



the increased awareness for the community. This senior project and the presentations that are shared have brought a focus on and given dating awareness a voice.

Students and Dance Marathon Chairs, Gracie Webb and Andrew Gold, shared a presentation on dating and domestic violence and the Dance Marathon Senior Project fundraiser. The presentation that brings awareness and hope will be shared 50 times around the community.

The presentation shared information on dating and domestic violence and noted that one goal was to bring awareness to dating abuse among their peers. The Dance Marathon fundraiser started 16 years ago as a Senior Project and the first year 100 students attended. Now there are 100 students on the committee and several 100 students that attend the dance. In 2014 the dance raised over \$126,000 for Turning Point and the goal for 2014 is \$138,000. Information on how to donate was shared. The Dance Marathon will be February 28 to March 1 at Columbus East High School.

The following information was shared in response to questions from the board.

The dollars raised have allowed Turning Point to have a Safe Dates program in the middle schools.

A goal is to reach all students in the county and educate them on healthy relationships. There is a need for financial investments and adult volunteers.

All county students are invited to attend the Dance Marathon, including Hauser students, private students and home schooled students.

There are scholarships through the school counselor offices for students that need help with the dance entry fee.

The Dance Marathon began 16 years ago by students and students continue to own the project.

### **Richards Elementary School Best Practice – Music in the Classroom:**

Ms. Heiny shared that music at Richards Elementary is not like it was years ago with children sitting in rows singing from a hardback textbook, while the teacher played the piano. Ms. Heiny shared that she has seen Richards' third graders putting movement to lyrics in music class and that the presentation will show how music makes a difference at Richards.

Mr. Sprong, Richards Elementary Principal, thanked the Board for their support and said Ms. Lueken, Richards Music Teacher, will share how music makes a difference at Richards.

Ms. Lueken noted that studies show that there is a positive correlation between music and student engagement. She shared videos showing how music in the music room and regular classroom support the Universal Design for Learning (UDL) framework. Through the free

mobile app, Aurasma, videos were shown noting cultural responsiveness, engagement, representation and expression. Ms. Lueken collaborates with classroom teachers and engages students through music in reading fluency and literacy circles. Fourth grade students shared a performance through multiple engagements of speech, movement and music. Ms. Lueken thanked the School Foundation for an innovation grant that will help purchase more musical instruments. She noted that the instruments help remove barriers for students.

The following information was shared in response to questions from the board.

The students worked on the musical piece they performed for two weeks and they had an hour review before the performance.

**PUBLIC DIALOGUE:**

No one spoke at this time.

**STUDENT AND STAKEHOLDER FOCUS (3.0)**

**1) Comments of Individuals and Delegations:**

No one signed in to speak.

**2) Board Commendations:**

No commendations were shared.

**MEASUREMENT, ANALYSIS, AND KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT (4.0)**

**3) School Attorney Report:**

Mrs. Benjamin shared that the first reading of the Deregulation Bill would be Wednesday afternoon.

**4) School Board Member Reports:**

Mrs. Verbanic thanked *The Republic* for the press on the high ability testing window. She shared that the testing is going well and the next step is to request portfolios from students. BCSC has a high population of students that do very well and the committee is considering the qualification test score be raised to 90%. The middle schools are holding open houses for the high ability program.

**5) Cabinet Report:**

Dr. Sylva noted that Indiana law requires a report be given on the corporation investments for the year. The Board of Finance consists of the Board of School Trustee

members with the School Board President and Secretary appointed as the officers. The corporation investment options are limited to Treasury Bills, Bank CD's and Money Market Sweep Accounts. The recent low interest rates are not good for investments. Dr. Sylva shared that the 2014 investment returns for the General Fund was \$28,893 and the investment for all funds totaled \$42,349.

## **EDUCATIONAL PROCESS FOR BOARD ACTION (6.0)**

### **6) Requests for Approval: (Dr. Quick)**

Dr. Quick reviewed the following items for the Board.

- a. Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of January 12, 2015 (attachment)
- b. Supplemental Contracts (attachment)
- c. Field Trips/Professional Leaves (attachment)
- d. Claims (attachment)
- e. Telecommunications Agreements for E-Rate (attachments)
- f. Award Bid for Columbus East High School (attachment)
- g. Award Bid for Parkside Elementary School (attachment)
- h. Permission to Purchase School Buses (attachment)

Dr. Shedd made a motion to approve the items as described by the Superintendent and Mrs. Dayhoff-Dwyer seconded the motion.

The follow information was shared in response to questions from the board.

The buses to be purchased will have the conventional nose and are the best quality for the price. In recent years, they have become much more competitive.

All the new buses will have seat belts. All BCSC buses purchased since 2009 have been equipped with seatbelts. In five years all BCSC buses should have seatbelts. The seatbelts have cut down on discipline issues.

The low bidder for the Parkside and East projects, MacDougall Pierce Construction, has not worked for BCSC, but after meeting with them it was felt that they would be a responsible company. Also, CSO-Architects have worked with them in the past and they stand behind the company. The corporation likes to hire local companies, but none were the lowest bidder.

Upon a call for the vote, the motion passed unanimously to approve the items described by the Superintendent.

**FACULTY AND STAFF FOCUS FOR ACTION (5.0)**

**7) Request for Approval of Human Resources Recommendations:**

Dr. DeClue requested approval of the Human Resources recommendations as presented.

Mr. Caldwell made a motion to approve the Human Resources recommendations as requested and Mrs. Dayhoff-Dwyer seconded the motion.

Dr. Shedd noted that the board was saddened to receive the retirement notice from Dr. DeClue. She noted that Dr. DeClue has been of great service to the corporation and many extend their thanks to her. Dr. Shedd noted that she had worked with Dr. DeClue through teacher evaluations and negotiations and that Dr. DeClue has always been a premier professional and served the corporation very well. Dr. DeClue's contract ends June 30, 2015.

Upon a call for the vote, the motion was carried unanimously.

**BOARD INPUT/REVIEW**

Dr. Quick congratulated Dr. DeClue on her upcoming retirement. He shared that she has worked for BCSC since the early 90's and has been his right-arm the last decade. He noted that he could not have asked for anyone better, that she has a gift and will be missed.

Mr. Abrams shared that the next school board meetings would be on February 9 & 23, 7:00 p.m. at Columbus Signature Academy-Fodrea Campus. There will be a 6:30 p.m. reception on February 9<sup>th</sup> for the 2015 Education Hall of Fame Recipient Michelle Burnett.

Third House Sessions begin February 2, 7:30 a.m. at City Hall. Mr. Abrams encouraged everyone to attend as it is a good opportunity to talk to local legislative representatives and to share your opinions.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:08 p.m.

\_\_\_\_\_Secretary

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_President