



**BELLEVUE COMETS**  
COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

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**"Beyond the Blue"**

**Michael Farley - 1973 Graduate of Bellevue High School**

**Key Information:**

- Various service and humanitarian contributions for society
- Chief Executive Officer for Elk Hill in Virginia, which is an organization that enables children and families in crisis to transform overwhelming challenges into successful futures.
- Peace Corp member in the late 1970's, and still works with the Peace Corps. Michael created "Proper Walk" to raise awareness of the HIV/AIDS pandemic in Sub-Saharan Africa. "Proper Walk" was featured in the September 2005 issue of National Geographic Magazine, as it takes place over challenging terrain where wild animals and indigenous peoples are encountered.
- Michael is quoted saying, "If there is a last great African journey, this might be it: 160 miles of wildest Kenya, a trek done in the style of old explorers, a pack of seriously ornery camels, and one really good cause."
- Michael has received gubernatorial appointments, and has twice been elected president of both the statewide accrediting/advocacy body for specialized education facilities and the largest coalition of private providers in Virginia.
- Ultimately, Michael has shown a lifelong commitment to helping others through humanitarian efforts.

*Nominated by Rick Pogemiller and Joannie Kilburg*

**BELIEVE IN THE BLUE**

*It is the policy of the Bellevue Community School District not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, creed, gender identity, marital status, sex, sexual orientation, national origin, religion, age or disability in its educational programs, services, or employment practices.*

