BARTHOLOMEW CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL CORPORATION SCHOOL BOARD MEETING, MONDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2016 MINUTES

The regular meeting of the Board of School Trustees of the Bartholomew Consolidated School Corporation was held at the Columbus Signature Academy-Fodrea Campus, 2775 Illinois Avenue, Columbus, Indiana on Monday, November 14, 2016, at 7:00 p.m., pursuant to notice having been duly given to the media and to all members of the Board in accordance with the rules of the Board.

On call of the roll, the members of the Board were shown to be present or absent as follows:

Present: Dr. Jill Shedd, President

Mr. Rich Stenner, Vice President Mrs. Polly Verbanic, Secretary Mr. Robert Abrams, Member Mr. Pat Bryant, Member Mr. Jeff Caldwell, Member

Mrs. Kathy Dayhoff-Dwyer, Member

Administration: Dr. Jim Roberts, Superintendent

Dr. Vaughn Sylva, Assistant Superintendent for Business Services

Mr. William Jensen, Director of Secondary Education Dr. Laura Hack, Director of Elementary Education

Absent: Ms. Teresa Heiny, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources

School Attorney: Mr. Chris Monroe

BUSINESS MEETING

Mr. Caldwell offered reflections.

President Shedd called the meeting to order at 7:08 p.m.

LEADERSHIP AND STRATEGIC PLANNING (2.0)

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, CSA-Fodrea students, Collin Lui and James Nordyke, read the vision and mission.

PRESENTATIONS

Columbus Signature Academy-Fodrea Campus Best Practice:

Mrs. Linneweber, CSA-Fodrea Principal, Mrs. Hashman, Universal Design for Learning (UDL) Coach, and teachers Ms. Kiel and Ms. Lane, presented on how Project Based Learning

(PBL) works in a UDL environment. An example of how UDL and PBL work together was shared through a student project of planting and growing seeds to help people and the Earth. The steps of the project were noted showing the UDL principals and guidelines that were followed to promote student success. They shared examples of engagement, self-reflection, growth mindset, collaboration and individual choice. The real-world project also permitted students to have multiple means of action, expression and collaboration with community partners.

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

The current population at CSA-Fodrea reflects the demographics of the corporation. There are multiple applicants for enrollment at CSA-Fodrea from foreign students.

Students have many choices in how they obtain the knowledge needed to complete a project. They also have options in how they express what they have learned.

State standards are met through cleverly designing projects from the beginning. If a standard does not fit into the project work, it would still be taught.

Mrs. Dayhoff-Dwyer shared that her children excelled at Columbus Signature Academy-Central Middle School. The researching skills they learned have benefited them at Columbus North High School. The CSA pathway also increased their confidence.

PUBLIC HEARINGS AND CONSIDERATION OF BOND RESOLUTIONS

Facility Renovations and Improvements:

Dr. Roberts noted that CSO Architects conducted a facility study that prioritized corporation facility needs and Mr. Funk, CSO Architect, would share a presentation on the proposed facility renovations and improvements. Dr. Roberts shared that the projects at the high schools would be voted on at a later date.

Mr. Funk first shared information on the Build America Bond rebates that can only fund projects at Columbus North and Columbus East High Schools. There would be \$1,500,000 in bond rebate dollars to be spent at Columbus North and \$1,500,000 to be spent at Columbus East. The proposed projects would address the highest facility needs.

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

The security of the C4 entrance at Columbus North High School could be considered in this project.

At 7:33 p.m. Dr. Shedd opened the Public Hearing on the Renovation and Improvement Projects-General Obligation Bonds.

Renovation and Improvement Projects-General Obligation Bonds 1. Public Hearing on Project

Ms. Matthews, Church, Church, Hittle & Antrim Attorney, explained that under Indiana law whenever a school corporation proposes to construct or renovate a school building at a cost in excess of one million dollars it must first hold a public hearing. Notice of this public hearing was published in <u>The Republic</u> on November 3, 2016.

It was explained that at this hearing all interested people may share concerns or ask questions concerning these projects. The purpose of the hearing is two-fold: (1) the first purpose is to inform the public as to the proposed projects; and (2) to allow all interested parties, the taxpayers and the patrons of Bartholomew Consolidated School Corporation to voice their opinions as to the projects and ask questions.

After the purpose of the hearing was explained, Mr. Funk, CSO Architect, shared information on the proposed General Obligation Bond projects and noted that the bonds sold for each individual project may not exceed \$2 million. The district has the capacity to issue \$6 million to \$6.7 million in G.O. Bonds. The following three \$2 million project proposals were based on the highest needs in the corporation from the 2016 facility study: \$2 million to be spent at Parkside Elementary on roofing and exterior improvements; \$2 million to be spent on elementary school playground improvements at several elementary schools; and \$2 million to be spent on interior improvements at Clifty Creek Elementary, Smith Elementary and Taylorsville Elementary. The fourth proposed project, if funds are available, would be to spend \$700,000 at Schmitt Elementary and Northside Middle School. At Schmitt Elementary the proposed project would be to replace a chiller and install an HVAC unit for the office. At Northside Middle the project would include re-roofing and interior improvements. The proposed schedule for all projects indicates bidding in March of 2017, with construction to follow.

