

..... heard Board Member Doug Weaver recite the Elkhart Promise.

..... During the Moment of Pride, Barb Cripe, Director of Elementary Instruction, celebrated the following third grade students who earned a perfect IREAD score and presented them with a certificate.

- o Liam Botello, Riverview
- o Callie Clair, Cleveland
- o Otilia Galindo, Cleveland
- o Eli Garcia, Mary Daly
- o Ava Miller, Mary Daly
- o Noah Parkinson, Roosevelt
- o Oscar Patrick, Roosevelt
- o Anailys Rosario Mercado, Riverview
- o Miracle Smith, Roosevelt
- o Aubree Waterman, Eastwood
- o Mackenzie Weaver, Monger
- o Mary Weidner, Roosevelt

All Board members shook hands with the students and congratulated them on a job well done. Board President Dacey Davis told the students it was wonderful to see Elkhart Community Schools’ (ECS) students doing great things.

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

- Minutes – September 26, 2023 – Public Work Session
- Minutes – September 26, 2023 – Regular Board Meeting

Claims in the amount of \$9,714,755.21.

Proposed school fundraisers in accordance with Board policy.

Accepted the following extra-curricular purchase requests: West Side Extra-Curricular Vocal, Band, and Orchestra Account to purchase transportation for the West Side music students’ Cedar Point trip totaling \$7,986.

Gift Acceptance

Accepted with appreciation the following donations made to Elkhart Community Schools (ECS): \$150 from Bring Change 2 Mind to Pierre Moran to assist with the cost of student rewards for Bring Change 2 Mind student groups; \$500 from Legacy Heating and Air, Inc. to Pierre Moran to assist with the cost of student rewards and events; fifty-five (55) half sheet drapes, five (5) robotics lithotomy drapes, and four (4) Jackson Pratt drains from Unity Physicians Hospital, care of Jennifer Medich, to be used in the Surgical Services program at the Elkhart Area Career Center (EACC); 2002 Oldsmobile Intrigue GX, VIN# 1G3WH52H22F124595, from Gary and Mary Williams to the EACC to be used for training purposes in the Automotive Technology program; 2008 Subaru Forester,

VIN# JF1SG636X8H730511, from William Hartley to the EACC to be used for training purposes in the Automotive Technology program; \$700 from Bradley and Kellie Fishburn to the Michele Hostetler Memorial Scholarship fund to help students in the Automotive Technology program further their education in the automotive field; \$1,100 from Brian and Melinda Inniger to the Michele Hostetler Memorial Scholarship fund to help students in the Automotive Technology program further their education in the automotive field; \$2,500 from Welch Packaging Group, Inc., care of Scott Welch and Family, to Pierre Moran to assist with the cost of student rewards and events; and 800 backpacks and supplies from WNDU, care of Michael Fowler, to ECS for students.

Conference Leave Requests

Submission of the following grant: CFEC Grant hosted by the Community Foundation of Elkhart County in the amount of \$2,000 – \$2,500 to help support a district-wide 21st Century Scholarship Night and Community Expo at Pierre Moran.

Personnel Report:

Approval of one (1) agreement for services.

Employment of one (1) certified staff for the 2023/24 school year: Ashley Schuman, Special Education at Bristol.

Resignation of the following one (1) certified staff: Jonathan LeVan, Principal at Woodland.

