

Education Transition program will receive \$246,796, and the Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) program will receive \$249,379.

Southside Elementary School Flexible Learning Environments:

Dr. Hack shared that when one thinks of student success they consider the environment students encounter each day. The following presentation will share the flexible learning environments at Southside Elementary School.

Mr. Backmeyer, Southside Principal and teachers Ms. Luken and Mrs. Bodart shared how the flexible learning environment positively impacts student learning in the classroom. Students have a choice to decide from many options what learning space works best for them as there are no assigned seats. It was noted how flexible learning environments support the Universal Design for Learning (UDL) guidelines through multiple means of engagement, representation, action and expression. Some classroom furniture items have been repurposed, and the Capital Projects Fund (CPF) has supported the purchase of items such as stability ball chairs, ergo seating, standing desks, floor mats and kneeling tables with pads.

Southside first grade students, Kori Jones and Hunter Koharchick, shared how much they like getting to choose where they will do their work in the classroom. Classroom expectations are set and there is a flexible seating contract that is signed.

In response to questions from the board the following information was shared.

Students are focused on their tasks, motivated and engaged as they sit comfortably. Learning expectations are being met. There are plenty of options in the building for sitting in a quiet orderly fashion, such as convocations and in the cafeteria. In the flexible learning environment students are expected to behave in an orderly and positive manner.

Every classroom in Southside has flexible seating options but not to the depth of the two first grade rooms presented.

There have been several BCSC teachers visiting the first grade flexible learning environments at Southside.

PUBLIC HEARING:

2017 Budget

President Shedd opened the Public Hearing on the 2017 Budgets at 7:30 p.m.

Dr. Sylva shared that the Public Hearing is required by law. Two weeks ago, at a public board meeting, Dr. Sylva presented a work session on the budget to give the board and public an overview. The Public Hearing budget report included all budgets that have to be approved by the Department of Local Government Finance (DLGF).

Dr. Sylva expects the 2017 General Fund revenue to be \$72.9M, an increase from \$72.2M in 2016. The state supports this fund by a per student dollar amount. The September ADM student count is predicted to be unchanged from the prior year. The September 2016 student count funds the current six-month period. The expenditure assumption in the General Fund was reported to be \$72,862,339, up from \$71,879,393 in 2016; an increase of 1.4%. It was noted that health care costs rose in 2015 and continue to rise. The December 2016 estimated General Fund balance was \$1.9M. There is a balance of \$6,274,348 in the Rainy Day Fund.

Dr. Sylva shared the Debt Service Fund budgets. The regular Debt Service Fund budget totaled \$9,612,438. The Pension Debt Fund budget totaled \$1,450,889. The Pension Bonds have to reduce the budget elsewhere, so the payments become neutralized. The Bus Replacement Fund will be reduced by \$300,000, the Transportation Fund by \$300,000 and the remaining balance will reduce the Capital Projects Fund (CPF). The 2002 Pension Bond will end in 2017 relieving \$1.1M from needing to be neutralized. The Referendum Debt Fund for the 2010 High School Bond totaled \$7,973,000. This will continue to drop each year and will expire in 2029.

The 2017 CPF has an assumed budget of \$13,423,943. This fund is determined by the assessed value.

Dr. Sylva shared that the Transportation Department has worked hard to adjust expenses and have a break-even budget. The 2017 Transportation Fund revenues are projected to be \$5,954,892, and the expenditures are projected to be \$5,933,316.

The initial Bus Replacement plan would have allowed ten buses to be replaced at a total cost of \$1,383,141. But, Dr. Sylva noted that the Pension Bond offset of \$300,000 would reduce the number of new buses to be purchased to seven or eight.

The budget summary indicated the proposed total budget, before DLGF adjustments, to be \$112,639,067. This is an estimated increase of 1.2%.

Dr. Sylva noted that there are many uncertainties when developing a budget. The advertised tax rates have to be advertised higher than expected because law states that they cannot be lowered. The advertised tax rate was \$0.9854, and Dr. Sylva expects the final rate for the 2017 budget will be unchanged from 2016.

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

The 2002 Pension Bonds were issued to meet the obligation of early retirement packages negotiated in the 1990's. This debt will end in 2017. This will lower the pension neutrality amount.

The DLGF has a clear budget approval process, but the variables are not shared with school corporations. After a budget order is received, corporations have a ten-day appeal window to ask questions and share what changes they would like to see.

The complexity index changes have resulted in corporations with less poverty receiving more money per student than in previous years and those with more poverty receiving less money per student.