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

The playground improvements were high on the school principals' priority lists.

The 2016 facility study ranked facility improvement priorities by noting the most critical in red. The bond dollars would not fund all the critical needs, but addresses some of them. The needs have to be strategically spread out, as only \$2 million can be spent on each project.

Mr. Abrams noted that the Transportation and Maintenance Building had several critical needs. Dr. Sylva shared that the Capital Projects Fund would address some of the needs.

At this point, with student enrollment being flat, the corporation is addressing facility needs and not considering adding capacity.

Ms. Matthews explained how the projects would be funded and noted that the tax rate would not be impacted.

After the above presentation, President Shedd asked for questions or comments from the public.

Patron, Michael Greven, shared that he would have liked to have seen dollar amounts for each renovation/improvement line item.

Dr. Roberts stated that at this meeting the board would be asked to approve the resolution for the projects up to the amounts possible. Specific dollar amounts and final designs would be shared at a later school board meeting.

Mr. Caldwell shared that after the bidding process the board will have complete detail of the work that will be completed. He noted that Mr. Forster and his team have proved in the past to find the best ways to spend the bond dollars.

Mrs. Verbanic noted that often there are change orders for projects that have actually cost the corporation less than the approved budgeted amount.

2. Requests for Approval a. Resolution for Projects

At the conclusion of the public hearing, President Shedd made a recommendation to the Board to adopt a Resolution to construct the projects.

A motion was made by Mr. Caldwell to adopt the project resolution and it was seconded by Mrs. Dayhoff-Dwyer. Upon a vote, the motion carried unanimously. The Board adopted the attached resolution, <u>Exhibit A</u>.

3. Public Hearing on Additional Appropriation for General Obligation Bonds

Ms. Matthews noted proofs of publication of the hearing to be held at this meeting on the additional appropriation for the presented projects. The notice was published in <u>The Republic</u> on November 3, 2016.

Dr. Shedd stated that the Board was now ready to hear all taxpayer's questions or comments in respect to the matter of the additional appropriation in the amount of \$6,700,000 proposed to be made on account of the projects.

No one spoke at this time.

4. Request for Approval

a. Additional Appropriation and Final Bond Resolution-General Obligation Bonds

President Shedd made a recommendation to the board to adopt the additional appropriation and final bond resolution for the General Obligation Bonds. Mr. Abrams made a

motion that was seconded by Mr. Bryant. Upon a call for the vote, the motion carried unanimously, and the resolution Exhibit B was adopted.

Ms. Matthews shared that BCSC had consulted the firm of Ice Miller LLP, bond counsel of Indianapolis, Indiana, relative to the procedure to be followed in connection with the proposed bond issue. She presented to the Board a form of resolution approved by Ice Miller LLP, and recommended adoption for the purpose of authorizing the issuance of bonds.

After due consideration of the final bond resolution, Mr. Caldwell made a motion to approve the final bond resolution and Mrs. Dayhoff-Dwyer seconded the motion. Upon a call for the vote, the motion carried unanimously, and Exhibit C was adopted.

It was again noted that the issuing of the bonds would not change the tax rate. Ms. Matthews also noted that additional appropriation proceeds must be approved before being spent.

The Public Hearing closed at 7:50 p.m.

Refunding Pension Bonds:

1. Public Hearing on Additional Appropriation for Refunding Pension Bonds

Dr. Shedd opened the public hearing at 7:51 p.m.

Ms. Matthews noted the publication and posting of the notice to taxpayers of the hearing to be held at this meeting on the matter of the additional appropriation proposed to be made on account of refinancing pension bonds. The notice was published in <u>The Republic</u> on November 3, 2016.

Dr. Shedd stated that the Board was now ready to hear all taxpayers desiring to be heard in respect to the matter of the additional appropriation in the amount of approximately \$1,750,000 proposed to be made on account of the refunding of the School Corporation's Taxable General Obligation Pension Bonds of 2016.

No one spoke at this time.

2. Request for Approval:

a. Additional Appropriation Resolution

Ms. Matthews stated that the board must approve the appropriation of the bond proceeds to be spent on the refunding before any bond money can be expended.

Mr. Bryant made a motion to approve the additional appropriation resolution and Mrs. Verbanic seconded the motion.

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

The amount of \$1,750,000 to be refinanced is the amount left to pay on the original 2006 pension bond.

Dr. Sylva noted that the corporation would not move forward with the bonding process if the gross savings due to refinancing is less than \$50,000.

Upon a call for the vote, the motion was approved unanimously, and <u>Exhibit A</u> was adopted.

b. Final Taxable General Obligation Pension Refunding Bond Resolution

Ms. Matthews stated that BCSC had consulted the firm of Ice Miller LLP, bond counsel of Indianapolis, Indiana, relative to the procedure to be followed in connection with the proposed taxable general obligation pension refunding bond issue and the rendering of an opinion approving the legality of the bonds. The Board was presented the form of final bond resolution approved by Ice Miller LLP, and recommended by them for adoption for the purpose of authorizing the issuance of bonds.

