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Just the Facts

Monday, November 12, 2018

Hoopeston's only locally-owned daily news publication!

P.O. Box 441, Hoopeston IL 60942 www.justthefacts.net

HA board considers costs for heating, cooling upgrades

The proposed cost of improving heating and adding cooling to John Greer and Maple schools have at least a couple Hoopeston Area School Board members considering new construction.

At a special meeting Wednesday, the board met with Stanley Gebben, mechanical engineer with The Upchurch Group of Champaign. Tasked with developing improvement options, taking into consideration existing heating and cooling.

Gebben's cost estimates included replacing existing heating systems in both buildings, at a cost of \$1,350,000 at John Greer and \$1,100,000 at Maple. Electrical upgrades - necessary if all-school cooling is installed -

would be \$200,000 for John Greer and \$250,000 at Maple.

Four cooling options were provided for the buildings:

- A ductless min-split system, which would use rooftop and ground units throughout each building. In both, existing heating systems could be used. Corridors and service rooms would not be cooled with this type system, estimated to cost \$700,000 for John Greer and \$550,000 at Maple.

- A variable unit ventilator (VUV) system would be installed in classrooms, the cafeteria and offices. One vertical fan coil unit could be put in each space or one to cool multiple spaces. This system is estimated at \$1,650,000 at John Greer and \$1,300,000 at Maple.

- Geothermal system, with a \$2,350,000 price tag, would remove the existing heating system at John Greer and would use a heat pump system using the earth as its heating and cooling source. The system would require a well field, which, for John Greer, would need to cover the entire grass portion of the playground east of the school. After about 200 wells were installed, the area would be graded and seeded.

Geothermal is not an option for Maple due to lack of yard space for a well field.

- A variable air volume (VAV) system, which Gebben called "the Cadillac system in terms of comfort, and probably the most expensive" would put air handling units at various locations in each building. These would provide 55F air to VAV boxes in each zone or room. Equipped with hot water reheat, the boxes would raise the delivery air temperature. The system would require an air-cooled chiller and new boilers and would completely remove the existing HVAC system. Ceiling and lights would have to be removed to install new ductwork, with new lights and lay-in ceiling installed.

Estimates for the VAV system are \$2,900,000 for John Greer and \$2,250,000 for Maple. "It's a massive project to put cooling into an existing building," Gebben said.

See HVAC on other side

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Briefly

Veterans Day service

Rossville American Legion will host the Veterans Day observance at 1:30 p.m. Monday at Rossville Grade School. The program will be presented by the children. No lunch will be served afterwards.

Free chili

In honor of Veterans Day, Hoopeston American Legion will serve free chili from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. today.

At the library

Upcoming activities at Hoopeston Public Library are:



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Homeschool Gathering, 1:30-2 p.m. Tuesday. For homeschool families. Activities and refreshments.

Big Bang Thursday, 3:30–4 p.m. Weird, wacky science for kids in grades 3-5.

Cooking the Books, 6 –7p.m. Thursday. Make a recipe

Lunch Menus

Hoopeston Area grade schools

MONDAY: Chicken nuggets, broccoli/cheese, cucumber slices, applesauce, milk

TUESDAY: Taco Max Snax, chips & salsa, baby carrots, salad, peaches, milk

WEDNESDAY: Pork BBQ/bun, baked beans, Sunset Sip juice, pears, milk

THURSDAY: Ravioli, Max Stick, salad, baby carrots, pineapple, milk

FRIDAY: Hotdog/bun, fries, celery sticks, mixed fruit, milk

Hoopeston Area Middle School

MONDAY: Chicken strips, broccoli/cheese, salad bar, applesauce, milk

TUESDAY: Turkey roast, mashed potatoes, green beans, pineapple, milk

HVAC continued from other side

Estimates do not include the cost of abating asbestos in ceiling tiles, to which board member Chris Elliott said, “By the time you abate everything, you’re looking at \$4 million. “I’m not going to vote for that.”

