

**BARTHOLOMEW CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL CORPORATION
SCHOOL BOARD MEETING, MONDAY SEPTEMBER 11, 2017 MINUTES**

The regular meeting of the Board of School Trustees of the Bartholomew Consolidated School Corporation was held at Clifty Creek Elementary School, 4625 E 50 N, Columbus, IN 47203, on Monday, September 11, 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
 Mrs. Kathy Dayhoff-Dwyer, Secretary
 Mr. Robert Abrams, Member
 Mr. Pat Bryant, Member
 Mr. James Persinger, Member
 Dr. Jill Shedd, Member

Absent: Mr. Jeff Caldwell, Vice President

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. Bryant shared reflections.

Clifty Creek student, Fernanda Garcia, led the pledge of allegiance to the flag. The meeting was called to order at 6:34 p.m.

WHO/WHY

Clifty Creek Elementary students, Tyson Arnold and Jorge Lagos-Mendoza, read the mission and vision. Mr. Stenner noted the high expectation objectives.

Dr. Roberts shared an informational slide on Clifty Creek Elementary School.

Heritage Automotive Sales Presents \$2000 to Clifty Creek Elementary School:

Mr. Whittington, School Foundation Chairman, and Mrs. Bruin, School Foundation Executive Director, shared their excitement for the partnership with Heritage Automotive Sales and thanked them for doing great things for kids.

Heritage Automotive Sales in Columbus is owned by Loren and Erica White, along with their daughters, Kiersten, Kelsey and Kenzie. Mrs. White and Kelsey shared that they are committed to donating \$200 from every vehicle sold each month to a different BCSC elementary school. The first recipient for August sales was Clifty Creek Elementary School, and a \$2000 check was presented to the principal, Mr. Parsons. Taylorsville Elementary will receive the donation for September.

Clifty Creek Elementary School Best Practice-STEM Club:

Mr. Parsons thanked Heritage Automotive Sales for the donation and noted in his first few months with BCSC that he had been impressed with the community's generosity and support for children.

Mr. Parsons and Ms. Jordan, STEM Club sponsor, shared that the STEM Club focuses on introductory level projects in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM). This student engagement is piquing their interest towards pursuing STEM careers. Cummins engineers are paired with fourth through sixth grade students as they work together on projects through the Universal Design for Learning (UDL) framework of engagement, representation, action and expression. Approximately 40 students attend STEM Club during each module. Examples of the project-based learning activities were building towers and catapults, suspension bridges, roller coasters, and Lego robotics. Students shared why they like STEM Club. This year, Clifty Creek plans to offer the STEM Club opportunity for third graders.

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

STEM Club is an after school activity.

Teachers collaborate with Cummins' engineers to develop the design process of the module. Teachers set the curriculum and the students, with the Cummins engineer, research, build, test and rebuild during the three-week modules.

Students build confidence and the club instills a growth mindset.

2018 Budget Work Session:

Mr. Phillips thanked the board for allowing him and Dr. Sylva to work together on building the 2018 budget. He noted that the budget they were about to see had the benefits of Dr. Sylva's 15 years of history.

Mr. Phillips shared that this was the budget work session and on September 25th there would be a public hearing on the 2018 budget. On October 23rd the board would be asked to approve the budget. This is the last year the budget will look this way due to House Bill 1009; implementation will likely change and the budget will go from seven funds to two large funds. The General Fund will become the Education Fund in 2019.

Mr. Phillips noted that the most dominant factor for the General Fund would be state support based on the ADM count on September 15, 2017. The ADM count funding formula will fund the budget from July 2017 to July 2018. The state has gone back to just one ADM count in September for funding purposes. Assuming the ADM count is up 36 students, Mr. Phillips expects the total revenues for the General Fund to be \$75.3M, an increase from \$72.9M in 2017. An increase in interest rates and excess levy collections will help increase the revenues as well.

The expenditure assumption for the General Fund was \$75.3M up from \$72.9M in 2017. The expenditure increase is due to the Transition to Teacher Salary Schedule and a 6.6% increase in General Fund health costs. There was not an increase in the number of certified staff, and only one additional teaching assistant was added to support staff. In the General Fund, 96% of the expenditures are for salaries and benefits, including health insurance.

The General Fund reserves for January 2018 were estimated to be \$1,300,000 and in addition to this, there are \$6,274,348 in the Rainy Day Fund. This is nearly 10% of the general fund budget in reserves.

The Health Trust is a large portion of the General Fund budget. Higher health claims in 2015-16 caused the reserves to go down. Expenses are starting to normalize and reserves as of July 2017 were \$6,097,577. Mr. Phillips commended Dr. Sylva for working to find ways to help keep expenditures stable, and he and Dr. Sylva are currently working with the Columbus Educators Association (CEA) on Health Trust strategies.

