# BARTHOLOMEW CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL CORPORATION SCHOOL BOARD MEETING, MONDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2017 MINUTES

The regular meeting of the Board of School Trustees of the Bartholomew Consolidated School Corporation was held at the Parkside Elementary School, 3311 Fairlawn Drive, Columbus, Indiana on Monday, February 13, 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:	Mr. Rich Stenner, President Mr. Jeff Caldwell, Vice President Mrs. Kathy Dayhoff-Dwyer, Secretary Mr. Robert Abrams, Member Mr. Pat Bryant, Member Dr. Jill Shedd, Member
Absent:	Mr. James Persinger, Member
Administration:	Dr. Jim Roberts, Superintendent Ms. Teresa Heiny, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources Dr. Vaughn Sylva, Assistant Superintendent for Business Services Dr. Laura Hack, Director of Elementary Education Mr. William Jensen, Director of Secondary Education
School Attorney:	Mr. Chris Monroe

## **BUSINESS MEETING**

Dr. Shedd offered reflections.

President Stenner called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

## **LEADERSHIP AND STRATEGIC PLANNING (2.0)**

Richards Elementary students, Shelby and Drew Nay, read the mission and vision.

#### **PRESENTATIONS**

## 2017 Education Hall of Fame Awarded to Janice Montgomery:

Dr. Roberts welcomed everyone that had come for the joyous occasion to recognize Education Hall of Fame Award recipient, Janice Montgomery. He shared that the Hall of Fame winners must have completed a minimum of 15 years employment in BCSC and "made a noteworthy and extraordinary employment contribution on behalf of children which merits recognition for excellence." (BCSC Policy 6680.01)

Dr. Roberts shared Mrs. Montgomery's BCSC work experiences from being a substitute teacher in 1978 to her most recent assignment as the interim assistant principal at Parkside and Taylorsville. After retirement from teaching in the corporation she served as the K-12 program director for professional development through the Center for Teaching and Learning and the Columbus Learning Center, and she next served as the executive director for the Bartholomew Consolidated School Foundation. Mrs. Montgomery was the first BCSC Miyoshi, Japan Education Ambassador and has received the Edna Folger Award and the Indiana Commission for Women's Torchbearer Award.

Mrs. Dayhoff-Dwyer shared that it was an easy decision for the nomination committee to choose Janice Montgomery for the Education Hall of Fame Award. She read the inscription on the plaque presented to Mrs. Montgomery that included excerpts from nomination letters. Mrs. Montgomery will have the second plaque placed at Southside Elementary School where she served as a teacher and assistant principal.

Mrs. Montgomery thanked everyone and noted that it all felt very surreal. She shared that she was honored to be among those that had won the award and noted that there are countless teachers and administrators that deserve to win the award. She said that she was thrilled to have had the experiences to work with educators at all levels, many of them in attendance. She thanked those that wrote letters of nomination and jokingly congratulated them for their creative writing skills. Mrs. Montgomery thanked her parents, her husband Lynn, her in-laws and her children for all their support throughout the years. In closing, Mrs. Montgomery said, "We all want the same thing, an excellent education for all children in the community, and you are getting this!"

Dr. Roberts shared that the Education Hall of Fame plaques, with all winners listed, can be found right inside the front doors of the Administration Building. He again congratulated Mrs. Montgomery and recognized three past winners that were present; Willis Hagan, Chuck Grimes and Larry Perkinson.

## 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

Dr. Shedd shared that Mr. Reed, CSA-New Tech High School principal, had received a letter from a graduate thanking him for his encouragement and making an effort to notice and believe in students. The graduate noted that she had been accepted into a Ph.D. program and would not have been able to accomplish this without her experiences at CSA-New Tech.

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

### 3) School Attorney Report:

No report was shared.

### 4) School Board Member Reports:

Mr. Abrams attended the Diversity Council meeting where they discussed, that after the election, there was a heightened importance to consider and address any harassment of individuals from ethnic groups. The local Black Lives Matter group had earlier shared requests for the corporation to consider and they were noted: employ more teachers of color; have minority history classes; have cultural officers in the schools. The committee discussed the requests and noted that the corporation continues to make a strong effort to hire more teachers of color, Universal Design for Learning (UDL) integrates different subjects and different points of view, and the corporation continues to identify individuals in each school that all students can trust. Students will be engaged in the continuing process of identifying individuals that students trust because listening to the student voice helps build trust. Mr. Abrams shared that Mr. McClendon, BCSC Director of Multicultural Diversity, reported that the corporation had not recently seen an increase in harassment, but ethnic students had felt a heightened degree of apprehension.

Mr. Jensen added that ethnic groups in the community were feeling tension too and this would be a discussion topic for the Business Advisory Group that Mr. Jensen facilitates.

Mrs. Dayhoff-Dwyer attended the Special Education Parent Forum where Dr. Van Horn, Director for Special Education, addressed what the future may hold due to new administrators at the state and federal levels. Also discussed were teaching assistant salaries and increased communication about the meeting dates. Mrs. Dayhoff-Dwyer shared that parents appreciate the meetings.

Dr. Shedd noted that one result of the recent support staff salary study was to increase the hourly rate for teaching assistants.

### 5) Cabinet Reports:

#### • 2016 Financial Report (Dr. Sylva)

Dr. Sylva shared highlights from the 2016 financial results. He noted that the Form 9 for the Indiana Department of Education has much more detail. The report includes all tax-supported funds.

