BARTHOLOMEW CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL CORPORATION
SCHOOL BOARD MEETING, MONDAY, MARCH 4, 2024 MINUTES

The regular meeting of the Board of School Trustees of the Bartholomew Consolidated School Corporation was held at the Administration Building, Columbus, Indiana, on Monday, March 4, 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. Todd Grimes, Secretary
         Mr. Pat Bryant, Member
         Mr. Dale Nowlin, Member
         Mr. Jason Major, Member
         Mr. Logan Schulz, Member

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.
RECOGNITIONS:
BCSC State Wrestling Finalists

The CEHS Athletic Director David Miller thanked Dr. Roberts and the School Board for the opportunity to recognize and introduce the student athletes. He introduced wrestling Coach Chris Cooper and congratulated him on his 300th win this year. He shared that for the last 8 consecutive years the team has been conference, sectional and regional champions and for the second year in a row the team had the highest GPA above other teams in the State of Indiana, making them Academic Award winners.

Coach Cooper introduced state finalist Monica McMahan and shared that this is the first year for a CEHS girls wrestling team and that Monica and her sister were instrumental in helping get the program started. Monica is a junior Academic All-State and placed 3rd at the state finals. He introduced state finalist sophomore Talon Jessup and noted his consistent hard work, commitment to the program and high GPA.

The CNHS Athletic Director Brian Lewis shared his appreciation to be able to recognize Coach Joyce, the coaching staff and the wrestling team. He noted Coach Joyce is in his 4th year as head coach and has consistently worked with the students to become better each year. Mr. Lewis shared that the students continue to be the best advocates for the CNHS program both on and off the mat.

Coach Joyce thanked the board for recognizing the student athletes and shared that it had been 15 years since CNHS had a wrestler place on the podium. He introduced state finalists sophomore Asher Ratliff and junior Justice Thorton and noted that for them to reach the state level early in their high school career shows their commitment to wrestling and to the program.

WHAT

PUBLIC COMMENTS RE: HUMAN RESOURCES RECOMMENDATIONS (ONLY)

There were no Public Comments regarding Human Resources Recommendations.

1) Request for Approval of the Human Resources Recommendations (Dr. Pleak)

- Appointment of the Principal of CSA Fodrea Elementary, Mrs. Kellie McIntyre (Dr. Pleak)

Mr. Grimes made a motion to approve the appointment of Mrs. Kellie McIntyre as Principal of CSA Fodrea Elementary and the motion was seconded by Mr. Schulz.

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

Dr. Roberts introduced Mrs. McIntyre and shared that she is a proud product of BCSC. She attended Clifty Creek Elementary School, Northside Middle School and Columbus East High School. She started her career with BCSC as a teacher at Parkside Elementary in
2013, has served as a district Curriculum Specialist, Clifty Creek Elementary Assistant Principal and since 2022, Mrs. McIntyre has been the Director of Pre-K for the district.

Mrs. McIntyre noted the many ways she has served the district and thanked all of those who have supported and trusted her through each role. She shared that in several ways the district feels like home to her and she cannot wait to see what this opportunity holds for her and the Fodrea community. Mrs. McIntyre will begin her new role July 1 as the principal of CSA Fodrea Elementary.

- Appointment of the Principal of Mt. Healthy Elementary, Ms. Dana Bodart (Dr. Pleak)

Mr. Schulz made a motion to approve the appointment of Ms. Dana Bodart as Principal of Mt. Healthy Elementary and the motion was seconded by Mr. Nowlin.

Upon call to vote, the motion was carried unanimously.

Dr. Roberts introduced Ms. Bodart and shared that she too is a proud product of BCSC. She attended Taylorsville Elementary, Northside Middle School and Columbus North High School. She started her BCSC career teaching at Taylorsville Elementary, has been the Assistant Principal at Parkside Elementary and is currently the Interim Principal at Rockcreek Elementary. Ms. Bodart will begin her new role July 1 as the principal at Mt. Healthy Elementary.

Ms. Bodart thanked and extended her gratitude to Dr. Roberts and the School Board for the leadership opportunity, and shared that she is committed and eager to embark on this new journey. She thanked the administration for the trust and confidence she has been given, noting she is confident that together with the collaborative effort of staff, community and parents that students will feel empowered to achieve their full potential.

- Dr. Pleak requested approval of all other Human Resources Recommendations as presented.

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

Upon call to vote, the motion was carried unanimously.

