

.....heard Board president Dacey Davis recite the Elkhart Promise.

.....Tara White, director of literacy, presented the Moment of Pride highlighting one of our local partners, the Elkhart Public Library (EPL). Mrs. White introduced Allison McLean, supervisor of young peoples' services; Sonya Overman, literacy tutor; Mary Beth Schlabach, assistant director of public services; and Lisa Guedea Carreno, director of EPL. In 2018, the EPL set a goal to "help every child read and succeed by grade 3" as a part of their strategic plan. As a result of this goal, Growing Readers rolled out in March of 2022. Within the first week, they had filled twenty (20) spots and had forty-seven (47) students on the waiting list. Growing Readers is a new and different approach as it encourages parents to take part in each session so they can learn to support their student. A tutoring session includes warm up (vocabulary practice), fluency practice, you read to me, I read to you, and wrap up. Activities are game based, reading materials are selected based on student's interest, and books are checked out so they are able to practice at home. They have witnessed a lot of student growth and had such a positive response from parents that they plan to expand the program with more tutors. In closing, they commended Mrs. White, expressing appreciation for the partnership between ECS and EPL which has enabled them to be more intentional in their programming.

In response to Board inquiry, Mrs. White informed Board members that the program started with principals submitting student recommendations to the EPL.

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

Minutes – August 9, 2022 – Public Work Session
Minutes – August 9, 2022 – Regular Board Meeting

Claims in the amount of \$4,554,127.89.

Proposed school fundraisers in accordance with Board policy.

Accepted the following extra-curricular purchase requests: Elkhart High School (EHS) Athletics Fund to purchase a Wheeling Water Big Squirt & Water Station in the amount of \$2,755.00 for the football team and a Macho Pop Popcorn Machine in the amount of \$2,525.00 for the Tubbs Gymnasium concession stand.

Gift Acceptance: Accepted with appreciation the following donations made to Elkhart Community Schools (ECS): Donation of 700 backpacks with supplies from WNDU to ECS; donation of 50 backpacks with supplies from Lippert Components, Plant 182, to ECS; and \$250.00 from Brian and Amanda Jamison Charitable Fund to the EHS football program to assist with the 2022 football season.

EACC Sponsorship Agreements: Accepted with appreciation the following sponsorship agreements: \$1,000.00 from Kobelco to EACC for the gold level of sponsorship; \$5,000.00 from Foamcraft for the platinum level of sponsorship; \$500.00 from Viewrail for the silver level of sponsorship; \$500.00 from Pro Services for the silver level of sponsorship; and \$1,000.00 from ADEC for the gold level of sponsorship.

Personnel Report:

Consent Agreement regarding unpaid time for a certified employee.

Agreement regarding services.

Employment of the following seven (7) certified employees: Kathryn Broman, technology integrator at ESC; Martha Danielian, pre-k at Hawthorne; Teresa Hill, language arts at West Side; Larissa Lomeli, ASL at EHS; Jennifer McDaniel, grade 5 at Pinewood; Benjamin Polk, physical education at Beardsley; and Brittney Shipe, grade 6 at Woodland.

Retirement of John Moran at ETHOS.

Resignation of the following eight (8) certified employees: Meaghen Farwig, business education at West Side; Meg Gabbard, special education at Pinewood; Rachel Mallo, grade 4 at Daly; Ruth Moore, grade 6 at Pinewood; Sara Paul, social studies at West Side; Frank Pizana, Spanish at Freshman Division; Derrick Thomas, math at West Side; and Darin Yoder, special education at ETI.

Change in maternity leave for the following certified employee: Caroline Stopiak, physical education at Monger.

Employment of the following five (5) classified staff: Bryanna Charlesworth, secretary at ESC; Megan Kline, registered behavior tech at Eastwood; Shauntel Rohrer, bus helper at Transportation; Kathy Smith, food service at EHS; and Tashni Westall, custodian at Pierre Moran.

