



Bett Pride

Bettendorf Community School District
Community Newsletter
V. 20 No. 2 January 2020
www.bettendorf.k12.ia.us

**Passion
Purpose
Pride!**

"It's been amazing to watch the input that was gathered from the staff, students, and the community in the planning process come to fruition. We've received so much positive feedback from our families and students. They love the new building!"

Caroline Olson, Principal



New Mark Twain Fast Facts

GRADES	PreK-5
SECTIONS	3 (Previously 2)
STUDENT CAPACITY	450+ (Previously 350)
SQUARE FOOTAGE	TOTAL 65,800 SF (Previously 44,555 SF)
CLASSROOMS	PreK-K: 1,000+ SF Grades 1-5: 900+ SF Gymnasium: 6,000 SF (Previous cafeteria/gym 2,400 SF) Commons: 3,900 SF (Previously no commons area)
PROJECT COST	\$16.5 million
FOCUS ON FLEXIBILITY	- Many multipurpose areas - Energy-efficient HVAC system - More space devoted to student learning needs - New school was built adjacent to the old school; the old school was demolished to provide expanded parking, playgrounds and greenspace

Investing in Educational Environments MT Students & Staff Steam into the New Year in Their New School

The Bettendorf Community School District celebrated the completion of the new Mark Twain Elementary school with a ribbon-cutting and open house on Friday, January 3rd. Current and past Mark Twain students, staff and families, as well as area community members and neighbors, filled the new gym and commons area to listen to speakers and the Mark Twain Steamboat Singers before the QC Chamber Ambassador ribbon cutting. After the cheers celebrating the opening of the new school, the crowd dispersed throughout the spacious new school to explore two levels of classrooms and offices.

"Our new library is beautiful and open. There is space for everyone and everyone can find a place to be comfortable."

Erin Waldron-Smith, Teacher Librarian



The students came back from winter break on January 6, continuing the year in their new 65,800 square foot school.

The new school was funded through the resident Physical Plant and Equipment Levy (PPEL) property tax and Secure an Advanced Vision for Education (SAVE) local option sales tax. Thank you to all those who live in our boundaries and shop in Iowa for helping invest in school infrastructure!



I like it a lot! The playground is really nice and cool. My favorite parts are the pods and the library."

4th Grade Student

Outside the classrooms on both floors, there are generous learning pods, multipurpose areas for collaborative opportunities and small group instruction.

The 21st-century classrooms are equipped with touch screen Promethean ActivePanels, whiteboards, flexible seating, and generous spacing. They each have natural light overlooking the Mark Twain campus. The north classrooms face the tree-lined Duck Creek along a curved exterior wall. The south-facing classrooms overlook the expanded parking lot bordered by a two-level playground area and trees. The new Mark Twain Library also has an incredible view both outside and in. It tops the learning stairs that flow into the commons and gym. Its large window panels also overlook the tree-lined Duck Creek.

"I'm so proud of our staff for the way they handled the transition and carried on with teaching and learning as well as helping each other. It's wonderful to see such great teamwork in action."

Caroline Olson, Principal



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The Pride community newsletter is sent to all residents of the Bettendorf Community School District without charge. Comments and suggestions from patrons are welcome. Contact Celeste R. Miller, Director of Communications, (563) 359-3681 or email cmiller@bettendorf.k12.ia.us.

Mike Raso, Superintendent
www.bettendorf.k12.ia.us

Mark Your Calendar
Kindergarten Round-Up
March 6



Children residing in the Bettendorf Community School District who will be five years old on or before September 15, 2020, should plan to attend Kindergarten Round-Up at their neighborhood school on Friday, March 6.

Kindergarten Round-Up provides an opportunity for parents & students to meet the teachers/principal and see their home school. Parents and students receive a brief overview of the kindergarten program and its academic/social expectations. Attendance also helps the district plan for the next year's staffing.

Parents can preregister students during Kindergarten Round-Up if they have their child's proof of birth and appropriate proof of residency.

Parents MUST attend Round-Up at their HOME attendance center. Please allow 60-90 minutes for Kindergarten Round-Up.

Learn more @ www.bettendorf.k12.ia.us

Grant Wood Elementary - 8:45 am
 1423 Hillside Dr. - (563) 359-8277

Herbert Hoover Elementary - 8:45 am - A-K | 10 am - L-Z
 3223 S. Hampton Dr. - (563) 332-8636

Mark Twain Elementary - 8:45 am - A-K | 10 am - L-Z
 1620 Lincoln Rd. - (563) 359-8263

Neil Armstrong Elementary - 9 am
 3311 Central Ave. - (563) 359-8275

Paul Norton Elementary - 8:45 am - A-K | 10 am - L-Z
 4485 Greenbrier Dr. - (563) 332-8936

Bett District Update

Passion . . . Purpose . . . Pride

Sign up for Bett District Update - the district's weekly e-newsletter for parents, staff and community. Send your email to cmiller@bettendorf.k12.ia.us.

