

**BARTHOLOMEW CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL CORPORATION  
SCHOOL BOARD MEETING  
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2020 MINUTES**

The regular meeting of the Board of School Trustees of the Bartholomew Consolidated School Corporation was held at the Parkside Elementary School, 1400 Parkside Drive, Columbus, IN 47203, on Monday, February 17, 2020 at 6:30 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. Jeff Caldwell, President  
                                  Dr. Jill Shedd, Vice President  
                                  Mr. Pat Bryant, Secretary  
                                  Dr. Julie Bilz, Member  
                                  Mr. Rich Stenner, Member  
                                  Mrs. Kathy Dayhoff-Dwyer, Member

Absent:                     Mr. James Persinger, Member

Administration:         Dr. Jim Roberts, Superintendent  
                                  Ms. Teresa Heiny, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources  
                                  Mr. Chad Phillips, Assistant Superintendent for Business Services  
                                  Dr. Laura Hack, Director of Elementary Education  
                                  Mr. William Jensen, Director of Secondary Education  
                                  Dr. Gina Pleak, Director of Title Services  
                                  Dr. Brett Boezeman, Director of Operations  
                                  Dr. George Van Horn, Director of Special Education

School Attorney:        Mr. Chris Monroe

**REGULAR SESSION**

Mr. Caldwell shared reflections.

Following the pledge of allegiance, the meeting was called to order at 6:32 p.m.

Parkside students Leo Iorio and Nino Akhalaya shared the Mission and Vision statements.

Mr. Caldwell noted the high expectation objectives.

## **WHO/WHY**

### **Parkside Elementary School Best Practice (Mr. Smith and Ms. Bodart)**

Parkside Principal, Mr. Smith shared the Parkside informational slide in regards to the structural renovations that have occurred at Parkside Elementary as well as enrollment, diversity and languages spoken.

Ms. Dana Bodart, Assistant Principal at Parkside, as well as the Parkside student team of Leo Iorio, Nino Akhalaya, Addison Robinson and Miley McClellan shared student council goals. The goals included developing a garden area, implementing a student feedback box as well as a first aid education day and organizing a recycling campaign. They also shared the impact the sensory hallway has on Parkside students. The sensory hallway has been made available to Parkside Elementary through a BCSF grant.

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

Options are being discussed as to where to place the school garden. Mr. Smith shared that school classroom gardens have been placed in the courtyard areas in the past, but this garden idea is on a much larger scale.

The Special Education PLC worked together to identify the student needs and the benefits for the sensory hallway. The activities of marching and stomping helps the student walk, stand and sit in a controlled manner. Arm pushes help develop fine motor control skills for hand writing and also develop the eyes to focus on sentences. Ms. Bodart concluded there are so many benefits of the sensory hallway and the students find the activities to be fun.

Mrs. Kathy Dayhoff-Dwyer commended the students on the sensory hallway and the goals of the student council. She referenced her first aid experience and her availability to help the students with their goals for student council.

### **CSA New Tech/Ivy Tech IT Pathway presentation (Mr. Mike Reed and Mr. Mark Schneider)**

CSA New Tech principal, Mr. Mike Reed shared the mission and vision of the Columbus Signature Academy. CSA New Tech's mission is to prepare socially engaged citizens who excel in an information and technology enriched society. The vision is to be a revolutionary pathway for education. In order for the academy to continue to be revolutionary, it must continue to evolve and adapt practices to meet the demands of an ever changing society. Mr. Reed introduced Mr. Mark Schneider, Director of K-14 Initiatives at Ivy Tech. The new CSA New Tech IT Pathway has been made possible with TIF dollars for Work Force Development and will be available to CSA students in the 2020-2021 school year. The IT Pathway is the first of its kind to be made available in the state of Indiana. This 3-year pathway will be taught by an Ivy Tech professor integrated with CSA New Tech facilitators. The CSA student could possibility take 23 college transferable IT credits and 36 total college credits when combined with general education

dual credit classes offered at CSA New Tech. The pathway presents all areas of IT, which allows students at the end of three years to have a good indication of which IT path to take.

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

Ivy Tech has fulfilled the DOE diploma requirements for high school graduation for any career technical education course sequence.

There is opportunity as well as support for a student to pursue both paths during their high school career. The IT Pathway is attractive to students already thinking about an area in IT. If a student wants to make a graduation diploma change, guidance is given to make sure they are in a position to graduate with either path.

Every three years these classes have to be recertified. There is always ongoing development with this program.

There will be a minimum number of 25 students in the program. Mr. Reed along with Mr. Schneider will be organizing a call out for the IT Pathway at CSA next week. Mr. Reed shared there is already a large interest in this Pathway.

This is the first use of TIF dollars to fund a pathway program like this in the state of Indiana. The resources from both Ivy Tech and BCSC make these opportunities available here in Columbus.

