

..... heard Board member Rodney Dale recite the Elkhart Promise.

.....welcomed Superintendent's Student Advisory Council (SSAC) representative Abby Docilovic, a senior from Memorial High School (MHS). In addition to SSAC, Ms. Doncilovic is the class secretary, National Honor Society secretary and a member of the tennis team. Ms. Doncilovic provided the following winter sports update: boys basketball is currently 5-4 overall and 2-0 in the Northern Lake Conference; during halftime at this Saturday's home game the boys basketball team from Mary Daly will be recognized; girls basketball is currently 8-6 overall and city champs by a win over Central; senior swimmers are being honored this evening. Ms. Doncilovic also reported the Varsity Club is again mentoring West Side athletes and Woodland students. As an athlete participating in the program, she found it to be highly successful and rewarding. Ms. Doncilovic thanked the Board for supporting the dual credits program where she was able to earn 42 credits and will be graduating from Ivy Tech as well as high school in the Spring.

..... adopted an organizational resolution naming Kevin Scott, treasurer; Erica Purvis, deputy treasurer; copy fees; officers and members of the Board of Finance shall be the same as the officers and members of the Board of School Trustees; Board member compensation; cash management provider is Lake City Bank; Legal Counsel is Barnes & Thornburg; legal notices to be published in the Elkhart Truth and Goshen News; mileage rate is \$.545; and bond amounts.

..... adopted a resolution authorizing the transfer of funds during calendar year 2018.

.....accepted with appreciation the following donations made to Elkhart Community Schools (ECS): \$100 from Brad and Evelyn Williams to pay negative food balances at Cleveland Elementary; \$675 from VFW Post 88 and \$675 from the VFW Ladies Auxiliary to pay negative food balances at Beardsley, Mary Beck and Osolo Elementary schools; fifteen 5-gallon buckets (valued at \$125) from Six Span Ace Hardware to Bristol Elementary to start a drumming circle; 50 hand-knitted hat and scarf sets from Ruth Ann Owens for distribution to children in need; \$2,000 from Dana Homo to Memorial boys and girls track team; \$4,625 from the Community Foundation of Elkhart County for cultural experiences that expand the value of diversity and inclusion; also, the following donations were made in 2017 for renovations to Rice Field and North Side Gym: \$100,000 from an anonymous donor; \$25,000 from Mr. and Mrs. Thad Naquin; and \$25,000 from the Welter Foundation.

..... was presented the 2018-2019 School Calendar for initial consideration.

..... confirmed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) by a vote of 6-1, regarding school resource officers and crossing guards. In response to Board inquiry, it was noted the City Council is not the approving entity of the MOU. Board member Doug Weaver acknowledged the all of the efforts of the Elkhart Police Department, the Board of Public Safety and the administration of ECS in preparation of the Memorandum of Understanding regarding school crossing guards and resource officers.

- approved an overnight trip request for Elkhart Area Career Center veterinarian technician students to travel to Lansing, MI on January 26 – 28, 2018 participate in a skill-a-thon and quiz bowl at the Michigan Green & White Swine Show.
- approved a consent agreement regarding unpaid time for a certified staff member.
- approved regular employment for the following three (3) certified staff members for the 2017-2018 school year: Allison Pennington, grade 1 at Roosevelt; Jamie Schultz, special education at North Side; and Katie Smith, science at Elkhart Academy.
- confirmed the resignation of the following five (5) certified staff members: Alexa Dolbee, grade 5 at Hawthorne; Lorinda Kline, instructional coach at Pierre Moran; Romison Saint-Louis, physical education at Roosevelt; Ryan Strozier, science at Memorial; and Robert Weber, ENL at Beck.
- approved a change to maternity leave for certified staff member, Hannah Hueni, kindergarten at Hawthorne.
- approved regular employment for the following nine (9) classified employees: Jalethia Black, food service at Monger/Tipton; Joyce Cardosa, food service at Commissary; Cassandra Collins, bus driver at Transportation; Karen Krieg, paraprofessional at Eastwood; Dinorah Kuehn, paraprofessional at Pinewood; Heather Macioce, bus driver at Transportation; Kayla Magyar, bus driver at Transportation; Sabrina Martin, food service at North Side; and Amanda Schenk, paraprofessional at Eastwood.
- confirmed retirement of classified employee, James Kintigh, technical services at ESC.
- confirmed the resignation of the following seven (7) classified employees who have successfully completed their probationary period: Tracy Calhoun, paraprofessional at Daly; Janine DeShone, secretary at Memorial; Danielle Feliciano, paraprofessional at Eastwood; Kelly Martin Del Campo, food service at Commissary; Idelis Monge Roman, bus helper at Transportation; Amanda Rospopo, paraprofessional at Eastwood; and Brittney Saint-Louis, paraprofessional at Beardsley.
- recognized Heidi Compton on her commitment to the District and thanked her for her dedication upon her retirement.
- heard Alex Holtz, Elkhart Teachers Association President, share an article and a portion of the data described in it from School Matters. The title of the article is "Effective schools aren't the ones you expect". The article summarizes the results of a study done by Stanford professor, Sean Reardon. Mr. Reardon analyzed data for all Indiana school districts for the cohort of students who were in third grade in 2009 and eighth grade in 2014. ISTEP language arts and math data were used as a measure of annual learning in each Indiana district. Encouragingly, Elkhart Community Schools' students showed the highest annual growth in achievement of any Indiana district's students.