sanitizer
- "Challenge to Change"
- Life Connection - SEL services

**FY23** uses:

- Learning Loss:
  - Clinton Community College - J Kilburg tutoring
  - Online classes - For special circumstances
  - Potentially some of our reading teacher salaries/benefits at the elementary
- Regular:
  - Two full-teacher salaries
  - Some associate pay
  - "Challenge to Change"
  - Life Connection - SEL services
  - Misc supplies if any

**APPROVED - Student Handbooks and Staff/Faculty Handbooks**

On the website are copies of student handbooks for the 22-23 school year, and certified and non-certified staff handbooks. No major changes in any of these, although the certified staff handbook was updated from the previous editions by adding/deleting a variety of information to make it more relevant.

**Summer Projects and Facilities**

A few things in this agenda item:

1. Safety Steps
2. Facilities Committee
3. Scoreboard
4. STEM/Ag Building & Elementary Space

**Safety Steps**

A few updates:

- It appears that the security updates with door, buzzer, intercom, and associated work at the MS/HS building can be completed prior to the school year starting in some manner, but our official system may be on back-order yet. But, we will still have a secure entrance and other doors alarmed in the main hallways and some other side doors. There will only be one main entrance to the building before school, and Early Bird PE students will have a key card to access the building starting at approximately 5:45 AM.
- The kitchen area back entrance now has a "Ring" doorbell for entrance by food providers, etc.

## Safety Steps - 2022-2023 (Updated on July 29, 2022)

### District-Wide

1. Entry Doors to the buildings are to remain locked during the school day at all times.
2. No doors are propped open for any reason at any time during the school day.

### MS/HS

1. Early Bird PE Students will have "key-cards" to access the front doors from 5:45-7:15 AM.
2. Students from the Industrial Tech area will enter through the North Doors of the "HS Hallway" near Mrs. Michels' and Mrs. Meyer's rooms.
  - a. North Doors of the "HS Hallway" will be locked and unlocked by an associate each period. No timed entrance during the school day.
  - b. North Doors of the "MS Hallway" will be locked all day with no access by students. No timed entrance during the school day.
3. Students and Staff will not be allowed to enter/exit through the south hallway doors near Mrs. Gerlach's and Mrs. Weber's room, or in the area of the Library and Mrs. Lahey-Scott's Room.
  - a. These doors will have alarms on them, and signs signifying no entry or exit and alarm will sound. In case of emergency, individuals will be allowed to utilize these doors.
  - b. Doors with these alarms include the following:
    - i. South HS Hallway Doors (2)
    - ii. South MS Hallway Doors (2)
    - iii. Wrestling Hallway Doors (2)
    - iv. Main Gym - West and Northeast (2)
    - v. West Gym (4)
    - vi. Board Room (1)
4. Main entrance doors will be locked from 8:20-3:20 each day, with access only granted through the office or other staff electronically unlocking the door for entrance into the building.
  - a. Camera, Audio, and Buzzer System to open the doors remotely
5. All students will enter the building through the main entrance throughout the school day.

### Elementary

1. All visitors will enter through the elementary office doors, and be granted access to the building by office staff through an electronic door system.
  - a. Preschool students may enter the building via the west entrance doors by the preschool classrooms and the gym.
2. Staff members will be at recess with students, along with being present before and after school.
  - a. One staff member will be solely monitoring the crosswalk areas before and after school.
  - b. Two other staff members will be present on the playground before and after school, assisting with pick-up along 3rd Street and Court Street.

Facilities Advisory Committee (FAC) - The first meeting with the core team for facilities will be on Wednesday, August 24 at 6:30 PM in the Bellevue Elementary Gym. OPN (architects and engineers) will be in attendance to discuss the assessments of both buildings, thoughts from committee members that were

selected at the last meeting, make plans for community outreach, and potential future actions.