Employment of the following thirty-eight (38) classified employees: Zienab Abas, Registered Behavior Technician at Eastwood; Olga Aceves, Food Service at Elkhart High; Yankho Bassa, Paraprofessional at Roosevelt; Anna Brown, Food Service at Pinewood; Sydney Brown, Technical Assistant at Beck; David Cassell, Paraprofessional at Elkhart High; Amanda Christensen, Paraprofessional at Cleveland; Tabitha DeWitt, Food Service at Eastwood; Lili Eash, Registered Behavior Technician at Pierre Moran; Kelly Engle, Technical Assistant at Cleveland; Nathalie Estrada, Food Service at Eastwood; Denise Finn, Bus Driver at Transportation; Karen Howard, Registered Nurse at Elkhart High; DeJanea Johnson, Behavior Support at Roosevelt; Margaret Johnson, Registered Behavior Technician at Beck; Lisa Jones, Therapist at PACE; Amy Knoll, Technical Assistant at Riverview; Michele Kovatch, Paraprofessional at Monger; Cori Ledden-Edmisten, Technical Assistant at Feeser; Lorie Lee, Food Service at Roosevelt; Kelsy Manley, Technical Assistant at Beardsley; Mercedes Mayweathers Brown, Food Service at North Side; Alicia Mendez, Parent/Community Liaison at Roosevelt; Glen Miller, Bus Driver at Transportation; Haley Morse, Therapist at Pierre Moran; Margie Nisley, Paraprofessional at Roosevelt; Chelsea Penninger, Technical Assistant at EACC; Bridget Petersheim, Registered Behavior Technician at PRIDE; Kelsey Rockstroh, Registered Nurse at Daly; Rebecca Rohrer, Paraprofessional at Osolo; Margo Ross, Paraprofessional at Cleveland; Katie Sandefur, Paraprofessional at EACC; Kathleen Seymour, Food Service at Freshman Division; Teri Shreiner, Paraprofessional at Eastwood; Danielle Smith, Paraprofessional at West Side; Laura Solis, Food Service at Monger; Jean Wesolowski, Food Service at Elkhart High; and Sarah Young, Food Service at Osolo.

Retirement of the following three (3) classified employees: Lamont Donathen, Jr., Head Custodian at West Side; Michele Habic, Secretary at Woodland; and David Paulson, Head Custodian at Building Services.

Unpaid leave for the following two (2) classified employees: James Neal, Food Service at Pierre Moran and Miranda Quinn, Food Service at North Side.

Resignation of the following two (2) classified employees: Sara Paholak, Paraprofessional at Feeser and Kevin Scott, Chief Financial Officer at ESC.

..... suspended the regular meeting and opened the 1028 public hearing on the Issuance of Bonds for the purpose of providing funds to pay for the renovation, expansion and update of both the Main Building and North Annex Buildings of the Elkhart Area Career Center (EACC) as well as two (2) Appropriation Resolutions authorizing use of the said bond proceeds. Kevin Scott, Chief Financial Officer, provided a brief overview of the construction projects and informed Board Members we plan to have a five (5) year payoff of the bonds. A copy of the layout/footprint of the construction was provided to the Board by Tony Gianesi. Following comments or questions from the Board, and no further comments from the audience, the 1028 hearing was closed.

..... opened and held a public hearing on the 2024 Budget, 2024 Capital Projects Plan and 2024 School Bus Replacement Plan as presented by Mr. Scott during the September 26, 2023 Public Work Session. With no comments from the audience, the hearing was closed.

..... adopted a Resolution Authorizing the Issuance of Bonds for the Purpose of Providing Funds to Pay for Renovation, Expansion, and Update of the EACC Main Building and for Renovations, Expansion, and Update Projects at the EACC North Annex.

..... adopted two (2) Appropriation Resolutions for the use of bond proceeds for renovation, expansion, and update of the EACC Main Building and the EACC North Annex Projects.

..... heard Doug Thorne, District Counsel/Chief of Staff, inform Board Members of proposed revisions to Administrative Regulation DLC – Conference Leave Request form and asked them to waive second review. Mr. Thorne further explained, during the October 24, 2023 Board meeting, he will be presenting proposed revisions to the corresponding Administrative Regulation, DLC – Expense Reimbursement, which outlines a new process and timeline for getting conference leaves approved.

..... heard audience member express concerns about suicide prevention resources available outside of the school day.

..... heard audience member speak about the Master Contract negotiations between ECS and the Elkhart Teachers Association (ETA). Both the administration and ETA bargaining teams have been working hard and have a full day of negotiations planned for October 11. In order to alleviate staffing shortages, she is hopeful ECS will be able to increase the beginning teacher's salary to a level more competitive with neighboring districts.

..... heard Mr. Mow remind Board Members of their next Board Executive Session beginning at 5:30 p.m. followed by a Board Meeting at 7:00 p.m. on October 24, 2023.