The regular meeting of the Board of School Trustees of the Bartholomew Consolidated School Corporation was held at the Administration Building, 1200 Central Ave., Columbus, Indiana on Monday, January 11, 2021 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: Dr. Jill Shedd, President  
Dr. Julie Bilz, Vice President  
Mr. Pat Bryant, Secretary  
Mr. Rich Stenner, Member  
Ms. Kathy Dayhoff-Dwyer, Member  
Ms. Nikki Wheeldon, Member  
Mr. Todd Grimes, Member

Administration: Dr. Jim Roberts, Superintendent  
Ms. Teresa Heiny, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources  
Mr. Chad Phillips, Assistant Superintendent for Business Services  
Mr. William Jensen, Director of Secondary Education  
Dr. Laura Hack, Director of Elementary Education  
Dr. Gina Pleak, Director of Title Services  
Dr. George Van Horn, Director of Special Education

Absent: Dr. Brett Boezeman, Director of Operations

School Attorney: Mr. Chris Monroe

REGULAR SESSION

Dr. Shedd offered reflections.

The business meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Dr. Roberts, Superintendent, called the meeting to order at 6:36 p.m.
1) **Oath of Office: (Mr. Monroe)**

Ms. Nikki Wheeldon, Mr. Pat Bryant and Mr. Todd Grimes took their oaths of office and were seated as participating members of the Board of Trustees.

2) **Election of Officers for January 2021 through December 2021:**

Board of School Trustees: President, Vice President, Secretary

Superintendent, Dr. Roberts asked that a motion be made for a slate of officers for January 2021 to December 2021.

Mr. Stenner made a motion for the following slate of officers:

Dr. Shedd as President, Dr. Bilz as Vice President, and Mr. Bryant as Secretary.

The motion was seconded by Ms. Dayhoff-Dwyer.

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

The officers assumed their duties.

**WHO/WHY**

**Update: COVID-19 Plan of Action for 2020-2021 (Dr. Roberts)**

Dr. Roberts opened his presentation with an update on eLearning. He reviewed the hybrid model schedule for the secondary level students and the physical distancing benefit the model allows to occur within the buildings. He noted having half of the students attending per day allows the students to be effectively spread out throughout the buildings.

He also reviewed the local COVID-19 indicators and presented the current up to date testing numbers. He compared and reviewed the current numbers to the numbers three weeks prior. Dr. Roberts reviewed the flowchart that was established at the beginning of the school year. This particular chart helps to determine the appropriate instructional model needed based on community spread. He noted that Bartholomew County was in a substantial spread level (red) prior to winter break, which would indicate an eLearning environment would be needed.

Dr. Roberts also reviewed the Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH) advisory map. He noted the ISDH state map is another tool to help determine the instructional model for BCSC. He emphasized that again Bartholomew County is at the orange level, while much of the state is currently red. According to the BCSC Operating Model that was adopted in October, the orange level would allow consideration for an in-person instructional model. He shared that after consideration of all the data gathered, a decision was made to offer an in-person option for students after winter break. On return from winter break,
January 5, a full time in-person learning option was available for elementary level students and an in-person hybrid model for secondary students.

Dr. Roberts shared the following data and noted that the metrics continue to be monitored.

Since Monday, August 10, BCSC has had 420 positive cases.

- 250 Students (2%)
- 127 Support Staff Members (11%)
- 43 Certified Staff Members (5%)

Out of 13,500 BCSC staff and students there have been a total of 420 positive test cases, around 3%, since Monday, August 10, 2020.

Dr. Roberts shared on October 2 there were 29 positive cases reported and noted that following fall break until Friday, October 30, the number increased to 82 positive test cases. He shared since October 30 the positive cases have increased to 338, which is an average of 34 per week since then.

Dr. Roberts noted there will continue to be close monitoring of the data and the pattern of positive test cases within the community and the school corporation. He shared that data monitoring as well as multiple conversations with local medical professionals will take place in order to make a determination of when secondary students would return to five days of in-person instruction. The first consideration of determining a date will happen on Thursday, January 14.

Dr. Roberts shared the changes that have been made in regards to extracurricular activities. BCSC facilities are now open to approved external groups and the Elementary Basketball League (EBL) has resumed. He noted secondary level athletics would now be able to compete for conference titles, IHSAA tournament games and championships regardless of county designation. Other allowances outside of conference and tournament play may be made after careful analysis has been made of each of the county/communities involved in the scheduled event. He acknowledged every attempt is being made to allow students to compete and complete the winter extracurricular season successfully.

