

The Weekly Comet Update

From Tom Meyer, Superintendent of the Bellevue Community School District

Believe in the Blue! Believe in Learning! Believe in Bellevue!

Events on the Calendar

- April 12-April 23 - The Iowa State Assessments of Student Progress for students in grades 3-12 are continuing into next week, and possibly further as a result of make-up tests for students who were absent. Thanks for your help in this process, as the district utilizes these scores to recognize strengths and areas of improvement in our instruction, along with providing needed support to students based on the results and other learning data throughout the year.
- April 28: 2-Hour Early Dismissal for Teacher Professional Learning
- May 17: 6-12 Band Concert
- May 18: 6-12 Vocal Concert
- May 25: High School Awards Night
- May 28: Last Day of School for the 2021-2022 School Year.
- May 28: "Beyond the Blue" Reception for recipients: Steve Griebel, Nancy Kieffer (Roling), Greg Schulte, and Art Sunleaf
- May 29: Bellevue CSD Graduation
- July 25-August 1: No School Activities as sanctioned by the state athletic and fine arts programs; Buildings will be closed to students during this time period.
- August 2 & 3: School Registration
- August 9: Fall Athletic Practices Start for the 2021-2022 school year
- August 23: 1st Day of School for the 2021-2022 School Year (Tentatively Scheduled)

Prom and Graduation

Graduation and Prom are upcoming, with Prom on May 1 at Horizon Hall and Graduation in the West Gym/Stage on Saturday, May 28. In regard to attendance at this time for both during the pandemic, the district has worked to make these events happen. While they may not be "the same" as some years, we are excited to offer these events to our students and families. Some basic details are below:

Prom - Juniors and Seniors can bring other Juniors and Seniors from other schools or a guest who has graduated (21 or under). This is limiting attendance from its normal amount in attendance, and will make the facility more compatible for COVID guidelines. All in attendance will be required to wear a mask except when eating and when 6-feet or more apart (this includes a mask while dancing).

Graduation - We are finding out how many people will be attending for graduates in their families (specifically parents, grandparents, and siblings - including potential spouses of siblings). At one point we going to limit it to this number, but are now allowing anyone to attend, but we will seat parents, grandparents, and siblings of graduates together. Masks will be required, as social distancing will be limited (although we will have families, as described earlier, sit together).

DARE Role Models to 5th Grade Students



DARE role models from the senior class presented 5th grade students at Bellevue Elementary on the dangers of the use of alcohol and other drugs. They provided outstanding insight on making good choices! Those participating were Allison Wright, Sam Dunne, Teresa Paulsen, and Brady Griebel.

School Board LOWERS the Tax Rate

As I mentioned last week, property tax rates will be lowered for our residents from 10.8840 to 10.8732 per \$1000. This follows a trend in our district, where we have consistently lowered the rates over the last several years. In comparison, our rate in 2016 was 12.2979 (this is a difference of over \$1.42 on the normal rate).

FY21 10.8840

FY22 10.8732

Bellevue Community School District

We believe real world learning opportunities build passionate and engaging experiences for student success in life.

Enrollment

9.6

Percent increase in Bellevue CSD enrollment since 2015.

22.4

Percent increase in Bellevue Elementary enrollment since 2015.

40.0

Percent increase in preschool enrollment since 2015.

Graduation Rate

98

Percent of students graduate in four years.

91

Percent is the average rate statewide.

Family Connection

99

Percent

of families connected to school, learning, and activities of their children through Seesaw, Google Classroom, Facebook, Twitter, and more.

Class Sizes

7:1

Student to staff ratio at 3 and 4 year old preschool.

13:1

Student to teacher ratio at 3 and 4 year old preschool.

18:1

Student to teacher ratio in grades K-5.

22

Average core course size at Bellevue Middle School.

23

Average core course size at Bellevue High School.

15

Average size of all classes combined at Bellevue MS/HS.

After School Programming

15

Amount of after school programs offered annually at Bellevue Elementary through the Comets After-School Program for Students.

College Courses

1300

Over 1300 college credits are completed annually by BHS students.

18

Average college credits earned by BHS graduates.

77

Percent of Bellevue HS students receiving an "A" or "B" in college courses.

3.17

Average GPA in college courses by Bellevue HS students.

ACT Scores

100

Percent of students required to take the ACT at BHS.

\$0

Cost for students and families to take the ACT test.

22.1

Average ACT score over the last 5 years in relation to the state average number of students taking the test.

21.7

Average state ACT score.

Technology

700+

The amount of devices for student at Bellevue Elementary and MS/HS.

380+

Chromebooks and Macbooks sent home with students each day for learning.

300+

Student Chromebooks and iPads at Bellevue Elementary.

Bellevue BIG

30

Number of BHS students annually who participate in a passion-based learning program focused on student interests benefiting the school, community, area, and beyond.

Created by: Jack Kirk

6th Grade Student at BCSD

The primary aim of education is not for students to do well in school, but to help them do well in their lives outside of school.

