

For February 12, 2013

The School Board...

thanked the Memorial High School trombone ensemble for their performance to open the meeting.

welcomed Superintendent's Student Advisory Council (SSAC) representatives: Breanna Crumb of Memorial (MHS) and Maggie Zinich of Central (CHS). Miss Crumb reported MHS has approximately 6,000 community service hours towards the goal for Service Project X and students will be working on a Habitat for Humanity house February 16th. Miss Zinich reported CHS has approximately 4,200 community service hours for Service Project X, the clothing drive was a success and Say What Karaoke will take place Wednesday night at Central.

accepted with appreciation donations of \$300.00 from an anonymous donor to Cleveland Elementary to be used to continue participation in the Loveway programs; \$1,000.00 from Elkhart Rotary Club to be used for a 4-week after school tutoring program before ISTEP+ testing; \$225.47 from OSMC to Memorial High School's SSAC help fund t-shirts for Service Project X; \$6,000.00 from Adam & Rachael Meyers to the Memorial High School Sign fund; set-up and design valued at \$150.00 from A-One Signs for table skirts to be used in the Board room; a Roth violin valued at \$600.00 from Hope Alexander to the Elkhart Community Schools (ECS) music department; and a generic violin and a German violin valued at \$600.00 and \$400.00 respectively from Annie Yoder to the ECS music department.

heard a report from ETA President Alex Holtz on the school letter grades earned by ECS with two schools earning three bonus points for high growth: Cleveland and Eastwood.

heard from Nina Swartzlander, Monger Elementary 21st Century coordinator, about the Monger Students Taking Action and Responsibility (MSTAR) service project. The students held a Bingo night to raise awareness and supplies for the Humane Society of Elkhart County, with over 80 people attending. The students were able to collect many supplies needed by the Humane Society. Representatives of the 21 students in the group: Janiyah Barnes, Dominic Davis, Diane Garnett, Trey Gates, Derron Gray, Korinn Hodges, Karen Mendoza, Leo Muniz, and Perla Vasquez were presented with certificates by Board member Glenn Duncan.

heard from Danae Wirth, district instructional Science specialist, the Hoosier Association for Science Teachers, Inc. recipient of the 2013 Cheryl Cowan Memorial Award for Innovative Elementary Science Teaching was presented to Riverview's Douglas Hunnings at the state conference. Ms. Wirth also recognized the Best of Grade level winners of the City Science Fair: grade K-2, Lukas Greig, Cornerstone Montessori; grade 3-5, Eric Haworth, Pinewood; grade 6-8 and overall best of show, Aaron Russell, West Side. Board member Doug Weaver presented them with certificates. Even though this year's science fair was affected by winter weather, of the 228 registered projects, 188 projects participated. This is an increase over last year's participation.

heard from Daly principal Josh Nice about their Tuesday night tutoring program. Daly is striving to teach students about community service. The neighborhood association uses Daly for their monthly meetings. Along with the tutoring, the parent support coordinator runs English classes on Tuesday evenings. Daly teacher Carla Darr

reported the program pairs 25 Daly students with 25 high school students. Two former Daly students and current MHS students, Cassie Klapp and Myra Ortega, along with their Daly students Diana Rodriguez and Estrella Rios shared their experiences and want to help foster the family atmosphere they experienced as Daly students. Second grader Spencer Beane shared his experience tutoring kindergarten and first grade students. Board member Karen Carter presented certificates to all the students.

heard from Feeser Elementary School Principal Kevin Dean regarding the recent Feeser Spelling Bee. Mr. Dean introduced the students: runner up, Lou Rose and champion, Grace Hire. Board member Sue Daiber presented them with certificates.

approved proposed revisions to Board Policy JEA, Compulsory Attendance and Initial Entrance, as presented at the January 22nd Board meeting. Doug Thorne, executive director of personnel and legal services, indicated the changes are needed to clarify procedures if a student age 16-18 withdraws from high school.

was presented with proposed revisions to Administrative Regulation JEA, School Admissions, as initially presented at the January 22nd Board meeting. The Board offered no further comments.

approved overnight trip requests for members of Memorial High School Wrestling team to travel to Ft. Wayne, IN on February 8-9, 2013 to compete in the semi-state wrestling tournament.

confirmed the submission of a grant to PNC Bank for \$500.00 to pay for hotel accommodations for Career Center Early Childhood program students to attend the Indiana Association for the Education of Young Children conference.

approved conference leave requests in accordance with Board policy for staff members as recommended by the administration all funded by outside sources, not general funds. President Stahr reported that she and Sue Daiber will not be attending the National School Boards Association conference in San Diego, CA in April as originally planned due to the current funding shortfalls.

approved a consent agreement regarding unpaid time.

approved regular employment of the following two (2) certified staff members for the 2012-2013 school year: Lisa Martin, mild intervention at Roosevelt; and Michelle Prough, science teacher at West Side.

confirmed the resignation of Rebekah Grudda, fifth grade teacher at Cleveland.

approved a maternity leave of absence for Jessica Caskey, second grade at Beck.

confirmed the retirement of the following three (3) certified staff members effective at the end of the 2012-2013 school year with years of service in parenthesis: Sandra Amt, special needs coordinator at Career Center, (34); Judith Gable, child care at Career Center, (33); and Dwight Rodgers, speech pathologist at Central, (17).

approved regular employment for the following five (5) classified employees who have successfully completed their probationary periods: Christy Gonzalez, bus driver at Transportation; Kelly House, paraprofessional at Hawthorne; Vilma Padilla, paraprofessional at Pierre Moran; Bethany Reed, food service at North Side; and Susan Williams, paraprofessional at Bristol.

confirmed the resignation of the following four (4) classified employees: Dawn Blessing, food service at Pierre Moran; Angela Hubbard, paraprofessional at Memorial; Agustin Jordan, paraprofessional at Monger; and Barbara Leedy, social worker at Hawthorne.

confirmed the retirement of the following three (3) classified employees with years of service in parenthesis: Phyllis Crabtree, paraprofessional at Feeser; Kristy Duddy, paraprofessional at Cleveland; and BJ Gawthrop, secretary at ESC.

confirmed the termination of a classified employee in accordance with Board Policy GDPD.

heard from neighbors of Eastwood Elementary about the 22 acre parcel of property south of the school which has been sold and the implications of the new owners efforts to seek rezoning from agriculture to manufacturing.

Dr. Haworth announced the next regular Board of Trustees meeting will be held February 26, 2013 at 5:00 p.m. at North Side Middle School.