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Just the Facts[©]

Phone/Fax:
(217) 283-9348

Email:

publisher@justthefacts.tm

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Illinois to help keep roof over HA school students heads

The state of Illinois will help keep a roof over Hoopeston Area students' heads.

At Thursday's meeting, the school board approved a \$94,858 bid from Triple T Roofing of Danville to repair roofs at the high school and John Greer. Of that, \$50,000 will be paid by a state grant, said Superintendent Mark Conolly.

Triple T's bid, the only one received, does not include approximately \$7,500 in architecture fees, said buildings and grounds superintendent Ron Lewis.

Under the grant, repairs are supposed to be completed by June 30, but an extension may be granted,

Lewis said. Work could begin as early as Friday, weather permitting, he said.

In related business, Lewis said the district will apply for a second \$50,000 grant. If the grant is awarded, the money will be used for new bleachers. Replacing the existing bleachers, which are nearly 30 years old, will cost an estimated \$89,000, he said.

In unrelated business, Conolly told the board the district will see an increase in state aid of approximately \$200 per student, to \$4,425.

The increase does not offset declining enrollment, nor does it make up for delayed state aid payments dating back seven years, Conolly said.

In unrelated business, the board:

- learned the district payment to the VASE program will increase \$5,000 to \$56,000 next year.
- set Nov. 15, 2000 and March 30, 2001 as school improvement days with student dismissal at 12:05 and 12:20 p.m.
- learned a new state law requires the district to notify parents when pesticides, insecticides and herbicides will be sprayed on school grounds.

The law is intended to help children with allergies, Lewis said.

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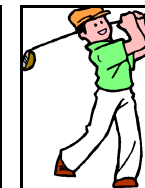
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