

.....heard Superintendent Steve Thalheimer recite the Elkhart Promise.

.....heard Brian Bennett, coordinator of professional learning, present the Moment of Pride, sharing with the Board how the generous grant from the AEP Foundation, dubbed Power-Up Elkhart, provided \$10,000 to be used to recognize the accomplishments of Elkhart Community Schools' staff. The dollars from this grant are spread across the buildings based on the number of staff in each building/department and each building/department administration determines how to spend the money based on the culture and or needs of the building. Most buildings have provided food and the opportunity for staff to share a meal together. So far, \$3,817 has been spent and more events are being planned. Mr. Bennett is happy to recognize all ECS employees and offered a special thanks to Dawn Lawson, Anna Yoder, and Erica Purvis in the Business office, for their help in making the process run smoothly. It's been a joy to watch all ECS staff be appreciated for their hard work and dedication.

Hayden Dinehart, Superintendent's Student Advisory Council (SSAC) member, shared that SSAC held an eighth grade orientation at the Freshman Division for the three middle schools. They had three rotations including academics, activities/after school programs, and sports as well as a tour of the school. They spoke with students about the Freshman Division and what to expect next year, including the importance of grade point average (GPA) and earning credits for classes required for graduation. They had informational tables set up to allow students the opportunity to ask questions in a smaller group setting. In response to Board inquiry, Miss Dinehart said she was most excited to share information about academics and all the opportunities they will have at their new school. SSAC meets next month and will review how this year's event went; they hope to build on this and plan an EHS main campus orientation next school year.

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

Minutes – April 11, 2023 – Public Work Session
Minutes – April 11, 2023 – Regular Board Meeting

Claims in the amount of \$7,708,204.23.

Proposed school fundraisers in accordance with Board policy.

Gift Acceptance:

Accepted with appreciation the following donations made to Elkhart Community Schools (ECS): \$500 to Elkhart High School (EHS) Theatre department from Stephenson's of Elkhart to be used to purchase supplies, costumes, set construction, decorations, and student snacks for upcoming productions; \$500 to EHS football team from Grand Design RV LLC to be used to assist with growth of the football program; and \$100 to ECS from an anonymous donor to be used to pay negative balances at Osolo Elementary School.

Conference Leave Requests

Approved overnight trip request for Elkhart Area Career Center (EACC) small engine students to travel to Franklin, Indiana on April 21 - 22, 2023 for the State FFA Small Engines Contest.

Submission of the following grant: Colts Youth and High School Football Grant hosted by Indianapolis Colts in the amount of \$2,500 to be used for the purchase of Guardians Caps which help protect athletes from concussions by decreasing the impact received on contact.

Personnel Report:

Certified agreement regarding unpaid time.

Retirement of the following one (1) certified staff: Michael Swanson, grade 3 at Monger.

Resignation of the following one (1) certified staff: Melinda Higginson, director of elementary education at Educational Services Center.

Revision of an unpaid leave for the following one (1) certified staff: Molly Jo Moosa, grade 2 at Monger.

Employment of the following twelve (12) classified employees: Candace Blair, food service at Commissary; Ernestine Brown, food service at West Side; Rafael Colindres II, bus helper at Transportation; Iris Curras-Velez, secretary at Bristol; Enrique Guzman, custodian at EHS; Pauline January, food service at Freshman Division; Jeanette Maya, secretary at Beardsley; Sarah Posey, food service at EHS; Jennifer Ruvalcaba, technical assistant at EACC; Bryanna Schug, paraprofessional at Hawthorne Early Learning Center (HELC); Hallie Stabler, custodian at Beardsley; and Addie Wright, secretary at ESC.

Unpaid leave for the following two (2) classified employees: Christine Green, bus driver at Transportation and Luella Hanks, paraprofessional at North Side.

Revision of unpaid leave for one (1) classified employee reported on March 28, 2023 Board Report: Tina Helbling, bus driver at Transportation.

Revision of PE date for unpaid leave for one (1) classified employee reported on April 11, 2023 Board Report: Ramon Trevino, custodian at EHS.

Retirement of the following one (1) classified employee: Emily Grant, speech therapist at PACE.

Resignation of the following seven (7) classified employees: Tanisha Anderson, bus driver at Transportation; Tiki Black, paraprofessional at Woodland; Ellen Kohler, bus helper at Transportation; Clay Powell, dispatcher at Transportation; Whitney Shupert, food service at Eastwood; Charlena Thompson, bus driver at Transportation; and Laura Walterhouse, paraprofessional at Roosevelt.

Rescission of resignation of the following one (1) classified employee: Christene Parks, bus driver at Transportation.

Termination of the following one (1) classified employee: Rebecca Stratton, paraprofessional at HELC.

.....heard Dr. Thalheimer provide an update on the Feasibility Study. The Key Committee concluded their preliminary work last week. The information will be compiled and brought back to the committee for review prior to being sent to the Board. Information is available to the public on ECS's website at <https://www.elkhart.k12.in.us>. The public can also reach out to committee members with questions and concerns.

..... heard Board member Anne VonDerVellen provide information on the superintendent search survey which is available on the ECS website at www.elkahrt.k12.in.us as well as the upcoming focus group for community members on Wednesday, April 26, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. in the EHS cafeteria. The Board encouraged all community members to be engaged and participate in the process.

..... heard Dr. Thalheimer provide an instructional report informing Board members that the District Guiding Coalition met to review the progress of the year, starting with the teaching and learning plan and syllabus; then moving on to what has been covered throughout the year, working through the progression from essential standards, to learning targets, and formalizing assessments. Assessment teams have been discussing common formative assessments and how to assess the essential standards they designed in order to become more efficient in that process. Next week, during the principals meeting, discussions will center around what main focus areas need to be worked on and the syllabus of that work for the coming year.

Dr. Thalheimer reported ECS is currently in a testing window for ILEARN and IREAD, finishing up by the end of the month. Updates will be provided to the Board when results are released later in the summer. NWEA checklists will be completed in May with results reported to the Board in early June.

..... approved the recommendation to reappoint Nancy Morgan to a four-year term through May 30, 2027, to the Bristol Public Library Board.

.....heard Dr. Thalheimer present proposed new course offerings for the 2023-2024 school year: Community Service, Service Based Learning, Work Based Learning, Principles of Paralegal Studies, Paralegal Fundamentals, Advanced Paralegal Studies, Paralegal Studies Capstone, Principles of Motor Sports, Fundamentals of Motor Sports, Advanced Motor Sports and Motor Sports Capstone.

.....received the monthly financial report and found everything to be in order.

.....received the monthly insurance report.

.....heard one (1) audience member express concerns about the leadership of ECS.

.....heard Board member Kellie Mullins recognize Mike Swanson and Emily Grant for their service of thirty (30) and twenty-five (25) years of service respectively.