Linking learning to life with

PASSION PURPOSE & PRIDE

so that all students can

MAKE A POSITIVE DIFFERENCE



Nondiscrimination Notice

It is the policy of the Bettendorf Community School District not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, religion, creed, age (for employment), marital status (for programs), sexual orientation, gender identity and socioeconomic status (for programs) in its educational programs and its employment practices. There is a grievance procedure for processing complaints of discrimination.

If you have questions or a grievance related to this policy contact Jillian Dotson, Director of Curriculum & Affirmative Action Coordinator, District Administration Center 3311 18 St., Bettendorf, (563) 359-3681 or jdotson@bettendorf.k12.ia.us.

Bett STEM EXPO

Science • Technology Engineering Math

Science FUN for the whole family!
 And it's **FREE!**

Saturday
January 25, 2020
11 am - 2 pm

Bettendorf Middle School
 2030 Middle Rd., Bettendorf

FEATURING INTERACTIVE DISPLAYS for KIDS

The Bett STEM Expo is an annual event featuring fun and educational science, technology, engineering, and math activities for kids. The event is free and open to all children and their families.

Some of the activities involved include hands-on experiments and displays including:

- A Sound Idea
- Absolute Science
- Beekeeping
- BHS Science Club
- Birds of Prey
- Bubbles
- Coding Music
- Experience Manufacturing
- Exploring the Heart
- Hovercrafts & Science Toys
- I-74 Virtual Reality Program
- John Deere VR Welding
- Junior Medical School
- Living Lands & Water
- Make Your Own Ice Cream
- Math Puzzle/Logic Maze
- Medics
- Meteorology
- Nahant Marsh
- National Council for Science Education
- Park Rangers
- Physical Therapy Obstacle Course
- Physician Assistant Exhibit
- Physics of a Spiral Pass
- PrISUM Solar Car
- Recycling Challenge
- SAU Chemistry Club
- Science of Sports
- Scientific Illustration
- STEAM Circuit
- Stomp Rockets
- Stormwater
- Text Neck, A Heavyweight Problem
- Tropical Plants & US
- Victory VR
- Whole Food/Plant Based



Bettendorf Community Schools Foundation 2020 Visiting Science Scholar Kelsey (Klein) Sundet

Architect
BHS Class of 2001

The Bettendorf Community Schools Foundation's 2020 Science Scholar, Kelsey (Klein) Sundet, will be a special guest at the Bett STEM Expo. Kelsey is a 2001 graduate of Bettendorf High School. She also attended Herbert Hoover Elementary School and Bettendorf Middle School. Kelsey has an undergraduate degree in interior design at Minnesota State University in Mankato, MN and a Masters of Architecture and Masters of Community and Regional Planning from Iowa State University. She currently works at BRR Architecture, Inc. in Kansas City as an account lead for their office environment team, and oversees the design, production and construction administration for projects nationwide.



Helping Students Prepare for Their Futures Future Ready & Portrait of a Graduate

The Bettendorf Board of Education recently reviewed and approved the district's adoption of a Future Ready and Portrait of a Graduate (POG) plan.

Future Ready

Future Ready is a state initiative to help provide students the opportunity to explore their options for their future. Our high school Future Ready Coach Haleigh Hoyt and counselors use Individual Career and Academic Plan (ICAP) to intentionally guide students in their exploration of careers as well as academic and postsecondary opportunities beyond high school. Students reflect on their strengths, skills, and interests and how they can use them to identify a career goal. During their high school experience the students explore five specific components:

- Self-Understanding (Freshmen - Goal Setting, Planning for Goals, Interest Assessment)
- Career Information (Sophomore - Career Days, Career Clusters and Assessments)
- Career Exploration (Junior- Career Expo, Job Shadows)
- Post-secondary Exploration (Junior- College Visits, Military Nights)
- Career & Postsecondary Decision. (Senior Year - 4-Year College, 2-Year College, Trade School, Workforce, Military; Celebrating Students' Decisions)

8th through 12th-grade students also have Virtual Job Shadow, a web-based tool to empower them to discover, plan and pursue their dream

through a video-based career planning platform.

Portrait of a Graduate

For the past year, Bettendorf Community School District has been collaborating with students, families, community, business, and industry partners to develop a Portrait of a Graduate. Portrait of a Graduate is a vision that describes the knowledge, skills, and dispositions our graduates will possess when they move on to successful college, career, and/or civic lives.

