AGENDA

5:00 p.m. Board Member Tour of Potential BCSC K-12 Virtual Pathway Site: 2401 Beam Road - Clover Center

6:30 p.m. REGULAR SESSION

- Mr. Todd Grimes offered reflections.
- The business meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.
- Six (6) Elected School Board Members were present; Ms. Dayhoff-Dwyer was not present.
- Dr. Shedd, President, called the meeting to order at 6:38 p.m.

WHO/WHY:

Affirmation of BCSC Mission and Vision and High Expectation Objectives

BCSC will ensure a balanced, intentional and forward looking approach to meet the following objectives:

- Provide a welcoming and diverse learning culture of respect, fairness and trust
- Advance a deep community commitment to all learners’ health, personal and academic success
- Enable achievement of core academic knowledge and varied levels of critical thinking
- Foster multiple perspectives to develop global citizens
- Provide multiple pathways that intellectually engage all learners
- Promote and support agile, collaborative learning environments
- Cultivate a commitment to a life-long learning process for all

PUBLIC HEARING

1. 2021 Revised Capital Projects Plan
2. 2021 Additional Appropriation

Mr. Phillips spoke about the Revised Capital Projects Plan. He indicated that both of the public hearings tonight are relating to the same topic which is the additional $265,000 in capital projects and capital equipment purchases. These purchases were five (5) vehicles and two (2) freezer units for kitchens in the district which were covered in the last board meeting. Both public notices for public hearings were published more than ten (10) days ago both on the district website and in the Republic. Dr. Shedd asked the approximate age of the vehicles that we are
Replacing. Dr. Boezeman stated that each of the vehicles are approximately nine (9) years old and the cost of repair exceeds the cost of the value. Mr. Phillips again stated that both public hearings are relating to the same topic. They are variations of the plan that the board approved in October as part of the budget. The Capital Projects Plan had to be revised for the additional $265,000 and the Additional Appropriation overall gives the authority to spend those dollars. Public hearings are being held separately for each of the two (2) items. Dr. Roberts stated that later in the school board meeting under “approvals” that each of these items are also listed separately for approval.

**WHO/WHY:**

**Columbus East High School Top 11 Seniors (Dr. Roberts/Mr. Mark Newell/Ms. Kristen Schuetz)**

Ms. Schuetz, Director of Counseling, introduced the video for the top eleven (11) seniors for Columbus East. There was a tie between two (2) students for valedictorian and the two (2) students who tied are both CSA New Tech students. The students recognized are as follows: Brock Burbrink, Emma Edwards, Jaylyn Nelson, Hannah Hemmerlein, Gloria Henrichsen, Ben Major, Emma Martin, Catherine Wolf, Rebecca Moore, Vanessa Brookes, and Hope Durnil.

**Columbus North High School Top 10 Seniors (Dr. Roberts/Mr. David Clark/Mr. Pat Pemberton)**

Mr. Pemberton, Director of Counseling, introduced the video for the top ten (10) seniors for Columbus North. The students recognized are as follows: Arturo Lopez-Cauliieres, Trisha Yerragudi, Ida Lind, Colvin Iorio, Purbi Das, Kyle Carlson, Samantha Crossman, Nathaly Munichna, Nela Riddle, and Zoe Preston.

