

.....met at Pierre Moran Middle School.

.....welcomed Superintendent's Student Advisory Council (SSAC) members. Riley Norris represented Central High School (CHS). Mr. Norris, a senior, is class president, involved in tennis, diving and track and field. Mr. Norris highlighted recent sport successes of Logan Brown in diving, the gymnastic team, Sydney Dygert in swimming; and the upcoming boys basketball sectionals. He reported Project Y's reading camp is continuing at Beardsley and more planning for the unified track and field meet; and rehearsals for Shrek the Musical. Brandon Bailey, a freshman from Memorial High School (MHS) is involved in student government, tennis, basketball, and baseball. He reported the music department continues to prepare for State solo and ensemble competition this weekend; the success of the Student Coffee House held February 18<sup>th</sup>, the wrestling team sent four members to the State finals last weekend; boys basketball sectionals are next week with Central vs. Goshen on March 2<sup>nd</sup>, the progress of Project Y; and the Family Dance on Friday, February 26<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Bailey invited the Board and audience to the dance.

.....accepted with appreciation the following donation made to Elkhart Community Schools (ECS): \$500.00 from the Elkhart Rotary Club to Pinewood Elementary School to host a reading event at Highland Mobile Home Park in the Spring.

.....accepted with appreciation, pending completion of appropriate documentation, a ladder truck presented by Dave Elick of the LaGrange Fire Department to the Elkhart Area Career Center (EACC). The ladder truck was decommissioned when they purchased a newer truck. Board members thanked Mr. Elick for attending the meeting to present the donation and commented on their generosity to the EACC.

.....heard Daniel Farison, Director of Choirs at Pierre Moran Middle School (PMMS), recognize Amelia Redding on her acceptance and performance with the All State Middle School Honor choir at a performance with 149 other singers from across the state January 15 and 16. The Board thanked the music departments for the various performances given prior to the start of the meeting.

.....heard a Building Energy Report on PMMS from Tony Gianesi, director of building services. Regarding the building audit conducted on the evening Monday, February 21<sup>st</sup> by Ted Foland, energy education specialist. Current building cost avoidance is at 27% for 2015, valued at over \$43,000, a 9.8% improvement and largest of all buildings for 2015. Current district-wide cost avoidance for 2015 is the best year so far at 30.5, valued at over 1.25 million dollars. Mr. Foland will be presenting the six-year energy report at the March 8<sup>th</sup> Board meeting.

- ..... was welcomed to PMMS by Principal Cynthia Bonner. Mrs. Bonner provided an ISTEP+ Spring 2015 Report and Comparison. She highlighted AdvancEd Priorities including: a comprehensive school improvement plan; instructional strategies that focus on critical thinking skill development; a classroom observation form and formative process; develop a format for instruction planning and practices; and the need to monitor these practices. Mrs. Bonner introduced all of the staff present at the meeting and their responsibilities. The Board commented on the staff participation and thanked them all for attending.
- ..... awarded the bid for the West Side Middle School asphalt replacement project to Reith Riley Construction Company, Inc. as the lowest and best, most responsive and most responsible bidder. This project includes replacement of the east parking lot and Alternate 2 for the replacement of the existing drainage structures at the east parking lot. In response to Board inquiry, Mr. Gianesi responded the work is to take place between June 6 and July 31, 2016.
- ..... approved resolutions amending and restating 401 (a) retirement plans in compliance with Federal requirements.
- ..... 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.
- ..... heard Tony England, assistant superintendent of student services, introduce Amy Haworth, CARES coordinator. Mrs. Haworth reported the mentors from each school were recognized during half time at basketball games on January 29<sup>th</sup> and February 9<sup>th</sup> in honor of National Mentoring Month. Two of the groups honored included the Bethel Lady Pilots and 30 volunteers from Lippert Components. The CARES Board hopes to establish a program entitled SOS – Serving our Schools. The program would partner elementary schools with an adoptive church to not only mentor but provide additional support for staff luncheons, student celebrations, and drives for needed supplies. The goal is to identify two or three congregations per elementary school. United Way initiatives include Real Men Read expanding to 7 schools this year; reading camps at Mary Beck, Mary Daly, Eastwood and Bristol; Spring Into Books, an initiative involving 35-40 women who agree to read once a week for 4 weeks. Mrs. Haworth announced the annual golf scramble will again take place this summer to generate funds for *Someone Always Cares* books to be distributed to every first grader.
- ..... approved proposed revisions as amended and waived second reading of Board Policy GCEA – Substitute Teacher Pay Schedule. In response to Board inquiry, Doug Thorne, executive director of personnel and legal services, agreed the policy would clarify 45 days per each school year in the category Substitute Permit or Regular Teaching License as well as a date correction.
- ..... approved proposed revisions and waived second reading of Board Policy GDBA-6 Paraprofessionals' Compensation Plan.
- ..... was presented with proposed new Board Policy IGBE-E – Student Emails, for initial consideration.

..... approved the submission of the following grants:  
to the Indiana Youth Institute from Mary Daly for registration at the Indiana Speech Language Hearing Association 2016 Annual Convention.

to the Elkhart Education Foundation for the following grants:  
from West Side for Winning Wildcats  
from Beardsley for First Lego League Robotics Club supplies  
from Central for Shrek the Musical  
from Memorial for a wrestling mat  
from Central for Blue Blazer Indoor Track Surface  
from Monger for MSTAR awards banquet

..... confirmed the following overnight trip requests: Memorial wrestlers to travel to Indianapolis on February 19 thru 21 for State finals; Central wrestlers to travel Fort Wayne on February 12 and 13, for semi-state wrestling matches; and Central swim team to travel to Indianapolis on February 12 and 13, for State meet; and approved Central Girls basketball to travel to Indianapolis on February 27 and 28 for State finals.

..... approved a consent agreement regarding unpaid time for a certified staff members.

..... confirmed retirement of certified staff member Geraldine Geiger, grade 4 at Cleveland.

..... approved health leave for certified staff member Amy Miller, special education at Roosevelt.

..... approved maternity leave for certified staff member Kimberly Wallace, grade 1 at Beardsley.

..... approved personal leave for certified staff member Jason Yoder Rupp, math at Central.

..... confirmed the resignation of certified staff member Stacey VanEck, psychologist at ESC.

..... confirmed the resignation of classified employee Brenda Miltroka, custodian at Central.

..... approved regular employment for classified employee Suzanne Ragsdale, paraprofessional at Monger, having successfully completed her probationary period.

..... listened to a student inquire about a recently transferred teacher. She was thanked for her concern, and in keeping with Board policy, was informed that personnel matters cannot be addressed at meetings.

..... heard a PMMS parent comment on her initial concerns regarding her child attending PMMS, and how they were unfounded. The parent is part of a diverse parent group that helps by volunteering, fund raising, and speaking as advocates for parents. She thanked the leader for coordinating the group, and read a letter in support of the school and parents group.