

10-29-12 - Left message at Brian Lehnherr's  
phone advising that the grant request  
would be considered at next foundation meeting.

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Elmer G. Biddick Charitable Foundation  
11623 State Road 80  
Livingston, WI 53554

October 24, 2012  
Belmont Music Department  
Belmont Community Schools  
646 East Liberty Street  
Belmont, WI 53510  
(608) 762-5131

[lehnherr@belmont.k12.wi.us](mailto:lehnherr@belmont.k12.wi.us)

Brian K. Lehnherr

Instrumental Music Teacher

The purpose of the organization is to enhance the performance arts in our community.

Grant Request \$1,500

### **Describe the reason for this grant request:**

Our current sound system in our school district's elementary gym is over 20 years old and no longer works at capacity, as several of the sound system components are corroded or worn out. Community members often complain that they cannot hear the students on stage during performances. The gym is used for 60+ events throughout the school year by our students and community. The deterioration of the sound system was unexpected and not budgeted for; therefore, any funding to offset the Belmont school district's expense for this project would be greatly appreciated.

### **A. Supporting information**

#### **1. Specific use of the grant:**

We will use the grant to replace the current sound system in our elementary gym. We have been working with three local sound amplification companies to give our district the best quality sound system for our gym. New sound tubes will be placed strategically throughout the gym ceiling to provide greater coverage; an expandable sound system will allow for any future needs. The new sound system will allow more people to utilize it because of ease of use as well. Our elementary gym is scheduled to host over 60 events for students and community organizations this year, so this project would have a substantial impact.

**2. Time schedule:**

Our timeline is to have a new sound system in place for the 100<sup>th</sup> Belmont School and Community Fair in September 2014.

**3. Other sources of funding:**

I have attended meetings of the Belmont Sports Boosters, Belmont Lion's Club, Belmont Auxiliary, Wrestling Club, Belmont Fair Board, and Belmont Music Boosters seeking financial support for this project. The Belmont school district has offered to pay half of the total expense with the remaining funding expected from listed organizations and community donations.

**4. Effect of postponing request:**

I would certainly like to have all funding from the various organizations and individuals as early as possible to get the new sound system installed earlier and begin using it yet this school year. Any money awarded by the Elmer G. Biddick Foundation would be used to offset the cost to the Belmont School District.

**5. Describe who, what, when and how the effects of this grant be felt:**

This grant will affect the students of our district as well as the community of Belmont. Our gym is used also by several organizations and clubs within our school and community for performances, sporting events, and community events. As the school has a direct impact on our small community, so would your grant.

With the help of a Biddick Foundation grant, it is our hope that we can update and improve our current sound system. Our gym is a community hotspot, and a great sound system is vital to our school's outreach.

**6. Your organization's history, activities, services, and composition:**

As the band director at Belmont for the past 23 years, I have been proud to be part of this small community. Our music department is thriving and very active in southwest Wisconsin. We host over 3,500 people for our Brass and Brats drum and bugle corps performance in June and participate in many local parades and music festivals throughout the year. Our students perform at the highest level for State Solo & Ensemble and Large Group Festival each year. Our drama department presents a musical and play performance annually. We have performed for the Governor and members of the state senate for Wisconsin's Biennial. Through the music department, students have learned teamwork and a great work ethic to enhance their future.

Thank you again for your consideration of this grant application.

