**BARTHOLOMEW CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL CORPORATION**

**SCHOOL BOARD MEETING, MONDAY AUGUST 28, 2017 MINUTES**

The regular meeting of the Board of School Trustees of the Bartholomew Consolidated School Corporation was held at the BCSC Administration Building, 1200 Central Avenue, Columbus, IN 47201, on Monday, August 28, 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. Rich Stenner, President

Mr. Jeff Caldwell, Vice President

Mr. Robert Abrams, Member

Mrs. Kathy Dayhoff-Dwyer, Secretary

Mr. James Persinger, Member

Dr. Jill Shedd, Member

Absent: Mr. Pat Bryant, 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

School Attorney: Mr. Chris Monroe

**REGULAR SESSION**

Mr. Caldwell shared reflections.

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

**WHO/WHY**

President Stenner noted the mission, vision and the high expectation objectives.

**Facility Improvements:**

Mr. Jim Funk, CSO Architect, presented slides that highlighted the summer facility improvements across the corporation. He noted the exterior and interior improvements at Columbus East and Columbus North High Schools. There will be additional HVAC work at both high schools later this fall. Facility improvements were highlighted for the following elementary schools: Parkside, Clifty Creek, Smith, Taylorsville, Schmitt, Rockcreek, Southside and Richards. Northside Middle Schools’ improvements were also noted. Mr. Funk shared high praise for the two contractors, The Poole Group and Maxwell Construction. Mr. Funk noted that the playground improvement projects would go out to bid in late September for all elementary schools except CSA-Lincoln. CSA-Lincoln’s plan is to emulate their original playground’s architectural design. They have received $140,000 in various grants and fundraising is ongoing. These dollars will be added to their portion of the BCSC playground funds.

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

There were 186 rooms in the corporation that benefited from the renovations.

The playground surfaces will be mulch, but they will have padded walkways to make them more accessible.

Some miscellaneous improvements not shown on the slides would include painting, carpet replacement, railing and lighting improvements on ramps.

There was an investigation into an employee’s report that the temperature in the kitchen at Clifty Creek was hot. BCSC maintenance personnel addressed issues in the HVAC ductwork, and there were much improved conditions the next day. Maintenance personnel will continue to monitor the temperature.

**PUBLIC DIALOGUE**

No one spoke at this time.

**WHAT**

**1) Board Commendations:**

Mr. Stenner commended the BCSC Transportation Department that was recently recognized by IMMI (Indiana Mills and Manufacturing, Inc.) for proactive student safety by fitting its new buses with lap-shoulder belts. The award was given on Tuesday, August 22nd, and was “In appreciation of your dedication to making more school buses safer with lap-shoulder belts for the children of your district.” Dr. Roberts and Mrs. Karen Wetherald, Transportation Manager, attended the summit to receive the award and also witnessed a school bus side impact demonstration.

Mrs. Wetherald added that 62 general education buses and 11 special needs buses have seatbelts. The district has 142 buses that cover 325 routes and 4,302 miles per day.

Dr. Roberts added that the buses the corporation will purchase in the future will be fitted with lap-shoulder belts. He commended former Superintendent Dr. Quick and the Transportation Department for making the decision in 2008 to purchase buses with seatbelts to make the bus ride safer for children.

Mrs. Wetherald noted that bus drivers appreciate the seatbelts and students are accustomed to wearing them. Discipline data shows that student behavior has improved while wearing seatbelts.

**2) School Attorney Report:**

No report was shared.

**3) School Board Member Reports:**

Mr. Abrams shared that he is a representative on the calendar committee, and Ms. Heiny would share more information on the next three-year calendar.

Mr. Caldwell attended the D& F Committee meeting where the facility improvement slides were shared. He also represents the board on the Health Trust and noted that they are preparing information for the CEA agreement.

Mr. Abrams attended the Business Advisory Board meeting where they discussed the three-year school calendar, early childhood legislation, the Cultural Center at Columbus North and the Governor’s Work Ethic Certificate (GWEC).

**4)** **Cabinet Reports:**

Mr. Jensen shared that the corporation received a $100,000 Heritage Fund Grant to apply to the ongoing work for the Counseling Counts Community Initiative, which is designing a community systems approach to improve the mental health of students in pre-k through grade 12.

Ms. Heiny noted that the calendar committee consists of a sub-group of the Business Advisory Committee. She shared that the process is quite complex as there must be 180 days, two equal semesters, and they determine a start date by moving backwards through the calendar. There will be a calendar survey on the BCSC website for two weeks. This will be advertised through social media and each school will notify parents. Ms. Heiny added that the committee hopes to present a first reading of the three-year calendar at the second school board meeting in September, and request approval in October.

There is data that overwhelming proves that the longer the break from school, the less children retain. BCSC has shortened the summer break and a two-week learning opportunity is offered to students during the summer.

Dr. Roberts commended Columbus East High School Administrators and staff for all their efforts around the memorial for Sgt. Jonathon Hunter. Sgt. Hunter was a Columbus East graduate.

Mr. Jensen shared that he and Dr. Roberts presented earlier to the Columbus Redevelopment Commission on the use of the TIF dollarsfrom last year and have requested new funding for 2018. The commissioners were very impressed with the results of the data shared on the three student programs of iGrad, STEM and transition planning for students with disabilities. The request for $750,000 from TIF funds has again been approved by the Redevelopment Commission and will be on the City Council’s agenda for approval on September 5th. If approved, the 2018 TIF dollars would support the following: iGrad, high school science lab equipment, professional development for STEM instruction on new equipment and resources, and transition planning for post-secondary readiness for students with special needs.

**HOW**

**5) Request for Approval of School Board Policy 3220.01-Teacher Appreciation Grants**

**(Dr. Roberts)**

Dr. Roberts shared that it was required by law to adopt a policy indicating the distribution of Teacher Appreciation Grants and to submit the policy to the Indiana Department of Education by September 15th. The corporation has to differentiate the cash stipend by at least 25% between teachers that rated “highly effective” and those that rated “effective” on their performance evaluation. The proposed policy also indicates that the corporation has the flexibility for up to 50% of the Teacher Appreciation Grant to become a permanent part of and increase the base salary of the teachers.

Dr. Roberts requested approval of Policy 3220.01-Teacher Appreciation Grants**.**

Mr. Caldwell made a motion to approve the policy and Dr. Shedd seconded the motion.

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

The 50% of the grant that could increase the base salary of the teacher would only go to teachers that are rated “highly effective” or “effective” on their evaluations.

It is unknown if any other corporations have distributed grant dollars to base salaries. More research on the process will take place.

The Teacher Appreciation Grant policy has to be submitted to the Indiana Department of Education each year.

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

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

Dr. Roberts reviewed the following items for the Board.

a. Minutes of the Regular School Board Meeting of August 14, 2017 (attachment)

b. Supplemental Contracts (attachment)

c. Field Trips/Professional Leaves (attachment)

d. Claims (attachment)

Dr. Roberts requested approval of the reviewed items.

Dr. Shedd made a motion to approve the reviewed items and Mrs. Dayhoff-Dwyer seconded the motion.

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

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

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

Mr. Abrams made a motion to approve the human resources recommendations, and Mr. Persinger seconded the motion.

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

**BOARD INPUT/REVIEW**

Dr. Shedd noted that all hearts go out to those in Texas experiencing the flooding.

Mr. Stenner stressed the importance of receiving as much input as possible on the calendar and that public awareness regarding the survey is very important.

President Stenner shared that the next school board meetings would be September 11th and 25th

at6:30 p.m. at Clifty Creek Elementary School

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:12 p.m.

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