

For March 26, 2013

The School Board...

met at Central High School, with the orchestra performing before the meeting started.

was presented with colors by Cub Scout Pack #62 sponsored by Riverview PTO.

welcomed Superintendent's Student Advisory Council representatives from both high schools. Mariele Rios of Memorial reported Service Project X community service hours total 10,812 to date; students helped build a Habitat for Humanity house and athletes and art students are currently painting hallways. Future projects include cleaning up the park near Riverview school and helping build a house with LaCasa. Jessica Gorden of Central reported Service Project X community service hours total of 13,000 to date; and the recent St. Baldrick's fundraiser raised \$4,940.00.

accepted with appreciation donations made to Elkhart Community Schools (ECS): 15 dictionaries and thesauruses valued at \$150.00 to a third grade classroom at Woodland Elementary from DonorsChoose.org; \$95.00 from First Congregational United Church of Christ to Beardsley Elementary School to be used for children in need; and an Armstrong Flute valued at \$250.00 from an anonymous donor to music department.

heard from Bristol Elementary Principal, Melissa Jennette, about the Math Bowl Team's first place finish at the Regional Math Bowl competition. Mrs. Jennette introduced team sponsor Tom Jones, and team members: Nathan Dibley, Sienna Eby, Elizabeth Harmon, Tori Hartl, Caleb Howell, Alexis Jackson, Olivia Maack, Jared Miller, Jaycee Rossi, Tyler Smith, Jacob Tiffany, and Carson Wells. They received certificates from Board member Carolyn Morris.

heard from Pinewood Elementary Math Bowl team sponsor Monica Keggerreis about the Math Bowl Team's top 10 finish in the 2013 Indiana Math Bowl competition. Mrs. Keggerreis introduced team members: Savion Bias, Braden Black, Ryan Cart, Spencer Dexter, Joe Gard, Jenni Gill, Michael Huang, Sarah Joy, Ellie Malloy, Clare Millstone, Niyami Mitchell, Ted Myers, Samantha Sarber, Elizabeth Weir, Sean Wilson, and Christian Yoder. They received certificates from Board member Karen Carter.

heard a report from principal Frank Serge about Central High School. Mr. Serge introduced administrators, Blazer Club president, Band Booster president, and staff members who were present. Projects were on display in the student center and the girls' barbershop quartet performed their song which they earned gold at the State Ensemble contest. Assistant Principal Dan Swygart reported Central's graduation rate has increased from 68% in 2010 to 85% in 2012; average SAT scores have increased from a score of 968 in 2008 to an average score of 1054 in 2011; the percentage of students passing the Algebra 1 end of course assessment (ECA) has increased from 60% in 2010 to 79% in 2012, also increasing the number of students taking the exam; the percentage of students passing the English 10 ECA has increased from 49% in 2010 to 70% in 2012. Mr. Swygart reported monthly writing prompts are used as English 10 ECA success predictors across racially disaggregated groups; and have shown an increase in the number of students passing. Central offers honors classes and 59% of students participating in Advanced Placement testing received a score of 3, 4, or 5 which indicates results in earned college credit. Band director Scott Garner introduced a performance of a flute trio who earned a perfect score at the State Solo and Ensemble contest. Assistant Principal Kelly Berheide distributed a brochure Central High School compiled after the school went through an advanced accreditation process and gathered input from ninth grade parents regarding what they wanted to know about Central. The information was also used in planning the showcase in April. A listing of clubs was included and Ms. Berheide invited the Board to visit any Tuesday morning to see the variety of clubs offered. Kathy Nusbaum and John Hunziker described the afterschool program, Blazer Connections. The first hour of

homework assistance to students with club opportunities following. Parent Katrina Torres and student Austin Torres shared their personal experience with Blazer Connections and the improvement Austin had in school. Student Shaquona Ellis shared how Blazer Connections helped her with math and she received a full ride scholarship to Marion College and student Morgan Medlen passed around a few of art projects made in the 3D Art/Sculpture club. The percussion ensemble performed and the Winter Guard was recognized for their third place at the Indiana winter guard State finals. The ElkLogic Robot Team, which includes Central and Memorial students, displayed their robot which took six weeks to build for the FIRST Robotics competition and placed 21st out of 40 teams, \$16 million is available in scholarships. Mr. Serge recognized Nick Ponce for his 12th place at the State Diving competition and Johnny Treadway for his 8th place in the State Wrestling match. Mr. Serge recognized students who received art awards: Morgan Medlen, Mary Jane Parmater Keefe Award of Excellence \$1000.00 Scholarship; Anya Stucky, Mary Jane Parmater Keefe Award of Excellence; Wendy Sandoval, America's Visions Award nomination of Scholastic Art Awards; and Julianne Whyte, Docents' Choice Award at Scholastic Art Awards.

