

..... heard Board member Babette Boling recite the Elkhart Promise.

..... heard Brenda Mueller, agriscience program specialist, present the Moment of Pride. Ms. Mueller spoke about the tremendous growth of the Agriscience Program at the Elkhart Area Career Center (EACC) which has doubled in size between 2019 to 2021. Program instruction is inquiry-based through an interactive classroom/laboratory working hand in hand with experimental, service and/or work-based learning through the implementation of a Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) Program as well as premier leadership, personal growth, and career success through engagement in FFA, PAS, or NYFEA programs and activities. Classroom instruction has expanded to include six (6) sections in the 2021-22 school year and another eight (8) sections in the 2022-23 school year. The Agriculture Community Center and Environmental Learning Lab (ACCELL) has expanded how the property is used and how often people are out there. DNR has expanded their signage and presence offering ride-along internships for students. The farm is site certified for the Indiana Registry of Soil Scientists, FFA supported, and enables ECS students to work with their scientists. The farm has grown to include a large greenhouse which is almost fully operational. This group partners with Church Community Services (CCS), harvesting a garden which provides for the community. Other areas of growth include the addition of the alpaca, rabbits, chicks, and ducks. The students host an annual Fall Fest at the farm which will include a pumpkin patch with hayride and corn maze this year. The farm is also being considered for a Purdue and Indiana State weather station.

Dwight Moudy, Elkhart County Indiana Farm Bureau, spoke of the Cowboy Ethics Indiana which focuses on the principles and values of a cowboy through the Code of the West. He reinforces cooperation and team work through fun games requiring kids to work together to win/achieve a common goal. Interaction is big and it includes math and reading based learning. He visited twenty-two (22) classrooms this year. In 2022, senior FFA students will be visiting elementary classrooms to read to students. Mr. Moudy also participates in Ag Day which is a wonderful opportunity for ECS students to see animals such as chickens, calves, pigs, horses, alpacas, etc. as well as learn to use tools. This day provides students a whole new sense of what is in the world.

Ms. Mueller introduced the FFA officers: Alexis King (not present), president and district vice president, who was unable to attend the meeting as she was at a leadership conference in Washington D.C.; Matthew Santos-Barrera, vice president; Angelica Carrillo, secretary; Anastazia Skipper, treasurer; Grace Hurtle (not present); sentinel; Hunter Brown, reporter; Kami Bell, historian; and Grace Wolf, student advisor. Each officer provided a brief description of their job responsibilities. In closing, Ms. Mueller expressed how proud she was of her students and the growth of the program. They had a great year and she was pleased to present the moment of pride.

In response to Board inquiry, students shared they joined the Agriculture Program for a variety of reasons including that they wanted to go to vet school, had a passion for horses, to further their knowledge of agriculture, provided them a friend group, and wanted to be an agriculture science teacher. One common theme was the wonderful supportive friend group they have established through the program. Ms. Mueller added the program had six (6)

seniors accepted into Purdue University and one (1) was a direct admittance into the Veterinary program.

In response to Board inquiry, Ms. Mueller confirmed ECS and EACC both partner with many agricultural based companies for internships.

Board member Troy Scott spoke of how proud he was of the students' accomplishments through the Agriculture program noting he witnesses their impressive growth every time he drives by the farm.

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

- Minutes – May 27, 2022 – Public Work Session
- Minutes – June 14, 2022 – Public Work Session
- Minutes – June 14, 2022 – Regular Board Meeting

Claims in the amount of \$3,072,587.10.

Accepted the following extra-curricular purchase requests: West Side instructional band fund to pay for a band directors stand and a music equipment rack in the amount of \$1,885.96.

Gift Acceptance: Accepted with appreciation the following donations made to Elkhart Community Schools (ECS): \$500 from Robert Martin to Elkhart High School (EHS) volleyball program to be used to assist with the growth of the volleyball program and \$500 from Welch Packaging Group, Inc. to the EHS boys' soccer program to be used for the continued growth and progression of the boys' soccer team.

Personnel Report:

Administrative appointment of the following four (4) certified employees: Jeremy Bechtel, assistant principal at Woodland; Jamie Krempec, assistant principal at Riverview; Elizabeth Stroven, principal at Daly; and Amy Szakaly, assistant principal at Monger.

Consent agreements regarding retention for a certified employee.

Memorandum of Understanding regarding an extended unpaid leave for a certified employee.

Employment of the following twenty-five (25) certified employees: Timothy Adams, counselor at Pierre Moran; Megan Anagnos, speech pathologist at PACE; Arianna Bontrager, special education at Pierre Moran; Ian Bossnack, math at EHS; Karl Columbus III, math at West Side; Sarah Curl, grade 3 at Pinewood; Alexis Davis, language arts at Elkhart Academy; Christine Erlacher, grade 4 at Eastwood; Jennifer Hamm, grade 1 at Eastwood; Hannah Hanson, kindergarten at Pinewood; Jennifer Higgins, grade 6 at Pinewood; Mallory Hill, social studies at North Side; Laramie Keim, special education at PACE; Danielle Kijak, special education intern at Exceptional Learners; Camiel Laurie, grade 3 at Roosevelt; Emily Leinbach, grade 5 at Daly; Mirlym

Milfort, grade 6 at Monger; Katie Mullet, kindergarten at Riverview; Paige Neff, grade 4 at Daly; Sara Okones, kindergarten at Cleveland; Tailor Schultheis, special education intern at Exceptional Learners; Kaylee Shrimplin, grade 6 at Pinewood; Aaron Steensma, law enforcement at Career Center; Rodesha Wildrick, grade 4 at Pinewood; and Angela Williams, grade 2 at Roosevelt.