Allysen Bonifas and I met with OPN on Monday, August 1 to discuss this meeting, community perspectives we are aware of, and other related things. One of the things we did not discuss much but has been a topic with our district and board, is childcare. This may be a discussion point in the future by the FAC or the district. There are several parts to this, but I also believe a survey for our information in planning a bond referendum would be advantageous as our FAC and board make plans.

Another related aspect to be aware of are the property tax rates of the Bellevue CSD. They are lower than most in our area, and part of this is that we have not passed a GO Bond for a new building, and the value of land is high overall in Bellevue. But, some other information is below:

Bellevue CSD Rates for the FY23 school year is 10.53626 (rounded to two decimals to 10.54)

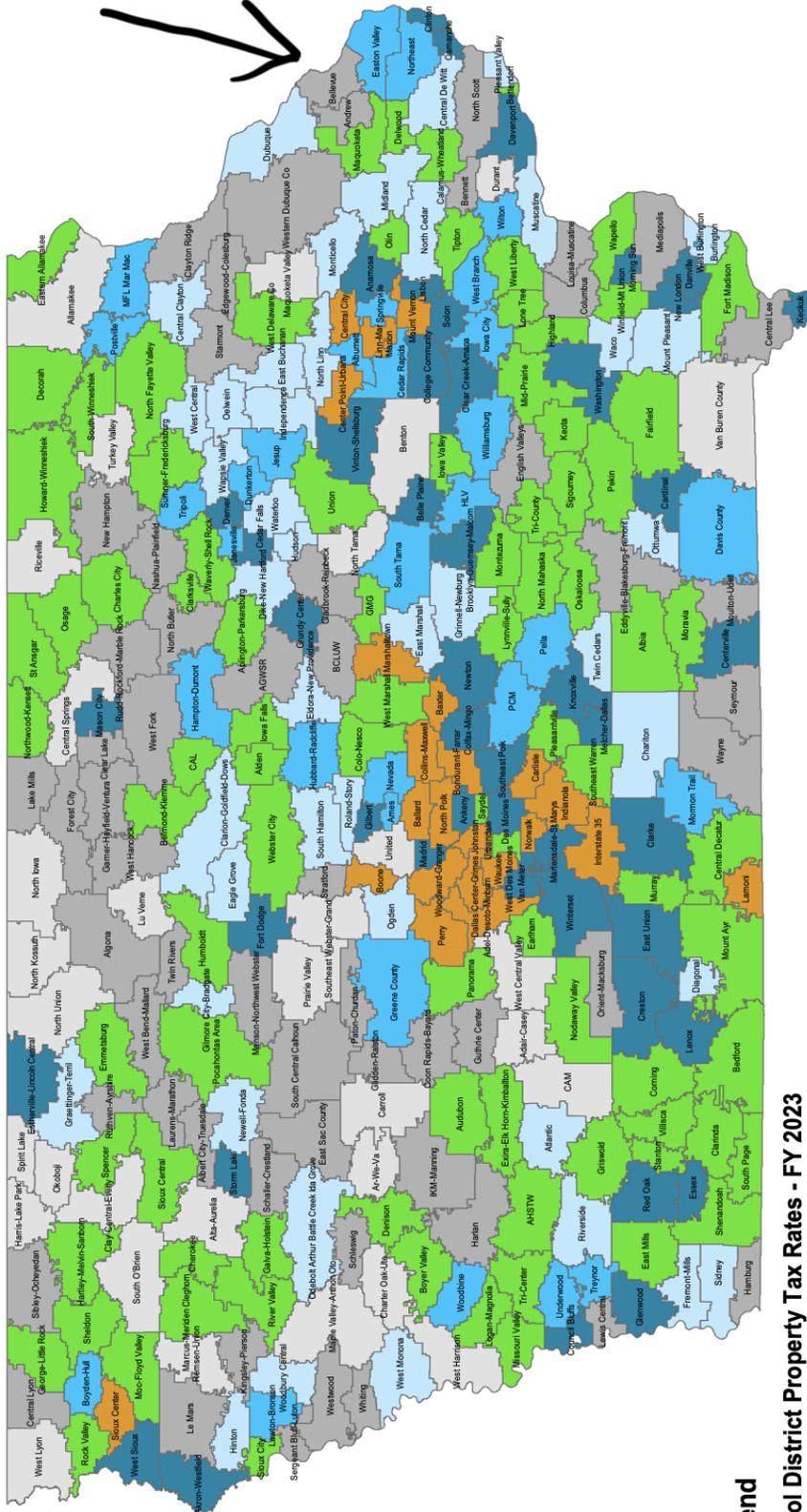
As the "map" below indicates, our rates overall are some of the lowest. A GO Bond would add \$2.70 to this rate.

