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Hoopeston Area considers letting students have cell phones

Hoopeston Area high and middle school students may be allowed to bring cell phones to school but better not have teachers ask for whom the bell tolls.

At Thursday's Hoopeston Area board of education meeting, Hank Hornbeck, high/middle school principal, said a suggested change in policy this year would let students in both buildings bring cell phones to school; however, phones are not to be used by students between 7:15 a.m. and 3:25 p.m. and must be kept in lockers on vibrate mode or turned off.

If the policy is approved, failure to follow it could

See HA on other side



Going in circles

Carroll Jerome rides in the wheel of a steam engine during Saturday's parade of tractors at Christman Park in Rossville as driver and engine owner Stephen Eyrich looks on.

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Police News



A 33-year-old man reported Wednesday that someone threw an object through a window in the 100 block of East Lincoln.

No tickets or injuries were reported in an accident at 3:15 p.m. Wednesday in the alley of the 700 block of South Fifth St.

Police said William M. Butterfield of Hoopeston, in a 1998 Dodge, backed into a parked 2001 Ford owned by Stephan Highfill, also of Hoopeston.

Two kevs on a chain were found Thursday in the 300 block of West Penn. The owner may identify and claim them at the police station.

A 33-year-old man reported Friday that someone knocked down a back door in the 100 block of East Lincoln.

Abbie D. Morgeson, 25, of 628 E. McCracken, was

HA continued from other side

result in confiscation of cell phones or removal of cell phone privileges.

The policy reverses a previous one that banned student cell phones completely.

In other suggested policy changes, both schools would no longer allow excess baggy clothing that shows off undergarments and wallet chains and chains used as clothing accents are banned, Hornbeck said.

At the grade school level, Lori Eells, Maple principal, said in the event of a tornado warning or severe storm, students will not be allowed to leave the building until the danger has passed, as determined by Eells or a designated administrator. "Parents are welcome to come wait with their kids," she said.

The policy manuals are expected to be voted on at the July 20 meeting.

In unrelated action, the board approved a district wellness policy, drawn up by a committee of teachers, administrators and citizens. The policy includes provisions for nutrition education, physical activity and meeting dietary guidelines for school lunches.

While the policy suggests that sweetened beverages be avoided, it does not ban pop machines at the high school, said Superintendent Mark Conolly.

Currently, pop is not available to grade school students, is an option for middle school students only after arrested after an incident at 11:28 p.m. Friday in the 500 block of North Sixth St.

She was charged with domestic battery on a complaint from a 19-year-old Hoopeston man. She was also

Obituaries

ABBOTT—Janet Allene Abbott, 55, of Rossville died at 5:20 a.m. Friday, June 16, 2006 at home. Funeral services will be at 10 a.m. Monday at Rossville Church of Christ. Burial will be in Mann's Chapel Cemetery. Visitation was 4-8 p.m. Sunday at Hamilton-Orr Funeral Home. Memorials are suggested to Carle Hospice, 2300 N. Vermilion St., Danville, IL 61832 or Hemophilia Foundation of Illinois, 332 S. Michigan Ave., Suite 1135, Chicago, IL 60604-4305.

school and is available to high school students during lunch periods and after school, Conolly said.

In other business, the board:

- Approved a two-year baseball cooperative with Rossville-Alvin Grade School. Under the agreement, Hoopeston Area will pay for an assistant coach on the Rossville-Alvin stipend schedule. The sport will be open to R-A seventh and eighth graders and Hoopeston Area eighth graders.
- Approved a \$9,481 bid from Silver Bros. for replacement windows in the John Greer annex. Five windows will be replaced and three will be boxed in, said maintenance director Darrell Brown.
- Approved resignations from high school teachers Bill Medler (science) and Jan Sturm (English) who are retiring, as well as Ellanat Matta from the business office.
- Approved hiring Heather Ohlemeyer, Honeywell special education; Ginger Gonzalez, Honeywell personal aide; and Allison Smith, middle school cheerleading.

Weather



Partly cloudy today. High 86. Tonight, mostly clear. Low 65. Tomorrow, mostly sunny. High 89, low 67.

For current weather conditions, call Hoopeston Weather Service, (217) 283-6221.

charged with possession of a controlled substance after police allege one was found on her person after she was arrested.

Morgeson was taken to the Public Safety Building in Danville.

Patrick E. Clingenpeel, 30, of 606 W. Elm, was ar-

rested after an incident at 2:47 a.m. Sunday in the 600 block of West Elm. He was charged with breach of the peace constituting disorderly conduct and driving while license expired and was released on a traffic ticket and notice to appear.

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