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Rossville-Alvin Board members John Peterson and Lynndel Davan and Superintendent Carl Sartwell listen to comments at meeting among their board and those from Bismarck-Henning and Hoopeston Area to discuss a new deactivation agreement for Rossville-Alvin High School students.

Tuition costs may be lowered for Rossville-Alvin students

ROSSVILLE—The local school district may pay less for high school students attending Hoopeston Area and Bismarck-Henning schools.

Boards from the three districts are expected to decide this month whether to renew a deactivation agreement for Rossville-Alvin High School, following a meeting among the three Monday night at Rossville-Alvin Grade School.

An error was made in the tuition formula used the last

two years under the current agreement, said Randy Hird, Bismarck-Henning superintendent.

While tuition expenses were factored into the formula, tuition received was not, causing tuition to be about \$800 per student too much. "I did not feel that was equitable or correct," he said.

The new rate will be about \$60 per student lower, at \$6,482.85. The figure was derived by averaging Hoop-
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Tuition continued from other side

eston Area's rate of \$6,094.80 and Bismarck-Henning's rate of \$6,870.89, he said.

Rossville-Alvin Superintendent Carl Sartwell told the boards and about 20 residents that keeping the high school deactivated makes financial sense. High school expenditures of \$937,680 plus a share of a total \$682,303 in support service costs means the district would pay \$8,900 for each of 134 high school students.

Superintendents from Hoopeston Area and Bismarck-Henning agreed that the transition of Rossville-Alvin students into their schools has gone smoothly.

"We anticipated a lot of issues," including scheduling

and cafeteria matters, Hird said. "We have dealt with far less issues than we anticipated." Hird added that teachers who transferred from Rossville have blended with existing Bismarck-Henning staff.

Mark Conolly of Hoopeston Area said the addition of Rossville-Alvin students has "been a wonderful experience for us." Rossville students have assimilated and "fit in extremely well," he said.

Only one problem with the new agreement was expressed. Under the existing agreement, Rossville-Alvin students were awarded a diploma from that school upon graduation. The new agreement does not include that

stipulation. "I ask that that be looked at," said R-A board member Dale Lithgow.

In unrelated action, the Rossville-Alvin board approved a three-year agreement with Mustard Seed Daycare to use the first floor of the high school building. That action, coupled with the possibility of a new deactivation agreement, resulted in comments from some Rossville residents after the meeting adjourned.

After a unanimous vote on the daycare matter, Marilyn Danner asked "but the agreement you're going to sign tonight is for three years?" She added a "hmmm" following her question.

While Rossville-Alvin plans on a new tuition deal for its high school students, board president Dennis Price said district officials are keeping their eyes on a more permanent solution - a cooperative high school.

"A cooperative high school is an ideal situation for all three of our schools," he said after the meeting. Combining the three into a new district would provide equal representation and equal say for each district.

However, the state currently does not have school construction grants, making a cooperative school not likely. If that changes and if the three districts can agree, "at some point, we'd be interested," he said.

Obituaries

HINKLE - Luradean "Jean" Hinkle, 84, of Cissna Park died at 8 a.m. Sunday, Nov. 26, 2006 at Hoopeston Community Memorial Hospital. Funeral service will be at 10 a.m. Wednesday at Milford Church of the Nazarene. Burial will be in Maple Grove Cemetery, Milford. Visitation was 4-8 p.m. Tuesday at Knapp Funeral Home, Milford. Memorials are suggested to the church or charity of the donor's choice.

KNAKE - Everett Raymond Knake, 81, of Milford died at 1:30 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 26, 2006 at Carle Foundation Hospital, Urbana. Funeral service will be at 2 p.m. Wednesday at Our Savior Lutheran Church, Mil-

ford. Burial will be in Trinity Lutheran Cemetery, Cissna Park. Visitation will be 4-8 p.m. Tuesday at Knapp Funeral Home, Milford, and one hour before services Wednesday at the church. Memorials are suggested to the church.

LANGELLIER - Louis E. Langellier, 68, of Buckley, formerly of Stockland died at 6 a.m. Monday, Nov. 27, 2006 at home. Funeral service will be at 2 p.m. Thursday at Knapp Funeral Home, Milford. Burial will be in Sugar Creek Cemetery, Stockland. Visitation will be 4-7 p.m. Wednesday at the funeral home. Memorials are suggested to Iroquois Memorial Hospice.

Court Dispositions

November 2

Timothy K. Boose, Hoopeston, pleaded guilty to disorderly conduct; fined \$180.

Sara E. Mahorney, Rossville, pleaded not guilty to possession of cannabis; trial set December 7.

Kevin Kaufman, Hoopeston, status hearing; given

Police News

Richard P. Ingram, 28, of 310 S. Eighth Ave., was ticketed for improper backing after an accident at 2:37 p.m. Monday at 852 E. Elm.

Police said Ingram, in a 2007 Dodge, backed from a driveway into a parked 1997 Chevrolet owned by Jason McCord of Hoopeston.

28 hours community service to be completed by Jan. 4, 2007.

Elijah L. Hunt, Danville, status hearing; new status hearing December 7.

Jerry L. Lindsey, Hoopeston, failed to appear at status hearing; new hearing December 21.

Wade E. Pickett, Hoopeston, status hearing; new status hearing December 7.

Weather

Chance of showers today and tonight. High 67, low 45. Tomorrow, rain likely, chance of snow late. High 45, low 29.

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

Classifieds

APARTMENTS FOR RENT

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