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Lourdine Florek, owner

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Hoopeston Area board approves budget, estimated levy

The Hoopeston Area School Board adopted its 2010-11 "worst case scenario" budget, as well as an increased tax levy.

Planning for less income and increased expenses, the budget shows a possible \$1 million loss in income, in large part due to Illinois' financial crisis, and \$273,000 more in expenses.

Should the worst happen, the district will borrow from reserves to make up the shortfall.

The budget does not include more than \$520,000 expected from the federal Education Jobs Funding Program, said Superintendent Hank Hornbeck. That money is based on the amount of state aid the district receives, he said.

The board also approved an estimated tax levy of \$3.1 million, up from the \$2.9 million extended last year.

The 8.8 estimated increase is based on the district's equalized assessed valuation and past practice.

That may translate into a lower tax rate for district taxpayers. Last year's levy resulted in a rate of \$4.63, which could drop to \$4.55 if the 8.8 increase in EAV is realized, said district business manager Mark Eighner.

What it will be is still speculation at this point since, according to law, the levy must be done now, while EAV figures will not be known until later this year, he said.

If the district used a lower percentage for its levy and EAV went up, the district would lose the difference between what it requested and the actual amount of the levy, he said.

In unrelated business, the board heard from Hornbeck that the six-day enrollment, used as a base for state aid, was down two from last year's 1,290 students. In the past 10 years, Hoopeston Area has seen increases in six-day enrollment only twice: in 2004-05, when there were



Michl Kearney, Hoopeston Area High School head football coach, displays a sample of new equipment bags for the team at Thursday's school board meeting.

10 more students than the previous year, and 2006-07, when there were 39 more.

However, the loss of two is significantly less than some previous years, including 2002-03, with a loss of 71, and 2005-06, which showed a loss of 60.

Attendance figures do not include Rossville-Alvin students attending Hoopeston Area High School.

In other business, the board accepted Aaron Fell's resignation as eighth grade boys basketball coach.

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Hoopeston Area High School's Cornjerkers were on top of the world—and a Hoopeston Fire Department truck—in Friday's Homecoming parade.

Cornjerkers bow to Oakwood/Armstrong Potomac, 35-25

Coming on the heels of last week's win over Georgetown-Ridge Farm/Chrisman, expectations were high for this week's Homecoming matchup against the Oakwood/Armstrong-Potomac Comets. And although at the final buzzer, Hoopeston lost 35-25, the Comets had to fight the entire game to get the tally in the win column.

Led by junior Robbie Irvin, with 10 carries and 108 yards for the game, the team a total of 271 yards rushing. Andre Colunga had 92 yards for the night.

Oakwood started its win in the first stanza, scoring six. The Comets added 16 in the second quarter, while Hoopeston put 12 on the board, including a 52-yard TD run by Colunga and a 74-yard run by Irvin. Neither drive led to

conversion points.

In the third quarter, Oakwood added 13 more, while the Cornjerkers increased their tally by seven. And in the final quarter, Hoopeston Area held the Comets scoreless, while adding its final six.

HA Coach Mike Kearney thanked everyone who came out to watch Friday's matchup. "It was awesome to see that many people there cheering on our boys," he said.

The Cornjerkers will be on the road for the next two weeks, traveling to Danville Friday to take on the Schlarman Hilltoppers, followed by the Salt Fork Storm on October 1.

Police News

A red, black and white Next Extreme bicycle was found at noon Thursday at Hoopeston Area Middle School. The owner may identify and claim it at the police station.

A motorcycle key was found Friday at Napa. The owner may identify and claim it at the police station.

A 45-year-old Hoopeston man reported at 4:22 p.m. Friday that someone tried to enter his home at Parkview Court while he was gone. Nothing was reported missing.

Police are investigating a hit-and-run accident reported at 12:13 a.m. Saturday at Second Chance, 102 N. Market.

Witnesses said an unknown vehicle backed from a parking space into a parked 1988 Dodge Dakota,

owned by a 53-year-old Hoopeston woman.

No injuries were reported.

Police are investigating a burglary to a trailer reported at 9:10 a.m. Saturday at Hoopeston Area High School soccer field, 615 W. Orange. Someone forced entry to a trailer there, removing and damaging several items.

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Lunch Menus



Hoopeston Area grade schools

MONDAY: Chicken strips, corn, applesauce, cookie

TUESDAY: Pepperoni pizza, salad, pears, Teddy Grahams

WEDNESDAY: Ham & cheese sandwich, chips, mixed fruit, grape juice

THURSDAY: Mini corndog, fries, pineapple

FRIDAY: BBQ rib/bun, baked beans, mixed fruit

Hoopeston Area Middle/High schools

MONDAY: Chicken nuggets or ha & cheese, corn, applesauce, cookie

TUESDAY: Chicken salad wrap or BBQ rib, salad, peaches

WEDNESDAY: Chili cheese dog or sub sandwich, nacho chips, pears, juice

THURSDAY: Pork roast or Hot Pocket, mashed potatoes, corn, pears, hot roll

FRIDAY: Sausage pizza or fish sandwich, salad, mixed fruit

All meals include milk.

Weather



Mostly sunny today. High 83. Tonight, mostly clear. Low 64. Tomorrow, sunny, chance of thunderstorms late. High 90, low 65.

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

Classifieds

AUCTIONS

Rossville American Legion, 104 Thompson. Monday, 5:30 p.m. Sell anything you have of value. www.jonwitvoetauctioneer.com. (217) 304-0442

CHILD CARE

Needed immediately: 2nd shift babysitter for 2 children in my home. Send letter of interest and references to 804 East Maple St., Hoopeston.

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Part time position available. Must be able to work weekends. Looking for a person who is dependable, self motivated, and able to multi-task. Apply in person at Hoopeston Coin Laundry, 209 S. 1st Ave. No phone calls please.

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