

..... heard Board member Rocky Enfield recite the Elkhart Promise.

..... heard Tara White, director of literacy, share a Moment of Pride highlighting Elkhart Community Schools' (ECS) partnership with Smekens Education. Over the past four years, Smekens has provided professional development as well as quarterly coaching to ECS's elementary and middle teachers focusing on improving instruction in writing and literacy through simple, high quality, effective, and engaging instruction. Mrs. White shared a Smekens Education video from this year's premiere event which highlighted nine of ECS's teachers and how they organized and implemented new instructional strategies in their classrooms.

Next, Mrs. White introduced Morgan Smith, an Osolo teacher who spoke about how amazing it was to see nine ECS teachers shining on the national stage. She explained Smekens is not a curriculum, but professionals who actually teach teachers about the standards and how to build a playbook focused on these standards; this year, the primary focus was on comprehension skills. They helped teachers create a "lane" for each standard and then showed them how to build it out by establishing a common language which will follow students' across the district, kindergarten through grade twelve. This common language will not only improve standardized test scores but will promote student growth and success across their educational journey. Ms. Smith specifically thanked Board members for the quarterly coaching opportunity where Smekens are in the building, working with teachers to continue building instructional practices/strategies for reading and writing skills.

In closing, Mrs. White thanked all the teachers across the district for their hard work and dedication to the Smekens training over the past four years. This truly is a time to celebrate their growth and success as teachers.

..... in response to Board inquiry, Mrs. White explained that Smekens does provide an opportunity to debrief the district on the progress of ECS teachers. The latest report showed much improvement in reading comprehension and the need to move towards the writing piece.

..... approved motion to amend the agenda to include the preliminary approval of a contract with Elevate K-12.

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

Minutes – June 28, 2022 – Public Work Session

Minutes – June 28, 2022 – Regular Board Meeting

Claims in the amount of \$10,508,561.63.

Conference Leave Requests

Personnel Report:

Administrative Appointment of the following certified employee: Kerry Leader, principal at West Side.

Employment of the following eight (8) certified employees: Ashley Fogarty, special ed intern at Exceptional Learners; Courtney Freedline, medical assisting at EACC; Deana Gregory, FACS at Freshman Division; Arthur Hughes, art at EHS Arts & Communication; Lori Huntzinger, grade 1 at Pinewood; Erin Phend, mathematics at North Side; Angel Sherrod, grade 3 at Roosevelt; and Charles Wolter, grade 6 at Pinewood.

Resignation of the following fourteen (14) certified employees: Cassie Conrod, veterinary at EACC; Brenda Cruz, ENL at West Side; Matthew Gish, art at Pinewood; Whitney Grandison Alexander, intervention at Roosevelt; Traci Henn, special education at Pierre Moran; Jerry Miller, grade 6 at Woodland; Erin Petersen, special education at West Side; Regina Roberson, early college counselor at Freshman Division; Madalyn Roth, science at West Side; Jeanette Schena, kindergarten at Beardsley; Barry Singrey, academic dean at Freshman Division; Hilary Singrey, grade 6 at Monger; Caroline Veraldo, grade 4 at Cleveland; and Kristine Weimer, principal at Osolo.

Agreement regarding ancillary services for a classified employee.

Employment of the following two (2) classified employees: Caitlin Mangrum, custodian supervisor for EHS/ETI and Justin Tylka, mail copy center clerk at ESC.

Resignation of the following three (3) classified employees: Sondia Branscomb, substitute at Roosevelt; Valerie Moore, supervisor accounting, audits, and investments at ESC; and Cathy Snyder, paraprofessional at Woodland.

Retirement of the following classified employee: Cathy Skipper, assistant supervisor at Transportation.

Reassignment of the following classified employee to a certified position: Ashley Fogarty, paraprofessional at Eastwood.

..... approved proposed changes to Board Policy 3421.01A – Professional Staff Contracts and Compensation Plans (Administrators) as presented during the June 28, 2022 Board meeting. In response to Board inquiry, Brian Buckley and Jacquie Rost, EHS athletic directors, clarified how the former duties of the eliminated position of high school assistant athletic director would be delegated going forward.

In response to Board inquiry, Beth Williams, director of federal programs, explained the director of EL, along with the support of an EL coach, will be responsible for training and working with teachers and administrators in all schools. In response to further Board inquiry, Mrs. Williams explained the higher the grade level, the more difficult it is for students to move up in English Proficiency Levels. The sole focus of the director of EL will be set on EL students in an effort to help students be successful and move up levels.

..... approved proposed changes to Board Policy 3422.06S – Secretarial/Business Compensation Plan as presented during the June 28, 2022 Board meeting. In response to Board inquiry, Mrs. Williams explained one of the requirements is to be bilingual which will help the department provide immediate assistance to EL families. This position falls under Instructional Leadership and as with all secretaries, they will be expected to help across the department as needed.

- ..... authorized the bulk sale of iPads having reached the end of their lifecycles.
- ..... was presented the annual financial report for 2021-2022.
- ..... adopted a resolution to approve the IRS adjusted mileage rate of \$0.625 effective July 1, 2022.
- ..... authorized the preliminary approval of a contract with Elevate K-12 provided the administration response to Board member questions via email by the end of work day on Friday, July 15, 2022 and utilize teachers who are interested in teaching additional classes/virtual class in another school/classroom in lieu of an Elevate K-12 class when possible.
- ..... heard audience member Alex Holtz, EHS math teacher, share with the Board that EHS had a 78.8% pass rate with a three (3) or higher for the AP AB Calculus exam. He recognized math teachers, Jill Halloran-Barnes and Amy Semancik as well as the commitment shown by all participating students. Mr. Holtz did not know the details of the AP test scores from other AP courses offered at EHS but noted they had similar results.
- ..... heard Superintendent Thalheimer thank the Instructional Leadership Team for gathering the data and presenting an overview and analysis of our local data assessments during the work session. He continued, the administrative team is working on a detailed plan which will begin with an explanation of what steps have already been taken to address some of the academic/instructional concerns. Then they will move on to show a composite picture of all the data and how it is being used to drive the focus of professional development across the district. The district guiding coalition, which includes both principal and district administrator representation, met this week and had a very productive meeting. They discussed and will contribute to the plan relative to the PLC process, essential standards, common formative assessments, and how to best move these pieces forward within the plan. The plan will also include the district's mission, vision, commitment, goals and specific student metrics that will be used.
- ..... heard Board member speak about the Title IX Board Policy which will be reviewed at a later date.