**Annual Food Service Update (Dr. Boezeman/Ms. Millspaugh)**

Ms. Millspaugh provided an update on the Food Service Department which operates four (4) different school lunch programs: National School Lunch Program, School Breakfast Program, After School Snack Program and Summer Food Service Program. School Food Service does not operate out of the Operations Fund; they are self-supporting from federal cash reimbursements based on meal participation by students, non-federal funds from adult meals, a-la-carte sales, student accounts and catering sales. All reimbursable meals meet federal nutrition requirements. During the pandemic, the U.S.D.A. issued waivers for some of the Summer Meal Programs which removed some of the regulations that usually fall under that program. Some of those waivers allowed for multiple meals to be served at the same time, meals to be eaten off site, and meals to be served without the student present. The waivers also allowed for meal distribution in areas that may not meet 50% of the free/reduced price eligibility threshold. Those waivers have now been extended through September 30, 2021. This extension allows the food program to feed children 18 years and younger breakfast and lunch daily at no cost to the child. The waiver also allows for reimbursement at a higher rate for each meal than on the National School Lunch Program. The Food Service Program implemented some creative ways to get meals to students during the pandemic such as mobile bus routes, drive thru and walk up services, grab and go meals, weekend meal service, in person service, themed meals and collaborating with the Parks Department, Kids Commons and Library for programming. From March 2020-July 2020, there were 149,431 breakfast and lunch meals served. There have been extreme financial losses in spite of the waivers which helped to offset some of those losses to the department. Plans have been put in place to improve and alleviate some of those financial issues. Once those waivers have expired, there will be a slight increase in meal prices which are mandated because our district is currently below the national average for meal pricing. Ms. Millspaugh thanked food service staff and transportation staff for their willingness to work through the summer and serve meals to students and families.

**Elementary Textbook Adoption – English and Language Arts Presentation (Dr. Hack/Ms. Wendy Foster)**

Dr. Hack spoke about a written adoption process and the steps that have been taken in regards to the process. Dr. Hack recognized Ms. Wendy Foster in her absence for putting the presentation together. The purpose of the presentation is to present the district committee’s recommendation for Houghton Mifflin Harcourt as the next adopted English/Language Arts resources beginning in the 2021-2022 school year. Ms. Gail Koors, Curriculum Specialist, spoke regarding the importance of reading and writing and the foundation it sets for student learning and growth. She indicated that much consideration was given regarding the digital options offered for the curriculum. She stated that the resource review team came together and used the UDL framework based evaluation rubric to give point values to all the curriculum
considerations. Those individual evaluations were then combined to create a visual presentation of the options. Dr. Hack then presented two (2) comprehensive slides showing both what the student experience may be as well as the teacher experience. She also presented the financial impact in regards to the adoption of the curriculum. She indicated that, after working with Mr. Phillips, Mr. Williams and Ms. Skinner, it has been determined that adopting the new curriculum will result in a $1.05 increase to 6th grade students for the 2021-2022 school year (with a slight decrease for all other grades) and additional options will be considered for the following school year (2022-2023) with the Social Studies adoption. Brenny Kummer, Coordinator of Instructional Technology, then addressed the technology differences between the curriculum options.

**Secondary Textbook Adoption – English and Language Arts Presentation (Mr. Jensen/Ms. Chasidy Kannianen/ Ms. Katie Chaplin)**

Corie Williams, UDL Facilitator at North and East High Schools, Laura Ousley, UDL Facilitator at Northside and Central Middle Schools, Chasidy Kannianen, Columbus East and Central English Department Chair, and Katie Chaplin, English Department Chair at Columbus North and Northside, presented the secondary textbook resource adoption request. They brought teachers together from five (5) different schools and used the UDL framework based rubric to have teachers evaluate the adoption options. All committee meetings were recorded and all teachers had access to view the vendor recordings and were able to provide input through teacher surveys. Both middle schools came to the same consensus and would like to adopt Savvas: My Perspectives. The cost for students for this resource is $32.57 (the average increase per student is $17.90). CSA New Tech has chosen No Red Ink for their writing support and Listenwise, which is a curated source of NPR that includes podcasts with transcripts and activities that go along with them. The new average course fee cost will be $24.59 (the average increase is $15.91). Although the increase is about $16.00, the course fees for this year were lower so the increase aligns with the other schools. Columbus North utilized three (3) different department meetings for discussion, reviewing resources and decision making in addition to two (2) formal surveys that were sent out to teachers in April requiring their feedback and suggestions. All teachers had access to view the recordings of presentations, access online trials and view physical samples. Decisions were outlined by grade levels. For 9th grade, 10th grade and 11th grade, Listenwise and Vocabulary.com have been selected. Course fees will increase no more than $6.81 and will vary slightly by level. For 12th grade, Perfection Learning, Listenwise and Vocabulary.com have been selected. Perfection Learning will result in a new course fee of $39.74. While this is quite an increase, there has not been a course fee for AP Language in the last two (2) years. The course fee increase for Listenwise and Vocabulary.com for Standard and College Prep levels will be no more than $6.81 and will vary slightly. ENL English is taught at North as well and Listenwise and Vocabulary.com have been selected. These selections will result in a new course fee of $21.98. North will then have the same text that East will have which will help ENL teachers have some collaboration opportunities. For Journalism, all courses will use the digital access to the AP Stylebook which will result in a course fee decrease of $27.16. All of the options that have been selected can be viewed via the Google Doc with links to session recordings and online access previews (when available) or Corie Williams and Laura Ousley can provide that information and can be contacted via email. Dr. Roberts reminded the board that, with the English/Language Arts adoptions, they will have a chance to vote on those at the next school board meeting.

