BARTHOLOMEW CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL CORPORATION
SCHOOL BOARD MEETING, MONDAY, APRIL 29, 2024 MINUTES

The regular meeting of the Board of School Trustees of the Bartholomew Consolidated School Corporation was held in the cafeteria of Columbus North High School, Columbus, Indiana, on Monday, April 29, 2024, 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: Mrs. Nikki Wheeldon, President
         Mr. Rich Stenner, Vice President
         Mr. Pat Bryant, Member
         Mr. Dale Nowlin, Member
         Mr. Jason Major, Member
         Mr. Logan Schulz, Member
         Mr. Todd Grimes, Secretary

Administration: Dr. Jim Roberts, Superintendent
                Dr. Gina Pleak, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources
                Dr. Chad Phillips, Assistant Superintendent for Business Services
                Dr. Laura Hack, Director of Elementary Education
                Dr. Brett Boezeman, Director of Operations
                Mr. Charles Edwards, Director of Secondary Education
                Mrs. Megan Shaff, Director of Title Services
                Mrs. Jessica Vogel, Director of Special Education

Attorney: Mr. Michael McIver, School Attorney

REGULAR SESSION

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

Mrs. Wheeldon, the President, opened the board meeting at 6:30 p.m.
PUBLIC COMMENTS REGARDING APPOINTMENT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

No one signed in or asked to provide public comment regarding the appointment of the superintendent.

REQUEST FOR APPROVAL

Dr. Chad Phillips as the Superintendent of Bartholomew Consolidated School Corporation (Mrs. Nikki Wheeldon)

Mrs. Wheeldon reviewed the details and the timeline in the hiring process of the new superintendent.

Mr. Grimes made a motion to appoint Dr. Chad Phillips as the Superintendent of the Bartholomew Consolidated School Corporation, and the motion was seconded by Mr. Schulz.

Upon a call to vote, the motion was carried unanimously 7-0.

Dr. Phillips expressed his gratitude to all members of the school board and noted that he thought the selection process was thorough, professional and fair. He noted that the educators and mentors who have been part of his life are the reason he is where he is today.

He shared that he is committed to working together to make Columbus the best community and for BCSC to reflect how great the community is by being the choice to learn and work. He encouraged parents, community members and community leaders to partner and get involved in the district and to reach out to him directly with concerns or with questions.

RECOGNITIONS

2024 IDOE Recognizing Inspiring School Employees (RISE) Classified Staff Award (Dr. Pleak)

Dr. Pleak introduced Ms. Twanette Miller, a pathway paraeducator at Schmitt Elementary School. Ms. Miller has recently been honored as the first recipient of the RISE (Recognizing Inspiring School Employees) Award from the Indiana Department of Education. This award recognizes outstanding school employees without teaching certification who exemplify exceptional service to students. She noted that Ms. Miller's career spans 17 years at Schmitt, including roles as a classroom assistant and reading interventionist. She shared that Ms. Miller is now in consideration for the national RISE Award, which will be decided later this spring by the U.S. Secretary of Education. Dr. Pleak noted how incredibly proud the district is of Ms. Miller's achievements and her profound impact on students of our community.
Collaboration time of the assistant principals has increased as they work together to determine the needs of the students in their cohort.

**WHAT**

1) **School Board Member Reports**
   The Business Advisory report was provided by Mr. Stenner, while the BCSF and ISBA updates were provided by Mr. Grimes.

2) **Cabinet Reports**
   **2024 Spring ADM Report (Dr. Phillips)**
   Dr. Phillips shared that the district spring ADM is down 61 students from the fall count. The district is budgeted for a decline of 150 students. He noted that the state support in 2024 will safely support the salary increases implemented last fall.
   He shared an interesting trend at the high school level, noting that schools see a somewhat significant decline in ADM from the fall to spring. This includes early grads, transfers and dropouts, but from 2017 to 2022 the district had an average of 108 fewer high school students in the February count compared to the fall count day. The past two years' count has been 76 and 80 and with netting the early grads out, the average of the previous 5 years was 59, last year was 42 and this year 39. This is a positive trend and our high school staff deserve credit for their work to establish goals with students and provide consistent support and communication. This year’s lowest net decline is not only a nod to the cohort teams at East and North, but the staff at CSA, C4, and CVP for their efforts in developing relationships with students, keeping them connected and engaged in school.

**HOW**

**Public Comments:** No one signed in to provide Public Comments.

3) **Request for Approval – Old Business**
   a. Minutes of the Public Hearing of April 15, 2024 and the Regular School Board Meeting of April 15, 2024.

   Mr. Grimes made a motion to approve 3)a, and the motion was seconded by Mr. Schulz.

   Upon a call to vote, the motion was carried unanimously 7-0.