Mr. Phillips shared the Debt Service Fund Budgets. The Debt Service Fund budget totaled \$9,853,900. The Pension Debt Fund totaled \$314,127. The Pension Bond payments have to reduce the budget elsewhere, so the payments become neutralized. With the Pension Debt Fund being 78.40% lower, the bond neutrality amount will be less in 2018 for the Capital Project Fund (CPF) Budget and Bus Replacement Budget. The Referendum Debt Fund for the 2010 High School Bond totaled \$7,925,000. This will continue to decrease each year and will expire in 2029.

The 2018 Capital Projects Plan has an assumed budget of \$14,198,609. As a result of less Pension Bond neutrality and anticipated increase in AV, the fund shows an increase of 5.77%. This increase will allow the continuation of on-going maintenance across the district.

Mr. Phillips shared that the Transportation Fund budget is projected to be \$6,076,721, an increase of 2.41%. There were five Pre-K bus drivers and five Pre-K monitors added to the budget.

The initial Bus Replacement Plan would have allowed ten buses to be purchased at the approximate cost of \$1,383,141. Mr. Phillips noted that the pension bond neutralization would reduce the number of buses to be purchased to seven or eight.

The assessed valuation data prediction was \$4,054,825,006 compared to \$3,962,111,595 in 2017. A higher assessed value lowers the tax rate, which generates a larger budget. The actual assessed value may be known in two weeks.

Mr. Phillips reported that the Property Tax Cap Losses have remained stable for a few years and no major change is predicted for 2018.

Mr. Phillips shared the budget summary that indicated the proposed total budget would be \$115,094,005. This is an estimated increase of 2.18% with the tax rate to stay stable or be slightly lower. Mr. Phillips noted that there would be a Public Hearing on the budget on September 25th and a request for approval at the October 23rd board meeting.

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

The difficult part of the budget was all the unknowns. Two of the unknowns were salaries, since formal negotiations cannot start until September 15th, and health premiums. Mr. Phillips stated that he relied on Dr. Sylva's 15 years of knowledge.

The 2017 BCSC tax rate was .8466.

The ADM count includes all students enrolled on that day; they do not have to be present. All students have state Student Test Numbers to verify that they are enrolled at one school only.

The On My Way Pre-K grant dollars are for the individual family that has applied and been approved. The payments are kept separate from this budget. The grant dollars will be paid to the corporation for the approved student.

In 2017, there were nine buses purchased.

PUBLIC DIALOGUE

No one spoke at this time.

WHAT

1) Board Commendations:

No commendations were shared.

2) School Attorney Report:

No reports were shared.

3) School Board Member Reports:

No reports were shared.

4) Cabinet Reports:

Mr. Jensen shared that there was a unanimous approval from the Columbus City Council for the request of TIF dollars for BCSC. The Columbus Redevelopment Commission had already approved the \$750,000 in TIF dollars for 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.

Mr. Jensen, along with 140 Latino students, attended an IUPUC Career and Post-Secondary Exploration program. Clifty Creek first year kindergarten teacher, Greicy Patino, was the keynote speaker and also led the presentation of the careers in education strand. In light of the DACA rescission, IUPUC shared with the students that the community was hopeful and would continue to work in the best interest of our students and provide help to them through this.

Ms. Heiny noted that the calendar survey would close at the end of Tuesday, September 12th. The Calendar Committee would meet Wednesday morning to discuss the results and work on the three-year calendar proposal. There will be a calendar proposal presentation at the next board meeting on September 25th, and the board will be requested to approve the calendar on October 23rd.

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 August 28, 2017 (attachment)
- b. Supplemental Contracts (attachment)
- c. Field Trips/Professional Leaves (attachment)
- d. Claims (attachment)
- e. Change Order for Columbus East High School Track Renovation (attachment)

Dr. Roberts requested approval of the reviewed items. He noted that the change order was a decrease of \$43,728.

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

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

Mr. Forster shared that there are several layers to a running track, and the contractor discovered that the asphalt grinder level of the track at Columbus East was in good shape and would not need to be replaced. This allowed for a decrease of \$43,728 in the Glove Asphalt contract.

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

6) Request for Approval of Human Resources Recommendations:

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

Mr. Persinger 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

Dr. Shedd and Mr. Persinger shared their appreciation for the STEM presentation.

Mrs. Dayhoff-Dwyer asked everyone to keep those affected by the recent hurricanes and all emergency responders in our thoughts.

Dr. Roberts thanked Mr. Parsons and Mrs. Holliday for hosting the meeting.

Mr. Stenner thanked Mr. Bryant for his reflections on remembering 9.11.

The next school board meeting would be September 25th, 6:30 p.m. at Clifty Creek Elementary School.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:29 p.m.

_____ Secretary

Attest: _____ President