

- heard Board president, Kellie Mullins, recite the Elkhart Promise.
- heard from Superintendent's Student Advisory Council (SSAC) representatives Elizabeth Weimer, a senior from Memorial High School (MHS) and Brady Krueper, a freshman from Central High School (CHS). Ms. Weimer reported winter sports are headed in to sectional play, including Memorial hosting the wrestling Sectional on February 1st. Ms. Weimer commented cheerleading is perhaps one of the most active teams in terms of community outreach and service. Also in music, preparation has begun for ISSMA solo and ensemble contests; the color guard placed second in their combined class last weekend; and students and staff are enjoying the space and quality of the new facility. Upcoming events include Champion's Last Ride Carnival and the theater department will be performing the musical "You're a Good Man Charlie Brown" on March 12th, 13th and 15th. In addition to SSAC, Brady Krueper plays football. Mr. Krueper reported the winter guard and percussion ensemble will present a Showcase on January 29th. Girls' basketball sectionals begin next week with Central vs. Memorial at Warsaw. Next Saturday, the Boys' NIC swim meet will be at the Aquatic Center. Also, the Dollars for Scholars Phone-a-thon is January 28th and 29th, with 25 students from various service clubs make over 2,000 phone calls; and the annual Say What Karaoke is scheduled for February 26th.
- heard Superintendent Thalheimer give a presentation on addressing the needs of exceptional learners as identified by the ThoughtExchange. The district has created a division of exceptional learners specifically for special education and high ability students with an Assistant Superintendent of Exceptional Learners. The Assistant Superintendent of Students Services will concentrate on health services, social work, alternative education and Pre-K education. The dedicated division is a result of the needs assessment in high ability conducted since September. Components of the high ability programming will include: a philosophy and vision; identification procedures; specialized curriculum; extra-curricular or outside learning opportunities; professional development of staff; social and emotional needs; and evaluation of the program. Recommendations include the hiring a full-time director of high ability to serve under the Assistant Superintendent of Exceptional Learners to address programmatic improvements, curriculum development and teacher training.
- accepted with appreciation the following donations made to Elkhart Community Schools (ECS): \$500 from Osolo Emergency Medical Services, Inc. for the ElkLogics Robotics club; \$5,000 from Rob and Kate Dutkiewicz to purchase books for students and staff at Beck; \$600 from Whiteford Kenworth to the Diesel Services program at the EACC; 2 wheel barrows, 2 pitchforks, a ground-driven manure spreader and a hay wagon (donor valued at \$8,000) to the ACCELL program from Mr. and Mrs. Ken Blazier of KB Brokerage/Trucking; and \$250,000 from Welch Packaging and \$656,968.53 from Ms. Charlotte Mittler for the Engineering Technology and Innovation Building fund.
- 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

- was presented the Monthly Insurance Update. Kevin Scott, chief financial officer, stated total medical and pharmacy expenses at year end were \$35,000 less than calendar year 2018. 2018 and 2019 were substantially better than 2017.
- approved the 2020-2021 School calendar.
- was presented proposed revisions to Board Policy 3422.12S – Employees in Miscellaneous Positions Compensation Plan, for initial consideration. Doug Thorne, chief of staff/district counsel, noted the revisions were clarifications to the previously approved policy.
- was presented proposed revisions to Administrative Regulation GDBA-10 – Miscellaneous Position Pay Schedule, for review.
- was presented proposed revisions to Administrative Regulation JFCA – Guidelines for Secondary School Athletics, for review.
- reappointed Dorisanne Nielsen (past Board member) to the Elkhart Redevelopment Commission for 2020. Board member, Susan Daiber, explained the timing of the Redevelopment Commission meetings prevents a current Board member from attending.
- adopted a Resolution in Support of Public Participation in 2020 Census.
- approved a consent agreement regarding unpaid time for a certified staff member.
- approved administrative transfer for Sarita Stevens to Assistant Superintendent of Student Services.
- confirmed the resignation of certified staff member, Mark Myers, language arts at West Side.
- confirmed the employment of the following four (4) classified employees: Mary Calvert, food service at Pinewood; Lisa Canfield, paraprofessional at Cleveland; Ashley Kovach, paraprofessional at Cleveland; and Kelli McClanahan, secretary at ESC.
- confirmed the resignation of the following eight (8) classified employees: Roger Alwine, catering truck driver for Food Service; Ryan Baker, food service admin at Food Service; Jason Billings, support technician at Tech Services; Clara Bonds, food service at Pierre Moran; Jessica Dubose, food service at Woodland; Chloe Shaw, SLPA at Beardsley; James Williams III, paraprofessional at Bristol; and Amber Young, bus driver/clerk at Transportation.
- confirmed the retirement of classified employee, Sara Cook Gurka, technical assistant at West Side.
- approved leave for the following three (3) classified employees: Susan McKibbin, driver at Transportation; Yvonne Gefri, food service at North Side; and Belinda Siler, custodian at Memorial.

- heard an audience staff member speak regarding the committee members and their work in preparing the 2020-2021 school calendar.
- heard Superintendent Thalheimer thank those who participated in the ThoughtExchange. Dr. Thalheimer also welcomed Sarita Stevens to the student services administrative staff.
- heard Board member Doug Weaver report on the great turn out for the ribbon cutting held at the diesel technology building last week.
- heard President Mullins report on the success of the EACC Open House last Sunday. Mrs. Malone also reported on the Third House meeting held at the aquatic center last Saturday and encouraged everyone to attend the next monthly meeting at the Chamber.