4) **Requests for Approval - New Business**
   b. Supplemental Contracts (Dr. Hack/Mr. Edwards)
   c. Field Trips and Professional Leaves (Dr. Hack/Mr. Edwards)
2024 BCSC Classified Employees of the Year (Dr. Pleak)

Dr. Pleak recognized the 2024 Classified Employees of the Year by building and noted their 300 plus years of service. Those individuals who were recognized are as follows:
Administration Building - Shari Christman; Clifty Creek - Sara Chapman-Basset; CSA Fodrea - Emily Lambrecht; CSA Lincoln - Kim Riche; Mt. Healthy - Renee Petro; Parkside - Kyle Stout; Richards - Pennie Snider; Rockcreek - Alison Lykins; Schmitt - Ashley Brown; Smith - Kimberly Hutchinison; Southside - Amy Warren; Taylorsville - Liliana “Paula” Lamadrid Vazquez; Central - Nicole Hollander; Northside - Kelly Boes; East - Jaci Jones; North - Imelda “Letty” Vazquez Guevara; CSA New Tech - Dorellen Brown; Johnson Early Education Center - Cathy Stoughton; McDowell - Brooke Chowning-Loy; ISC - Karen Misner and T & M - Andrew McComb.

PRESENTATIONS

School Spotlight: Columbus North High School (Principal Mr. David Clark)

Mr. David Clark and the four assistant principals of CNHS provided a Cohort Model update. A few of the notable impacts included improved attendance, behavior, credits and communication. Assistant Principal, Mrs. Jenn Hester noted how developing individualized strategies through relationships, student/academic collaboration and checking in with students often is increasing the overall student attendance rate. Assistant Principal, Mrs. Brelyn Nolting shared that a constant review of data with clear communication, relationships and consistency is helping decrease unwanted student behaviors. Assistant Principal, Mr. Levi Simpson noted the continual monitoring of student grades by cohort and communication between cohort, program directors, teachers and families is leading students to the right track to successfully earn credits and work towards graduation. Assistant Principal, Mrs. Corie Williams noted the goal of the administration is to improve communication by making contact with every family within the school year. Having intentional tracking and cohort collaboration will promote positive communication.

Mr. Clark noted that this was the first year for restructuring but the cohort model has already made significant impacts. He shared survey results from teachers, parents and students. Goals are being made to increase contacts with students who consistently follow expectations, tracking the increasing number of options for graduation pathways and to continue to improve communication between the various programs that our students attend such as CVP, CSA, McDowell and C4.

The following information was given in response to the board.

The iGrad coaches attend each of the cohort meetings to discuss the needs of the students and support the plan.
d. School Fundraisers (Dr. Hack/Mr. Edwards)
e. Claims and Payroll (Dr. Phillips)
f. 2024-2025 Student Handbooks (Dr. Roberts)
g. Permission to award Change Order to HVAC Improvement GMP Contract for Schmitt Elementary (Dr. Boezeman)
h. Permission to award Change Order to Educational Improvement GMP Contract (high school athletics) (Dr. Boezeman)

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

Mr. Schulz made a motion to remove 4)f from the vote, and the motion was seconded by Mr. Major.

Mr. Grimes made a motion to approve 4)b-e and g-h, and the motion was seconded by Mr. Schulz.

Upon a call for the vote, the motion to approve 4)b-e and g-h carried 7-0.

Mr. Nowlin made a motion to approve 4)f and the motion was seconded by Mr. Grimes.

Upon a call for the vote, the motion to approve 4)f carried 5-2.

5) Human Resources Recommendations (Dr. Pleak)

Mr. Grimes made a motion to approve the Human Resources Recommendations, and the motion was seconded by Mr. Major.

Upon a call for the vote, the motion carried unanimously 7-0.

6) Additional Human Resources Recommendations (Dr. Pleak)

Mr. Grimes made a motion to approve the Additional Human Resources Recommendations, and the motion was seconded by Mr. Major.

Upon a call for the vote, the motion carried unanimously 7-0.

BOARD INPUT REVIEW

Mr. Nowlin shared his appreciation for the opportunity to recognize the classified staff.

Mr. Schulz shared his appreciation to recognize the classified staff members. He requested discussion be held regarding the district reading risks and the sharing of the board packet publicly.
Mr. Grimes congratulated Dr. Phillips on being approved as the new superintendent for the district. He thanked the classified staff and the CNHS administrator team for their presentation and wished all students a safe prom weekend.

Mrs. Wheeldon acknowledged the board and congratulated Dr. Pleak for her new superintendent position.

Mr. Stenner thanked CNHS for their cohort update and their efforts in hosting the board meeting. He acknowledged those involved with the superintendent interviews and thanked Dr. Phillips for his strong application and interviews with the board.

Mr. Major acknowledged that the Smith Elementary Cyborgs robotic team would be attending the National Competition and wished them well. He acknowledged the high school seniors within the district and their efforts with their senior projects. He thanked the teachers, teacher assistants, friends, family members, mentors, and coaches who have supported the senior project process.

Mr. Bryant thanked Mr. Clark and the CNHS assistant principals for their cohort update and congratulated Dr. Phillips on his appointment as superintendent.

**NEXT BOARD MEETING:**

Regular Board Meeting, May 13, 2024, 6:30 p.m.
Columbus North High School, Cafeteria

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:42 p.m.

[Signature]
Secretary

[Signature]
President