Resignation of the following six (6) classified staff: Nina Bayes, paraprofessional at EACC; Carrie Clark, registered nurse at EHS; Gemma DiCarlo, senior reporter at WVPE; Kylr Jones, paraprofessional at North Side; Pushpa King, paraprofessional at Monger; and Rebecca Stratton, bus driver at Transportation.

Unpaid leave for the following two (2) classified staff: Laura Walterhouse, paraprofessional at Roosevelt and Lisa Swartzell Guerra, food service at Riverview.

Rescission of resignation for the following classified staff: Joanna Pizana, bus driver at Transportation.

.....heard Superintendent Steve Thalheimer inform the Board of the PLC Coaching professional development for Elementary Principals Cohort with Cheyana Leiva held on August 18; administrators reviewed data, looked for outlier schools, and set building achievement goals.

Beth Williams, director of federal programs, provided an update regarding English learners (EL) data and SIOP lesson planning. During the upcoming principals meeting, principals will be provided data from WIDA 2022 as well as the scores from the past two (2) school years. Primary focus will be students at a level 4 and what they need to achieve proficiency. Schools will submit their data along with a plan of how student needs will be met to attain English proficiency.

Mindy Higginson, director of elementary instruction, reported elementary schools are currently in their Savvas beginning of the year (BOY) testing and looking forward to seeing data tied to reading standards. A lot of testing and training is happening this fall including NWEA testing window opens next week; third grade teachers will be trained on Foundations in September (online); K-2 teachers had Foundations training this summer and those who missed this will train in September; Math Expressions training has already begun for new teachers and all others will have two (2) sessions in the first two months of school. The district math coach will be working with principals to customize specific professional development needs for each building.

Dr. Thalheimer spoke of grades 3 – 8 NWEA and ILEARN scores and the correlation between the two; what third grade language arts RIT scores correlated with the passing of the ILEARN test. This data was collected in 2019 and the administration is looking to track this data going forward.

Dr. Thalheimer informed Board members the high school will be using IXL online program which provides common informative assessments for core English and math courses as benchmarks at the secondary level. Also, Freshman Division teachers will be given end of year 8th grade NWEA data for both English and math to use and inform their instruction.

Finally, Dr. Thalheimer reported the Dashboard is under development and will be populated with data from the NWEA checklists over the next few weeks.

.....approved proposed revisions and waived second reading to Board Policy 3220.01C – Teacher Appreciation Grants. Doug Thorne, district counsel/chief of staff, noted the reporting deadline was the only revision to the policy.

.....approved proposed revisions and waived second reading to Board Policy 3410.04CS – Substitute Compensation. Mr. Thorne stated changes made to the policy include clarifying the rate of pay for a retired teacher in a long-term teaching assignment as well as setting the rate for a retired teacher substituting for a paraprofessional.

.....was presented the monthly financial report.

.....was presented the monthly insurance update.

.....heard Superintendent Thalheimer inform the Board ECS was officially approved by a unanimous vote of the Coalition of Continuous Improvement School Districts (CCISD) to change schedules for both Elkhart High School campuses; a delayed start on Mondays for the Freshman Division to allow for teacher collaboration within the teacher workday and an adjustment to student release time from 4:00 p.m. to 3:45 p.m. at the main campus.

.....heard Dr. Thalheimer inform Board members that SitelogIQ would be presenting during the Board Work Session on September 13, 2022 beginning at 5:45 p.m. They will meet with ECS administrators on September 14 at 9:00 a.m. and the public meeting will be held that evening at the Freshman Division beginning at 6:30 p.m.

.....heard Dr. Thalheimer thank all the ECS employees who have helped provide support in the classroom as schools deal with staffing challenges.

.....heard Board member Rocky Enfield recognize the Elkhart High School Lion's varsity and junior varsity football teams for their win against Concord High School. Let's go Lions!

.....heard Board member Kellie Mullins provide information about a community group who is praying over a different ECS building every Sunday at 2:30 p.m.