Alburnett	15.15
Anamosa	15.25
Andrew	11.46
BELLEVUE	10.54
Bettendorf	12.38
Cal-Wheat	12.89
Camanche	15.83
Central DeWitt	13.72
Clayton Ridge	11.31
Clinton	15.58
Delwood	11.99
Dubuque	13.91
Durant	9.36
Easton Valley	14.61
Lisbon	17.18
Maquoketa	13.00
Midland	13.92
Monticello	14.04
North Cedar	13.51
Northeast	14.86
Springville	15.13
Tipton	12.21
West Branch	15.00
West Liberty	13.02
Western Dubuque	11.20
Wilton	14.56



# Iowa Association of School Boards FY 2023 School District Property Tax Rates

[Click Here for District Specific Data](#)



## Legend

### School District Property Tax Rates - FY 2023

- \$8.031 to \$10.000 (32 Districts)
- \$10.001 to \$11.499 (58 Districts)
- \$11.500 to \$13.249 (90 Districts)
- \$13.250 to \$14.249 (43 Districts)
- \$14.250 to \$15.249 (32 Districts)
- \$15.250 to \$17.249 (47 Districts)
- \$17.250 to \$19.607 (25 Districts)

State Average = \$13.939  
 Median = \$13.018  
 Minimum = \$8.031  
 Maximum = \$19.607

### Notes:

Property tax rates are expressed per \$1,000 of taxable valuation.  
 School district property tax rates displayed for districts that have reorganized are based on the property tax rate for the active school district.

Sources:  
 Iowa Department of Management, School Aid file  
 IASB analysis and calculations

Scoreboard - Later in the agenda is an agreement to accept \$60,000 in conjunction with the Comet Athletic Boosters from Coca-Cola for the scoreboard. Some other information on this includes the following:

- The estimated cost of the scoreboard is likely well over \$100,000.
- Fundraising to this point has involved the FB Club, Booster Club, and the August 26 FB event (next listing)
- August 26 Event is celebrating 50 years of Comet Football as we play Northeast at home that evening. The proposed plan/schedule for the evening at school and outside of school is at the end of the notes.

STEM/Ag Building/Elementary Space - As we look to the future and continue our discussion from the past...

Meyer has been keeping the board updated on their thoughts in regard to constructing a basic Ag building for student learning. This could also be combined with STEM for students as well. If we would do that it would save space for the following:

- This would allow for more hands-on learning opportunities for students, and valuable learning experiences and opportunities.
- A thought shared by Meyer was to potentially consider moving 5th grade to the middle school section of the building for the upcoming year to make more room in the elementary building potentially. This is only a discussion item, but looking at potential options for the upcoming school years (short-term at minimum). If so, we need to start making some plans for this. 5th grade could still be isolated in one section of the building in the "MS Hallway" if we would make that choice. Students could be kept in the "MS Hallway" for their core courses, and could possibly even maintain their current set-up of one classroom teacher for the day mainly - one main classroom. Students would still have to go through the school for Music, PE, etc., and we would likely have to move to three lunch shifts where 5th and 6th-grade students would possibly have their own lunchtime in the Commons. Just some thoughts. Any thoughts from board members on this? I will also be mentioning this to the architects for their planning and preparation as well.

