

-welcomed Superintendent's Student Advisory Council (SSAC) representative Antwaan Allen, a senior from Central High School (CHS) who participates in football, basketball, and Students With A Goal (SWAG). He reported on the following school activities: Accuplacer is currently going on; the soccer team won the NIC championship; basketball has started, the fall sports banquet was last week; the Sadie Hawkins dance is approaching, and the play 'Almost Main' is Friday. He welcomed the Board members to attend upcoming events and thanked them for their time.
-accepted with appreciation the following donations made to Elkhart Community Schools (ECS): \$750.00 from Patrick Industries and \$500.00 from Cressy & Everett to Elkhart Memorial High Schools athletic department for the boys/girls track team; an Armstrong Tenor Saxophone valued at \$550.00 from Martha Nelson to the ECS music department; 4,948 science fair boards valued at \$28,900.00 from Welch Packaging for students participating in building science fairs; and hats, scarves and gloves from Diana Wenger to distribute to school children through social workers.
-recognized the West Side 7th grade volleyball team for winning the Big 11 Championship. Kristie Stutsman, principal remarked great teachers make great coaches while introducing volleyball coach, Lindsey Cox, who presented team members with certificates to Felisha Campanello, Rebecca Ekema, Kendrea Randles, Cassandre Thrash and Emma Yohn. Certificates were also awarded to Emily Anderson, Amber Asher, Brookelyn Edgerton, Emily Kersten and Reagan Snyder who were unable to attend the presentation.
- held a public hearing on the proposed additional appropriation for the Rainy Day Fund in excess of the budget for 2015, with no comments from the audience, the hearing was closed.
- Doug Hasler, executive director of support services, stated the earlier 2015-2016 school year start date created an additional pay period for 2015. Two Board members expressed their reluctance to vote in favor of the appropriation; disappointment in the need for the Rainy Day appropriation; and explained their understanding of the original purpose of the fund.
- adopted a resolution for additional appropriation for the Rainy Day Fund for 2015
- held a public hearing on the proposed additional appropriations for the General Fund in excess of the budget for 2015, with no comments from the audience, the hearing was closed.
- adopted a resolution for additional appropriations for the General Fund for 2015.
- 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. In response to Board inquiry, Mr. Hasler will look into a solicitation received and report back at the next meeting.

- heard Shawn Hannon, assistant superintendent of communication and data, update the status of ISTEP testing results. Letters were sent to parents notifying them of a one week window of opportunity to request a rescore. Specifics are not currently available to the schools but should be received in December. In other department areas: employee insurance information is on the website; and there has been a great response received thru social media for 'good' news and student successes.
- heard David Bird, academic dean of School Without Walls, report the program currently has: 315 students, 63 being hybrid students; 305 credits earned so far this school year; 15 graduates; and continued participated from schools outside of ECS. In response to Board inquiries, he stated the need for a guidance counselor and the potential for the creation of new curriculum.
- heard Dr. Dawn McGrath, deputy superintendent, outline plans to select a Learning Management System (LMS) by second semester. Additionally, she described an invitation for teachers to apply to be Technology Champions and commit to intense professional development in exchange for access to technology. So far, 54 secondary school, and 22 elementary school teachers have applied.
- approved the submission of the following grants to the Elkhart Education Foundation for:
 - First Tech Challenge Robotics Team Initiative from Central High School.
 - Grasping New Concepts Thru BrainPOP from Pierre Moran Middle School.
 - Water is Life from Riverview Elementary School
- received a grant submission and award update from Kim Boynton, director of grant development/PreK.
- was presented with the proposed revisions to Board Policy GCBE, Professional Staff Vacations and Holidays, for initial consideration. Doug Thorne, executive director of personnel and legal services, explained the revision eliminates the 'floating' holiday previously available between President's Day and the 4th of July and moves it the 4th of July.
- approved the recommendation to appoint Clarence Thomas to a part-year term through June, 2016 on the Elkhart Library Board of Trustees to fill a vacancy.
- approved an overnight trip request for the wrestling team from Central to travel to Crawfordsville, IN on December 30 and 31, to compete in a tournament.
- approved a consent agreement regarding unpaid time for one certified staff member.
- approved a settlement agreement related to the use of sick leave for one certified staff member.
- confirmed the Superintendent's administrative appointment of David Bird, program supervisor at School Without Walls, and Gail Draper, supervisor of Early College Program.

- confirmed the resignation of certified staff members Robert Weber, ENL at Beck and Andrew Wood, assistant principal at Central.
- approved a change to maternity leave for certified staff member Meg Brewer, speech pathologist at PACE.
- approved regular employment for the following eight (8) classified employees who have successfully completed their probationary period: Semage Amalnathan, food service at Pinewood; Debra Baker, paraprofessional at Hawthorne; Nina Bayes, paraprofessional at Daly; Jammie Fields, lunch paraprofessional at Beardsley; Melissa Frederick, food service at Pierre Moran; Ranesha Halliburton, paraprofessional at Memorial; Dolly Lozano, paraprofessional at Hawthorne; and Elizabeth Nutt, food service at Bristol.
- confirmed the resignation of the following eight (8) classified employees: Andrea Bussard, food service at Beardsley; Amy Franks, custodian at Memorial; Rick Hayford, unassigned bus driver at Transportation; Holly Kerstin, paraprofessional at Woodland; Laura Lucchese-Urban, paraprofessional at Bristol; Carolyn Miller, unassigned bus driver at Transportation; Drew Morris, custodian at Building Services; and Kirstin Truman, paraprofessional at Monger.
- approved a personal leave for classified employee, Peggy Caston, bus helper at Transportation.
- confirmed the retirement of the following three (3) classified employees with years of service in parentheses: Brenda Ellsworth, bus driver at Transportation (34); Mary Jo Raab, secretary at Career Center (11); and Donald Swanson, bus driver at Transportation (13).
- confirmed the change to retirement of classified employee Harriett Lewis, paraprofessional at West Side, with 15 years of service.
- approved a recommendation presented by Doug Thorne, authorizing a stipend for classified personnel. Full time employees will receive \$1,000, part-time employees (less than six hours per day) will receive \$500. In response to Board inquiry, Mr. Thorne clarified the stipend will be given to employees who have completed their probationary period prior to November 17, 2015.
- heard Superintendent Haworth introduce Rebecca Crocker, recently appointed assistant principal at Monger. Ms. Crocker spoke of the dedication of the staff at Monger and thanked the Board for approving the appointment.
- approved a title change for Carl Rust from assistant principal to director of the Elkhart Elementary Academy as presented by Superintendent Haworth.
- approved a recommendation that Elkhart Community Schools partner with the Boys and Girls Club in order to consider the impact of Beardsley Elementary as a shared space facility. James Taylor, Area Director and Kevin Deary, CEO, commented on the positive impact joining forces would have on students.