

-welcomed Superintendent's Student Advisory Council (SSAC) members. Brooke Troyer, a sophomore involved in volleyball and swimming represented Memorial High School (MHS). Ms. Troyer reported on all of spring sports beginning next week; success of the performances of Rock of Ages; and color guard and percussion group performed in Indianapolis. Alex Kilmer and Elijah Efsits gave a brief presentation on performing arts, speech and debate. Ms. Troyer updated the Board on Project Y: the recent class Olympics; so far \$5,881.09 has been raised; students will be serving tables for the Elkhart Education Foundation's Trivia Night; and 3 on 3 basketball tournament after Spring break. Central High School (CHS) was represented by sophomore Anthony Vu. Mr. Vu reported on the following recent activities: the girls gymnastic team finished seventh at state meet; Shrek the Musical was a huge success will near sold out capacity; Lauren Weirich's nominee as an Academic All Star; winter athlete recognition night on March 23; and for Project Y, 130 hours of reading mentoring at Beardsley Elementary.
-accepted with appreciation the following donations made to Elkhart Community Schools (ECS): \$760.00 from the University of Notre Dame to Cleveland Elementary for academic activities and clubs, in conjunction with a longitudinal study aimed at identifying skills that are most important for future math success among elementary students; 304 gallons of various latex paints valued at \$1,265.00 from Rollie Williams Paint Spot to be used at the Elkhart Area Career Center (EACC) for the construction trades program; and \$500.00 from Kimberley Pasquale for MHS track teams for equipment.
-heard Mary Yoder Holsopple present certificates to winners of the TCU Bullying Prevention Bookmark contest: Jason Reed, third grade at Eastwood; Christian Mazariegos, 6th grade at Hawthorne; and Haley Purnell, seventh grade at North Side Middle School. Each of the winners presented Board members with their winning bookmarks. This year 14,000 bookmarks were printed for distribution.
-heard a brief introduction to the College and Career Prep Class from Jennifer Higley, family and consumer science teacher at Pierre Moran. Ms. Higley created the course without the use of a text book where students incorporate the use of Chrome books to research and prepare career presentations. Students spoke in regard to future possibilities and researching career opportunities. The slide show was unable to be presented and later provided to the Board.
-was presented with a coding presentation by Josh Nice, Amanda Brandy and Kayleigh Swinehart. A short news video was viewed showing the interaction between kindergarteners and third graders. The course creates lots of cross class involvement with unique and special applications. Students spoke of what they have learned in the class: to push on and succeed; no failure; problem solving; creating with technology; 21st century skills; gain confidence; and helps students feel empowered. The curriculum, created by code.org, aligns with computer science standards, in addition to the integration of math, English language arts, and science standards.
- approved the Common School Fund Loan application for \$1,283,000.00 at 1% interest, to be used to purchase 2,500 Chrome books. The 1:1 technology goal is to provide electronic devices for all students by 2020. In response to audience questions, the loan will be repaid beginning in 2017 from the debt service fund, and it was noted this is not the first time this low interest funding source has been used.