The total funds received in the General Fund were \$72,118, 959, an increase due to a per pupil increase in the state basic grant. The cash balance was \$1,321,917 and the Rainy Day Fund has a balance of \$6,274,348. When combining the cash balance and Rainy Day Fund the reserves are the highest for quite some time. Funds were last taken from the Rainy Day Fund in 2010; the year the state cut the corporation's budget \$3 million. Several years ago, the profits from the sale of the former Informational Services Center on Washington Street were added to the Rainy Day Fund.

The Health Trust reserves were \$6,015,466. The wellness plan incentive was introduced and will lead to better health outcomes. There was an 18% increase in claims, but this was aided by insurance that reimburses for individual claims that are over \$200,000. The Health Trust is having discussions about savings with a second drug provider and with Columbus Regional Hospital.

There were two new expenditures to the Debt Service Fund in 2016; the 2015 General Obligation Bond work at Southside and Rockcreek Elementary Schools and the 2003 QZAB that helped renovate CSA-Lincoln Elementary School. The QZAB loan is interest free and final payments will be made in 2017. The total expenditures in the Debt Service Fund were \$8,957,580.

The total monies expended in the Pension Debt Service Fund were \$1,450,511. The final payment on the 2002 Pension Bond will be made in 2017. The expenditures here have to reduce the budget in another fund so they become neutral. In 2018, with the 2002 Pension Bond being paid-off, the reduction to the General Fund and Transportation Fund will be less.

The total expenditures in the Referendum Debt Service Fund were \$8,015,385. The corporation continues to make payments for the 2010 renovations at both high schools.

The total funds received in the Capital Project Fund were \$11,346,596, and the expenditures were \$11,802,898. At the end of the year, the budgeted dollars for projects that are not finished or not started rollover to the next year.

The Transportation Fund had a cash balance of \$436,510. Many part-time employees moved to full-time and now quality for benefits. This budget is reduced by the Pension Debt Service Fund neutrality.

The Bus Replacement Fund had a balance of \$144,249. When encumbrances rollover into the next year, the budgeted dollars rollover as well.

Dr. Sylva shared that the total property tax cap losses for all funds was \$1,285,036. The Capital Project Fund and Transportation Fund take the bulk of the hit from the tax cap losses.

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

The Department of Local Government Finance (DLGF) breaks down the tax cap losses by government entity. Mr. Caldwell requested Dr. Sylva share that information with the board at a later date.

If assessed value goes up, tax cap losses go down. The corporation has no control over the tax cap losses. Mr. Abrams noted that it would be interesting to see what funds are and are not available to the corporation because of Tax Increment Financing (TIF).

The corporation's taxable funds equal over \$100 million and the Rainy Day Fund is slightly over 10%. Dr. Sylva noted that this is not considered to be too much. The state tries to have a 12% cash balance.

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

### 6) Requests for Approval: (Dr. Roberts)

Dr. Roberts reviewed the following items for the Board.

- a. Minutes of the Regular School Board Meeting of January 23, 2017 (attachment)
- b. Supplemental Contracts (attachment)
- c. Field Trips/Professional Leaves (attachment)
- d. Claims (attachment)
- e. Purchase School Buses (attachment)
- f. 6:30 p.m. Start Time for School Board Meetings Effective July 2017 July 2018 (attachment)

Dr. Roberts noted that annually the corporation purchases buses to keep the fleet in good shape. The bus bid was awarded to Kerlin Bus Sales and Leasing. Nine buses were purchased at \$118,298.00 each. Mr. Forster, Director of Operations, and Mrs. Wetherald, Manager of Transportation, were available for questions.

Dr. Shedd made a motion to approve the reviewed Items 6) a-e and Mr. Bryant seconded the motion.

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

All nine buses being purchased will be equipped with seatbelts and will have a Cummins diesel engine.

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

Dr. Roberts shared that there had been recent conversations about how to best meet the needs of stakeholders in regards to school board meetings while being efficient and effective. School board meetings have started at 7:00 p.m. for a long time and in January it was discussed to move the start time to 6:00 p.m. Based on evening building activities and the technology staff setting-up for board meetings, the 6:00 p.m. start time was determined to be too early. The recommendation, Item 6) f, to start the meetings at 6:30 p.m., was based on board and cabinet conversations and public dialogue.

Mr. Abrams made a motion to approve Item 6) f, the 6:30 p.m. start time for board meetings effective in July 2017, and Mrs. Dayhoff-Dwyer seconded the motion.

Mr. Abrams asked about the approval of the locations of the board meetings.

Dr. Roberts noted that the locations of the board meetings were approved at the January 23 meeting. He said we can continue to ponder all opportunities, and if changes are made, agenda notices are posted 48 hours prior to the meeting.

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

It was again noted that the 6:30 p.m. start time would begin in July 2017.

# FACULTY AND STAFF FOCUS FOR ACTION (5.0)

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

Ms. Heiny requested approval of the human resources recommendations as presented.

Mr. Caldwell made a motion to approve the human resources recommendations, and Mrs. Dayhoff-Dwyer seconded the motion.

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

## **BOARD INPUT/REVIEW**

President Stenner encouraged individuals to go on social media and see the video of Schmitt Elementary students sharing the mission statement. The video was shared at a recent board meeting. He also thanked Mrs. Millspaugh, Food Service Director, for providing the reception food. Mr. Stenner noted that a patron, Michael Greven, had shared his concerns at a past board meeting about the wages for BCSC teaching assistants. The board requested he share this concern with legislatures. This week, Mr. Greven, spoke to legislatures at the Third House Session about the need to increase school funding so teaching assistants could be paid at a higher rate.

President Stenner shared that the next school board meeting would be February 27, 7:00 p.m. at Richards Elementary School. Third House Sessions are on Mondays, 7:30 a.m. at City Hall, but there will not be a session on President's Day, February 20, or on spring break, March 13 and 20.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:06 p.m.

Secretary

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