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Barb Wills, 5700 West State Road 46, is a parent of two Southside Elementary students as well as a Central Middle, East High and North High School student. She also has two North High School graduates. She commended the new BCSC website and also shared concerns in regards to advisory periods and the upcoming block schedule at the high school level.

Both Dr. Roberts and Mr. Caldwell acknowledged her strong points. Dr. Roberts stated that she would receive follow-up in regards to her questions and concerns.

## **WHAT**

### **1) School Board Policy Updates:**

Dr. Roberts highlighted the policies that are currently being reviewed due to federal and state law changes. He shared BCSC utilizes a company by the name of Neola to recommend policy changes. He stated that the first reading would be held at the March 2 board meeting and the second reading, with the possibility of board approval, held at the April 13 board meeting.

## **2) Board Commendations:**

Dr. Jill Shedd spoke of the news story of Baby Mia. The baby was placed in a Safe Haven Box at a Seymour fire station. The box is a result of a senior project of BCSC graduate Hunter Wart. She affirmed the work quality of BCSC and the meaning of our senior projects.

Dr. Shedd shared that 2018 Columbus North graduate Ava Becker is the winner of the Columbus Bicentennial Logo Contest. She is currently a student at the University of Louisville.

Dr. Shedd also shared information on the “Love your history” competition titled “What does love your history mean to you”? The first place winner of the contest was Kate Russell, a ninth grader at CSA New Tech.

Mr. Stenner recognized and congratulated the Columbus North Cyber Patriot Team. They competed and advanced in their recent competition. He also acknowledged the upcoming GalacTech Robot Competition and the opportunity Columbus has to host this event.

Mr. Stenner also noted the local Brown Vocal and Instrumental Competition. Many BCSC students were recognized and won scholarships that will contribute to their studies. He gave commendations to those students.

Mr. Caldwell gave commendations to both the Parkside Pirates girls’ and boys’ basketball teams. The teams placed first in the Elementary Basketball League tournament. The Parkside cheerleading team placed second in the Cheer Day Competition.

## **3) School Attorney Report:**

No report was shared.

## **4) School Board Member Reports:**

Dr. Jill Shedd attended the Indiana School Board Association State House Day on February 11. She noted the panel of State Legislators, including the House and Senate Education Chairs as well as the Leader of the State Senate, were both informative and helpful. She also shared they were very thoughtful about education but did indicate they would not address educational funding until 2021.

Dr. Bilz attended the IUPUC advisory board meeting. She commented how interesting the presentation was regarding the Polish Holocaust survivors. She also noted there was discussion about the possibility of IUPUC getting a sports team.

Dr. Bilz also recently attended a meeting as a new member of the Bartholomew Consolidated School Foundation. She noted upcoming information will be announced regarding grants, activities and events.

## **5) Cabinet Reports**

- **2019 Year End Financial Report (Mr. Phillips)**

Mr. Phillips shared highlights from the 2019 financial results. Mr. Phillips noted that the overall results were negative for the Education Fund in 2019, but this was expected due to higher health premiums, teacher retro pay and the \$400 stipends that were issued after the collective bargaining agreement. The results could have been worse without unexpected higher revenues of 1.8%. The local revenues were also higher due to the timing of cash flow: changing the billing cycle of the C-4 schools resulted in an additional payment, the interest earned for 2019 was much higher than expected and the bond premium for the tax anticipation warrant was received in December and recorded in 2019. The total revenues received into the Education Fund were \$75,921,811. The benefits were \$1M above budget. The year-end cash balance of just over \$2.1M is down approximately \$531K. It would cover approximately one payroll.

Mr. Phillips broke down the month to month expenses for 2019. Even with the larger than expected transfer from the Education Fund to the Operational Fund, BCSC's total transfer was less than 9%, which is well below the state legislature threshold suggested guideline of 15%.

Mr. Phillips shared highlights of the Operational Fund report showing higher than expected revenues, as well. Actual property tax cap losses were about \$1.2M, but other revenues including other taxes, interest on investments and two auctions of excess property more than offset those losses. Expenses for salaries and benefits were above expected with health benefits hitting the operational budget severely at \$800,000. Buses were purchased in May 2019. The year-end result is positive by \$2.5M, but about \$1.6M of these funds are encumbered for existing purchases and projects that were not expended in 2019 making the net result positive \$900,000. Mr. Phillips stated that the year-end balance in the Operations Fund is not quite back to where it was at the end of 2016, but is certainly a better result than last year.

Health expenses have increased 40% from 2015 to 2019 and in that same period revenues, which is the premiums, have increased 30%. Mr. Phillips shared the losses have built upon each other to the extent that we ended 2019 about a half million dollars in the hole on the health trust side.

He concluded by stating that in order to accomplish this year end result we delayed many small building projects for the last two years as well as CPF projects and made reductions in the budget for equipment for 2019.

