

**BARTHOLOMEW CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL CORPORATION
SCHOOL BOARD MEETING, MONDAY, MARCH 9, 2015 MINUTES**

The regular meeting of the Board of School Trustees of the Bartholomew Consolidated School Corporation was held at Rockcreek Elementary School, 1300 E 200 S, Columbus, Indiana on Monday, March 9, 2015, 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. Robert Abrams, President
 Dr. Jill Shedd, Vice President
 Mr. Rich Stenner, Secretary
 Mr. Jeff Caldwell, Member
 Mrs. Polly Verbanic, Member

Absent: Mr. Pat Bryant, Member
 Mrs. Kathy Dayhoff-Dwyer, Member

Administration: Dr. John Quick, Superintendent
 Dr. Linda DeClue, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources
 Dr. Vaughn Sylva, Assistant Superintendent for Business Services
 Ms. Teresa Heiny, Director of Elementary Education
 Mr. William Jensen, Director of Secondary Education

School Attorney: Mrs. Kelly Benjamin

BUSINESS MEETING

Dr. Shedd offered reflections.

President Abrams called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

LEADERSHIP AND STRATEGIC PLANNING

Rockcreek students, Talon Jessup and Delaney Babinec read the BCSC Mission and Vision.

PRESENTATIONS

Columbus East High School Swimmer – State Finalist:

Mrs. Arnholt, East Swim Coach, introduced State Finalist swimmer Cortney Vanliew. She shared Cortney’s successes including breaking a school record. Cortney was congratulated by the Board and Cabinet.

Columbus North High School Swimmers – State Finalists:

Mrs. Scott, Columbus North Assistant Principal, noted that it was a pleasure to recognize the student athletes that are very committed and reflect in a positive way on the community.

Mr. Sheridan, Columbus North Swim Coach, introduced the Girls and Boys State Finalist swimmers. He shared their season highlights, including setting new school and state records. The student athletes were congratulated by the Board and Cabinet.

Mr. Abrams recognized Mr. Sheridan for his many years of leadership in the BCSC swim program. Mr. Sheridan is retiring from the swim coach position.

Rockcreek Elementary School Best Practice:

Ms. Heiny noted that the state requires 90 minutes of an uninterrupted reading block. Rockcreek will present how they determine the instruction needs in and outside of the reading block.

Mrs. Dettmer, Rockcreek Principal, and teachers Ms. Hill and Ms. Bedel, shared how they use mClass assessment data to drive their instruction. The data indicates the student's fluency and comprehension levels. From this data they use BURST Intensive Intervention and Close Reading Strategies. They shared examples of the programs and noted how they align with the Universal Design for Learning (UDL) principles of engagement, representation and expression. The teachers shared data showing student improvement.

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

The BURST and Close Reading interventions are used mostly at the primary level but some aspects are used in the upper elementary grades.

The various enrichment tools and assessments used by the different elementary schools are available to all, but each school chooses what they determine to best meet the needs of their students.

Status of the iGrad Program:

Mr. Jensen and Mrs. Oren, Community Education Coalition, shared the status of the iGrad program that individually supports students with barriers to graduation. This program supports students county-wide in grades eight to twelve. This is the third year for the three-year pilot program and 94%-95% of the students in the program have graduated. This increases the overall graduation rate to 91.1% at Columbus North and 88.2% at Columbus East. Over 60% of the iGrad students have increased their grade point average. There are Graduation Coaches in four high schools and three middle schools. There are tutors and mentors from the community and 525 students are being served. There are an additional 175 students with a need for the support. It was noted that a key to the success of the program is the relationships between the

coaches and students. The daily connection helps the coaches understand the student barriers that often are not school related. Also, peer tutors have been a powerful tool for success.

In addition to both school corporations, the iGrad program partners include Ivy Tech, IUPUC and local businesses. Key stakeholder support comes from United Way, Bartholomew County Juvenile Probation Department, and Big Brothers Big Sisters. A five-year strategic plan was shared that would include adding a Program Director, a strong data measurement system and College and Career Readiness Coaches to help connect students to jobs, military, and postsecondary opportunities. The plan also includes ramping up the program to include all students with need. The five-year budget and operating plan was also shared with the goal being to develop program sustainability.

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

There is a national mandate that graduation rate is based on a four-year completion. Students that graduate early or in nine semesters cannot be counted in the graduation rate.

There are approximately 177 volunteer tutors and mentors.

The iGrad program is very reputable and there have been iGrad articles in journals and universities have completed studies. There was a recent feature by the Lumina Foundation and there have been articles in *The Republic*. Across the country there are many school corporations putting College and Career Readiness Coaches in high schools.

The student voice is powerful and iGrad students attend conferences with coaches and will be attending community presentations.

The Program Director would be the champion for the iGrad program and look for ways to sustain the program while doing community liaison work. This would allow the Team Leaders to spend more time with students.

