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Just the Facts
 Tuesday, August 22, 2017
 Hoopeston's only locally-owned daily news publication!
 P.O. Box 441, Hoopeston IL 60942 www.justthefacts.net

Hoopeston Area teachers, board ratify three-year contract

A new school year brings new pay rates for Hoopeston Area teachers.

The school board unanimously approved a three-year contract at its meeting Thursday evening. Teachers approved the deal earlier Thursday. The voting percentage was not released.

Under the new contract, a starting teacher with no experience will receive \$34,352.67, in the 2017-18 year, up from \$34,023 last year.

Next year, the base salary will be \$34,709.81, increasing to \$35,094.43 in 2019-20.

Salary bumps are provided for teachers based on years of experience and additional education. The starting salary this year for a teacher who has no experience but has acquired an advanced certificate is \$42,597.31, up from \$42,180.

A teacher who has attained an advanced certificated and has more than 22 years' experience tops out at \$73,489.91, \$74,247.05 and \$75,062.44 over the life of the new contract.

Teachers who are not enrolled in the retirement incentive plan and who are in attendance for all school hours and days each quarter will receive an atten-

dance incentive of \$50 added to the regular pay at the end of each quarter. Mandatory obligations such as jury duty, guard duty, approved professional development days and HEA leave days are considered "in attendance" days for the purpose of the incentive.

Under the retirement plan, teachers who give an irrevocable letter of intent to retire before May 1 one, two or three years before their intended retirement will be taken off the salary scale and their salary increased by six percent each of those years.

To qualify for the retirement incentive, teachers must be 60 by the last day of service in the district or be at least 55, with at least 35 years of creditable service, as defined by the Teacher Retirement System, on their last day of service in the district.

The district will pay \$623 per month for single health insurance coverage. In the following two years of the deal, the district will pay half of the average increase for the two available plans, for single coverage only.

Teachers have the option of family coverage and must pay all costs in excess of those paid by the district.

Contract fixes teacher eval issue

A new contract between Hoopeston Area school district and its teachers contains wording to correct a problem involving teacher evaluations.

According to the document, teachers were not adequately evaluated from 2012-2017, with many tenured teachers receiving no evaluation. Also, the required student growth component of evaluation, required by the Illinois School Code for the 2016-17 year, was not part of evaluations.

To immediately remedy the situation, all but one tenured teacher at Hoopeston Area middle and high schools would need to be evaluated this year. Doing so many evaluations would cause difficulties, according to a memorandum in the contract.

Instead, half of all HAMS and HAHS staff whose last summative evaluations were proficient or excellent will be evaluated this year. Tenured teachers whose last summative evaluations were rated "needs improvement" will also be evaluated this year.

Tenured teachers with proficient evaluations not selected at random this year will be evaluated in 2018-19.

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Register for Preschool!
Small Wonders Preschool
 3- and 4-year-old Classes
 Located at
First Presbyterian Church
 915 E Orange, Hoopeston, 217-283-6229
 Director: Julia Kaeb
 Classes begin September 5, 2017
 Quality program, staff & facility!

The PIT STOP at EAST LANES

Monday: Taco Salad (chicken or beef) or Tenderloin (grilled or breaded)
Tuesday: Chicken or Beef & Noodles or Speedway Burger
Wednesday: Ribeye Sandwich or Pork Chops
Thursday: Swiss Steak or Popcorn Shrimp
Friday: Cod, Rib eye Steak or Ribs
Saturday: Prime Rib, Rib eyes or Ribs

Youth Bowling Signup going on NOW!
 Open to youngsters ages 5-18.
 Bowl at 6:30 p.m. Wednesdays starting September 13!

Book your special event with us!
 Call (217) 283-6505 for details!

Closed Sundays
 Come play our NEW Live Video Gaming Machines!



It's Here!

Summer Snaps Photo Contest

Whether your passion is events, kids, pets
or something else, snap it and enter it in the

Summer Snaps Photo Contest

June 20-September 20

1 photo selected each week to compete for a \$25 monthly
prize. One photographer will win a

\$100 Grand Prize!

Open to amateur photographers only. Limit 1 photo/week/person. Decision of the judges is final. By submitting photos, photographer gives Just the Facts all rights to photos. Entries must be less than 2 MB in size.

Email photos to publish@justthefacts.net and include "photo contest" in subject line, names of subjects in photo (if applicable), location and photographer's real (not screen/alias) name.

From the Blotter

A red Next bicycle was found at 1 p.m. Thursday in the 700 block of East Elm. The owner may identify and claim it at the police station.

A 22-year-old Hoopeston woman reported at 9 a.m. Saturday that an unknown person used her credit card in another state.

No tickets or injuries were reported in an accident at 4:28 p.m. Sunday at Market and Orange.

Briefly

At the library

Upcoming events at Hoopeston Public Library include: **Cooking the Books**, 6-7 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 24. "Summer's Bounty" is this month's theme. Pick a featured recipe, prepare it and bring it to the library to share with others.

Sweet Corn Festival Book Sale, Aug. 28-Sept. 1. A fresh assortment of adult and children's fiction and non-fiction books. \$2 per bag or 3 bags for \$5. Bags provided or bring your own.

The gathering

Rossville area senior citizens are invited to The Gathering, a monthly get-together, held at 1 p.m. Thursday at Rossville Fire Station.

The event is sponsored by Rossville Community Organization.

Weather

Thunderstorms likely today. High 80. Tonight, partly cloudy. Low 55. Tomorrow, sunny. High 77, low 53.



Classifieds

APARTMENTS FOR RENT

Hoopeston: Handicap accessible. Clean, 2 bedroom, 1 bath apt in 4-Plex. Refrigerator, stove, W/D hookups. Full basement. Walk to shopping. Nice yard. No pets, Non smoking. Available September 1. 217-260-8762.

HELP WANTED

NAPA Hoopeston is looking for a full time Counter/ Delivery person. Responsible person would be very knowledgeable of automotive and truck parts. Must be able to answer phones and wait on customers. Must have very good knowledge of computers. Must do daily and monthly paperwork. Must be capable of doing all activities that the store manager would do in case of their absence. ASE certified counter person preferred but not required. If interested, pick up a application at NAPA 226 E Main St. Hoopeston.

Pizza King taking applications for lunch and evening help. Apply in person 111 E. Main, Hoopeston.

HOUSES FOR RENT

1-2 bedrooms. \$425 a month plus deposit. Call 815-520-3074

HOUSES FOR SALE

Hoopeston: 4 bedroom, 1 1/2 baths, 1 car detached garage. Large rooms, newer roof, great neighborhood close to Maple School. Asking \$40,000. Call 217-304-6547 for more information.

Property for Sale in Hoopeston: 3 bedrooms, 4 full baths, finished basement, large Great Room, heated in ground pool and much more. Large barn with great rental income. More information at www.111eastthompson.com or call 217-304-6547. Asking Price, \$349,000

Hoopeston: 2 story 4 Bedroom, 1 1/2 Bath, 1 car detached garage, Pool, storage shed, on Main Street. Front and Back porch, full attic & basement. Asking \$98,000. Call Teresa at 217-474-9527 for more information. Leave message.

MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE

Drum set, trumpet, xylophone for sale. Call Computer Works at (217) 283-9552 to inquire.

Email publish@justthefacts.net
or call (217) 283-9348 to place your ad!