Kirby Stahly, Asst. Superintendent for Admin. Services, gave a legislative update.

Much is happening around the district with regards to the Redesign transitions. Administrators, staff, students and parents are engaging in transition activities between buildings directly affected by the Redesign. Many activities have been held and will continue to be held to help this process to go as smoothly as is possible for everyone involved. Principals Teresa Knoblauch (HIEL), Karen Charters (HOEL), Neal Brown (LEHS), and Greg Mohler (NHHS), and NHHS teacher Dave Myers shared about the effect Restorative Practices is having in their schools. Students from LEHS, NHHS, and PHHS shared about their initial feelings/fears and how they feel now that Open Houses, transition activities, etc. have begun. Their excitement was palpable! Britt Magneson, Executive Director of Instruction & Student Support and Tammyra Kelly, Public Relation Liaison shared their experiences with Restorative Practices and community groups.

A Public Hearing for the amended EACS 2011-2022 Bus Replacement Plan was held.

The Alternative School Committee (Pete Downey, Deb Gibson, Doug Hicks, Chad Houser, Jeff Kline, Britt Magneson, Doug Pickett, Gary Rogers, Jenny Snyder, Tim St. Peters, Jeff Studebaker, Joe Venderley and Scott Welch) has been researching alternative education programs over the last 2+ years. Several members presented their findings and vision for the program. The Board approved the creation of an EACS program for the 2011-12SY to best address the needs of students who don’t learn in the traditional school setting. Jeff Kline will be the Administrator/teacher heading up the program.

The Board discussed Middle and High School math textbook adoption.

Over the last two years all Harlan Elementary 5th graders have engaged in the Lincoln Bicentennial Learning Project which consists of students analyzing, learning and memorizing important pieces of literary works. All HAEL 5th graders completed all pieces and will be traveling in May to the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library & Museum and Oak Ridge Cemetery (where Lincoln is buried) in Springfield, IL. The following HAEL students shared their recitations: Graysen Boyd, Maddy Book, Jenna Cummins, Tristan Delagrave, Samantha Ludwig, and Nick Hettigner. Thank you to teacher Renita Peters. Awesome job kids!

The 2011 News-Sentinel’s “Sterling Sentinel Journalism Award” winner is Justin Sheehan, a New Haven High School Senior. Justin received $3,000 for best exemplifying journalistic excellence and contributions to his school and community. Finalists included Heritage High School Senior Claire Roy and Leo High School Senior Rachel Burtnett. Congratulations!