- approved cash tuition rates for the 2016-2017 school year.
- approved extra-curricular purchases: MHS athletic department for wrestling mats for \$10,690.00; and North Side Middle School for new uniforms for the track and cross country teams for \$3,966.00.
- 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 6-year Energy Program Progress Report from Ted Foland, energy education specialist. The presentation highlights include: cost avoidance for 2015 was 30.5% valued over \$1,262,000; 10 buildings posted their best avoidance percentages; 2 buildings posted six consecutive years of improvement; 2009-2016 cost avoidance is valued at over 6.7 million dollars; and provided electric and natural gas usage and cost histories. Mr. Foland attributes the success of the program to weekly audits, tracking and evaluating utility accounts, consistent staff participation, establishing and maintaining heating/cooling set points; and multiple building schedules to accommodate extreme weather, building usage, special events, school delays, etc.
- heard Debra Beehler, coordinator of behavior supports, review the PAX Good Behavior Games program. PAX teaches students self-regulation, self-control and self-management while collaborating with others for peace, productivity, health and happiness. Students are involved in predicting PAX and spleems (unwanted behaviors) for new activities. Rewards for winning a PAX game include play-based activities. The program is currently in 23 classroom in nine buildings. Brian Wiebe and Kathy Royer of the Horizon Education Alliance presented Rose Miller, first grade teacher at Woodland, a plaque and \$100 for educational supplies for having 651 PAX minutes. Aliya Caldwell, second grade teacher at Mary Feeser was also presented a plaque for have over 500 PAX hours. Ms. Royer commended Elkhart Community Schools for being an early adopter of the program.
- held a public hearing on Mary Beck Elementary School 2015-2016 Priority School Status. Principal JeNeve Adams stated Beck is working to improve their grade on the Accountability Report Card by continuing to focus on the strategies set in place to achieve high student growth in English/Language Arts (E/LA) and Math in grades 4-6. Specific goals are: by May 2016, the bottom 25% of students in grades 4-6 will achieve high growth (42.5%) as measured by E/LA ISTEP+; by May 2016, the top 75% of students in grades 4-6 will achieve high growth (36.2%) as measured by the E/LA ISTEP+; by May 2016, the bottom 25% of students in grades 4-6 will achieve high growth (44.9%) as measured by Math ISTEP+; by May 2016, the top 75% of students in grades 4-6 will achieve high growth (39.2%) as measured by the Math ISTEP+. Board comments included commending Ms. Adams for her work and the efforts of her staff; how impressed field experience students have been at and their desire to do their student teaching at Beck; asking Ms. Adams to return in a few months with an update and any needs for continued improvement; the success of Beck is not simply on Ms. Adams, but the Board has a responsibility as well. Dr. Haworth provided the following facts: Governor Pence has approved doing away with ISTEP in its current format; a huge factor at Beck is the mobility rate of its students; only 25 out of 103 third graders have been there consistently since Kindergarten; second year testing was less than stellar; and the focus of priority schools should reflect the growth Ms. Adams and her team had seen. When opened for audience comments the following statements were made: Kevin Adams suggested Beck area be redistricted because it is not currently properly proportioned;

Gary Ganger commented there is only so much teachers can do and asked what the process would be if the school remained a priority school, Dr. Haworth replied after further investigation the State School Board could take over Beck; Dianna Graham thanked Ms. Adams for going above and beyond and that the children there need to be at that school and not redistricted because they would 'fall through the cracks' elsewhere; Joanne Adams and Willie Graham commented on lack of parent support due to lack of understanding what that entails, the need for outreach to the students' homes; and education of families on respect. In response to some of the audience comments the Board referenced programs available at Beck to feed the children at school and provide food for holiday breaks, the Real Men Who Read program, high school student volunteers; and efforts to improve the current 2% parent involvement. Dr. Haworth commented on the need not only for volunteers, but for volunteers invested for the long haul, and the possible involvement of churches and not-for-profit agencies. The hearing was closed.

- approved proposed revisions and waived second reading of Board Policy GCEA – Substitute Teacher Pay Schedule.
- approved the submission of grants to the Indiana Department of Education for a Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education grant from the EACC; and to GenerationON for a Literacy Room Project at Washington Gardens from West Side Middle School.
- confirmed the following overnight trip request: Hot Rodders team from EACC to travel to Cleveland, OH on March 19 and 20, to compete in regional event; and approved overnight trip requests: ElksLogics team to travel to Indianapolis, IN on March 24 and 25, for robotics competition; and Hot Rodders team from EACC to travel to Greenwood, IN is on April 22 and 23, for FFA State Small Engine Contest.
- approved a consent agreement regarding unpaid time for a certified staff member.
- approved health leave for the following two (2) certified staff members: Judith Bridges, dental at Career Center; and Jai Palmer Davidson, special education at Beck.
- approved maternity leave for certified staff member Nicole Vesta Wade, special education at Memorial.
- approved professional leave for certified staff member Melissa Jennette, principal at Bristol.
- confirmed the resignation of the following two (2) certified staff members: Javier Jimenez, academic dean at Hawthorne; and Todd Neuenschwander, music at Roosevelt.
- approved regular employment for the following six (6) classified employees who have successfully completed their probationary period: Danielle Feliciano, paraprofessional at Eastwood; Benjamin Kitt, custodian, Bristol/Eastwood; Jessica Owens, unassigned bus helper at Transportation; Joanna Pizana, unassigned bus helper at Transportation; Derria Pratcher, paraprofessional at Central; and Belinda Siler, paraprofessional at Eastwood.
- confirmed the resignation of the following three (3) classified employees: Teresa Perry, food service at Cleveland; Jacqueline Pietrzak, custodian at Hawthorne; and Carmen White, food service at North Side.