

**BARTHOLOMEW CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL CORPORATION
SCHOOL BOARD MEETING, MONDAY, AUGUST 24, 2015 MINUTES**

The regular meeting of the Board of School Trustees of the Bartholomew Consolidated School Corporation was held at the Administration Building, 1200 Central Avenue, Columbus, Indiana on Monday, August 24, 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. Pat Bryant, Member
 Mrs. Polly Verbanic, Member

Absent: Mr. Jeff Caldwell, Member
 Mrs. Kathy Dayhoff-Dwyer, Member

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

School Attorney: Mrs. Kelly Benjamin

BUSINESS MEETING

Mr. Stenner offered reflections.

President Abrams called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

LEADERSHIP AND STRATEGIC PLANNING

President Abrams noted the BCSC Mission, Vision and High Expectation Objectives.

PRESENTATIONS

STEM Camp 2015:

Mrs. Hack noted that it was a pleasure to work with Mrs. Zimmerman and Ms. Retrum as they directed the STEM Camp with the support of the C4 Department. It was great to see elementary students engaged in science, technology, engineering and math.

Mrs. Zimmerman and Ms. Retrum noted that 351 students from all BCSC elementary schools participated in STEM Camp, including Pre-K students. The camp was free for students and funded through the 21st Century Community Learning Grant in partnership with IUPUC, Purdue College of Technology, and Ivy Tech. Breakfast and lunch were served and students were transported.

Following the Universal Design for Learning (UDL) framework the “why”, “what” and “how” of STEM Camp was shared. Students were engaged in STEM related challenges while problem solving and collaborating. Students were challenged while discovering new learning in an enriched environment. Students had a voice in choosing and altering challenges to meet their interests and individualized learning. There were many options of expression, as students shared what they had learned. It was noted that all students were engaged and that there were no discipline issues. A list of curriculum samples was shared. As an example of a STEM Camp project, the board was instructed to build a tower from Oreo cookies.

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

Fliers were sent to all elementary schools as an open invitation for students to attend the free STEM Camp.

There was one teacher to every ten students. Relationships were established as students were grouped with children from different schools and with a teacher they likely did not know.

There was a lot of positive feedback and plans have begun for an even better STEM Camp next year. BCSC will again apply for the 21st Century Community Learning Grant.

The grant this year was for science, technology, engineering and math but the arts are often added.

Dr. Quick noted that Mrs. Zimmerman was a classroom teacher, and is now the corporation Testing Coordinator. Ms. Retrum was also a classroom teacher, and is the Dean of Students at Central Middle School.

Mr. Abrams noted that the Harvard STEM program evaluation tool is excellent in determining the effectiveness of facilitators. It would define where professional development is needed.

2016 Budget Work Session:

Dr. Sylva noted that the budget work session is not required by law. The purpose of the work session is to share budget information and give the board and public two weeks to give input before the Public Hearing. The 2016 budget is built on assumptions; the best information Dr. Sylva has at the time.

Dr. Sylva shared that he expects the General Fund revenues to increase \$1.3 million in

2016. This is driven by an estimated increase of 30 students on the September ADM count. An expenditure assumption in the General Fund was reported as \$71,879,393. Salary increases come from this fund. The December 2015 estimated General Fund balance is \$1 million.

The General Fund health costs remain unchanged. There are reserves in the Health Trust of \$9,800,000.

In response to a question from the board, Dr. Sylva noted that many of the retired teachers stayed on the health plan, especially those with the most medical needs.

Dr. Sylva shared how the budget risks have shifted from the state to the school corporations. The September ADM count funds the current six-month period. The February 2016 ADM count will fund the first half of 2016 and the September 2016 ADM count will fund the second half of 2016. This makes the state funding difficult to guess. The Rainy Day Fund has become more important with the uncertainty of the budget due to the change in the state funding process. There is \$6 million in the Rainy Day Fund.

In response to a question from the board, it was noted that the tax anticipation warrants are to borrow against the local tax draw that comes in the spring and fall. The anticipation warrants are not associated with the state funding.

Dr. Sylva added that the 2016 budget was built on a decline of 20 students. The present estimated student growth would generate \$300,000 more in state support. This should give a cash flow of \$350,000 in the General Fund.

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

The only two ways to increase the Rainy Day Fund is to transfer surplus from other funds and by the sale of assets. There is no comparative data available on Rainy Day Funds in other school corporations.

The board will be given a budget book with all budget details.

The Health Trust data as of July 2015 shows expenses on the rise.