**APPROVED ACTION ON SOCCER AS A PROGRAM AT BELLEVUE HIGH SCHOOL - Extracurricular Activity Participation and Programs**

Below is information on soccer, and the decision by the Bellevue CSD to begin its own soccer program in the 2022-2023 school year. In previous years, Bellevue HS students have shared soccer with Marquette as the host school. Starting this school year Bellevue will be hosting its own soccer program, while also extending an invitation to Bellevue Marquette to share the program with our school as host. Below is a summary of the information:

**Soccer Program at the Bellevue Community School District - Bellevue High School**

*In May of 2022 the River Valley Conference Board of Control, with the recommendation of activities directors in the conference, approved the adoption of soccer as a high school activity to be recognized by the River Valley*

Conference starting in the 2022-2023 school year. This action by the RVC includes a full-conference schedule for each conference team with a soccer program.

As an original member of the River Valley Conference, the Bellevue CSD believes it is important for the district to participate in all activities and sports that are adopted by the River Valley Conference, including soccer.

Bellevue has valued its partnership with Marquette Catholic in soccer and would like to continue this partnership by offering students from Marquette the opportunity to be involved with the Bellevue girls and boys soccer program now and in the future.

The development of a soccer program by the Bellevue CSD has been discussed for several years by the board of education and others and is based on several factors. Some of these factors include the following:

- Soccer is a River Valley Conference activity and the Bellevue CSD is a member of the conference. As a member, the district wants to be fully supportive of the conference and its members.
- A steady increase and involvement of students in our district with youth programs, along with the steady increase of participation of Bellevue High School students in the current shared program.
- Bellevue CSD hosting the programs also offers: A lighted playing field, Later start times to accommodate parents and fans, practice fields, parking, bathrooms, concession stands, irrigation, flood plain relief, field maintenance personnel, and equipment.

In addition, the Bellevue CSD will fund all aspects of the sport, including the payment of coaches and officials, equipment, transportation, jerseys, and all other costs associated with the program.

The Bellevue CSD is eager to move forward with this partnership with Marquette Catholic and the River Valley Conference.

Meyer also provided an update to the board on participation numbers for high school activities that started on Monday, August 8. They include football (32) and volleyball (34). Cross country numbers were not known at the time of the board meeting.

#### **APPROVED - Comet Athletic Boosters and Vendors - COCA-COLA**

As mentioned earlier in the notes, Coca-Cola (Atlantic Bottling Company) is offering to support the scoreboard with a total of \$60,000 over 8 years at \$7500/year. This has an impact on the booster club funds from water rebates, but Meyer believes this can be made up through other pricing changes as well that need to be updated. Along with the aspect that this assists greatly in the scoreboard fundraising aspect.

The scoreboard group will be meeting with vendors to discuss pricing, etc. in the future, and Jeff and I both met with a vendor separately this week to share our plans.

## **APPROVED - IASB Legislative Priorities and Delegate**

The Board selected the IASB Legislative Priorities for the 2023 Legislative Session from IASB. As they do each year, IASB would like our district to choose 3-4 priorities. The previous three year's priorities from the Bellevue CSD are listed below:

August 2022

- Mental Health Support
- Teacher Licensure and Recruitment
- Bond Issues
- Achievement Gap Learning Loss

August 2021

- Mental Health Support
- School Funding Policy
- Bond Issues
- Teacher Licensure and Recruitment

August 2020

- #3 Preschool Funding
- #7 Mental Health Support
- #8 Special Ed Funding
- #18 School Funding Policy

August 2019

- #7 Mental Health Support
- #8 Special Ed Funding
- #19 School Funding Policy
- #21 Bond Issues

Some information about this process from IASB:

*Every spring the government relations team asks school districts to submit legislative priorities and for any changes to the legislative platform for the upcoming legislative session. The feedback received helps the government relations team best position the organization on bills during the legislative session.*

