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Lourdine Florek, owner

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Hoopeston Area High School makes progress but not AYP

Despite an increase in the number of students meeting or exceeding state standards, Hoopeston Area High School did not meet Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) last year.

At Thursday night's Hoopeston Area School Board meeting, district principals discussed their building's state school report cards. Each building except the high school met AYP standards.

To meet the benchmark, at least 70 percent of last year's juniors had to meet or exceed standards, high school Principal Larry Maynard said. At HAHS, 21 students met the goal in all four categories for 2009, up

from 11 students in 2008 and 16 in 2007.

With a target of 70 percent, Hoopeston Area High School received 57.1 percent meeting/exceeding reading standards and 42.9 percent meeting or exceeding math standards.

At 64.9 percent, the school also failed to make AYP in its graduation rate, with a state target of 78 percent.

Over all, Maynard was pleased with the results, saying students made "a considerable jump" in reading and are "moving in the right direction" in math testing. "That's exciting for us," he said. "We're going to celebrate that."

See AYP on other side

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AYP continued from other side

Hoopeston Area is not alone in not meeting the standards. Maynard told the board that only 53 percent of Illinois schools made the grade.

Hornbeck added that a fellow administrator from a Vermilion County school said no schools in the county met the requirement.

Failure to make AYP puts the high school on academic early warning for the second year, but did not bump the school to the state's list of schools requiring school improvement according to the AYP specification of the federal No Child Left Behind Act.

The target rate for this year's juniors will be 77 percent when they take the ACT and Prairie State Achievement Exams later this school year. "The scores are getting better but the bar keeps moving," Hornbeck said, adding that under No Child Left Behind, all students are expected to meet or exceed standards by 2013.

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Scores for other buildings were higher than state requirements. Because second graders are no longer tested, Maple's scores are based on Honeywell's, with 77.9 percent meeting or exceeding standards in reading and 91.6 percent in math. Honeywell was at 80.5 percent in reading and 91.4 percent in math. At John Greer, 79.9 percent met standards in reading and 89.4 percent in math, while at Hoopeston Area Middle School, scores were 71.5 percent in reading and 78.2 percent in math.

In other business, the board:

- Approved hiring Reaine Wilson as high school girls basketball coach and Carl Ankenbrand as assistant high school wrestling coach and accepted Melissa Bolin's resignation as middle school cheerleading sponsor.
- Opted not to change district policy regarding home schooled children participating in extracurricular activities. The current policy, aligned with Illinois High School Association standards, does not allow it.
- Will hold a public hearing on the 2009 tax levy at 6:30 p.m. November 12 at the high school library.
- Approved purchasing a 2009 truck from Anthem Chevrolet. It has a snowplow package and cost \$22,928.



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Police News



Police are investigating a report of damage at M&N Pallet in the 900 block of South Second Ave. A complaint was made at 7 p.m. Wednesday.

A cell phone was found Thursday at Hoopeston Area High School football field. It may be identified and claimed at the police station.

Briefly

Township offices closed

Grant Township Supervisor, Assessor and Highway Commissioner offices, along with the Food Cupboard, will be closed Monday due to the passing of Carol Boose.

Meetings

Rossville Village Board, 7 p.m. Monday, village office

Hoopeston City Council, 7 p.m. Tuesday, city hall

Lunch Menus



Hoopeston Area grade schools

MONDAY: Chicken strips, green beans, applesauce, pudding

TUESDAY: Pepperoni pizza, salad, pears

WEDNESDAY: Salisbury steak, mashed potatoes, peaches, bread, butter

THURSDAY: Pancake & sausage nuggets, tri tater, pineapple

FRIDAY: No school

Hoopeston Area Middle/High Schools

MONDAY: Chicken/bacon wrap or ham & cheese, green beans, applesauce, cookie

TUESDAY: Pizza Hut, salad, peaches

WEDNESDAY: Chili cheese dog or chicken salad wrap, nacho chips, pears, juice

THURSDAY: Salisbury steak or BBQ rib/bun, mashed potatoes, corn, pineapple, hot roll

FRIDAY: No school

Weather



Mostly sunny today. High 61. Tonight, partly cloudy. Low 46. Tomorrow, partly sunny. High 64, low 49.

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

Classifieds

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Downstairs non-smoking apt: 2-3 bedroom, 1 bath, service pets only, includes water/garbage. First and last month rent plus deposit. For application call 217-283-6463.

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Hoopeston: 704 W. Lincoln. 3 BR, central air, basement. \$475/mo. References. No pets. For application: (217) 304-3477

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