approved the purchase of a gas chromatograph for Central High School for \$1,957.00 to enhance chemistry and chemistry electives to be paid out of extracurricular funds.

awarded the bid for the Physical Plant improvements project to Griffen Plumbing and Heating of Elkhart in the amount of \$1,015,800.00 with a base bid plus alternate no. 1 to upgrade the urinals at Monger Elementary. The base bid includes the replacement of the boilers and chillers at Monger Elementary; a new chiller at North Side Middle School; and new water heaters for Pierre Moran Middle School and West Side Middle School. In response to Board inquiry, ECS has used Griffen Plumbing and Heating on other projects in the past.

tabled a proposed gift card resolution.

approved cash tuition rates for the 2013-2014 school year, Douglas Hasler, executive director of support services, reported Indiana provides free tuition for students to attend the school district in which they live; if a family chooses to send their child to school out of their home district, they must pay the state tuition rate. For the 2013-2014 school year, the rate is \$4,715.00 for kindergarten students and \$7,300.00 for students in grades 1-12. Students seeking a transfer are subject to Board Policy JECB. For student transfers before the cutoff date, the fee is waived.

heard from Ted Foland, energy education specialist, the last audit was conducted at Central on Saturday March 16th at 8:30 a.m. He reported the building temperature was within the appropriate range; lights were on in unoccupied band room; and staff needs to continue to work on shutting down computer lab screens, printers and manually controlled exhaust fans. Two thirds of all rooms received a "thanks for saving energy" sticker. Mr. Foland indicated Central's administration and staffs efforts have resulted in 25.4% cost avoidance for 2013, which is 2.3% behind of 2012. For the corporation, year to date 2013 cost avoidance is 27.2%, overall program cost avoidance from September 2009-current is valued at \$3,182,059.00. In response to Board inquiry at the last meeting, Mr. Foland reported if the elementary school day were to be extended by one hour, the projected increase in cost would be an additional \$86,500.00 annually.

approved proposed revisions as initially presented at the March 12th Regular Board meeting to Administration Regulation JECB, Admission of Non-Resident Students. The Board offered no further changes or corrections.

approved proposed revisions as initially presented at the March 12th Regular Board meeting to Administration Regulation JECBB, Student Transfers. The Board offered no further changes or corrections.

approved the submission of a grant to the Indiana Department of Education of Special Education for

\$70,000.00 to facilitate systems of change and improvement in the areas of school to college and career preparation and readiness.

was presented with a draft of the Board of School Trustees meeting schedule for the 2013-2014 school year. The schedule follows past years' schedules - regular meetings on the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month at 7:00 pm and public work sessions on the third Tuesday of the month at 7:00 am with exceptions in December; the location for all meetings are routinely at the J. C. Rice Educational Service Center, but during the school year are held at various schools. Final approval of the schedule will be sought at the Board's next regular meeting.

approved overnight trip requests for members of Central Key Club to travel to Bloomington, IN to attend the District Key Club convention on March 22-24, 2013; Early Childhood Education II students at the Career Center to travel to Indianapolis to attend the Indiana Early Childhood State Conference on April 11-13, 2013; members of Central Key Club to travel to Camp Tecumseh, Brookston, IN to attend leadership training on April 12-14, 2013; and members of Central and Memorial Rotary club to travel to Camp Tecumseh, Brookston, IN to attend Rotary leadership camp on April 19-21, 2013.

approved a consent agreement regarding unpaid time.

confirmed the employment of the following two (2) certified staff members for the 2012-2013 school year: Andrea Bayadsy, language arts at West Side; and Hans Hess, ESL at St. Vincent.

approved a change to the voluntary leave for Kellie Wheeler, first grade at Osolo.

approved a change to the parental leave for Shannon Lovely, math at West Side.

approved the rescinding of a parental leave for Jill Coffman, third grade at Hawthorne.

approved a health leave of absence for Janet Toland, ESL at Bristol.

approved a maternity leave of absence for Katie Wallace, first grade at Bristol.

confirmed the retirement of the following six (6) employees at the end of the 2012-2013 school year with years of service in parenthesis: John Hutchings, director of student services, (35), Nancy Hutchings, special education at Cleveland, (24); Thomas Neat, assistant superintendent, (18); James Rice, assistant director of Career/Technology, (20); Phillip Stillson, assistant principal at Central, (37); and Diana Vermeulen, science at Memorial, (17).

approved regular employment for the following three (3) classified employees who have successfully completed their probationary periods: Lynda Barker, food service at North Side; Shannon Butts, paraprofessional at Cleveland; and Carissa Glasgow, paraprofessional at Feeser.

confirmed the resignation of Judith Miller, paraprofessional at Career Center.

heard from a parent regarding concerns about bullying.

heard from Board President Jeri Stahr the Board's appreciation to the Central custodians for all of their work to set up and tear down the cafeteria and the staff and students at Central for their program.