Dr. Roberts also presented the possibility of utilizing an eLearning day for a snow day. He noted this to be the best option given, since approximately 3,000 secondary students are already participating in eLearning, also noting that number approaches 6,000 on Wednesday, due to the hybrid model. If this arrangement is approved this calendar change would have Spring Break beginning on Wednesday, March 10, 2021.

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

Director of Health Services, Kelli Thompson and her nursing team collect, maintain and monitor records of all staff and students who tested positive, are symptomatic or have been a close contact. Those numbers are taken into consideration as to whether the school corporation can be operational.

All external groups using BCSC facilities have adequate PPE sanitizing supplies available for use while in a BCSC building.
There is no limit for eLearning Days, from the IDOE, for a given school year.

Dr. Roberts noted with this recommendation we would take advantage of already having eLearning in place. He also noted this would not be an option if it were not for the work of BCSC Technology Director, Nick Williams and his team for their efforts in maintaining the eLearning platform.

There was not a significant increase of students going into the remote learning option for second semester to raise concerns for increasing certified staffing. There are currently nine individuals in training to drive a school bus.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

No one signed in to speak

**HOW**

3) **Reorganization of Business Services January 2021 to December 2021:** (Mr. Phillips)

   a. Appoint Corporation Treasurer- Mr. Chad Phillips
   b. Appoint Corporation Deputy Treasurer- Ms. Paula Betros
   c. Authorization for Treasurer and Deputy Treasurer to Invest School Corporation Funds
   d. Approval of School Treasurer Bonds

   Dr. Shedd requested the approval of the reorganization of Business Services as presented by Mr. Phillips.

   A motion was made by Mr. Bryant to approve the reorganization of Business Services as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Dayhoff-Dwyer.

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

4) **Establish Board Remuneration, Board Required Notices, and Board Meeting Dates:**

   a. Establish Board Remuneration as Provided by Law
   b. Designation of Newspapers or Qualified Publications in which to Publish Required Notices-*The Republic*
   c. Board Meeting Dates and Locations July 2021 to July 2022

   A motion was made by Dr. Bilz to approve the board remuneration, required notices and board meeting dates as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Dayhoff-Dwyer.

   Upon a call for the vote, the motion was carried unanimously.
5) **Board Appointments for January 2021 to December 2021:**

a. BCSC Health Trust - proposed Julie Bilz  
b. Districting & Facilities Committee - proposed Rich Stenner  
c. Diversity Leadership Council - proposed Julie Bilz  
d. Business Advisory – proposed Jill Shedd

A motion was made by Mr. Bryant to approve the board appointments as presented and Ms. Dayhoff-Dwyer seconded the motion.

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

6) **Approval of Board Members Serving as Liaison with District and Community Advisory Boards and Committees for January 2021 to December 2021:**

a. High Ability Broad Based Committee – proposed Todd Grimes  
b. Bartholomew Consolidated School Foundation – proposed Todd Grimes  
c. Corporation Continuous Improvement Council – proposed Jill Shedd  
d. Education Hall of Fame Committee – proposed Kathy Dayhoff-Dwyer  
e. Indiana School Board Association – proposed Jill Shedd  
f. IUPUC Advisory Board – proposed Julie Bilz  
g. Special Education Parent Advisory Council – proposed Kathy Dayhoff-Dwyer  
h. Support Staff Roundtable – proposed Pat Bryant  
i. Career & Technical Education Regional Advisory Committee – proposed Nikki Wheeldon  
j. Literacy Task Force – proposed Rich Stenner  
k. Council for Youth Development- proposed Rich Stenner  
l. District Wellness Committee – proposed Pat Bryant  
m. Bartholomew County Redevelopment Commission – proposed Nikki Wheeldon  
n. City of Columbus Redevelopment Commission – proposed Nikki Wheeldon  
o. Legislative Liaison – proposed Jill Shedd

A motion was made by Ms. Dayhoff-Dwyer to approve board members serving as liaisons with district and community advisory boards and committees as presented. The motion was seconded by Dr. Bilz.

