

# The Weekly Comet

From Dr. Tom Meyer, Superintendent of the Bellevue Community School District

*Believe In The Blue! Believe In Bellevue!*

## A "Comet-Like" Hot Start to the Year

While a "Comet" can be hot in our solar system and atmosphere, the weather has also been extremely warm in Bellevue and across the state for our "Comets" in the school district. Fortunately, the district is equipped well in most areas of our buildings with air conditioning - minus the elementary gym, industrial tech building, and some smaller areas in the elementary building. While some of our classrooms "warmed-up" this week due to the heat, and some air conditioners not able to "keep up" as well as others in the spaces they have to cover, our students and staff were able to stay in school during the 110+ heat index temperatures.

Outdoor high school practices were moved to the morning, or into the Bellevue swimming pool for cross country on Wednesday. MS football practice adjusted their plans after school to stay out of the heat as well. Hopefully, the rest of the year our students will not have to deal with the extreme and unique heat that has been present for the start of the school year.

## New Staff in the District

The Bellevue Community School District did not have any teachers leave the district for the 2023-2024 school year, but we did add other staff members in the district office and in the Bellevue Elementary and the Bellevue Middle/High School.

### Bellevue Community School District Office

•Abbey Skrivseth is the new School Business Official. She has been working collaboratively with Penny Medinger, who will officially retire the end of September.

### Bellevue Elementary

•Mathew Schmidt - Night Custodian  
•Nicole Kremer - Associate  
•Danielle Reimers - Associate

### Bellevue Middle/High School

•Tamie Kilburg - Night Custodian

The district takes significant pride in our outstanding staff in all areas, and the district needs each and every person in order for the district to educate each and every student on a daily basis. Everyone is Essential!

## Books

The next page shares the school district process in reviewing our library books and other curricular materials in our school system to meet recent state legislation. Ultimately, the district strives to provide outstanding curricular learning opportunities for our students and will continue to do this for the benefit of our students.

## Upcoming Events, Early Dismissals, and "No School" Days

- September 4 - No School - Labor Day
- September 13 - 2-Hour Early Dismissal - Teacher Professional Learning
- September 13 - Community Open House to View Plans for the new 3-5 Bellevue Elementary School - 6:30-7:30
- September 29 - PK-12 Homecoming Assembly at Bellevue MS/HS
- September 29 - Homecoming Parade - 2:45
- October 18 & 19 - Parent-Teacher Conferences - 2-Hour Early Dismissal
- Conference Times
  - October 18 3:30-8:00
  - October 19 1:30-6:00
- Dec 22 - Jan. 3 - Winter Break



**SUPERINTENDENT**

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**BELLEVUE COMETS**  
COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

To: Parents of Students in the Bellevue Community School District  
From: Dr. Tom Meyer, Superintendent  
Re: Age-Appropriate Materials  
Date: August 16, 2023

The Bellevue Community School District is always working to provide our students with the best possible educational opportunities in all areas, including academic areas and beyond. Recent legislation at the state level has prompted the BCSD to review, analyze, and evaluate various curricular materials utilized by our staff and made available to our students.

Specifically, new legislation specifies that all materials should be age-appropriate for specific students and grade levels by no later than January 1, 2024. The state defines "age-appropriate" to mean topics, messages, and teaching methods suitable to particular ages or age groups of children and adolescents based on developing cognitive, emotional, and behavioral capacities typical for the age or group. The Bellevue CSD authentically believes the materials we provide our students are age-appropriate at the different levels and meet these requirements when they are added to our district libraries or classrooms. Yet, we have taken note of this legislation and are investigating some potential changes to ensure we are meeting the state's legal requirements.

As a result, the district will continue to evaluate our materials in the libraries, along with an evaluation of classroom materials. Decisions will be based upon information from the district's legal counsel, input from the Iowa Department of Education, and collaboration with our district administration and teacher representatives.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at the school district office at 563.872.4001 or by email at [tommeyer@bellevue.k12.ia.us](mailto:tommeyer@bellevue.k12.ia.us)

**BELIEVE IN THE BLUE**

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