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

Dr. Roberts noted that students of ALL grade levels are currently in 5 days of in-person learning. This model began on Monday, March 22 which was the first time all students had been in the building since Friday, November 6. All mitigation strategies have been in effect since the beginning of the school year and they have not been changed. He presented a recommendation from the district that, for the identification of close contacts, a change is made of six (6) feet to three (3) feet when in the regular classroom setting. This recommendation would not apply on the school bus, at lunch, during recess or in other classes. He indicated that the six (6) feet requirement has been the greatest challenge in the school buildings. Approval of this recommendation will greatly assist in the identification of close contacts in the event of a positive case. In response to a question from Dr. Julie Bilz regarding the number of teachers and staff who have received their vaccinations, Dr. Roberts provided the following information:

“I think we’ve certainly made progress as far as the percentage. We put out a survey after Spring Break and then a second round of surveys as well. We have had about 800 participants in that survey, but we have about 2,000 staff members. Of those 800, about 700 indicated that they had received at least one shot or had made an appointment. That was a couple of weeks ago, so, perhaps that has increased by now as well.”
Dr. Roberts also indicated that six (6) feet physical distancing will still be implemented when possible. Otherwise, the three (3) feet will apply but only in the settings specifically mentioned previously. Since Monday, August 10 (our first student day):

- 642 positive test cases (409 students, 161 support staff members and 72 teachers)
- 4% of students
- 13% of support staff members
- 9% of certified staff members
- Averaging about 11 positive cases per week since Monday, March 1, with almost all new cases being students

Additionally, Dr. Roberts stated that the COVID vaccination clinic has been added for students ages 16-17. It is optional and does require parent consent. The first one occurred on Friday, April 16 at Columbus North and the next clinic at Columbus North will be on Friday, May 7. The first clinic was held at Columbus East on Friday, April 23 and the second one will be on Friday, May 14. On Friday, April 16, 131 doses were administered at Columbus North. Per Kelli Thompson, Director of Health Services, a student must be at least 16 years of age and there is no grace period meaning the student actually has to be 16 years of age or older when being vaccinated. She also stated that there are approximately 2,300 students in BCSC who are 16 years of age or older and that 16-17 year olds are only eligible to receive the Pfizer vaccine. 18 year olds are eligible to receive any of the current vaccines available. Dr. Roberts presented the following important information regarding the COVID-19 Plan of Action:

- Prom-Saturday, May 1 at 8:00 p.m.; Northside Middle School
- Graduation:
  - CSA New Tech: Thursday, May 27 at 7:00 p.m. on Columbus East Football Field (rain=May 28)
  - Columbus East: Saturday, May 29 at 9:00 a.m. on Columbus East Football Field (rain=later in the day)
  - Columbus North: Saturday, May 29 at 11:00 a.m. on Columbus North Football Field (rain=later in the day)

Mr. Grimes asked how many people will each graduate be able to invite and Dr. Roberts responded as follows:

“Great question, Mr. Grimes. Initially we are looking at four (4) and we will continue to work with the Bartholomew County Health Department. That may be where it stays, but if things are great at that point, then maybe we can open it up a little bit more, but, I think, to allow each graduate to have four (4) guests, that’s about 250 per side. We are trying to keep the numbers similar to the numbers we had for football games this year and the participants on the field who are actually graduating do not count towards those numbers. We will release more specific information as we get closer to those dates but that is a possibility at this point.”