*We hope that you set aside time during your May, June, July, or August board meetings to discuss and then submit your legislative priorities and any changes you would like to see to our legislative platform. As you decide, here are the most frequently asked questions about the process.*

### **WHO DEVELOPS THE RESOLUTIONS?**

*The Legislative Resolutions Committee (LRC) receives feedback from school district submissions from the call for legislative priorities. The LRC reviews all the proposals and recommends legislative beliefs, resolutions, and the priorities for the upcoming legislative session.*

### **WHAT IS THE LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE AND WHAT DOES IT DO?**

*The LRC is made of up school board members and a board member from the Area Education Agencies (AEA) and the community colleges. Board members on the LRC represent school districts of all sizes from Schleswig to Sioux City.*

The LRC meets twice a year during the summer to review and make recommendations on the proposed IASB legislative platform. Once the LRC finalizes its recommendations, it sends those recommendations to the IASB Board of Directors who then reviews and approves the platform. That platform is then sent to delegates to be debated at the IASB Delegate Assembly in November.

**WHAT IS THE DELEGATE ASSEMBLY?**

Delegate Assembly occurs the day before the IASB annual convention. That is where delegates, appointed by their school district, AEA, and community college, debate and vote on the IASB legislative platform for the upcoming year.

**WHAT IS THE TIMELINE FOR THE RESOLUTIONS PROCESS?**

IASB sends out the "Call for Legislative Priorities" in early May. School boards should set aside time during their summer board meetings to review and discuss what priorities they would like to submit, as well as suggest a new or amend a current resolution to the platform. Once they have reviewed the platform boards should submit their list via the link that was sent to the board secretary in May. The deadline to submit legislative priorities is August 12, 2022.

**CAN MY DISTRICT SUBMIT OUR OWN RESOLUTION? HOW?**

You bet! The third page on the questionnaire allows a board to suggest a new resolution or amend a resolution we currently have in our platform. These amendments and new resolutions will then be presented at Delegate Assembly and voted on by the delegates. If you need help with wording or content for a new resolution or amendment, our government relations staff is happy to assist.

**I MISSED THE DEADLINE TO SUBMIT PRIORITIES, CAN I STILL SUBMIT BY DISTRICTS RESOLUTIONS AND PRIORITIES?**

Absolutely! We put a deadline on submissions so IASB staff have time to collect the information and present it to the LRC during their August meeting. The August meeting is where the LRC reviews district submissions and makes its final recommendations on the legislative platform. Last year we heard from over 85% of school districts. Let's get that number higher this year. Even if you miss the deadline, please submit your priorities. We want to hear from every IASB member district!

**OUR BOARD IS SET TO PICK OUR PRIORITIES, BUT WE DO NOT HAVE THE PLATFORM FOR THIS YEAR, HOW DO WE PICK PRIORITIES?**

Your board should review the current platform as a guide to select, amend or add legislative priorities to the 2023 platform.

**IS IT REALLY THAT IMPORTANT TO SUBMIT OUR PRIORITIES? WE ARE BUSY WITH THE OTHER THINGS GOING ON IN OUR DISTRICT.**

Yes! By submitting your legislative priorities, it helps our government relations team better advocate on your behalf. When our lobbyists can inform legislators that 90% of districts who submitted priorities made school funding, mental health, and teacher shortage a priority, that makes an impact with legislators.

**Board Policies**

We have several policies to update as a result of recent legislation and updates in laws as a whole. This is a review this month, with official approval/changes approved at the September Board meeting. These are attached.

## School Finance Update

The district has closed the Fiscal Year, and overall we are in good shape financially. We have a strong Unspent Authorized Budget that is above the amount that places a district in strong standing. Final numbers will be shared in September or October.

### APPROVED - Depositor Banks

Meyer recommended the Bellevue CSD name Bellevue State Bank, Fidelity Bank, ISJIT, and UMB Bank as depositor banks for 2022-2023 school year up to an amount of \$21,000,000. We have done this for several years, and it allows us options in depositing funds.

