

- was entertained by a clarinet ensemble and a percussion ensemble from Memorial High School (MHS).
- welcomed Superintendent's Student Advisory Council representatives from both high schools. Caroline Mark of Central High School (CHS) reported Champs is having a Valentine's Day fundraiser selling Orange Crush sodas and delivering them to "crushes"; there is a lot of discussion in the halls about the weather and the concern for classmates walking 2 miles to get to school and many students are supporting Yes4Elkhart and she wanted the board to know that CHS students appreciate the attempts being made to help them. A Dance Marathon is scheduled to raise funds for Riley Children's Hospital, students who have been to Riley will be asked to speak at the dance; Miss Mark is one of the choreographers who is working on a Morale Dance; and exchange students from Germany are helping those at CHS learn more about different countries; Student Council is hosting "Say What Karaoke" fundraiser on Wednesday February 12th from 6-8. Angel Gomez from MHS reported the wrestling team won Sectionals and had 6 Regional Qualifiers; swim team set a new school record; and track season starts with a meet on March 29.
- was introduced to the musicians who entertained at the beginning of the meeting by Kurt Weimer, MHS Band director. Percussion ensemble included Ian Hines, Katy Kiefer, and Anderson Green, Nick Petit was out ill. Clarinet quartet included Andrew Manthey, Brianna Brown, and Christy Graber. He explained MHS purchased ensemble music to add to their library and subsidized private lessons for many band students with a \$6,000.00 grant from The Municipal Band. The entire band was encouraged to enter District Solo and Ensemble Contest and the results were 37 ensemble and 10 solo gold ratings. Most are going to attend the State Competition in a few weeks.
- accepted with appreciation donations made to Elkhart Community Schools (ECS): a French Horn from Frank and Becky McClelland valued at \$275.00 to the Music department of ECS; a check for \$500.00 from Managed Health Services to purchase new gym and recess equipment for students at Mary Beck Elementary School; a gift of \$540.00 from Elkhart Rotary Club for Beardsley Elementary School children to use the Renaissance Learning Program; and \$500.00 from United Way to support the Partnering with Parents of Preschoolers Kindergarten Readiness Workshop at Woodland Elementary School.
- heard from Tim Carnall who recognized two of his band students from West Side Middle School. Jessica Buckley and Madeline Crosbie were selected for the Indiana All-Region Band. Madeline was also selected for the All-State Band. Board President Dorisanne Nielsen presented Madeline with a certificate; Jessica was not able to attend. Ryan Gortney, Motorcycle Technology teacher at the Elkhart Area Career Center (EACC), explained two teams from the EACC competed in the National Hot Rodders Competition in Indianapolis. The two teams finished 6th and 7th in the nation and earned over \$250,000.00 in scholarships. He shared EACC represents 4 counties and the teams represent 5 high schools. Mrs. Nielsen presented certificates to, Ben Largent, Lane Gortney, Zac Coffel, Jake Harris, Tyler Dickson, Kerry Miller and Cody Pullin.

-was introduced to Sherrie Keeslar, a District Academic Coach by Dr. Bradley Sheppard, Supervisor of Curriculum and Instruction. She shared her personal background in education and explained how Coaches are working with teachers. Their goal is to assist administrators, staff and students to enhance the learning process. Other Academic Coaches were introduced: Meredith Warnock, Stephanie Kimmerly, Jennifer Hinman and Danae Wirth. Dr. Sheppard thanked them for their "passion" for students in ECS.
-approved the purchase of ISTEP t-shirts for staff and students of West Side Middle School from their extra-curricular account. The cost of the t-shirts is \$2,720.00. The shirts are being used as an incentive for students to give best effort of ISTEP.
-approved proposed revisions to Board Policy GDBDA-1, Food Service Employees' Compensation Plan, and waived second reading. Doug Thorne, executive director of personnel and legal services, indicated the changes are being made to lessen the impact on the general fund by transferring cafeteria paraprofessional positions to being paid by the Food Service Department. He also reported the current paraprofessionals pay rates in those positions, will not change. New hires will be paid at rates listed. In response to Board inquiry, Mr. Thorne stated Food Service is funded through the price of food and federal support of free and reduced lunches; the Food Service Director will supervise these employees; and this also is another cost savings to the General Fund.
- approved proposed revisions to Board Policy GDBDA-10, Employees in Miscellaneous Positions Compensation Plans, and waived second reading. Mr. Thorne indicated the recommended change is the elimination of the currently vacant position of Public Relations and Volunteer Coordinator, which will also result in a savings to the General Fund.
- approved the submission of a grant to the United Way. Pinewood and Eastwood Elementary Schools will be working with Hillcrest Preschool and Cornerstone Christian Montessori.
- approved two consent agreements regarding unpaid time.
- confirmed the employment of the following two (2) certified employees: Nicholas Seidl, Memorial /Industrial Technology and Kimberly Williams Unassigned/Elementary.
- confirmed the resignation of certified employee Brett Cramer, Hawthorne/Special Education.
- confirmed the employment of twelve (12) classified employees who; have successfully completed their probationary period: Twila Culbreath, Pierre Moran/Food Service; Sidney Hawkins, Roosevelt/Central/Food Service; Sheila Iannarelli, Feeser/Paraprofessional; Adell Kyle, Pierre Moran/Food Service; Sara Lewter, Memorial/food Service; Anne Mayer, North Side/Paraprofessional; Laura Miller, Eastwood/registered Nurse; Lynne Miller, North Side/Paraprofessional; Robert Myers, Memorial/custodian; Jennifer Robakowski, Pierre Moran/Food Service; Charlotte Roby, central/food Service; and Shari Warlick Central/Paraprofessional.
- confirmed the resignation of four (4) classified employees: Laticia Armstrong, West Side/Paraprofessional; Michelle Cross, Memorial/Food Service; Stephanie Fahrenkrog, West Side/food Service; and Kimberly Williams, Beardsley/Paraprofessional.

- confirmed the retirement of two (2) classified employees with years of service in parenthesis: Francine House, Transportation/Bus Driver (16); and Kathleen Williams, transportation/Bus Driver (22).
- confirmed the voluntary leave of Marlene Reed, Eastwood/Paraprofessional.
- by a vote of 6-1, adopted along with The City of Elkhart and Greater Elkhart Chamber of Commerce a joint resolution opposing the elimination of the business personal property tax. Board member Glenn Duncan indicated that he was in support of a resolution opposing elimination of the business personal property tax, but did not believe he had sufficient information related to all of the assertions made in the whereas statements in the resolution.
- by a vote of 6-1, adopted along with The City of Elkhart and Greater Elkhart Chamber of Commerce a joint resolution supporting additional flexibility for county option income tax. Board member Doug Weaver questioned the statement in the resolution which states that taxes are a new idea and also referred to a LOIT that would include money for schools. Board Member Jeri Stahr clarified that there are 4 options that will be voted on and none include school funding. Board Member Karen Carter told of a LOIT which is still in committee that would fund the schools, but doubted it would make it out of committee. Mr. Duncan shared his same issue with the whereas statements, but supported the resolution.
- heard an announcement from Superintendent of Schools Rob Haworth of a Walk from Monger Elementary to Central High School on Monday February 17th. People are to meet at CHS at 9:30 am and will be bussed to Monger. The walk will begin at 10:00 am. The two mile walk will simulate what some students do every day. This walk is put on by Yes4Elkhart.