

..... met at North Side Middle School.

..... The Pledge of Allegiance was led by North Side students Hector Rico and David Burnham.

..... heard Board president Susan Daiber recite the Elkhart Promise.

.....welcomed Superintendent's Student Advisory Council (SSAC) representatives from both high schools: Tianna Roundtree, a junior from Memorial High School (MHS) and Katie Buckley, a senior from Central High School (CHS). Ms. Roundtree reported the following music department events: hosted two well-attended Madrigal dinners last weekend; intermediate band and orchestras will perform Wednesday; choirs will perform on Thursday; advanced band, choir, and orchestra will present their Happy Holidays concert on Sunday. Admission for the Wednesday and Sunday events are by donation of food items to be delivered to Church Community Services' food bank. She also reported on the winter sports. Katie Buckley reported the following: ECA and ISTEP testing is finishing up; all five winter sports are off to winning seasons; the Blazer Kindness Café was featured on a local news channel; CHAMPS have adopted a family for Christmas; choirs and orchestras performed last week; and auditions were recently held for the upcoming musical.

..... heard Jeff Komins, energy education specialist/elementary activities, report on the building audit performed at 4:05 a.m. on Tuesday, December 12<sup>th</sup> at North Side Middle School. Mr. Komins reported 80% of the 59 areas visited were found to be in compliance with our energy initiative and received "Thanks for Saving Energy" stickers. Mr. Komins, thanked principal, Sara Jackowiak, and her staff for their efforts in lowering the utility costs. The district's cost avoidance for the year is still on track to break last year's record of \$1.2 million.

..... heard Sara Jackowiak, principal at North Side, give a presentation on the following areas: academics; art, athletics, and citizenship. Mrs. Jackowiak reported many teachers are working very hard to integrate technology into their instructional routine and decided this would be a good opportunity as an administrator to model using technology and collaboration to convey a message. With the help of a couple staff members, a short video highlighting various aspects of the culture and student life at North Side was created. Focusing mainly on academics, with an emphasis on offering students a multitude of opportunities to explore their interest and develop their strengths. Academic Highlights include: 17 teachers have devices in their classrooms for student use; creating a balance between direct instruction and learning through the use of technology; an increase in student collaboration in classrooms; more opportunities for students to make connections between their learning and real world application through 8th grade manufacturing day and 7th grade Reaching Higher students visiting the Career Center. North Side had a 97% passing rate on the ISTEP+ Biology test last spring. In the area of the Arts, offerings include not only the traditional band, orchestra and choir courses but we also offer Jazz Band, Music Theory and Jazz Choir; an Advanced Art class for 8th graders introducing graphic design; and Drama Club presenting two productions each year. 151 students participated in athletics during the first semester. For Citizenship: banners created by each Advisory class creating a sense of community and belonging for all students; implementation of the PRIDE

initiative throughout the building; students are earning community service hours towards their PRIDE 8th Grade Work Ethic Certificate and starting with this next report card, students will also be given PRIDE grades by each of their teachers. Mrs. Jackowiak invited the Board to attend the end of year Husky Big 3 assembly.

..... accepted with appreciation the following donations made to Elkhart Community Schools (ECS): volleyball training equipment valued at \$500 from John Himschoot to Memorial High School's athletic department; 17 copies of the book *Finders Keepers?* from Mr. & Mrs. Gyan Joshi for distribution to each of the elementary and middle schools' libraries; \$2,000 from Goshen College to be used to engage staff, students, and community in cultural experiences; \$500 from Frank and Tonja Lucchese for Osolo's Angel Tree Program; and Jason Richard of A+ Plumbing, Heating & Cooling of Bremen generously donated his services and the use of his equipment to install a waterline from the house to the barn at Agriculture Community Center for Environmental Learning Lab (ACCELL). Mid-City Supply also donated all the supplies for the project. These two donations are valued at \$4,000.00.

.....approved an extra-curricular purchase of Port Phone wireless headphones for Central's football program in the amount of \$4,862.00.

..... 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.

..... approved proposed revisions and waived second reading of the following Board policies regarding compensation:

3422.01S - Food Service Employees' Compensation Plan

3422.02S - Mechanics' Compensation Plan

3422.03S - Bus Drivers' Compensation Plan

3422.04S - Bus Helpers' Compensation Plan

3422.05S - Support Staff Salary Schedule

3422.06S - Secretarial/Business Compensation Plan

3422.07S - Executive Assistants' Salary Schedule

3422.09S - Technical Assistants' Compensation Plan

3422.11S - Social Workers' Compensation Plan

3422.12S - Employees in Miscellaneous Positions Compensation Plan

3422.13S - Therapists' Compensation Plan

3422.14S - Employees in Technology Services Positions Compensation Plan

..... approved proposed revisions and waived second reading of Board Policy 3422.08S - Paraprofessionals' Compensation Plan.

..... approved proposed revisions and waived second reading of Board Policy 3422.10S - Registered Nurses' Compensation Plan.

..... approved a proposed Agreement with the American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees related to compensation. Doug Thorne, district counsel/chief of staff, reported this is the final year for the current Agreement and a new one will be negotiated next Fall.

- .....approved submission of the following grants: ISDA Livestock Promotion Grant to Indiana Department of Agriculture in the amount of \$4,195.50 from ACCELL; and 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Center Grant to Indiana Department of Education in the amount of \$1,125,000 over four years on behalf of Mary Daly, Pinewood and West Side for after school programming.
- ..... approved regular employment for the following three (3) certified staff members for the 2017-2018 school year: Jennifer Allen, special education at Beardsley; Mackenzie Bontrager, grade 1 at Beardsley; and Barbara Starr, science at Pierre Moran.
- ..... confirmed the resignation of the following two (2) certified staff members: Rhonda Byler, grade 3 at Monger; and Elizabeth Fawcett, grade 6 at Pinewood.
- ..... approved regular employment for the following nine (9) classified employees who have successfully completed their probationary period: Kristi Folger, paraprofessional at Memorial; Karla Gapinski, food service at Feeser; Blanca Gonzales Morales, paraprofessional at Riverview; Johanna Montas-Arias, secretary at ESC; Carol Nusbaum, paraprofessional at Riverview; Casey Ruble, bus driver at Transportation; Mary Szekendi, paraprofessional at Osolo; Jennifer Weingart, senior reporter & assignment editor at WVPE; and Tamar Wilson, paraprofessional at Hawthorne.
- ..... confirmed the resignation of the following three (3) classified employees: Ronald Barr, Sr., custodian at Hawthorne; Audriana Coleman, secretary at Memorial; and Shelly Piggie, food service at Hawthorne.
- ..... heard from an audience member in regard to the cost and availability of geometry text books at the middle schools.