The Portrait of a Graduate Committee consisting of students, teachers, parents, and community members has been leading this work. Mississippi Bend Area Education Agency Consultant Andrea Stewart has provided support by facilitating the committee through this process.

The committee has identified five competencies that are the foundation of the district's vision to help all our students be successful.

- Critical Thinking
- Self-Direction and Growth Mindset
- Communication and Collaboration
- Social-Emotional Skills and Responsibility
- Interdisciplinary and Global Knowledge

With the recent board adoption, the district is now working to integrate these competencies into PK-12 curriculum. The leadership team is working with:

- Professional Learning Communities (PLCs) - instructional coaches and curriculum professional development teacher leaders focusing on standards and assessment as well as interventions and enrichment opportunities for students.



The POG committee worked with Bettendorf High School art students to develop a graphic for the initiative. The final graphic integrated concepts from multiple students' designs.

- Portrait of an Educator (POE) Advisory - Helping teachers learn how to teach it and measure it.
- Student Services Advisory - Our counselors will be focusing on social-emotional skills and responsibility.
- ICAP Advisory - The Future Ready Individual Career and Academic Planning Program.



The Mission of the Bettendorf Community Schools Foundation is to enhance the educational opportunities for our students.

Website

www.foundation.bettendorf.k12.ia.us

Facebook

www.facebook.com/BettFoundation

Recognizing Successful BHS Graduates in STEM Careers 2020 BCSD Visiting Science Scholar Kelsey Sundet



The Bettendorf Community Schools Foundation is proud to announce the 2020 Visiting Science Scholar – Kelsey (Klein) Sundet, Architect, BHS Class of 2001.

The program features role models for high school students thinking of entering a career in the fields of science, technology, engineering and/or math. Sundet will be presenting to and visiting with Bettendorf High School students on Friday, Jan. 24. On Saturday, Jan. 25, she will be featured at the Bett STEM Expo at Middle School 11 am - 2 pm.

In addition to Bettendorf High School, Kelsey attended Herbert Hoover Elementary and Bettendorf Middle School. She was an athlete on the Bettendorf High School Swim Team and a four-time state qualifier. After high school, Kelsey received her undergraduate degree in interior design and swam at Minnesota State University in Mankato, MN and then moved on to Iowa State University, where she received her Masters of Architecture and Masters of Community and Regional Planning.

In 2009, Kelsey moved to Kansas City, Missouri. She began working at BRR Architecture, Inc. in 2010 and has remained with the firm since. Kelsey is an account lead for their office environment team and oversees the design, production and construction administration for projects nationwide. She is well versed in remodeling, adaptive re-use, new construction, and tenant improvement projects, ranging from 3,000 to up to 100,000 square feet. She has worked with both local and national brands building client relationships and leads a team on a day-to-day basis to implement solutions around the requirements and challenges specific to office environment project types.

The BCSD Visiting Scholar Program was started through a sizable donation to the Bettendorf Community Schools Foundation by a Bettendorf graduate to be used to recognize BHS graduates who have gone on to secure successful careers in a field of science as well as recognize the impact of the late Donald Schaefer, a retired Bettendorf High School science teacher.

The Bettendorf Community Schools Foundation works to enhance the educational opportunities for the students of the Bettendorf Community School District through the development and disbursement of funds. For more information about the Bettendorf Community Schools Foundation, contact Michelle LeMoine, Director of Administration & Outreach (563) 359-3681, ext. 3094.

Pride Grant (BHS) Highlights

National History Day

This grant will purchase supplies for exhibit boards and documentaries that students prepare for the regional and national competitions. Some funds will also be used for entrance fees at the competitions.

Poetry Coffeehouse

This grant will purchase coffee mugs, carafes, and other coffee supplies to support this PRIDE where students share poetry and learn in an accepting and affirming environment.

Crocheting Mats for the Homeless

This grant funds supplies (scissors and hooks) for teaching students to make mats for the homeless. Plastic bags will be cut to make 'yarn' and then the yarn will be crocheted into mats and given to King's Harvest Homeless Shelter.

Fall Innovative Grant Highlights

Partnering with Community Role Models at Edison Academy and BHS

The Power of Positivity

Through the grant, a contract was written to have T.C. Boyd, a QC based motivational speaker hold 8 sessions with at-risk students. Some sessions will be round table style and some large group.

Pop-Up Learning Spaces

From Intervention to Enrichment at BHS; Recent population growth at BHS has resulted in space challenges for holding small group interventions and having appropriate classroom space for content support and enrichment activities. The grant money will be used to purchase supplies which will aid in creating unique learning areas within the existing BHS space. One of the five pop-up spaces will be located in the Math Wing hallway.

