

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Following the failure of the May 7, 2019 ballot issue, the Bellbrook-Sugarcreek Schools Board of Education began the tough work of identifying cuts and reductions that the district will have to make. Below is information that outlines the cuts and reductions that we must make as a district for the 2019-20 school year. The cuts include:

- Districtwide reductions to teaching and staff positions
- Cuts to transportation staff and reduction in bus routes
- Reductions to building and technology budgets
- Reduction from the district budget to the district's athletics budget
- No school bus purchases to replace the older buses on the district's fleet

As district families, these cuts could affect you more deeply; therefore, I would like to provide you with specifics, as I outlined them in my presentation during the June 13 Board meeting. We will:

- Implement a Transportation Ineligibility Zone, which will decrease the number of bus routes and move BCI to the same bell schedule as BHS. We will also reduce our transportation staff by 5 full-time and 6 part time bus drivers. More information will be coming out if you are in the Transportation Ineligibility Zone.
- Adjust the start and end times at all buildings as follows:
 - BMS - 7:50am-2:50pm
 - BCI & BHS - 8am-3:00pm
 - SB - 9:05am-3:55pm
 - Preschool - AM: 9:20am-11:50am, PM: 1:15pm-3:45pm
- Reduce staff, including three aides in addition to two cafeteria aides at BMS. We will also not hire an additional Intervention Specialist as proposed in our last 5-year forecast and we will not replace the music teacher at BMS/BHS or the custodian at BMS.
- Remove one section of All Day Every Day Kindergarten
- Remove Digital Literacy at Stephen Bell and Bell Creek Intermediate as a specials class and add it to the regular classroom.
- Reduce the number of periods Bellbrook Digital Academy is offered at BHS.
- We will reduce the spending budgets across all buildings, which could affect the resources available in the classrooms.

As I have stated before, we know that cuts hurt. Identifying cuts and reductions to an already lean budget is not a place we ever wanted to be, but the community spoke and we simply cannot have what we cannot afford.

We will have more detailed information about the Transportation Ineligibility Zone on the district website on July 1 and will email district families as soon as that is available. I ask that you please be patient with us as we negotiate the implementation of these changes for the upcoming school year. We will communicate with you as soon as possible to give you time to plan accordingly.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me or your child's building principal. Thank you for your understanding.

Sincerely, Dr. Douglas Cozad