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Don Dean gives final report on Hoopeston school finances

Hoopeston Area school district finished fiscal year 2008-09 on a positive note, according to outgoing business manager Don Dean.

Dean, who is retiring after a career that spanned teacher, principal, superintendent and business manager, gave his final report at Thursday night's Hoopeston Area School Board meeting.

Dean told the board that even under adverse conditions, including only a 1.5 percent increase in the tax base, the economy, financial problems at the state level, inflation and rising costs, the district is in a solid position. "There are a lot of school districts, as well as other

public entities, who would love to be in our condition, he said in his written report.

All funds except the transportation fund had positive operating results, according to his report. However, both the transportation and education funds are each owed about \$250,000 due to late payments from the state. Had the transportation fund received its payments, it would have ended the year in the positive category.

Dean's report said that the state will eventually make up late state payments but that the state may continue to be late with payments into the 2009-10 year.

Dean also said that although former Gov. Rod Blagojevich "was very generous" with state aid amounts, districts should expect lower state aid in the future.

In other business, the board approved resignations and hirings for the upcoming year, including:

Resignations:

Ryan High as high school PE, high school girls basketball coach and assistant football coach; and Gretta Looft, high school food and consumer science.

Hired:

Ron Pierce, high school agriculture/FFA advisor

Denise Sullivan, high school food and consumer sci-

Sandy Bray, Maple Cafeteria (replaces Jacqueline Griner)

Amy Coffey, Honeywell cafeteria aide (two hours per

Stefanie Cornelius, Maple Early Childhood Special Education personal aide

Alisa Costa, Maple Title I reading aide Debbie Edwards, Honeywell Title I aide Whitley Klaber, Honeywell personal aide

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School continued from other side

Melissa Crose, seventh grade volleyball coach David Page, assistant high school football coach

Transfers:

Amy Pickett, from Honeywell Cafeteria (five hours) to high school cafeteria (six hours), replacing Mary Ellen Davis

Briefly

Cheerleading coaches needed

Hoopeston Hornet Cheerleading still needs coaches for the 2009 football season. Coaches are needed for all levels including Peanuts, Freshman, Junior Varsity and Varsity. If interested please contact Lee Curry at Razor's Edge for a coaches application.

Meetings

- Rossville Village Board, 7 p.m. Monday, village office
- Rossville-Alvin School Board, 7 p.m. Monday, grade school library
- Hoopeston City Council, 7 p.m. Tuesday, city hall

Shelle Franke, from Honeywell cafeteria aide (two hours) to Honeywell cafeteria (five hours), replacing Amy Pickett.

The board also approved continuing the position of high school attendance officer for the new year. Marty Fry will continue in the position at 12 hours per week at \$12 per hour.

In unrelated business, the board:

Lunch Menus



CRIS/SAMS Meals

MONDAY: Chicken jambalaya, apple, chocolate pudding, white bread

TUESDAY: Hamburger, bun, baked beans, cheesy cauliflower, peaches, cupcake

WEDNESDAY: Slow cooked beef & pasta, green beans, mixed fruit, wheat bread

THURSDAY: Boneless pork rib, whipped potatoes, corn, apple juice, wheat bread

FRIDAY: BBQ pork, macaroni & cheese, broccoli, apple juice, lemon pudding, wheat bread

All meals include milk.

• Heard from Mark Schaumburg, extracurricular committee chairman, that thanks to a partnership with Hoopeston Regional Health Center, an athletic trainer will still work with athletes full time. The trainer will be available from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. during the summer and 2 p.m. through the last activity during the school year.

- Approved bids for fuel from Illini FS, bread products from Interstate Brands and milk products from Watseka Dairy.
- Approved the estimated budget, showing \$11.7 million income and \$11.5 million in expenses, leaving an estimated surplus of about \$275,000.
- Approved the fiscal year 2010 migrant program. The \$28,000 is paid by the federal government and includes salaries for one teacher and 2.5 aides. The program is held the first 55 days of the new school year, said Principal Dan Walder.

Police News



A 13-year-old girl reported at 2:10 p.m. Thursday that someone took a blue Next bicycle from the 400 block of East Seminary.

A 29-year-old Hoopeston woman reported at 8:58 p.m. Friday that someone damaged her front door in the 800 block of East Elm.

A representative of Convenient Food Store, 714 W. Orange, reported at 2:30 p.m. Saturday that the driver of a white Chevrolet Cavalier failed to pay for \$16.20 of gas.

Obituaries

Frances Scharnhorst, 76, of Hoopeston, died at 1:47 p.m., Saturday July 18, 2009 at Carle Foundation Hospital, Urbana. Arrangements are pending at Anderson Funeral Home, Hoopeston.

Weather



Mostly sunny today. High 79. Tonight, mostly clear. Low 58. Tomorrow, mostly sunny. High 82, low 63.

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

- Walder also reported on the summer migrant program, which has 49 students enrolled, down from 54 last year.
- Approved policy manuals for Maple, Honeywell, John Greer and Middle School policy manuals.
- \bullet Approved board members Lawrence Jahn, Lisa Leigh

and Steve Highfill earning up to \$2,000 annually from the district.

Leigh and Highfill are substitute teachers while Jahn works on the district's E-rate program, a federal program offering discounted telecommunications services to schools and libraries.

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408 S. Fifth St., Hoopeston. \$475/mo. + deposit. Available August. References, no pets. (217) 304-3477 for application.

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