### APPROVED - Homeless Liaison

The state requires that the district has a homeless liaison to assist children and other youth and their families. Jeanette Hartung-Schroeder has served in this role as needed.

### APPROVED - Partnership School Consortium

Meyer explained the "alternative school" placement for students that is being offered to our district. Meyer shared that while he has held back from joining this consortium for the last several years based on the apparent lack of need, he now believes it is necessary for the future of the Bellevue CSD. The Partnership School in DeWitt provides special services for students who have needs that cannot be met in our district. These are typically related to behavioral issues that impact their learning.

Schools currently in the consortium include the following: DeWitt, Bennett, Cal-Wheat, Camanche, Clinton, Maquoketa, and Northeast. This list may also expand.

## Information Items

### Professional Learning - Staff

I am attaching a summary schedule for staff training. All staff will be here on Tuesday, August 16, but the new staff and TLC members (Instructional Coaches, Mentors, and Model Teachers) will be here on Monday, August 15. You will note that we have a special training for safety with local emergency personnel on Tuesday, August 16 from 9:00-11:30 that is being coordinated by Officer Bud Schroeder. I can also share more information at the meeting on Monday.

### Transportation

The suburban that we approved for purchase from GMC and Till's has officially been ordered in the last two weeks. There was a delay on the company's part as they were not making Suburbans for several months due to supply, workers, and other related issues. But, Till's submitted this the first day possible (great customer service from our local dealer). I would anticipate this being delivered around early winter (that is my estimate).

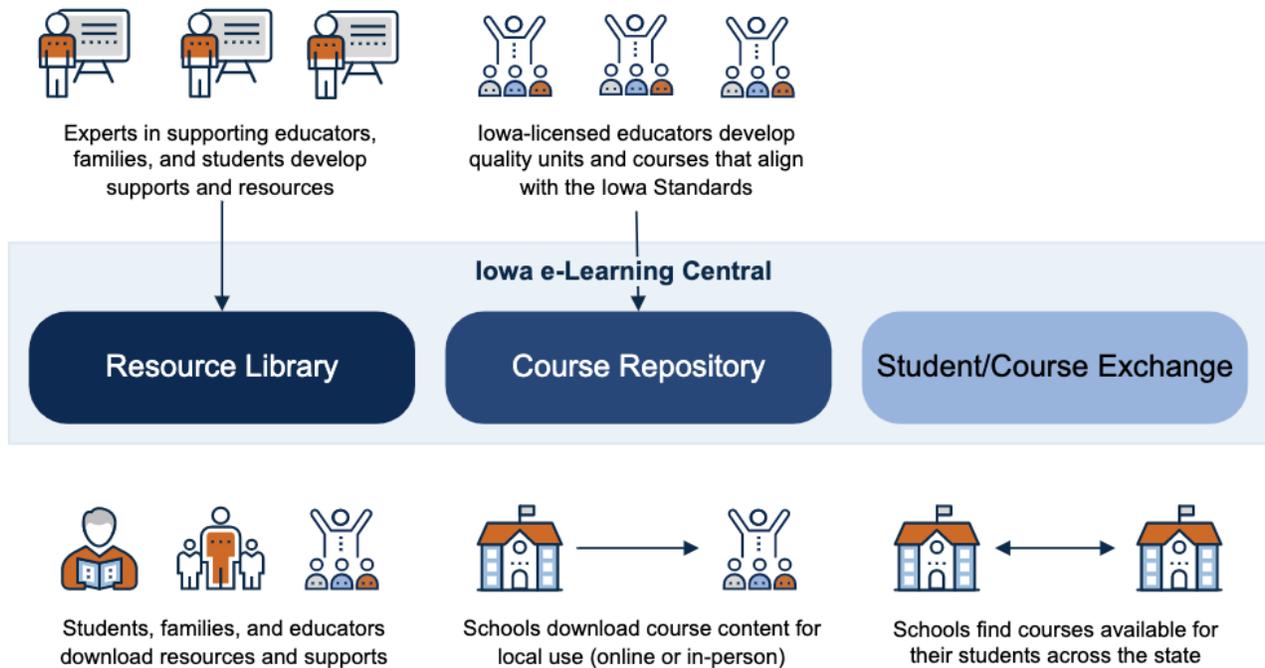
We are also going to need to look for another bus in the near future to keep things updated and "fix" some issues. Tim Roth and I have discussed an electric bus, but right now the cost still seems high. But, there are going to be 1-2 new companies that will specialize in only electric buses and I anticipate an electric bus in our district in the next several years. But...I could also be wrong about that!