Mentor and tutor training is administered through the Big Brothers Big Sisters program.

Students, depending on their success, will receive different levels of intervention. As iGrad students become successful they become mentors for the younger students.

Team Leaders and school personnel have been intentional in combating stigma that could be associated with iGrad students. School Administrators have found that the iGrad leaders have been a great partner for them as they can share the students' stories and needs.

It is important to capture the student and teacher voice.

Beginning with the Cummins Six Sigma project on graduation rates there have been community partnerships with Cummins, Community Education Coalition, Ivy Tech, BCSC and Flat Rock-Hawcreek School Corporation. Mrs. Oren noted that the iGrad Advisory Council is

confident that future funding will come through community support.

PUBLIC DIALOGUE:

Dr. Quick thanked Megan Banta, Republic Reporter, for her coverage of the past few meetings. She has taken another position out of town.

STUDENT AND STAKEHOLDER FOCUS (3.0)

1) Comments of Individuals and Delegations:

No one signed in to speak.

2) Board Commendations:

Dr. Shedd commended the Columbus North Girls' Basketball Team for winning the State Championship. They will be recognized at the April 13th board meeting.

MEASUREMENT, ANALYSIS, AND KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT (4.0)

3) Food Service Annual Report:

Dr. Sylva noted that the Food Service Department does a great job facing the challenges of rising food costs and federal mandates.

Mrs. Millspaugh, Food Service Director, shared the Food Service annual report. It was noted that the percent of students eating the plate lunch had increased. She credited this increase to student surveys/taste tests, student favorites on the menu, flavor stations, increase in serving box lunches, improved customer service and removing obstacles for meal service. There was an increase in participation in the summer feeding program. It was noted that \$61,713 was received monthly for meal pre-payments through My Lunch Money.com. Mrs. Millspaugh shared that there was a shortage in foods that met the federal regulations and this caused food prices to increase drastically. The USDA regulations on smart snacks caused a decrease in a la carte sales. The department is looking into fun and new ways to serve students such as cookouts and box lunch vending machines.

Mrs. Millspaugh shared the history of lunch prices and requested a 10 cent increase for elementary, secondary and adult lunches. Through the Healthy Hunger Free Kids Act of 2010, schools are mandated to raise the price of lunches if they are less than \$2.70. The maximum required annual average increase is capped at 10 cents.

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

The corporation cannot regulate the food that students bring in from home for lunch.

Locally grown farm foods are purchased and served in the cafeterias.

A school lunch costs on average of \$3.25. The paid lunch price does not cover this. Last year the budget ended in a \$3,000 shortfall. A larger shortfall is expected this year, but balances exist in all funds.

4) School Attorney Report:

No report was shared.

5) School Board Member Reports:

Mrs. Verbanic attended the Family School Partners Advisory Board where they discussed the outcome of the Dancing with the Stars fundraiser and the need for additional program funding. She shared that the program is being reinvigorated under the leadership of Mrs. Findley.

6) Cabinet Report:

EDUCATIONAL PROCESS FOR BOARD ACTION (6.0)

7) Requests for Approval: (Dr. Quick)

Dr. Quick reviewed the following items for the Board.

- a. Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of February 23, 2015 (attachment)
- b. Supplemental Contracts (attachment)
- c. Field Trips/Professional Leaves (attachment)
- d. Claims (attachment)
- e. Elementary English Language Arts Textbook Adoption (attachment)
- f. Change Order for Mt. Healthy Elementary School (attachment)

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

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)

8) Request for Approval of Human Resources Recommendations:

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

Dr. Shedd made a motion to approve the Human Resources recommendations as requested and

Mr. Abrams seconded the motion.

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

Dr. DeClue noted that the Human Resources approval included the appointment of Chad Phillips as the Director of Title Funds. She shared that the decision to hire Mr. Phillips in 2004 was a good one. He has had a unique list of experiences that include being an elementary principal, a middle school assistant principal and a high school department chair. Mr. Phillips has an Administrative License and is working on a Doctorate.

Dr. Quick added that the addition of Mr. Phillips gives the Cabinet a good balance of male to female and elementary and secondary experience. Dr. Quick said that we continue to surround ourselves with great people.

Mr. Abrams noted that Mr. Phillips had done a great job as the Principal of Columbus Signature Academy-Lincoln Campus.

BOARD INPUT/REVIEW

Mr. Abrams shared that the next school board meetings would be on April 13 & 27, 7:00 p.m. at Columbus North High School. Third House Sessions are held on Monday mornings, 7:30 a.m. at City Hall. However, they will not be in session the next two Mondays.

Dr. Quick noted that Mrs. Dayhoff-Dwyer was ill and Mr. Bryant was traveling.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:23 p.m.

_____Secretary

Attest: _____President