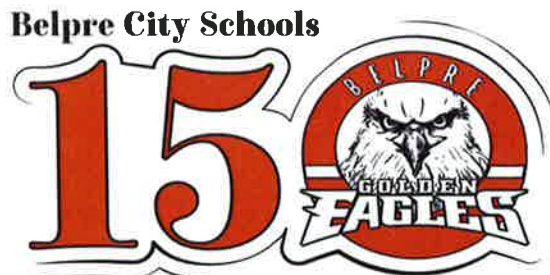


## Board Members

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## **Belpre City Schools**



**Our Town. Our School.**

Jeffrey S. Greenley  
*Superintendent*  
Lance A. Erlwein  
*Treasurer*

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September 2, 2021

Dear Belpre Families,

I write today with an update on the current state of COVID-19 related impacts on district operations. There has been significant development since my previous letter just a few days ago. First, all but one Washington County school district has now announced a mask mandate for their students after seeing a negative impact to operations due to high quarantine numbers. At the same time, the 45714 zip code has seen a 30% increase in the number of positive COVID-19 cases in its rolling two week average. Finally, we have been informed by the Marietta/Belpre Health Department of an additional 3 positive cases in our schools with a total quarantine impact of around 50 students. In total, we have quarantined nearly 90 students just this week due to the Ohio Department of Health's quarantine guidelines (roughly 10% of the student body). If we do nothing, the number of students on quarantine will be so high that we will not be able to continue to offer in-person services.

Conversations I have had with students, parents and faculty this week have sent me a clear message: we strongly believe that students need to be in person with their caring teachers and staff and need to do whatever it takes to make that happen. As a result, and only because of true necessity, Belpre City Schools will require all students grades K-12 to wear a facial covering while in school starting Tuesday, September 7, 2021. We hope that you can support this difficult decision and understand that we will continue to monitor what is happening in our district and reevaluate the need for these measures on a continual basis.

Respectfully,

Jeffrey Greenley, Superintendent