The School Board... January 26, 2016

......welcomed Superintendent's Student Advisory Council (SSAC) members. Puja Patel, a senior from Memorial High School (MHS) is involved in the National Honor Society, Move2Stand, and Key Club. She reported MHS recently held their "Coming Home" week which ended with a school-wide pep session where the student body heard about the upcoming Project Y initiative. She also reported on all of the sports activities including wrestling sectionals, girls basketball sectionals, swim sectionals, and between Friday's basketball games the student-athlete mentors with the Woodland Program and CARES mentors will be recognized. Other activities include upcoming band and orchestra contests, varsity and JV Winter Color Guard competitions, and winter percussion ensemble competitions. Sophomores Katie Buckley and Logan Brown represented Central High School (CHS). Besides involvement in SSAC and Key Club, Ms. Buckley is a swimmer and Mr. Brown is a diver. They reported on upcoming sports activities including basketball, wrestling, swimming, and gymnastics. Other activities include: 8th grade parent night, reading camps at Beardsley, and the unified track meet on April 20th. Special recognition for breaking school records was given to diving champions Mikayla Karasek and Logan Brown. A Board member commented on the good things heard about the Key Club at a recent Kiwanis meeting.

......accepted with appreciation the following donation made to Elkhart Community Schools (ECS): \$200.00 worth of gift cards from the First Congregational Church to be distributed by social workers to help students and families as the need arises.

...... adopted a resolution to allow the Treasurer to transfer from one fund to another.

....... 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 a presentation on restorative practices being used at the Elkhart Academy from Mindy King, Academic Dean and Connie Caiceros, Director, Center for Community Justice (CCJ). Ms. King gave an update on the 6-week book study, The Little Book of Restorative Discipline for Schools, done in conjunction with the Center for Community Justice. The focus was on ways to eliminate suspensions when possible, to keep students in school and to empower students to make better choices, more about appreciating the entire student, not just the behavior. A new plan has been created for conferencing with students to focus less on discipline and more on accountability. The Academy hopes to continue working with the CCJ on restorative discipline practices and staff training. Ms. Caiceros reported on the success of the book study, future work on teaching to heal relationships, and training for administrators and teachers. In response to Board inquiry, it was reported 175 students are currently participating in the program.

....... approved proposed revisions to Board Policy GDBA-1 Food Service Employees' Compensation Plan, and waived 2nd reading. Doug Thorne, Executive Director of Personnel and Legal Services, explained the proposed revision reclassified food allergists from Class III to Class IV.

- was presented with proposed revisions to Administrative Regulation GDBA-10 Miscellaneous Position Pay Schedule regarding food service substitute pay rates. In response to Board inquiry, Mr. Thorne stated food service retired subs are paid at a higher rate due to their valuable service and experience. He noted the regulation would be clarified to read retired food service workers.
 approved proposed revisions to the Staff Performance Evaluation Plan regarding the use of an outside evaluator. The Board commented on the need for an outside evaluator based on the current evaluation requirements put on administrators.
 received a grant submission and award update from Kim Boynton, director of grant development/PreK. Mrs. Boynton highlighted the award of another playground grant and it will be implemented at Eastwood, Cleveland and Osolo. The date will be announced at a future meeting and all are invited to participate again this year.
 approved the proposed 2016-2017 Board Meeting Schedule, and waived 2nd reading.
- approved the time change for Public Works Session from February 9, 2016 through June 28, 2016. The Work Sessions will move from 5:30 p.m. to immediately following the 7:00 p.m. Regular Board Meetings.
- approved a consent agreement regarding employee retention for a certified staff member.
-approved regular employment for certified staff member Maria Devries, world language at Central.
-approved regular employment for the following seven (7) classified employees who have successfully completed their probationary period: Terri Huffman, paraprofessional at North Side; Jacques Neal, social worker at Roosevelt; Ellen Springer, food service at North Side; Victor Staner, custodian at Beck/Hawthorne; Mindy Trotter, unassigned bus driver at Transportation; Debra Watson, food service at Roosevelt; and Andrea Yeager, paraprofessional at Roosevelt.
- confirmed the resignation of the following two (2) classified employees: Cristel Cuacuamoxtla, paraprofessional at Monger; and Luke Roeschley, paraprofessional at Tipton.
- approved health leave for classified employee Carmen White, food service at Pierre Moran.