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

Mr. Phillips noted the one-time increases in revenues cannot be expected in 2020 or future years. We cut small projects and equipment purchases ranging from \$5,000 to \$20,000 across our 21 buildings. We expected our 2019 tax cap losses to be \$1.8M which was the DLGF estimate and did not expect to have higher interest income. We budgeted on losing \$1.8 M in tax caps and not having interest revenue income.

The board asked Mr. Phillips to provide the top five health care providers BCSC issues checks to each month.

SIHO pays the PBM for Price MD directly. Pharmacy is the largest driver of our increases. Large claims and pharmacy are by far the number one and number two expenditures, not hospitalizations.

He noted forecasting of the 2020 claims is possible if we pay SIHO for that information. The one entity that does forecast is the reinsurance company. We use their actuarial estimate or projected claims to make our projections. We will be able to see if the changes we have made take affect after we have a couple months of claims for 2020.

- **2019 Energy Management Report (Dr. Boezeman)**

Dr. Boezeman shared the district has been charged to begin to formulate an annual sustainability management plan. There were a variety of stakeholder groups within the community who provided feedback into the development of the report. The report highlights how BCSC has implemented goals of responsible management practices and how the corporation strives to be fiscally responsible in terms of energy management.

Dr. Boezeman presented the Energy Use Index (EUI) for each BCSC building and shared strategies for lowering those scores. Two of those strategies are the installation of LED lighting upgrades as well as seeking board approval for solar roofing projects for 2020. We strive to stay responsible in terms of energy management, but it does take personal resources to reach the goals. The BCSC staff and students are educated on energy management and are presented with ways to be resourceful with conserving. Dr. Boezeman also noted as BCSC continues to reduce and save dollars each year, the Energy Manager, Martin Roberts, has implemented and continues to manage shut down procedures in the 21 buildings.

The successes and accomplishments in 2019 include improving insulation in the roofing system at Taylorsville Elementary and installation of two high-efficient condensing boilers at the Administration Building. Randy Surface oversaw the replacement of 66 double-paned/ high efficient windows in the Memorial Gym at Columbus North High School. BCSC continues to review data and reduce electric and gas resources yearly as well as work with Duke Energy and REMC for energy rebates.

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

The new roof will help with energy efficiency at the Transportation and Maintenance building.

The EUI average score of 68 will reduce immensely next year with the Administration Building boiler replacement and solar roof installations at both Taylorsville Elementary and Northside Middle School.

## **HOW**

### **5) Requests for Approval: (Dr. Roberts)**

Dr. Roberts reviewed the following items for the Board.

- a. Minutes of the Regular School Board Meeting of January 27, 2020 (attachment)
- b. Supplemental Contracts (Dr. Hack/Mr. Jensen)
- c. Field Trips/Professional Leaves (Dr. Hack/Mr. Jensen)
- d. School Fundraisers (Dr. Hack/Mr. Jensen)
- e. Claims and Payroll (Mr. Phillips)
- f. 2019 Appropriation Adjustments (Mr. Phillips)
- g. Award bids for Northside and Taylorsville Solar Project (Dr. Boezeman)
- h. Award bid for Northside building controls project (Dr. Boezeman)
- i. Award bid for 2020 category 2 E-Rate for Wi-Fi updates (Dr. Boezeman/Mr. Williams)
- j. Permission to Request Food Service Bids for Milk, Dairy, Dry Goods, Frozen Products and Bread Products (Dr. Boezeman/Ms. Millspaugh)

Dr. Roberts shared additional information on the requests for approval. He requested approval of the reviewed items a-j.

Dr. Shedd made a motion to approve the reviewed items and Mr. Bryant seconded the motion.

Upon a call for the vote, Items 5) a-j were unanimously approved.

### **6) Request for Approval of Human Resources Recommendations:**

Dr. Bilz made a motion to approve the Human Resources recommendations, and Dr. Shedd seconded the motion.

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

## **BOARD INPUT/REVIEW**

Ms. Dayhoff -Dwyer thanked the Parkside Elementary staff and students as well as commended them on their presentation. She also encouraged those in attendance to celebrate the Education Hall of Fame winner at next month's board meeting. The reception will be held Monday, March 2 at 6:00 pm in the Central Middle School cafeteria.

Dr. Shedd thanked Ivy Tech and CSA New Tech for their collaboration efforts.

Dr. Bilz noted the Alternative Licensing Meeting on Feb 19 at 5:30 pm in the Terrace Room. Dr. Bilz as well as the IU-Bloomington Transition to Teaching program will be presenting.

Mr. Caldwell reminded everyone of the next board meeting on Monday, March 2 at Central

Middle School as well as the Education Hall of Fame reception will be held prior to the meeting at 6:00 pm in the cafeteria.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:11 p.m.

\_\_\_\_\_ Secretary

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_ President