



# BELLEVILLE

MENNONITE SCHOOL

Dear Friend of BMS,

As we look forward to Spring, it is time to think about our Belleville Mennonite School auction. The Annual Auction is one of the biggest contributors to the operating budget of the school and we appreciate how the biannual cattle sale has become a meaningful way for our agricultural and dairy community to support BMS in unique ways.

This year we are planning to have the event at the Kish Valley Buying Station in Belleville during their monthly dairy sale on April 21<sup>st</sup>. I am looking for any consignment that you may feel would be a good contribution to benefit the school auction. This includes fresh cows, dry cows, springing heifers, and breeding age heifers. If one of these does not sound like a good option, you can also support the sale by selling a beef cow, or bull calf anytime now through the month of May. We also anticipate featuring gift certificates from area Ag related vendors at the cattle sale, so it would be a good time to attend the sale and support the school.

Another great option for our farming community to support BMS in creative ways is through a matching program offered by Land O'Lakes. The Direct Member Match Program matches dollar-for-dollar the cash donations made by Land O'Lakes direct producer members (class B and D) up to \$1,000 per member-owner per calendar year, subject to the program cap of \$40,000. This program doubles the funds available for hometown projects like supporting education at BMS! Gifts are matched on a first come, first served basis, so you are encouraged to make your donation and then submit a matching application request this spring. Applications are submitted by creating and logging into an account on the Land O'Lakes Foundation. A direct link is posted on the BMS website for your reference, and you can contact Gwen Renno, Development Director, [rennogk@bmsprek12.org](mailto:rennogk@bmsprek12.org), with any additional questions.

If you are planning to consign an animal, please let me know by April 7<sup>th</sup>, so I can give you more information pertaining to the day of the sale. Additionally, if you would like to have her advertised in the Farmshine, please submit your information to myself or Michael Yoder ([dryhousefarm@gmail.com](mailto:dryhousefarm@gmail.com) or 717-437-5846) by April 7<sup>th</sup>.

Contact Information:

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Thank you for your continued support and consideration of creative ways to give to BMS!

*Matt*