Resignation of the following five (5) certified employees: Sammuel Brown, grade 6 at Woodland; Cory Bures, social studies at West Side; Amanda Corda, social studies at North Side; Brianna Reddy, grade 2 at Cleveland; Sara Smith, assistant principal at West Side.

Rescission of resignation of certified employee John Taylor, science at ETHOS.

Unpaid leave for the following two (2) certified employees: Jordan Deuel, special education at Daly and John Taylor, science at ETHOS.

Employment of classified employee Anetta Dalhouse, custodian at EHS.

Resignation of the following five (5) classified employees: Molly Gannaway, paraprofessional at Beck; Elizabeth Miller, paraprofessional at Eastwood; Lorna Smith, paraprofessional at West Side; Nicholas Srmek, paraprofessional at PACE; and Akyah Taylor, paraprofessional at EHS.

Reassignment of the following (2) two classified employees to certified positions: Michaela Butcher, psychologist intern at Exceptional Learners and Tailor Schultheis, campus security at Freshman Division.

- approved Board Policy 0167.3 – Public Participation at Board Meetings including suggestions discussed during the June 14, 2022 Board meeting. Mr. Thorne, district counsel/chief of staff, informed the Board that language was added to clarify public meetings included both the work session and board meeting, provide the presiding officer discretion to extend time for public comment to accommodate requests, and make clear the public must register their intent to participate in writing.
- approved Board Policy 5460.01 – Commencement Exercises as presented during the June 14, 2022 Board meeting.
- elected to not waive the second reading of Board Policy 3421.01A – Professional Staff Contracts and Compensation Plans (Administrators); therefore, this policy will be considered for final action during the July 12, 2022 meeting. Doug Thorne informed the Board changes included adding the position of director of English learners and eliminating the high school assistant athletic director position.
- elected to not waive the second reading of Board Policy 3422.06S – Secretarial/Business Compensation Plan adding the position of English learner’s secretary; therefore, this policy will be considered for final action during the July 12, 2022 meeting.

- approved and waived second reading to Board Policy 3422.08S – Paraprofessionals’ Compensation Plan adding an hourly differential for Exceptional Learners paraprofessionals who are RBT certified but not serving in an RBT position.
- approved and waived second reading to Board Policy 3422.12S – Employees in Miscellaneous Positions Compensation Plan updating a job title and adding two positions, transition specialist and scheduling coordinator. Mr. Thorne explained the title change was made to reflect the true responsibilities of the position. Further, the transition specialist is currently a certified position which has recently become vacant and moving this position to a classified position will allow more flexibility in the targeting of specific qualities. The scheduling coordinator position is replacing the administrator position of high school assistant athletic director. In response to Board inquiry, Tony England, assistant superintendent of exceptional learners, clarified further the transition specialist position change to a classified position allows more flexibility as there are many qualified people with licenses in other areas who may not be a certified teacher. This position is very important as they assist intense students who are transitioning into the community and aide parents in seeking support for their student after graduation.
- approved an increase in the price of school meals for the 2022-2023 school year; breakfast for elementary students will be \$2.10, an increase of \$.15; middle school students will be \$2.30, an increase of \$.15; and for high school students \$2.35, which is an increase of \$.15. Lunch prices for elementary students will be \$3.00, an increase of \$.15; for middle school students \$3.25, an increase of \$.15. Lunch prices for high school students will increase by \$.15 to \$3.35. The cost for extra milk will remain the same at \$.75. Breakfast prices for elementary staff will be \$3.50, an increase of \$.95; middle school staff will be \$3.50, an increase of \$.60; and for high school staff \$3.50, which is an increase of \$.45. Lunch prices for elementary staff will be \$5.00, an increase of \$1.20; middle school staff will be \$5.00, an increase of \$.80; and for high school staff \$5.00, which is an increase of \$.75. The reduced breakfast and lunch prices will remain the same as last year – \$.30 for breakfast and \$.40 for lunch. In response to Board inquiry, Pam Melcher, director of food service, shared that \$.36 is provided by federal funding for each meal. In response to Board inquiry, Mrs. Melcher agreed to notify the Board should the federal government attach additional requirements to the funding of school meals. She will also be notifying families of these changes through ECS’s website, sending out the free/reduced meals application, and an all call.
- authorized the submission of a School Technology Advancement Account Application in the amount of \$226,167. In response to Board inquiry, Jason Inman, Director of Technology Services, explained that funds will be used to update ECS oldest classroom projector systems and license academic technologies that enhance teaching and learning.
- approved Adams Remco as the vendor for the district copy machine and printer contract.
- was presented the monthly financial report.
- was presented the monthly insurance update.
- heard audience member speak about bullying and the need for change. She wants to be a part of the solution but fears the administration is moving too slow for change going into the new school year.

- heard audience member speak of her concern for her son's safety and his struggle with being bullied at school.
- heard Superintendent Thalheimer update Board members about the upcoming facility review by SitelogIQ. This summer, architects and engineers will be in all buildings to evaluate building function/use and interviews with principals and 12 month administrators will begin. Also, Dr. Del Jarman will be reaching out to all Board members via email to arrange a meeting with the Board and to request more input regarding what that meeting should look like.
- heard Dr. Thalheimer thank Sarita Sevens, assistant superintendent of student services, for her service to ECS. She was a valuable member of the ECS administrative team, he learned a lot from her, and wishes her the best.
- heard Board secretary Doug Weaver speak about the need for the administration to follow-up with audience members who comment during the public meetings to insure their issues are taken care of.