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

7) **Recommendations for Public Disclosures of Conflict of Interest: (Mr. Monroe)**

Mr. Monroe submitted conflict of interest disclosures for Dr. Bilz, Mr. Jensen, Dr. Hack, Dr. Roberts, Dr. Boezeman, Mr. Phillips and Dr. Van Horn. Dr. Bilz’ disclosure was due to her employment and the others have spouses and/or family members that work for the corporation. The forms will be filed as part of the official minutes of the Board. The statements will also be filed with the county court and the State Board of Accounts.
Mr. Bryant made a motion to accept the conflict of interest disclosures and the motion was seconded by Mr. Grimes.

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

8) Requests for Approval:

Dr. Roberts reviewed the following items for the Board.

a. Minutes of the Regular School Board Meeting of December 14, 2020
b. Supplemental Contracts (Dr. Hack/Mr. Jensen)
c. Field Trips/Professional Leaves (Dr. Hack/Mr. Jensen) – no requests
d. School Fundraisers (Dr. Hack/Mr. Jensen)
e. Claims and Payroll (Mr. Phillips)
f. Appointment of Dr. Roy Goode as School Physician (Dr. Roberts)
g. Appointment of Chris Monroe as School Attorney (Dr. Roberts)
*ITEM ADDED
h. Utilize eLearning days for up to five Snow Days this school year (Dr. Roberts)

Dr. Roberts shared additional information on the reviewed items and requested approval.

Ms. Dayhoff-Dwyer made a motion to approve the reviewed items and Ms. Wheeldon seconded the motion.

Upon a call for the vote, Items 8) a-h were unanimously approved.

9) Request for Approval of Human Resources Recommendations: (Ms. Heiny)

Ms. Heiny requested approval of the Human Resources Recommendations as presented.

Ms. Dayhoff-Dwyer made a motion to approve the Human Resources Recommendations and the motion was seconded by Mr. Grimes.

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

WHAT

10) Board Commendations:

No comments were made

11) School Board Member Reports:

Mr. Stenner shared an update on the Council of Youth Development and the projects that they will be undertaking this 2021 calendar year.
12) Cabinet Reports:

- Extra-Curricular Fund Report (Mr. Phillips)

  Mr. Phillips shared the July 1, 2020 – December 31, 2020 extra-curricular fund report from each BCSC school.

- Board of Finance Report (Mr. Phillips)

  Mr. Phillips presented the required Board of Finance Report. He noted the investment tools BCSC uses per Policy 6144. He shared the 2020 yields from investments and noted BCSC did not buy treasuries this year due to the low yields.

  Mr. Phillips explained the Distressed Unit Appeals Board (DUAB) fiscal indicators. He shared the web site where they can be viewed and gave an explanation of the DUAB process.

  Mr. Phillips noted that after reviewing all fiscal indicators he does not have any concerns in regards to the financial health of the school corporation.

BOARD INPUT/REVIEW

  Mr. Grimes asked if it was too early to indicate whether COVID-19 related numbers had risen due to staff and students returning from winter break. Dr. Roberts noted that particular data is not available yet, but the numbers will continue to be monitored.

  Ms. Wheeldon noted she felt up to date and well informed with the items up for board approval. She thanked all involved in providing her the information prior to the meeting. She also shared she is quite grateful to be part of the school board team.

  Ms. Dayhoff-Dwyer welcomed the two new board members and thanked Josh Burnett for the new larger print board meeting slides.

  Dr. Roberts shared that Kelli Thompson and her nursing staff are working on a process for administration of the COVID-19 vaccines once the school corporation receives their supply.

  Mr. Stenner shared his thanks for the availability of having nurses in each BCSC building. He shared how meaningful it was to see three board members taking an oath of office. He thanked all three board officers and their willingness to serve.

  Dr. Bilz welcomed the two new board members and offered her availability to help answer any questions that might arise.

  Mr. Bryant shared his concerns and asked for prayers to be extended to the 16 year old CNHS sophomore who recently had a heart transplant. He also welcomed the two new members to the school board.
Dr. Shedd thanked and welcomed the two new board members. She also thanked the board for their trust in her leadership as well as the board officers. She acknowledged and expressed thanks for the board involvement in the community committees. She showed her appreciation of the continuation of serving meals to BCSC students, both in and out of the buildings. She recognized the extra efforts that goes into serving the additional meals as well as the extra financial input.

Dr. Shedd announced that the next School Board Meeting would be on Monday, January 25, 6:30 p.m. in the Terrace Room of the Administration Building.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:56 p.m.

_______________________________President

_______________________________Secretary