

.....met at Pinewood Elementary School

.....was presented the colors by Cub Scout Troop #711 and led in the Pinewood Creed by sixth graders.

.....accepted with appreciation donations made to Elkhart Community Schools (ECS): \$6,000.00 Elkhart Municipal Band grant to the Elkhart Memorial Band program from the Elkhart County Community Foundation to cover contest entry fees and subsidize private lessons; science materials from I-STEM Resource Network valued at \$8,492.16 to the Elementary Science program; \$400.00 from JC Penny's adopt a classroom to a teacher at Monger Elementary to purchase reading and math materials; one Hardy Piccolo from an anonymous donor to the music department; a check for \$1,000.00 from the Noon Optimist Club to support the field trip learning program; and a check for \$3,000 from the Elkhart County Community Foundation to support the student costs of the Summer US History Field trip.

.....heard a report from the Superintendent's Student Advisory Council Representatives. Maddy Keeslar of Memorial shared the Madrigal dinner is December 7th & 8th and reported on the sports schedule for December. Emily Hoepfner of Central reported on a new cheer club the "Blazer Crazies" and reported on the sports schedule for December.

.....heard a report from principal Mindy Shaw about Pinewood Elementary. Ms. Shaw welcomed the School Board to Pinewood and had staff stand to be recognized. Every day all 740 students complete the Minds in Motion maze, visitors from across the county and state have come to see the program. In the Spring of 2012, Pinewood saw a need after ISTEP+ results were in and Math scores were not keeping up with Language Arts scores and implemented the 8-step program for students. In the Spring of 2013, Pinewood had double digit growth in fourth-sixth graders math scores. Ms. Shaw reported the High Ability program (PEP) has been housed at Pinewood since 2006; students at Pinewood participate in Spell Bowl, Math Bowl, Robotics and the Scripts Spelling Bee. The Pinewood Science Fair is one of the largest in the district with almost 200 projects entered. Student community service projects at Pinewood include a recent food drive, 6th grade students packing boxes at Feed the Children, hat and mitten drives, Riley Penny Pitch day in the spring, and a recent Red Cross fundraiser started by 4th grade students, who have relatives in the Philippines, which raised over \$325.00 to assist after the recent hurricane. Ms. Shaw thanked the PTO for their support of many projects including the new Panther graphics in the gym they paid for. She had PTO parents present stand to be recognized. Every day at Pinewood Elementary community is celebrated with community circles and monthly awards assembly tied directly to the Pinewood Student Creed: "Treat People Right" and "Do the Right Thing". Ms. Shaw introduced the Pinewood Spell Bowl Championship team.

.....heard from Ted Foland, energy education specialist, the last full building audit was conducted at Pinewood on Monday, November 25, 2013 at 6:00 p.m. Very good building shut down over all. 66% of all work stations received a "Thank You for Saving Energy" sticker for a complete work station shut down. Pinewood Administration and staff efforts have resulted in a cost avoidance of 32.9% from January thru October 2013, ranked 7th over all buildings and valued at \$33,191.26. Cost avoidance for the entire corporation currently is

28.6%, valued at \$947,000.00. This is a .7% improvement over the same period last year. Total savings from September 2009 thru today is valued at 3.8 million dollars.

- adopted a resolution authorizing the transfer and reduction of appropriations in certain 2013 tax supported funds in order to balance Elkhart Community Schools' 2013 budget.
- authorized the administration to advertise for a public hearing for additional appropriations in the Rainy Day Fund. Doug Hasler, executive director of support services, reported the circuit breaker has had a significant negative impact on our funding, and will be able to report at the December 10th Board meeting which funds may be short.
- authorized a change order to the Commissary Bid at Memorial for \$21,105.00 allowing temperature, lighting, and exhaust fans to be controlled by the district wide software which allows scheduling based upon hours of use, set points and setbacks, and energy conservation, thus providing the same control as our other buildings, either on-site or remotely via the web based software.
- heard proposed new Board Policy IGBD, Employee use of Social Media and Guidelines for School-Related Social Media Sites, for initial consideration. In response to Board inquiry, Superintendent Haworth indicated suggested changes will be reviewed and the policy will be brought back for approval at the next Board meeting.
- was presented with a proposed 2014-2015 school year calendar for initial Board consideration. Dr. John Hill, assistant superintendent for instruction, reported the format calls for teachers to return the afternoon of August 13th allowing 1 ½ pre-session days with students beginning on Friday, August 15th; parent teacher conferences for all students October 15th; two days for fall recess, October 23rd and 24th; winter recess from December 22nd through January 2nd; parent teacher conferences for Elementary only February 4th; spring break the first full week of April 6-10; emergency snow make-up days on March 27th, April 3rd; and May 11th; the last day of school for all students on June 4th and the last day for teachers on June 5th. Dr. Hill indicated that the calendar has been reviewed with the Elkhart Teachers Association's Professional Relations Group (PRG); is in accordance with the state's requirement for 180 student attendance days and with the ETA Master Contract's requirement for 184 teacher work days.
- approved a maternity leave of absence for Michelle McClintic third grade at Osolo.
- approved a voluntary leave of absence for Marjorie Hessler, first grade at Eastwood.
- confirmed the employment of sixteen (16) classified employees who have successfully completed their probation period: Christina Amador Corona, paraprofessional at Osolo; Angela Anderson, custodian at Hawthorne; Ami Balding, paraprofessional at Daly; Ernestine Bean, paraprofessional at Tipton; Pam Borsa, food service at West Side; Linda Brewer, paraprofessional at Riverview; Nicole Cantzler, paraprofessional at Eastwood; Roswitha Everett, paraprofessional at Hawthorne; Deborah Jackson, paraprofessional at Cleveland; Carla Moore, food service at West Side; Kelly Myers, food service at Memorial; Amy Poe, food service at Monger; Christina Stewart, paraprofessional at Pinewood; Brenda VanNevel, Digital Communication Spec at ESC; and Blanca Vargas, paraprofessional at Beck.

-confirmed the resignation of the following four (4) classified employees: Jodi Cramer, paraprofessional at Roosevelt; Rebekah Creasbaum, food service at Riverview; Heather Harrington, paraprofessional at EACC; and Leia Williams, paraprofessional at North Side.
-approved a voluntary leave of absence for Kathy Bressler, paraprofessional at Beardsley.
-confirmed the termination of a classified employee in accordance with Board Policy GDBDA.
-confirmed the termination of a classified employee in accordance with Board Policy GDPD.
-heard from a concerned parent regarding the proposed early release change stating there is too much emphasis on testing and change in the school schedule has a negative impact on parents and wondered if it couldn't wait until next school year.
-heard from a concerned parent about the Central High School parking lot.
-heard from a concerned parent if ECS has a Lice Policy.
-approved recommendation to alter Roosevelt Elementary School's schedule beginning December 9, 2013.
-approved recommendation for early release of 45 minutes every Wednesday beginning January 8, 2014. Dr. Haworth reported teachers and parents were surveyed as to whether they prefer a delayed start or early release. The Board heard comments from Alex Holtz as ETA President who is in favor of early release; Sara Jackowiak, principal at North Side, spoke to how collaboration of teachers two years ago helped move North Side from a failing school to an "A" school; Ms. Shaw shared how teamwork and collaboration are essential to help children grow.
-heard from Board member Sue Daiber thanking the Pinewood students for the thank you cards they created for the Board.
-heard from Board member Doug Weaver thanking the music instructor for her work with students and sharing the music lab with the Board.