PUBLIC COMMENTS - Dr. Shedd stated that no one signed up for public comments.

WHAT

1) Board Commendations

Mr. Grimes commended the following student athletes who have received National recognition:

- Gloria Cloud, 4th grade student at Taylorsville, recently won the age ten (10) and under Girls Folk Style National Wrestling Championship in Coralville, Iowa.
- Tucker Smith, Junior at Columbus North, a shot-putter who broke the school record two (2) years ago as a Freshman, has broken his own record twice this year. He also currently has the second best throw in the Nation behind a senior from Texas.

Mr. Stenner commended the service that employees give to the corporation. He stated that their service is always deserving of commendation but, based on the reports that we have seen (tonight), the service provided by so many departments has been outstanding.
2) School Board Member Reports

Mr. Grimes stated that the School Foundation Board met just under two (2) weeks ago. The Donors Choose partnership continues to be a success: 7,500 children have been impacted, 14 schools, 91 projects and 61 teachers. All of the scholarships that have been offered by the School Foundation have been closed for review and all of the scholarships offered have multiple applicants. On May 1 at 8:30 a.m., the School Foundation will host a 5K run/walk at the fairgrounds with the finish line in front of Southside in memory of Mr. Grimes’ 6th grade teacher, Mr. Wallace, and his father, Chuck, and it is for the “Good, Better, Best Award” that goes to a BCSC teacher each year. The winner of the award for this year will be announced shortly before the race begins. Also, on November 13, the School Foundation will host another 5K run/walk. Anyone who has some creative ideas for a name for that event and possibly some ideas for a location as well is asked to let Mr. Grimes know. The proceeds for the November event will go towards the School Foundation’s general fund.

Dr. Shedd shared that the Business Advisory group met on Friday, April 16. Guests included members of the CSA New Tech Senior class, several of whom have been a part of Columbus Signature Academy since Kindergarten, and of the 91 total seniors, there are four (4) in the top ten as well as the two (2) Lilly Scholars from our county. They spoke with the group about what they valued about CSA New Tech and what they thought was most distinctive about CSA New Tech. They also shared with the group what some of their takeaways were from having been CSA New Tech students and they all talked about the confidence that CSA New Tech gave them, how it allowed them the opportunity to know themselves, increased their leadership skills in being both very humble and very confident about themselves and their skills related to that. They also mentioned that it helped them with their communication skills and allowed them to know that they can take risks and it’s permissible to do that and they have the background and the confidence to do that.

3) Cabinet Reports

Virtual Pathway Presentation (Mr. Jensen/Mr. Josh Giebel)

Mr. Jensen presented the BCSC high expectation objective of providing students with multiple pathways that intellectually engage all learners. He stated that, when discussing multiple pathways, the value cannot be questioned. Multiple pathways originated in order to create and develop different schools to meet each student’s needs. Multiple pathways that are offered within the district are General Education, C4 Options and Centers of Excellence, Alternative High School, Columbus Signature Academy (CSA), Global Studies (such as the Legado program which was established in 2018), and online learning or the Columbus Virtual Pathway (CVP) program. Online education was originally offered in 2015 and it was only an option for credit recovery and was beginning to be utilized for required summer school courses. In 2018-2019, the school year started with 15 CVP students and ended with 30 students. In 2020-2021, after movement in September, the enrollment was 411 students. Current enrollment in the CVP program is 329 students. Josh Giebel, Director of the Columbus Virtual Pathway Program, presented the 2021-2022 Columbus Virtual Pathway Update.

