

-welcomed Superintendent's Student Advisory Council (SSAC) member Miyah Byers. Ms. Byers, a senior from Memorial High School (MHS) is involved in National Honor Society, Film Club, Key Club, Physics Club, the symphony orchestra and art. She reported MHS recently hosted their most successful blood drive collecting over 168 units of blood. Activities also reported: this past weekend was the 39th annual Madrigal dinner; winter sports are underway with basketball, swimming and wrestling competitions this week; band and orchestra Christmas performances; and the winter formal.
-accepted with appreciation the following donations made to Elkhart Community Schools (ECS): \$525 from Middlebury American Legion Riders to purchase a tool box for Elkhart Area Career Center's (EACC) automotive technology services department; a 2007 Ford Five Hundred valued at \$1,250 from Mark and Sheryl Purcell to be used in EACC's collision repair/automotive refinishing department; a portable, rechargeable speaker for iPod and iPhone valued at \$29 from Walgreens for West Side Middle School's math department's carnival night as a raffle prize; and 56 hat and scarves sets and 4 additional scarves from Ruth Ann Owen to distribute to ECS children through social workers.
-recognized senior members of the MHS girls volleyball team for winning sectional, regional and Class 4A Elite 8. Cary Anderson, principal, commented on the success of this year's team as well as the program overall having a Northern Lakes Conference (NLC) record of 100 wins and 5 losses since 2001. Six players were selected to all conference teams and Kaylin Szucs as second team All State. Certificates were awarded to Bailey Brouwer, Christa Knapp, Kayona Malone, Darrian Mowery, Chanel Spain, Charmel Spain, Kaylin Szucs, Autumn Taylor and Alexis Wilson. Coach Jacquie Rost was honored as the NLC Coach of the Year.
-recognized senior members of MHS boys soccer team as sectional champions and regional runners-up. Mr. Anderson highlighted the team's 15 wins this season set a new school record and only 10 members are graduating seniors so the future looks bright. Certificates were awarded to Daniel Brummet, Nathan Chupp, Ramon Duarte, Jaime Garcia, Christian Lopez, Moises Maciel, Roman Perez, Javier Prieto, Henry Rivas and Brayan Vargas. In addition, Jaime Garcia was named to the Indiana Soccer Coaches Association (ISCA) District 1st Team; Brayan Vargas to the District 2nd Team; and Coach Dan Sullivan was honored as the NLC Conference Coach of the Year and the ISCA District Coach of the Year.
-approved proposed school fundraisers in accordance with Board policy. The funds raised through the listed activities are deposited into each school's extra-curricular fund.
-untabled Board Policy GCBE, Professional Staff Vacations and Holidays, and approved the proposed revisions as initially presented at the Board's November 10th regular meeting and tabled at the November 24th regular meeting for further clarification. Doug Thorne, executive director of personnel and legal services, reviewed the revisions included a change to the holiday schedule and clearer language regarding the timeframe for using vacation days.

..... heard Shawn Hannon, assistant superintendent of communication and data, comment the preliminary A-F School Grades are continuing to be reviewed by the State. On the communication side, training sessions were held for school personnel who handle social media sites. Discussion topics included how to be in compliance with Board policies, as well as content ideas to engage followers. She also reported new templates for school websites are in the works. In response to a request for input, the Board suggested school improvement plans could be added to school web sites.

..... heard Tony England, assistant superintendent of student services, report 300 coats donated through Ziker's Coats for Kids program will be distributed this week by social workers at each school. Also, Lilliana Dawson recently won a coloring contest sponsored by Elkhart Brass and will be recognized at the Board's January 12, 2016 meeting. Krista Hennings and David Bird are providing a 'mini-mester' over the holiday break to assist students who are behind on credits necessary for graduation. 100+ students have expressed an interest in the program. In response to Board suggestion regarding a possible boot drive, Mr. England replied MHS had held a successful clothing drive it could possibly be a collection in the future.

