

-welcomed Superintendent's Student Advisory Council (SSAC) representative Brandon Bailey from Memorial High School (MHS). Brandon Bailey is a sophomore involved in baseball, basketball and tennis, in addition to SSAC. He reported spring sports have begun and baseball started off with a 3-0 winning streak but has lost the last two games; the Elkhart Education Foundation hosted their trivia night at Memorial last week, ISTEP testing continues; and upcoming events include the community cook-off, jazz café, and the prom.
-accepted with appreciation the following donations made to Elkhart Community Schools (ECS): \$1,200.00 from Cheers to Wheels, to the Elkhart Area Career Center (EACC) for toolboxes for two graduating students planning to attend an auto mechanics trade school and one graduating student to a small engine trade school; a 1990 International Series 1000 1652 step van from Christopher Varnak to the EACC for use in the Diesel Service Technology class; and \$500.00 from Health and Hospital Corporation of Marion County to Central's boys swim team to assist with program costs.
- approved an extra-curricular purchase request from Memorial for a scoreboard for varsity softball and baseball teams in the amount of \$11,354.52. In response to Board inquiry regarding keeping purchases of such items neutral in color with regard to future changes, it was noted both high schools' athletic directors are making purchases with that consideration in mind.
- 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.
-authorized the Superintendent to publish on April 14, 2017, the Notice of Applicability of the petition-remonstrance process to the 2018 High School Renovation Project and its financing.

The following comments were made prior to voting on the motion. Glenn Duncan stated the petition remonstrance process needs to move forward to be able to fund the building projects in pool and commissary areas at Memorial in preparation of future changes and only the timeline of the one high school project could be delayed. Jeri Stahr added the current Strategic Plan was designed to be in the best interest of the students and will go forward. Rodney Dale clarified that as with the previous petition, signing it does not stop the merger, only slows it down. Doug Weaver restated his quote of Rabbi Marvin Hier's presidential inaugural prayer, *"Because, the freedoms we enjoy are not granted in perpetuity, but must be reclaimed by each generation!" "As our ancestors have planted for us, so we must plant for others. While it is not for us to complete the task, neither are we free to desist from them."* Karen Carter stated she voted against the current plan but does believe the petition remonstrance process should go forward. Carolyn Morris commented she voted for the plan, the amount of time and effort that went in to the decision, and reiterated the one high school concept will not be changed as a result of the petition remonstrance outcome. Susan Daiber thanked the Board and those involved for the outstanding job they have done to create the plan and continue to work towards having the best programs available for students from pre-K through high school.

Comments from the public included: Tanzie Nielsen stated she has come full circle to be in complete support of the plan and applaud the Board for going down the tough path. Lou Pace said he has continued faith in the Board and supports the plan. He also believes the plan will create a better community as well as improved schools. Mark Dobson, EDC President, applauded the Board for taking bold steps. He hopes the direction students take as a result of the pathways and career development is a desire to return to the local community. He added Elkhart is number one in job creation in the state, and number ten in the nation.

.....heard Tony Gianesi, chief operating officer, provide an update on the Beardsley Boys and Girls Club construction project. Mr. Gianesi reported the masonry work is near completion, the roof deck and membrane are installed, underground plumbing complete, and concrete floors have been poured. The gym is scheduled to be complete by the start of school and the Boys and Girls Club by early October. In response to Board inquiry regarding fencing the entire property, it was stated coordination is in process and that will happen in the future.

.....was presented proposed changes to elementary school attendance areas for Beardsley, Hawthorne, Mary Beck, Riverview and Roosevelt, as initially presented at the March 28th regular meeting. The proposed changes to Administrative Regulation JC – School District Boundaries - provide attendance boundaries for the Mary Beck - IUSB Lab School resulting in the school becoming a “walk zone” for all students. In response to Board inquiry, options are available for sixth graders, the current agreement with IUSB runs for four years, and roughly 200 students are affected by the transition.

.....was presented with a table of compiled information showing inflation adjusted K-12 education spending per student and the Indiana House Budget K-12 spending per student by Alex Holtz, ETA president. The inflation rated spending showed an 8.5% decrease from 2010 to 2014. Mr. Holtz explained the computations in the tables and the comparison of funding for various neighboring school districts. Board member Karen Carter encouraged those present to contact their legislators about how educational funds are distributed.

.....approved an overnight trip request for Future Problem Solvers from Central to travel to Greenwood, IN on April 21 and 22 to compete in state competition.

.....approved an agreement regarding unpaid time for a certified staff member.

.....approved regular employment for certified staff member, Joshua Shattuck, head football coach at Central, for the 2017-2018 school year.

.....confirmed the retirement of the following two (2) certified staff members with years of service in parenthesis: Carolyn Hacker-Farrow, grade 5 at Daly, (27); and Judith Johnston, physical education at Eastwood, (29).

.....confirmed the resignation of the following three (3) certified staff members: Jai Palmer-Davidson, special education at Beck; Jennifer Roth, language arts at West Side; and Jennifer Tashijan, language arts at North Side.

- confirmed the resignation of the following three (3) classified employees: Michelle Kulp, food service at Cleveland; Emma McCaster, food service at Central; and Yessica Ramirez, paraprofessional at Hawthorne.
- approved regular employment for classified employee, Katherine Hocker, registered nurse at Cleveland, who has successfully completed her probationary period.
- heard an audience member comment on the status of reimbursement for those acquiring dual credit certifications and requested further investigation into the process.
- heard Board member Karen Carter report on the Kiwanis awards presentation she and Mrs. Daiber attended earlier in the day. The Knowledge is Dynamite awards to 4th graders for their significant efforts towards personal growth and improvement. Mrs. Carter added this is an example of the wonderful things the community does for the schools.