- CVP will serve students in grades K-12.
- 167 students committed for 2021-2022 (as of April 12).
- Additional families are interested but would still like more time to decide.
- Anticipate enrollment to be between 250-300 students.
- Physical location for state-required testing and teacher instruction.

Mr. Giebel also stated that the framework for CVP is that students should feel valued, safe and successful, that learning should be personalized, flexible and meaningful, and, finally, stakeholders should be proud of our public schools. He explained the Edgenuity program that CVP has been using for the past few years. It is completely customizable by teachers and it combines direct instruction videos, assessments, performance tasks and rigorous assignments including the ability to implement Senior Projects for our senior students. Mr. Giebel stated that a big part of what will be happening in the spring will be collecting feedback from families and students who are currently participating in the program in order to help us make future decisions. Another thing that he will be focusing on in the 2021-2022 school year is strong staff culture, building leadership capacity and solving problems as a team. Student culture will be a direct reflection of staff culture. Mr. Giebel summarized by stating that his goal is to create a viable option for students wishing to attend and graduate from a virtual school, establish a sense of belonging between staff and students in that pathway, and develop the program into an exemplar for the district and state; one that we can be proud of. In closing, Mr. Giebel said, “Columbus Virtual Pathway is a pathway for you, a pathway for us and a pathway forward.”
Questions regarding Columbus Virtual Pathway:

1. With the bulk of your children being secondary, what kind of daily structure would you envision for the secondary students throughout different subject areas?

Mr. Giebel responded with the following:

“I believe that is something that we will do in establishing those expectations. For example, we have learned this year that many secondary students don’t like to wake up early, so, if we have teachers prepared and available early and students are not working until afternoon, then we need to make sure that we’re either establishing the routine that students are getting up early or that teachers are available at different times. I think part of that expectation (is established) in the open house that we start early, (and) what should a normal day look like while still allowing flexibility for students to work at their own pace but also providing them the support that they need.”

2. Would you envision each secondary child having contact with at least one teacher a day?

Mr. Giebel responded with the following:

“Yes, absolutely. One of the things that I was part of at CSA that since has been brought to East, North and McDowell is the advisory program. I have no reason to doubt that we will also have an advisory program in CVP so that would be a minimum of three (3) times a week that secondary students would meet with a teacher. Sometimes it may be just to check in while other times may be doing some social, emotional learning work to help support them as they move forward. Advisory will be a minimal contact point but I will also be working with our teachers to make sure that we have that regular communication with all of the staff on my team to make sure they are aware of the importance of building those relationships.”

Dr. Roberts and Mr. Jensen further discussed students who live in the district but are choosing other online learning options and how the ultimate goal is to attract those students and families back to the district by providing the best possible virtual learning options and offering a personal touch and better communication that some of the larger online pathways in the state are offering at this time. Mr. Stenner asked if we were able to provide the same funding to our virtual students and Mr. Phillips stated that the legislature funded all virtual students at 100% for this entire school year. As of right now, it appears that, in the fall, we will receive 85% of the state funding for any student who receives 50% or more of their learning through the online pathway. It was also discussed that, based upon enrollment numbers, the program may need to be established as a school and assigned a school number and what that may look like to have one school number assigned for a K-12 program. The presentation was closed with an assurance that all CVP students are BCSC students and will continue to be eligible to participate in any and all BCSC activities that they choose.

Q1 Financial Report

Mr. Phillips reported the 2021 first quarter financial report by providing a more simplified visual report. He stated that everything is on track and where it is expected to be at this time. In the Operations Fund, the chart shows it is well ahead of where it was at this time last year and Mr. Phillips explained that this is due to the mid-year tax draw so the property taxes will represent a large portion of what will be seen for the second quarter. Two (2) things that occurred this year that did not occur by this time last year are:

- The school safety grant of $100,000 from the State of Indiana arrived during the first quarter this year (thank you to Janae Norman).
- We were reimbursed for a large portion of the electric bus that was purchased last year (the expenditure hit in 2020 and the reimbursement came from the VW settlement from the state level in the first quarter of this year).

