

The Weekly Comet Update

From Tom Meyer, Superintendent of the Bellevue Community School District

Believe In The Blue! Believe In Learning! Believe In Bellevue!

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

- October 12 & 13 - 2-Hour Early Dismissal; Parent-Teacher Conferences from 3:30-8:00
- October 14 - No School
- October 28 - "Trunk or Treat" Bellevue Elementary PAC Event for Bellevue Elementary Students and Parents
- October 31 - No School for Students; Teacher Professional Learning
- November 9 - 2-Hour Early Dismissal for Teacher Professional Learning
- November 23-27 - No School - Thanksgiving Break
- December 22 - January 4 - Winter Break. - No School for Students
- January 5 - School Resumes for Students - Start of 2nd Semester

Parent-Teacher Conferences

Reminder: Parent-Teacher Conferences are next week on Wednesday, October 12 and Thursday, October 13 (No School on Friday, October 14). Conferences are scheduled ahead of time at Bellevue Elementary with specific conference times, while conferences at the Bellevue Middle/High School are "open" for parents to attend at any time to meet with any of the students multiple teachers from 3:30-8:00 each day of conferences. If you have questions, please contact the appropriate school office at 563.872.4001.

What the Flag Means to Me



Jimmy Kilburg and Chuck Kueter from the Bellevue American Legion visited 5th grade students last week to kick off the annual "What the Flag Means to Me" essay writing contest. They also shared information on flag etiquette and what the individual folds mean when folding a flag.

Shooting Stars - Bellevue Youth Wrestling Program

On the reverse side is an informational letter in regard to the Bellevue Shooting Stars Youth Wrestling Program. Some highlights from the letter include the following:

- The program begins on October 31
- The program is FREE
- Wrestling is for both boys and girls, and girls wrestling is sanctioned at the high school level recently in the state of Iowa
- This program for youth is starting its 11th year in the district.

Safe Environments

The district works to maintain a safe environment for students and staff, this includes the physical entrances to the buildings, rules and regulations within the schools, and specific behaviors and expectations for students in our system overall. The district has enhanced safeguards in our schools this school year, and will continue training for our staff (and students) during this school year.

The district also wants to assure that the environment in the schools is safe for our students. As a result, periodically, in conjunction with law enforcement officials the school district will conduct K-9 maintenance searches. Student lockers, desks, the parking lot, and other storage areas owned by the school district and used by students can and will be inspected. Student bags may also be placed in hallways or common areas and searched by K-9 units as well. Trained law enforcement officials will conduct these inspections.



Bellevue Wrestling

It's that time of year again. Wrestling season. I would like to invite your family to check out our youth wrestling program at Bellevue Community Schools. This will be our eleventh season of offering our successful Shooting Stars practices. Our program has seen some extraordinary success during this time: seventeen AAU state tournament qualifiers with four state place winners, 2020 champion, Casey Tath.

Come and join us on October 31 as we start our newest season. Our goals for your child will be to learn self-confidence, how to deal with adversity, provide additional physical activity, and develop some basic skills in the sport of wrestling. As always, participation is free! Many programs in our area charge up to \$60 for membership, but we are committed to creating a total program for our sport and we believe it begins with our youth program, not paying numerous fees to participate.

Wrestling is not just for boys. Currently girls wrestling is one of the fastest growing sports in the state of Iowa and the rest of the country. With the IGHSAU sanctioning of girls wrestling for championship status, and the University of Iowa adding women's wrestling in 2023, we want our Bellevue girls to be able to compete with other girls from across the state in a safe and welcoming environment. In addition to regular practices on Monday nights, we will offer a girls only session on Tuesday nights for your daughters in K-6th grade.

Instruction will be led by the high school coaching staff, including David Ripperger. Coach Ripperger has been involved with wrestling for over 40 years and brings nearly 30 years of coaching experience to Bellevue. Members of the high school team will also be sharing their knowledge of this great sport with your youngsters.

Practice will be Monday and Tuesday nights. All practices will take in the Bellevue Wrestling room located at the high school. Each practice will last one hour:

Monday Nights open to all wrestlers (boys and girls)

- Instruction this night will include technique of the week and drilling with games.
- K through 2nd grade only will meet 6 pm to 7 pm
- 3rd through 6th grade only will meet 7 pm to 8 pm

Tuesday Nights more intense training (optional)

- Girls only will meet from 6 pm to 7 pm
- Bellevue Elite for 3rd through 6th graders who show more interest in the sport and want additional practice time with more emphasis on live wrestling

All your student needs to bring is athletic clothing, non-street shoes or wrestling shoes, and a willingness to learn.

We do ask that all parents bring in any old singlets and shoes that no longer fit for the first practice. We can use this opportunity for an equipment swap.

Be looking for our apparel webstore that will be featuring clothing to support the team. We will have singlets available to purchase for your child on that webstore.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact Coach Ripperger at (515) 865-7691 or message the team via Facebook at Bellevue (IA) Comet Wrestling or on Twitter @Comet_Wrestling. We are looking forward to seeing you October 31.