### Legislative Updates for Education

On the website is a document from Director Lebo at the Iowa Department of Education, which I have highlighted some of the areas I viewed as more relevant for our district. We can discuss this more at the meeting if you wish. Some of the key areas include the following:

- Shared Operational Functions - Superintendent Specifically
- Teacher Preparation
- Radon Testing
- Athletic Eligibility - Based on Sex
- Medication Access
- IPERS
- State Taxation Payments
- George Washington Carver Day
- Work-Based Learning

One area not mentioned in this document is the Iowa e-Learning Central which can be a resource for staff (and students and parents) on courses in multiple subject and grade level areas K-12.



► [Iowa e-Learning Central Overview and Question/Answer Webinar](#) - Recorded 1-18-22. Provides a brief overview of Iowa e-Learning Central and answers participant questions. [PowerPoint Slides](#)

### Dream Bellevue Endowment

An overview of the Dream Bellevue Endowment is below and on the following pages. Lori Loch, from the Community Foundation of Jackson County and the Dubuque Foundation, is leading this initiative for the betterment of Bellevue. Some specifics include the following:

- Bellevue has the opportunity to receive a \$90,000 endowment challenge grant from an anonymous donor.
- It is a 2:1 match, so the leadership team was challenged with the \$150,000 match.
  - The good news is that they met this goal, and are at \$225,000! As a result, they are rolling out the second phase as a 1:1 community match. This is \$225,000 in the community phase.
- The grand total would be \$450,000 as a permanent endowment for Bellevue specifically.

This endowment will be an investment for Bellevue that will pay out annually for years and years to come. This fund would be specific to Bellevue and bettering our community.

An endowment of \$450,000+ would provide Bellevue with an annual payout of \$20,000+ each year to organizations, projects, schools, etc. to make Bellevue a

Better Community. These funds can be utilized in the future by various groups and organizations in the community, including the schools. One of their first actions is going to be a bike rental for residents and visitors that will be located by the Button Factory area at a cost of \$1 per hour, plus then other costs beyond the first hour. Additionally, Bellevue BIG and the BHS Industrial Tech Department are designing and building a lifejacket and fishing pole rental box when school starts.

I will keep you posted, as I have been kept informed as a result of being engaged as the chair of the Bellevue Hometown Pride Committee.



## **Today, tomorrow, forever**

We want to build a thriving future for the hometown we all love. With your help, we are building a permanent endowment fund of \$450,000, which will pay out over \$20,000 annually to jumpstart new dreams in Bellevue – forever.

## **The challenge**

We were approved for a \$90,000 Small-Town Dreams Initiative Challenge Grant funded by a successful entrepreneur who grew up in Eastern Iowa. Bellevue is the fourth community to successfully apply for the program through the Community Foundation of Greater Dubuque. The \$90,000 challenge grant includes \$75,000 for the endowment and \$15,000 for immediate project grants.

## **How it works**

Dream Bellevue leaders have already raised \$150,000 to meet the first goal of the initiative. Now the whole community is invited to help raise an additional \$225,000. Together with the anonymous donor's \$75,000 endowment gift, our community's \$450,000 endowment will be an annual source of cash to leverage other grants for dreams to come.