..... heard Dan Rice, senior director of technology, present an update on the Technology Champion Teachers and the 1 to 1 computer project. Over 80 teachers have volunteered for the program. 2,400 chrome books have been ordered for the first year and the program will need to purchase 2,000 per year to sustain the 1 to 1 in secondary schools in year three. Four Learning Management System (LMS) vendors are scheduled to present their products on Wednesday, December 9th. In response to Board inquiry, Mr. Rice stated prices for chrome books have gone down and currently range between \$250 and \$300 with licensing. Discussion continued in regards to the program, those chosen to participate, coordination within the schools, and the anticipated outcome.

..... approved the submission of the following grants to:

Early Learning Indiana for an Early Childhood Expansion Grant from ECS.

HOSA Future Health Professionals for a Careers Promotion and Preparation Grant from the Elkhart Area Career Center.

FSSA Office of Early Childhood and Out School Learning for an Early Education Matching Grant from ECS.

Indiana Department of Education (IDOE) Division of School and Community Nutrition for a 2015 National School Lunch Program Equipment Assistant Grant from ECS.

IDOE for a Math Science Partnership 3 Year Grant from ECS with ETHOS

..... was presented with a proposed 2016-2017 school year calendar for initial Board consideration.

..... approved the proposed new agreement with the American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees (AFL-CIO, Local #2925) for the period of January 1, 2016 through December 31, 2018.

-approved proposed revisions and waived second reading of Board Policy GDBA-1 Food Service Employees' Compensation Plan; Board Policy GDBA-2 Mechanics' Compensation Plan; Board Policy GDBA-3 Bus Drivers' Compensation Plan; Board Policy GDBA-3a Bus Helpers' Compensation Plan; Board Policy GDBA-4 Support Staff Salary Schedule (Maintenance Personnel); Board Policy GDBA-5 Secretarial/Business Compensation Plan; Board Policy GDBA-5a Executive Assistant Compensation Plan; Board Policy GDBA-6 Paraprofessional Compensation Plan; Board Policy GDBA-7 Technical Assistants' Compensation Plan; Board Policy GDBA-8 Registered Nurses' Compensation Plan; Board Policy GDBA-9 Social Workers' Compensation Plan; Board Policy GDBA-10 Miscellaneous Positions Compensation Plan; Board Policy GDBA-11 Therapists' Compensation Plan; Board Policy GDBA-12 Employees' in Technology Services Positions; and Compensation Plan.
- was presented with proposed revisions to Board Policy GDC, Support Staff Probation, Evaluation, and Eligibility for Benefits, for initial consideration.
-approved overnight trip requests for Central's band to travel to Muncie, IN on December 4 thru 6 to participate in Ball State Honor Band; and the NERDS Robotics team to travel to Indianapolis, IN on December 18 and 19 to participate in the FTC Robotics tournament.
- approved seven consent agreements regarding employee retention for certified staff members.
- approved two consent agreements regarding unpaid time for certified staff members.
- approved regular employment for the following three (3) certified staff members: Mackenzie Hill, TBD/Elementary; Nicole Labuziensi, special education at Pinewood; and Mary Shepperd, special education at Hawthorne.
- approved maternity leave for certified staff members: Jessica Caskey, grade 5 at Beck; and Megan Fitz, grade 2/PEP at Pinewood.
- approved professional leave for certified staff member Melissa Jennette, principal at Bristol.
-approved regular employment for the following six (6) classified employees who have successfully completed their probationary period: Heidi Cruz, paraprofessional at Roosevelt; Jill Gude, paraprofessional at Eastwood; Kevin Havens, custodian at Central; Karen Hupp, paraprofessional at Osolo; Maurice Johnson, custodian at Memorial; and Darnisha Sanders, food service at Memorial.
- confirmed the resignation of the following three (3) classified employees: Semage Amalnathan, food service at Pinewood; Travon Curry, paraprofessional at West Side; and Scott Killelea, unassigned bus drive at Transportation.
- confirmed the retirement of the following three (3) classified employees with years of service in parentheses: Kenneth Barnes, custodian at Riverview (16); Rebecca Egert, bus driver at Transportation (20); and Henry Griffin, custodian at Pierre Moran
- heard Superintendent Haworth remind everyone the next Board meeting is December 21st at 7:00 a.m.