Mr. Phillips also stated that there are no revenues for the Operating Referendum Fund at this point. Funds were borrowed as new on the Operating Referendum Plan which reduced borrowing from both the Education Fund and the Operating Fund. All Education Fund expenditures are exactly where they are expected to be at this time. The Operating Referendum Fund is exactly where it is expected to be at this time with the only variables being with bus purchases and invoices for those purchases between last year and this year.
Operating Referendum Fund Expenditures:

- **Teacher Salary Increases**
  - 487 teachers averaged $1,924 in experience increases
  - 221 teachers - $556.00 one-time stipend

- **Support Staff Hourly Rates**
  - 900 support staff averaged $55.00 per pay or nearly $400.00 in additional pay in quarter one

- **Safety and Security**
  - $58,000 towards School Resource Officers
  - $400,000 to update bus fleet in quarter two

Operating Referendum Fund Salaries were increased by 8.8%. In close, Mr. Phillips provided additional information in regards to tax bills and gave examples in case there are questions received from taxpayers. Tax liabilities were also discussed.

HOW

4) **Requests for Approval (Dr. Roberts)**

Dr. Roberts reviewed the following items for the Board.

a. Minutes of the Regular School Board Meeting of April 5, 2021, Minutes of the Strategic Planning Session of April 15, 2021
b. Supplemental Contracts (Dr. Hack/Mr. Jensen)
c. Field Trips/Professional Leaves (Dr. Hack/Mr. Jensen)
d. School Fundraisers (Dr. Hack/Mr. Jensen)
e. Claims and Payroll (Mr. Phillips)
f. ESSER II Grant Application (Dr. Pleak)
g. Secondary World Language Resource Adoption (Mr. Jensen)
h. Award Food Service Bids for Milk, Dairy, Dry Goods, Frozen Products and Bread Products (Dr. Boezeman/Ms. Millspaugh)
i. 2021 Revised Capital Projects Resolution
j. 2021 Additional Appropriation Resolution
k. Lease of Clover Center Property - 2401 Beam Road
l. Request of Adjustment of Physical Distancing from six (6) feet to three (3) in specific, outlined settings

Dr. Shedd requested approval of items a. through m. Ms. Wheeldon made a motion to approve the reviewed items and Mr. Bryant seconded the motion.

Upon a call for the vote, items a.-m. were unanimously approved.

5) **Request for Approval of Human Resources Recommendations (Ms. Heiny)**

Ms. Heiny requested approval of the Human Resources Recommendations including the addendum. Dr. Roberts added to Ms. Heiny’s Human Resources Recommendations that she has submitted her retirement notice and we are recommending Dr. Gina Pleak to fill that position as we go into the 2021-2022 school year.

Mr. Bryant made a motion to approve the Human Resources Recommendations and the motion was seconded by Dr. Bilz.

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

BOARD INPUT/REVIEW

Mr. Grimes again congratulated the top ten and top eleven senior students on their hard work and accomplishments. He also thanked all the presenters of the evening for their thorough and thoughtful presentations.
Ms. Wheeldon mentioned that, in light of the recent events in Indianapolis, she hopes that the district takes a moment to re-assess and re-evaluate all safety and security measures.

Dr. Bilz thanked Josh Giebel for the tour and the impressive work that he does.

**UPCOMING DATES:**

Next Regular School Board Meeting: Monday, May 10, 2021, 6:30 p.m., Administration Building, Terrace Room

Dr. Shedd thanked all the Board members for their time and dedication and adjourned the meeting at 9:14 p.m.

*The Board’s meeting site is fully accessible to all persons. Any person requiring further accommodations should contact the School Corporation’s Administrative Office at 812-376-4220.*