Dr. Sylva shared the 2016 Debt Service Fund budgets. The regular Debt Service Fund budget totaled \$9,316,537. The Pension Debt Fund budget totaled \$1,452,113. The Pension Bonds have to reduce the budget elsewhere, so the payments become neutralized. The budgets that will be reduced are the Bus Replacement, Transportation and Capital Projects. The Referendum Debt Fund for the 2010 High School Bond totaled \$8,050,000.

The 2016 Capital Project Plan has an assumed budget of \$13,330,294. This fund is determined by the assessed value.

In response to a question from the board, Dr. Sylva added that the one-to-one technology devices were paid for by the Technology G.O. Bonds that fall under the Debt Service Fund.

Dr. Sylva shared that the Transportation Fund was balanced. The assumed revenue was \$5,909,000; expenditures were \$5,908,632, with a net surplus of \$368.

The initial Bus Replacement Plan would replace ten buses at a total cost of \$1,356,021. But, Dr. Sylva noted that the Pension Bond offset in 2016 would reduce the number of new buses to seven or eight.

Assessed Value data was shared showing an increase in 2014 and 2015. A higher value equals a lower tax rate.

Dr. Sylva shared that the Property Tax Cap Loses are still significant, but smaller than in the past. The law has changed and the debt funds do not take a hit from the tax cap loses, but the losses must be allocated to the Capital Projects Fund, Transportation Fund and Bus Replacement Fund.

The budget summary indicated the proposed total budget, before Department of Local Government (DLGF) adjustments, to be \$111,292,989. This is an estimated increase of 2.6%.

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

The February ADM count is projected to be 100 students lower than the September count.

The DLGF can determine there is too much money in the corporation's Rainy Day Fund and require the corporation to spend the money in the fund.

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, as a parent, thanked the Board for their support in hosting the students from Miyoshi, Japan. Her family hosted a Miyoshi student and she noted that the experience was a positive, cultural learning experience for all.

4) School Board Member Reports:

Dr. Shedd attended the Health Trust meeting where they discussed pre-certification issues and penalties. Currently, 85% of the available appointments are being used at the Health Center. The wellness provision in the new contract will be promoted after Labor Day. Health claims for both medical and prescriptions are up; this may bring premium increases for 2016. Premiums have not increased for three years. Affordable Healthcare legislation and the “Cadillac Tax” may cause some changes around health savings accounts.

Dr. Shedd shared the High Expectation Objective (HEO) Metrics that the Board has asked schools to include in their annual School Improvement Plans. The metrics were identified by stakeholders as meaningful measures to demonstrate progress of the Board’s HEO’s. The annual reports will also include testing data.

Dr. Shedd also noted that the Indiana Department of Education has a new template for the School Improvement Plans.

Mrs. Verbanic attended the Literacy Task Force where they learned that the enrollment of adult female English Language Learners had increased. McDowell reported that the percentage of those passing the high school equivalency exam was 84% and the state average was 67%. Busy Bees has over 160 Pre-K students enrolled. The Book Express has a new coordinator, Alison McGriff. The enrollment at iCARE continues to increase. The Community Book Read will have a bicentennial theme and the Literacy Festival is scheduled for May 14.

Mr. Abrams attended the Diversity Leadership Council where members of the African American Ministers Alliance shared information on the Race Relations’ events that were held in Columbus on August 13-15. Information was shared on the work within the corporation of culture responsiveness through UDL. Mr. Jensen and Mr. Edwards, Columbus East Assistant Principal, are co-chairs of the council.

5) Cabinet Report:

Mr. Jensen shared that 20 educators from Japan would be visiting BCSC to see how UDL works in the classroom. BCSC students that are native Japanese speakers will be translating for the visitors.

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 School Board Meeting of August 10, 2015 (attachment)
- b. Supplemental Contracts (attachment)
- c. Field Trips/Professional Leaves (attachment)
- d. Claims (attachment)
- e. School Board Policy Revisions (attachment)
- f. Permission to Bid the Rockcreek Elementary Addition/Renovation and the Southside Elementary Interior Renovations (attachment)

Dr. Shedd made a motion to approve the items as described by the Superintendent. The motion was seconded by Mr. Bryant.

Mrs. Verbanic asked if the question Dr. Shedd had about bullying off-campus had been addressed.

Dr. Shedd noted that it had, and that she was confident that any reported off-campus bullying would be thoroughly investigated.

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

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.

Mrs. Verbanic made a motion to approve the recommendations and Dr. Shedd seconded the motion.

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

BOARD INPUT/REVIEW

Dr. Quick noted that the East vs. North football game would be Friday night. The coaches of fall sports from North and East attended Rotary and did a great job speaking.

Mr. Abrams shared that the next school board meetings would be September 14 and 28, 7:00 p.m. at Columbus Signature Academy-Lincoln Campus.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:02 p.m.

_____Secretary

Attest: _____President