Member Lawrence Jahn was of like mind. “I just can’t see spending that kind of money on an old building,” he said.

Gebben responded, “we can go ahead and draw you guys a new building.”

After the regular meeting, Elliott said he wasn’t a definite no on the project.

Currently John Greer, built in 1927, has a cast iron boiler low pressure steam unit, installed in about 1957 with a burner replaced about 30 years ago. Four gas-fired furnaces are in the 1959 annex building. For cooling, two window air conditioners are used for the office and original teachers’ lounge and two air handlers used for the new teachers’ lounge and computer lab.

The school’s two-story addition was built in 1967.

Maple, which was built in 1949, has two additions, from 1967 and 1995. The school uses natural gas-fired steam boilers installed with the 1995 addition. Like John

from this month’s theme, Soups, and library staff will copy it for you to take and make and bring to share. Bring serving utensils. Drinks and table service are provided.

Tiny Tots, 10:30-11 a.m. Friday. For children 0-4 who are accompanied by a caregiver.

WEDNESDAY: Taco Max Snax, refried beans, chips & salsa, salad bar, pears, milk

THURSDAY: Mini corn dogs, baked beans, salad bar, peaches, milk

FRIDAY: Pizza, salad bar, mixed fruit, milk

Hoopeston Area High School

MONDAY: Chicken strips or ham & cheese, broccoli/cheese, salad bar, applesauce, milk, juice

TUESDAY: Turkey roast or Hot Pocket, mashed potatoes, green beans, pineapple, milk, juice

WEDNESDAY: Taco Max Snax or BBQ rib, refried beans, chips & salsa, salad bar, pears, milk, juice

THURSDAY: Mini corn dogs or cheeseburger, baked beans, salad bar, peaches, milk, juice

FRIDAY: Pizza or fish sandwich, salad bar, mixed fruit, milk, juice

Greer’s it has cast iron boiler, low pressure steam units. Cooling for the cafeteria, multi-purpose room and office area is done by three rooftop units. Three classrooms have window air conditioning units.

In other business, the board:

- Approved leasing a new Bluebird Micro Bird activity bus with a five-year annual payment of \$13,535. The district was offered only \$1,200 on its current white activity bus so business manager Mark Eighner will decide whether to trade it in or not.

“I’d take the \$1,200 and run with it,” said board member Craig Lee.

“You know what to do with it, whatever way,” Elliott told Eighner.

The lease will be through CSB Financial.

- Following an executive session, the board approved the resignation of Brad Walsh, John Greer head custodian, effective November 5.

Weather

Chance of snow showers today, tonight. High 34, low 22. Tomorrow, mostly sunny. High 28, low 16.

From the Blotter

No tickets or injuries were reported in an accident at 2:13 p.m. Friday in the Chittick parking lot, 851 E. Orange. Police said Julie Roark, 20, of Catlin, backed a 2003 Ford ambulance, owned by Village of Oakwood, from a parking space and struck the side of a 2006 Toyota truck, driven by Dwight Hoffman, 87, of Hoopeston.

Michael Ervin, 56, of Hoopeston, was arrested after a traffic stop at 8:37 p.m. Friday in the 1000 block of West Main. Stopped because the registration information did not match the vehicle he was driving, Ervin was charged with unlawful display on a vehicle of any license plate not authorized for use on vehicle and was released on a notice to appear in Vermilion County traffic court.

Jose Ortiz, 26, of Hoopeston, was arrested after a traffic stop at 7:34 p.m. Saturday at Main and First Ave. A computer check showed he had never been issued a license, so he was charged with no valid driver’s license and released on a notice to appear in Vermilion County traffic court.

Fire Calls

Hoopeston Fire Department was called at 7:26 p.m. Friday to Maple and Fourth Ave., for a strong odor of natural gas. It was found to be a release valve, with no danger.

Classifieds

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