2) Additional Human Resources Recommendations (Dr. Pleak)

There were no requests for additional Human Resources Recommendations.

3) School Board Member Reports

Mr. Stenner shared there were no updates to report.
Mr. Major shared there were no updates to report.

Mr. Bryant noted that on February 7, the District Wellness Council met. He shared that the council continues to discuss and move forward with mental health care opportunities for students and staff.

Mr. Nowlin provided a Council for Youth Development update. The council heard from several different local groups that provide different services to help support students, including the Indiana Youth Group, which provides an after school gathering place once per week for students. The most recent CYD data collection was discussed around the impact of social media on students. Mr. Nowlin provided a High Ability BroadBased Planning Committee update noting that the committee recently met to focus on the current process of identifying students who qualify for high ability programming whether that is the elementary AC program housed at Parkside and Southside, the elementary cluster program at all schools, or the middle school AC programs. He noted a total of 2,482 students were tested. He shared that the IU-Columbus Advisory Board met on February 14. A report on the effect of introducing sports as an option for students at IU-Columbus is impacting their current students and future enrollment. The sports provide an option for IU-Columbus students to get involved with peers on campus. It is also attracting new students that might have otherwise gone to other schools to play sports. Mr. Nowlin noted that a comment was made at the meeting that Franklin College now considers IU-Columbus as their number one competitor for attracting local students. He noted that the admissions office at IU-Columbus is working with BCSC and Mr. Edwards to look for ways to remove barriers for BCSC students wanting to go to college.

Mr. Schulz shared there were no updates to report.

Mr. Grimes provided a BCSF update. He shared that school board member Mr. Nowlin will be embarking on an Appalachian Trail hiking journey of 200 miles to raise $3,000 for the BCSF. He shared registration information for the April 27, 2024 4th annual Good, Better, Best 5K. Mr. Grimes provided an ISBA update and noted that the short session of legislation will soon conclude. The ISBA tracking list is down to 33 bills. The legislative leaders have said that the session will end on Friday, March 8. He noted two bills that have received a lot of attention. The Senate Bill 1, which hopefully will make an impact on reading proficiency levels for elementary students across the state, and House Bill 1376 – limiting control of the project referendum to be on the November election ballot has been opposed.

Mrs. Wheeldon shared a Diversity Leadership Council meeting update. The council reviewed data, discussed inclusion initiatives that are active in the schools and reviewed a summer camp that will be offered this year to give students the opportunity to get involved in their communities. She provided an update on the Superintendent search, noting a schedule has been outlined, candidates have been determined and questions aligned. The interviews are on schedule to begin after spring break.

4) Cabinet Reports
- Envision 2030 Update (Dr. Phillips/Dr. Boezeman)

Dr. Boezeman provided a project update, noting that priorities have been identified and addressed at some capacity with the exception of the expansion at the high schools to address the physical education and extracurricular needs in the district. Dr. Boezeman identified the eight projects that are proposed for Phase 1 of the Envision 2030 scope and shared details of the renovations and improvements. He shared photos on the scope of work in terms of needs for the new elementary school and noted the school will be built on 23 acres on the westside of town.

Dr. Boezeman provided a Construction Manager as Constructor update, noting the current manager for the Schmitt and Parkside projects is Maxwell. He shared packages that have been assembled for bidders and noted the timeline for CMc approval.

There are four architect firms that have been selected to interview to design the new elementary school. The four firms will publicly share their presentations at 4:00 p.m., March 25 and 27 at the Westside Community Church. The Cummins Foundation has invited the following architects to present their design for the 12th elementary school: Howeler+Yoon, Boston; Snow Kreilich, Minneapolis; SO-IL, New York; and Studio Sumo, New York. Dr. Boezeman shared the timeline for the new building, noting the new elementary will be in Phase 1 in order to take some pressure off the current student enrollment on the westside of the district. The plan is to open the new school in August of 2027. He reviewed discussion regarding the C4 Welding program solution and noted Mr. Edwards will continue to work with a team to gather feedback to help determine where the program would be best located. He also noted that additional feedback is being gathered to determine the needs at Mt. Healthy Elementary prior to accepting bids.

Dr. Phillips shared the schedule for issuing bonds and noted that the intention is to issue the first set of bonds in May or June. He presented bond estimates and noted that the numbers will be finalized and presented in public documents when the first public hearing is held later in the spring. He noted he will wait until the assessed value is released in order to have an accurate prediction of the tax rate for the following year.

