

..... heard Board member Kellie Mullins recite the Elkhart Promise.

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

Minutes – June 27, 2023 – Public Work Session  
Minutes – June 27, 2023 – Regular Board Meeting

Claims in the amount of \$11,707,151.18.

Gift Acceptance

Accepted with appreciation the following donations made to Elkhart Community Schools (ECS): \$25,000 to the ETI Building Fund from the Weaver Family Fund, care of David D. Weaver and \$1,215 to Elkhart High School (EHS) football team from Dietz Sports & Entertainment LLC to assist with the growth of the EHS football program.

Conference Leave Requests

Approved overnight trip request for EHS ElkLogics Robotics Team to travel to Rockford, Illinois on July 21 – 22, 2023 for the Rock River Robotics Off-Season Competition.

Submission of the following grants: Mittler Family Foundation hosted by Corey Partners in the amount of \$100,000 for welding equipment and storage racking for safe receipts and storage of materials.

Personnel Report:

Employment of eight (8) certified employees for 2023/24 school year: Jennifer Castline, grade 1 at Beardsley; Laura Crull, world languages at Elkhart High; Maggie Eveland, grade 1 at Riverview; Natalie Kant, counselor at Pierre Moran; Ashley Porter, special education at Roosevelt; Sean Reid, special education at Elkhart Academy; Leann Sullivan, special education intern at Exceptional Learners; and Gailey Williams, FACS at Elkhart High.

Resignation of the following four (4) certified staff: Ryan Rudicil, social studies at Freshman Division; Wendy Sandoval, grade 3 at Woodland; Gregory Stover, principal at ETI; and John Taylor, science at ESC.

Employment of three (3) classified employees: Petra Barnard, custodian at North Side; Brian Crouse, ECOLÉ Lead Program Coordinator at ESC; and Paula Verteramo, secretary at EACC.

Reassignment of the following one (1) classified employee: Leann Sullivan, intern at Exceptional Learners.

Resignation of the following two (2) classified employees: Toni Masterman, receptionist at ESC and Shawanie Riley, food service at Monger.

Retirement of the following one (1) classified employee: Dorrie Malec, food service at Osolo.

Termination of the following one (1) classified employee: Heidi Vrielynck, bus driver at Transportation.

..... heard Board president Dacey Davis announce the Board will be appointing Mr. Mark Mow as interim superintendent.

Mr. Mow spoke briefly, stating he was honored to stand before the Board this evening and looked forward to working with them. He commended ECS's outstanding and dedicated staff, reassuring all that together, with the help of the Board and good work of ECS employees, the district would continue to work towards fulfilling the corporation's promise to Elkhart's children. Mr. Mow affirmed his commitment to ECS and vowed to "hit the ground running" on July 17, promising the Board he would be in touch with many recommendations and suggestions. Further, Mr. Mow referenced the many success stories of Elkhart's students and staff, sharing that he looks forward to celebrating these accomplishments and recognizing those who have truly made a difference in the weeks and months ahead. In closing, he thanked the Board for the opportunity to serve as interim superintendent.

..... heard Doug Thorne, district counsel/chief of staff, inform the Board that on July 1, 2023, a Notice of Public Hearing was published in the Elkhart Truth, pursuant to IC 20-26-5-4.3; the notice was also posted on the Elkhart Community Schools website. Set forth in this notice are the terms and conditions of a proposed contract for an Interim Superintendent.

While strict compliance with this provision of the Indiana Code is infrequently exercised when an interim superintendent is appointed, a determination was made to provide for a greater level of transparency in order to meet the spirit of this law. The notice calls for a public hearing to take place on this date so the public may comment on the proposed contract.

Mr. Thorne requested the regular meeting of the Board of School Trustees be suspended so a hearing on the proposed contract can be held.

..... heard Ms. Davis suspend the agenda for the regular meeting of the Board and open the meeting for the purpose of hearing any commentary from the public on the proposed contract for interim superintendent. Hearing no further comments from the public, Ms. Davis closed the hearing and returned to the agenda for the regular meeting.

..... heard Mr. Thorne inform the audience there would be a special meeting on July 13, 2023 to authorize the Board to enter into this contract, effective July 17, 2023.

..... heard Mr. Thorne present proposed changes to Board Policy 3422.04CS – Substitute Compensation for initial consideration.

..... heard Mr. Thorne present proposed changes to Board Policy 3422.06S – Secretarial/Business Compensation Plan for initial consideration.

..... heard Mr. Thorne present proposed changes to Board Policy 3422.12S – Employees in Miscellaneous Positions Compensation Plan for initial consideration.

- ..... unanimously approved a Memorandum of Understanding between Eden Barber Academy and Elkhart Area Career Center.
- ..... unanimously approved a Resolution to Waive I.C. 20-30-2-23 and 20-30-2-2.7 which was presented during the May 9, 2023 Board Work Session.
- ..... heard an audience member “brag” about EHS students. Over the past six (6) months, he had the opportunity to go on three different student trips including a cheer competition in Florida, a leadership event in Indianapolis, and a trip abroad to London, Paris, and Barcelona. His experience with all of the groups was amazing and so fun to see things from the students’ perspective. ECS students were phenomenal, presenting themselves with such class. The ECS students “rocked” it and we, as a district, should be proud of them.
- ..... heard Board secretary Doug Weaver highlight an ECS graduate who is now a successful emergency room nurse.
- ..... heard Board member Anne VonDerVellen recognize Todd Sheely, the unified track and field coach, who was awarded the 2023 Spirit of Unified Coach of the Year. The success of the unified track and field program has opened the door for other unified programs in music (led by Kyle and Lauren Weirich) and theater (led by Kristin Baker). These unique programs have helped ECS become more inclusive, providing opportunities for a diverse population of students to learn from each other; being better together.