

..... heard Board member, Susan Daiber, recite the Elkhart Promise.

..... heard Kyle Weirich introduce a short video featuring Isaiah Fortoso, a senior, orchestra student at Elkhart High School West. Mr. Fortoso plans on using the video for college interviews due to current circumstances.

..... approved the following items under a consent approval:

Minutes – June 23, 2020 – Regular Board Meeting

Minutes – June 23, 2020 – Public Work Session with the City of Elkhart Council

Claims in the amount of \$14,479,401.42

Gift Acceptance:

\$500 from E & M Enterprises to Elkhart High for the volleyball program; and \$25,000 from the Rex and Alice Martin Foundation for renovations to Rice Field and North Side Gym.

Proposed school fundraisers in accordance with Board policy.

Grant submission to the Indiana Department of Education (IDOE) for a CARES grant in the amount of \$2,927,312.54 and a Consolidated Grants Application in the amount of \$4,458,972.43; and the submission of a grant from the Indiana Governor’s Emergency Education Relief Fund in the amount of \$287,000.

Conference Leave Requests

Personnel Report:

Employment of the following five (5) certified staff members for the 2020-2021 school year: Elizabeth Adams, special education at Monger; Darcy Burns, ENL at EHS East; Matthew Jerlecki, instructional coach at Pierre Moran; Elyssa Kovatch, language arts at West Side; and Justin Sellers, social studies at Elkhart Academy.

Retirement of the following four (4) certified staff members: Sherry Finn, ENL at Pinewood; Nancy Harper, speech pathologist at Feeser; Deborah Johnston, grade 3 at Pinewood; and Mary Hall Sommers, computer at EACC.

Resignation of the following fourteen (14) certified staff members: Alyssa Anderson, grade 4 at Osolo; MiColette Berry, kindergarten at Beardsley; Erin Cisneros, science at Central; Austin Conner, science at Memorial; Matthew Gammon, social studies at Elkhart Academy; Rebecca Kmita, psychologist at TBD; Jessica Leatherman, art at Daly; Angela Miller, kindergarten at Osolo; Sara Snellenberger, grade 3 at Pinewood; Matthew Stoll, math at North Side; Teresa Thompson, library at Pierre Moran; Katie Treadway, grade 4 at Daly; Jason Westra-Hall, language arts at EHS East; and Elizabeth Wilson, special education at Daly.

Employment of classified employee, Austin Clanton, mechanic at Transportation.

Resignation of the following seven (7) classified employees: Manuel Cadenas Gonzalez, custodian at Pierre Moran; Amber Delgado, food service at Cleveland; Karla Gapinski, food service at Feeser; Annabel Guerrero, paraprofessional at Eastwood; Bethanie Hartman, paraprofessional at Beck; Cassandra Mashala, food service at Eastwood; and James Wooten, paraprofessional at Feeser.

Retirement of classified employee, Vicki Hart, bus driver at Transportation.

Leave request for classified employee, Dinorah Kuehn, paraprofessional at Pinewood.

- was presented proposed revisions to Administrative Regulation CC – Organizational chart, for initial consideration.
- authorized a Memorandum of Understanding for Added Pay Positions between Elkhart Community Schools (ECS) and the Elkhart Teachers Association (ETA). Audience members suggested the unified track stipend be reviewed in the future.
- was presented an update on the Exceptional Learners Department by Tony England, assistant superintendent of exceptional learners; Lisa Ernsberger, director high ability; Lindsey Brander, supervisor of special programs; and Kathy Mentz, PACE district dean. The presentation included information on the 504 system reform, access to the Red Binder, goals, guiding coalitions, additional outreach for high ability including parent newsletters and a Facebook page.
- was presented a new course offering for Elkhart High School: Sustainable Energy Alternatives for the 2020-2021 school year, for review.
- authorized the submission of a School Technology Advancement Account Petition to the Indiana State Board of Education in the amount of \$249,280.
- approved, as amended, the 2020-2021 Re-entry Plan as presented by Superintendent Thalheimer. The amendment directs the administration to present on the Re-entry Plan implementation and seek Board re-approval for the plan at the first scheduled board meeting following 45 calendar days from the plan's initial approval. Eleven audience members addressed the Board in response to the Plan. Plan Options include: Plan 1: Half of Students, Alternating Days (students will attend school two days per week, with three days of scheduled eLearning per week). Plan 2: Online Virtual Learning From Home (Students will stay enrolled in their home school, but will complete all learning online from home). Both plans begin August 13th. On line enrollment options will be sent to families in the near future.
- heard audience member, Kerry Mullet, ETA president, state she is pleased that our school district has made the decision to balance the need for in-person instruction while still adhering to the guidelines provided by the CDC and other experts. The ETA has been consistently invited to meet and have input on the re-entry plan and she has spent over 17 hours in discussions with the Superintendent to share all of Elkhart teachers' concerns. Mrs. Mullet thanked the Board for their willingness to work collaboratively to develop a reopening plan that balances the health and safety of staff and students while ensuring the best instructional model possible for the current circumstances.

- heard Superintendent Thalheimer announce: Elkhart High School has been given its new number from the IDOE; a proposal for quarterly equity training with Dr. Carmen Williams of EQUITY Now is being prepared; and thanked those who came together to create the Re-Entry Plan.
- heard Board member Babette Boling recognize the Superintendent's efforts creating a Re-Entry Plan giving families options. Mrs. Boling also stated how important it is to wear a mask and wash hands.
- heard Board member Doug Weaver voiced appreciation for taxpayers in the community.
- heard Board member Rocky Enfield comment on how the process of creating the Re-Entry Plan included concerns and input from everyone.
- heard Board president Kellie Mullins read the thanks you cards received from staff and families.