The following questions were answered of the board:

The addition of the twelfth elementary school will help lower enrollment at Mt. Healthy Elementary to a number that the school was originally designed to house. The proposed renovation of Mt. Healthy will separate the existing classrooms to allow additional common space.

The demographic study was based on the 2020 census data of current households and the projected enrollment of those families. The study did not factor in any potential or projected community growth. The need for an additional elementary school exists even if the Garden City area project does not launch due to Southside being near capacity.

The CMc contracting style does not mean all of the business will go with Maxwell.
• First Reading: Revision to BCSC Policy 5830 – Student Fundraisers (Dr. Roberts)

Dr. Roberts reviewed the need to change Policy 5830. He noted the change is needed to align practice with policy.

**HOW**

Public Comments

1. Sandy Watts
2. Ann Cooper
3. Jason Major
4. Barb Wills
5. Megan Johnson
6. Nancy Merbitz

5) Request for Approval – Old Business

a. Minutes of the Regular School Board Meeting of February 5, 2024, and the Minutes of the Strategic Planning Session of February 19, 2024

Mr. Nowlin made a motion to amend the Minutes of the Regular School Board Meeting of February 5, 2024 to reflect the two following changes:

- 6)h to read as follows: Mrs. Wheeldon and Mr. Major abstained from the vote due to their employer.
- Mr. Grimes’ motion to approve 6)c-f and i, which was seconded by Mr. Schulz.

The motion was seconded by Mr. Major.

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

Mr. Nowlin made a motion to approve 5)a, the amended Minutes of February 5, 2024 and the Strategic Planning Session of February 19, 2024 and the motion was seconded by Mr. Schulz.

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

6) Request for Approval – Old Business

b. Determination regarding Contested Library Book.

Mr. Nowlin made a motion to approve 6)b and the motion was seconded by Mr. Grimes.

Comments were heard from the board.
Mr. Major abstained from the vote.

Upon a call to vote, the motion carried 5-1.

7) Requests for Approval - New Business

c. Supplemental Contracts (Dr. Hack/Mr. Edwards)
d. Field Trips and Professional Leaves (Dr. Hack/Mr. Edwards)
e. School Fundraisers (Dr. Hack/Mr. Edwards)
f. Claims and Payroll (Dr. Phillips)
g. Approval of HVAC Equipment Bids for Schmitt Elementary (Dr. Boezeman)
h. Permission to Receive Bids for Envision 2030 Phase 1 CMc work (Dr. Boezeman)
i. Approval of the HB 1003 Waiver Resolution for SY 24-25 (Dr. Roberts)

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

Mr. Grimes made a motion to approve 7)c- i, and the motion was seconded by Mr. Schulz.

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

BOARD INPUT REVIEW

Mr. Major thanked all of those who supported the high school boys basketball teams during the sectional tournament and those who sponsored travel for the high school students. He acknowledged the CNHS girls gymnastics team and wished them well in the state competition.

Mr. Stenner noted the longevity of the FFY and shared that they are going through a strategic planning process to establish goals and a vision for the community.

Mrs. Wheeldon thanked CEA President Amy London for gathering teacher input regarding the Superintendent selection and presenting it to the board members.

Mr. Grimes thanked the community members and stakeholders who attended the meeting and took the opportunity to speak. He thanked Mrs. London and the teachers for their feedback and input and the community members who completed the survey in regards to the Superintendent search. He congratulated Ms. Bodart and Mrs. McIntyre for their recently appointed principal positions, the student wrestlers from both high schools and the many admirable accomplishments taking place across the district.

Mr. Schulz noted the input of the community, Mrs. London and the teachers regarding the Superintendent search and survey participation. He congratulated Ms. Bodart and Mrs. McIntyre for their new positions and the BCSC wrestlers for their state accomplishments. He shared comments regarding district reading.

Mr. Nowlin noted how helpful it was for the board to receive community feedback through the surveys and thanked those who participated. Mr. Nowlin noted he will be supporting BCSF this
summer through an Appalachian Trail hike. Pledge and donation cards are available for sponsorship with all proceeds going towards the school foundation.

**NEXT BOARD MEETING**

Next School Board Meeting

Regular Board Meeting, April 15, 2024, 6:30 p.m.
Columbus North High School, Cafeteria

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

[Signature] Secretary

Attest: [Signature] President