Ms. Matthews shared that the final refunding bond resolution establishes the amount to be borrowed, maximum term of repayment and maximum interest rate.

Mrs. Verbanic made a motion to approve the final Taxable General Obligation Pension Refunding Bond Resolution, and Mrs. Dayhoff-Dwyer seconded the motion.

Upon a call for the vote, the board approved the motion unanimously, and $\underline{\text{Exhibit B}}$ was adopted.

The Public Hearing closed at 8:07 p.m. and Dr. Shedd convened the school board meeting.

PUBLIC DIALOGUE

No one spoke at this time.

STUDENT AND STAKEHOLDER FOCUS (3.0)

1) Comments of Individuals and Delegations:

Michael Greven shared his concerns about BCSC wages for support staff and teachers being too low. He said that it was a problem when the second largest employer in the community had workers working less than 30 hours a week, receiving low wages and receiving no benefits. He stated that this was not fair. Mr. Greven stated that he would be in favor of an increase in taxes in order to pay a decent wage for school corporation employees.

Mr. Abrams shared his appreciation of Mr. Greven's concerns and asked him to share this

message with state legislatures as they make their school budgeting decisions. He added that the local community had not shown an inclination to increase our tax base for school expenses.

Dr. Roberts added that there was a comparative support staff wage study completed in 2016. Wages for some positions were re-aligned to better compare to like school districts. As for teacher salaries, BCSC is higher than some and lower than some. In the past few years, legislation has made the paying of teacher contracts more challenging.

2) Board Commendations:

Dr. Shedd commended the Northside Middle School Spell Bowl team for winning the state championship. She congratulated Central Middle School's team for placing fifth.

MEASUREMENT, ANALYSIS, AND KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT (4.0)

3) School Board Policy 6111-Internal Control Standards and Procedures:

Dr. Sylva noted that the state auditors requested the Internal Control Standards and Procedures policy include, in writing, that the appropriate fiscal functions are being completed by the appropriate people. The policy provides reasonable assurances that all Federal and State funds, property and other assets are safeguarded against loss from theft or fraud. The thresholds for losses in all funds were listed and are to be reported immediately to the State Board of Accounts as required by Federal and State law. The board will be asked to approve this policy at the next board meeting.

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

An internal audit of assets is completed every two years. Every three to four years, an outside firm is hired to perform an audit.

The State Board of Accounts has given corporations the freedom to determine the threshold amounts for reporting losses.

Every employee in the corporation that handles money is insured.

4) School Attorney Report:

No report was shared.

5) School Board Member Reports:

Mrs. Verbanic attended the Literacy Task Force where they discussed the use of storytelling to promote literacy for all ages. It was also reported that Busy Bee graduates were outscoring their peers on ISTEP+ testing, with the exception of Latino students. Delta Kappa Gamma is considering funding the Tots Reading Lots program where books are mailed to

families that might not have books. The Dancing With the Stars fundraiser for Family School Partners will feature BCSC's own, Larry Perkinson.

Mr. Abrams attended the Diversity Council meeting where they discussed post-election harassment that had occurred and the corporation's commitment to keep all students safe was reinforced. School leaders were commended for addressing concerns immediately. There was an incident at Bloomington North High School where a student wore offensive clothing. In 2008, very clear dress code language was added to the BCSC's secondary student handbooks that addressed offensive clothing. Dr. Hack noted that consistent dress code language would be added to the elementary student handbooks next spring.

Mrs. Dayhoff-Dwyer shared that the Education Hall of Fame nomination committee would meet soon to determine the recipient of the 2017 award. The winner will be recognized at a board meeting in February.

6) Cabinet Reports:

No reports were shared.

EDUCATIONAL PROCESS FOR BOARD ACTION (6.0)

7) Requests for Approval: (Dr. Roberts)

Dr. Roberts reviewed the following items for the Board.

- a. Minutes of the Regular School Board Meeting of October 24, 2016 (attachment)
- b. Supplemental Contracts (attachment)
- c. Field Trips/Professional Leaves
- d. Claims (attachment)
- e. Award of Internet Egress (attachment)

Mr. Jamerson shared an informational slide on the internet egress.

Mr. Bryant made a motion to approve the reviewed items, and Mr. Caldwell seconded the motion.

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

FACULTY AND STAFF FOCUS FOR ACTION (5.0)

8) Request for Approval of Human Resources Recommendations:

Dr. Roberts requested approval of the human resources recommendations as presented.

Mrs. Verbanic made a motion to approve the human resources recommendation, and Mr.

Abrams seconded the motion.

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

BOARD INPUT/REVIEW

President Shedd shared that the next school board meeting would be December 12, 7:00 p.m. at the Richard L. Johnson Early Education Center.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:36 p.m.

	Secretary
Attest:	President