## **The impact**

Dream Bellevue leaders will invest the annual payout in new projects to improve our quality of life. Initial ideas include a bike-share program, park improvements, downtown amenities and youth/family recreation.

## Ways to give

You can give through cash, check, credit card, appreciated stock, IRA charitable rollover, life insurance, charitable gift annuity, real estate, gifts of grain, timber or livestock as well as bequests. Every gift is eligible for the 25% Endow Iowa Tax Credit.

**Please consider a meaningful gift to the Dream Bellevue Endowment.**

## Our leadership team



*From left:*

Lucy Zeimet, 563-599-7566

Allen Ernst, 563-581-9197

Tim Daugherty, 563-872-4911

Abbey Skrivseth, 563-872-4456

Bob Ploessl, 563-495-3980

Molly Ploessl, 563-495-2267

Lori Loch, 563-451-0466

Wade Bormann, 712-552-7094

Lyn Medinger, 563-542-3911

## Here for you

### **Lori Loch**

Executive Director

*Community Foundation of Jackson County*

lori@dbqfoundation.org | 563.451.0466

dbqfoundation.org/dreambellevue

### **MJ Smith**

Director of Affiliate Foundations

*Community Foundation of Greater Dubuque*

mj@dbqfoundation.org | 563.880.9992

## IASB Convention

Thursday, November 17, 2022, is the annual convention/conference, with the pre-conference on Wednesday, November 16, 2022.

## New Staff Welcoming

River Ridge on Thursday, August 18 from 7:15-8:30.

## 50 Years of Comet Football

This season marks the 50th year of Comet Football. On Friday, August 26 the Comets play Northeast, and the first Bellevue HS football team will be recognized (along with all former players through the years). All players have been invited, and we anticipate this to be a night of good attendance. Rick Pogemiller has worked with both Chet Knake and Matt Jaeger in coordinating this event. Players will be introduced before the game, and the first team will have a dinner for them provided by the Boosters at 5:30 at the football field concession stand.

Additionally, the scoreboard fundraiser will be asking for donations. Money is being raised, and is off to a good start. I will provide more details at the meeting.

The following was sent by Rick Pogemiller to the Reunion Team (1972) on Wednesday and gives an outlined agenda:

*Date: Friday, August 26*

*Agenda: picnic provided by Athletic Boosters at 5:30 for players and spouses. You don't need to bring anything.*

*Admission: You and your spouse will gain free admission just identify yourselves at the ticket window as a member of the reunion team.*

*Game Seating: Seating will be provided for you and your spouse in the south end zone.*

*Game Time: 7 pm Comets vs Northeast Goose Lake*

*Team Introduction: Members will be introduced at halftime.*

*I have to tell you I have totally enjoyed making contact with everyone, and learning where you are in the world right now. Some of you shared stories and memories of that '72 season that I enjoyed reading about. I am so pumped about seeing some of you at the game.*

*Once again please let me know if you can attend. If you change your mind later and decide to come, that's fine.*

*Coach Poge*

**Comments from the building principals, superintendent, and school board members**

- We are proceeding with the heater for the elementary school gym. The cost for this is \$9970. Brett did some research on this price, and it appears to be a fair price. A difficulty with this is that it goes (and needs to) on the ceiling and an electric lift cannot be moved into the gym so scaffolding and more manpower are needed to replace this.
- At the last board meeting, it was brought up why our bill at the elementary school is more than at the MS/HS building. After looking at bills and timing, it appears it is a result of the boiler system at the elementary school and its use of more water.
- In recent years we utilized the golf cart of Dave Wright during football games, track meets, etc. outside. With Dave leaving we are in need of a "vehicle" like this, but I also do not want to spend a lot of money. I have been looking at used carts right now and trying to find a reasonable price.

**Adjourn**

The next meeting will be on Monday, September 12 @ 6:30