Letters from Home at GW

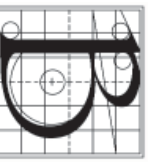
Letters from Home will provide on-going communication to students from their school "home" in the form of postcards. Faculty and staff will write the postcards to students to foster positive home-school relationships.

Project-Based Learning Podcasts for 8th grade ELA and Science students

There are two such Project-Based Learning opportunities each school year. The grant purchased microphones to aid the students in making their podcasts for these projects.

Grant Wood Parent University

The goal of this grant is to better communicate and collaborate with parents to enhance students' supports both at school and at home by hosting interactive presentations focused on literacy, math, social, emotional and behavioral skills.



Bettendorf Community School District
 Administration Center
 3311 18th St.
 Bettendorf, IA 52722

www.bettendorf.k12.ia.us
 Mike Raso, Superintendent

Board of Education
 Adam Holland, President
 Andrew Champion, Vice President
 Paul Castro
 Joanna Doerder
 Rebecca Eastman
 Richard Lynch
 Michael Pyevich

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Bettendorf Board of Education At the Board Meeting

Board agendas, minutes and audio files of the board meetings are available online at www.bettendorf.k12.ia.us/board.

Board Meeting Live Stream

Check out the live stream of our public board meetings on our district YouTube channel - www.youtube.com/BettSchools

January 6, 2020

SPECIAL INVITED GUESTS

Q & A with Local Legislator

Legislators Gary Mohr, Roby Smith and Phyllis Thede had an open discussion about concerns and opportunities.

BOARD COMMENDATIONS

SEISTA Honor Orchestra

Directors recognized the 32 BCSD students selected to perform in the SEISTA Honor Orchestra. SEISTA Honor Orchestra is a one-day honor string orchestra experience in South Eastern Iowa hosted at Bettendorf High School. There are three orchestras: High School, Middle School, and Cadet (upper elementary and lower middle school students).

Preston Martens Places 4th in US Finals for the International German Olympics

Directors recognized BHS Sophomore Preston Martens for his participation in the U.S. finals for the 2020 International German Olympics. Preston placed 4th in his category of students with two-years or less of German.

CONSENT AGENDA

Donation for School Lunch Accounts

Directors approved a \$2,000 donation to the district for negative student lunch balance accounts. *Thank you to our generous donors!*

Bettendorf Board of Education

Front row (left to right) - Joanna Doerder, Andrew Champion and Rebecca Eastman

Back row - Richard Lynch, Adam Holland, Michael Pyevich, and Paul Castro



DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

Facility Update

Directors discussed planning for future projects for Thomas Edison and Herbert Hoover Elementary with Curt Pratt, director of operations. A variety of options for both were discussed.

The discussions regarding Thomas Edison, the Bettendorf High School alternative high school, involved moving the program from its current location in the old post office to a newly built facility on the Middle School campus, as well as leasing or buying a building. The district will pursue a Request For Proposals (RFP) for program design from architects.

The primary project at Herbert Hoover includes additional security for the school entrance and office renovation, as well as the potential of classroom additions and renovations. The budget and scope of the project will be further defined as the district completes the Mark Twain project billing and the Thomas Edison project.

2020-21 At-Risk Budget

Director of Finance Brietta Collier led the board through a discussion of Modified Supplemental Amount (MSA) for the At-Risk budget. The proposal gives the district the cash to support their spending authority. Directors approved a maximum MSA of \$1,241,951 to support the 2020/21 Board approved At-Risk Program.

Bettendorf Board of Education Superintendent Search

The Bettendorf Community School District is working with Ray & Associates to hire a new superintendent. The deadline for applications was January 5. There were 44 applicants for the position. Ray and Associates is currently screening and vetting the candidates. They plan to bring 8-12 applicants to the Bettendorf School Board for their consideration at a closed session on January 21. The top candidates will have closed session interviews with the board on January 28 and 29. The school board plans to bring two finalists in for stakeholder and board interviews, as well as community forums on Thursday, February 6.

Superintendent Candidate

Community Forums

6-8 pm - Thursday, Feb. 6

Mark Twain Elementary- 1620 Lincoln Rd.

As part of our Superintendent search process, the Bettendorf Community School District School Board invites the public to open forums with the two finalists. The open forum for Candidate I will be held 6-6:50 pm. The open forum for Candidate II will be held 7-7:50 pm.

During the event, attendees will have an opportunity to ask questions of the candidates and otherwise get a chance to know the candidates.