The state watches Rainy Day Funds closely. BCSC has not had the financial opportunity to add to the Rainy Day Fund.

Dr. Shedd asked if there were any patrons that had questions or comments on the 2017 budgets. No one spoke at this time.

The Public Hearing closed at 7:57 p.m.

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:

No report was shared.

4) School Board Member Reports:

Mr. Abrams attended the Diversity Council where they discussed high school literature options and also the shortage of teachers of color. One solution discussed was to encourage high school students of color to develop an interest in the teaching profession through a mentoring program and dual credit work studies. A potential to provide funding was also discussed. There is a student diversity summit in the planning.

Mr. Abrams attended the City Redevelopment Council and learned that the number of trains traveling through Columbus will increase from eight to twenty-two per day. The average train will be 1.5 miles long, and the speed will not increase above 15 miles per hour. The schools west of town, Southside and Mt. Healthy Elementary Schools, will be impacted. All secondary students and staff travelling into town from the west will be impacted as well. The city is looking

at options to help deal with the increase of trains.

Mr. Stenner noted that due to the resignation of Ethan Crough, Executive Director of the School Foundation, that the job description was updated and posted. Applicants may apply through the BCSC website.

Dr. Shedd attended the Corporation Continuous Improvement Council (CCIC) where Dr. Roberts shared that he had visited each building and had learned more about their strengths and opportunities. There has been an increase in public relations including social media outlets and a monthly TV program “BCSC in Action” produced by students. Additional discussion items were: BCSC’s selection as a model sight by the Indiana Center on Teacher Quality; district improvement plan; district capacity; improving learning environments and student enrollment. Dr. Shedd noted that the Columbus Educators Association (CEA) leadership shared the survey results of the teacher evaluation process. Teachers’ responses were overwhelmingly positive, and Dr. Shedd would like the CEA to share this data at an upcoming board meeting.

5) Cabinet Reports:

No reports were shared.

EDUCATIONAL PROCESS FOR BOARD ACTION (6.0)

6) Requests for Approval: (Dr. Roberts)

Dr. Roberts reviewed the following items for the Board.

- a. Minutes of the Regular School Board Meeting of September 12, 2016 and Minutes of the Executive Session of September 12, 2016 (attachment)
- b. Supplemental Contracts (attachment)
- c. Field Trips/Professional Leaves
- d. Claims (attachment)
- e. Donation of Property to the City of Columbus for the Maple Street Project (attachment)
- f. Three-Year Contract Renewal for itslearning (attachment)
- g. To Advertise Bids for Internet Egress (attachment)
- h. Agreement with Church Church Hittle + Antrim Attorneys at Law for Interim School Attorney (attachment)

Dr. Roberts noted that the board receives the documents related to the consent items well in advance to the board meeting. The documents are also available for public review.

Mrs. Dayhoff-Dwyer made a motion to approve Items 6) a-h, and Mrs. Verbanic seconded the motion.

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

Mr. Jamerson, Director of Technology, shared that the corporation has had great success with its learning and the percentage of teacher usage of 95% in the first year is phenomenal. In the past, the corporation had five different systems and now the only learning platform in place is its learning. The corporation received a discount for renewing the contract for three years before the end of 2016.

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

FACULTY AND STAFF FOCUS FOR ACTION (5.0)

7) Request for Approval of the School Attorney:

Dr. Shedd shared that due to the resignation of Kelly Benjamin the board had interviewed candidates for the school attorney position and they were ready to consider a nomination.

Mr. Bryant made a motion to approve Mr. Chris Monroe as the School Attorney. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Verbanic. Upon a call for the vote, the motion was carried unanimously.

8) Request for Approval of Human Resources Recommendations:

Ms. Heiny noted that there were no Human Resources recommendations.

BOARD INPUT/REVIEW

Mrs. Verbanic noted that she had seen Dr. Roberts' interview on the Channel 3 and that it was tremendous to learn more about him.

Dr. Roberts shared that a new show will be produced monthly. Next month he will have a short section, teacher Mike Spock will be featured for his receipt of the Presidential Award in Math and there will be a segment featuring Universal Design for Learning (UDL). The show will air daily at 8:00 a.m., 12:00 p.m., 8:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m.

Mr. Stenner congratulated Columbus North for the powerful student and staff music video that was produced and showed great school spirit.

President Shedd shared that the next school board meeting would be October 24, 7:00 p.m. at Taylorsville Elementary School. There will be a strategic planning session on October 7, 9:00 a.m. in the Administration Building boardroom.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:22 p.m.

Secretary
Attest: _____
President