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Lourdine Florek, Owner

Tuesday, September 22, 2020

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COVID changes teacher evaluation, salaries, budget OK'd

Evaluating teachers in the age of COVID-19 has resulted in a new document between Hoopeston Area School District and Hoopeston Education Association.

At Thursday's meeting, the board approved a memorandum of understanding submitted by the joint committee of district and union members.

Under the agreement, evaluations of non-tenured teachers will be prioritized during this school year. Evaluations will be in person, where possible, but may also be done remotely. Administrators may arrange with the mutual agreement of teachers, to pre-record and review lessons.

Because of the focus on non-tenured staff, not all tenured staff evaluations may be done during the year. The memorandum calls for those not completed during the health emergency declared by the governor are subject to an automatic evaluation rating, as stated in state guidelines.

Student growth components of the evaluation process will be eliminated from this year's evaluations. The memo states that both sides recognize a number of factors were not considered into the law requiring student growth-based evaluation, including students without internet or computers; those suffering trauma at home who are not able to address or escape trauma at school; and students "suffering the inherent trauma of loss associated with the

pandemic."

The document does not prohibit discipline of either tenured or non-tenured teachers. Disciplinary meetings required for due process may, but are not required to be, scheduled in a way to allow remote attendance.

In other business, the board approved the 2020-21 budget, which will dip into reserves if the financial account proves accurate.

Supt. Robert Richardson said last month that the budget estimates liberally on expenses and conservatively on income.

In the education fund, which covers expenses related to
See BUDGET on other side

Unidentified person killed in early morning train accident

Hoopeston Police Department and the Vermilion County Coroner's office are investigating a person/train accident Monday morning.

The accident occurred at 5:44 a.m. at the Lincoln St. crossing. All but the Thompson Ave. crossing were closed, as police and firemen searched the scene for evidence.

The train cleared the scene around 8 a.m.

The victim's identity and other information was unknown at press time.

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Budget continued from other side

student learning, including teacher salaries, the district budget income of \$13,014,715 from local, state and federal sources. Estimated expenses of \$13,328,281 will leave a \$313,566 shortfall in the fund.

However, the education fund beginning balance as of July 1 was \$6,289,000.

On operations and maintenance, the district expects revenues of \$465,788, with expenses totaling \$614,000, leaving a deficit of \$148,212. The fund's beginning balance on July 1 was \$321,000.

A third area predicted to have a deficit is the municipal retirement/Social Security account, where income is estimated at \$448,280 and expenses of \$474,154. The \$25,874 loss can be covered by the fund's beginning balance of \$642,000.

Beginning balances for the funds as of July 1 were \$70,000 for tort and \$285,000 for fire prevention and safety.

The district transportation fund is projected to end the fiscal year with a \$37,935 surplus, with estimate revenue of \$602,633 and expenses of \$564,698. The fund's beginning balance on July 1 was \$207,000.

Two funds - debt service and working cash - have in-

come but no expenses: \$314,296 for debt service and \$54,950 for working cash. The funds' beginning balances were \$10,694 and \$2,312,000, respectively.

The board also approved the administrators' compensa-

From the Blotter

An employee of Casey's General Store, 1022 W. Penn, reported at 9:54 p.m. Friday that she discovered fraudulent checks. Police are investigating.

Malik S. Lacy, 23, of Champaign, was arrested after a traffic stop at 7:54 a.m. Sunday in the 700 block of South Second Ave. He was charged with driving while license revoked and operating an uninsured vehicle and released on notices to appear in Vermilion County traffic court.

From the Blotter

August 12

Raymond Lazarich, Bourbonnais, failed to appear at sentencing for general nuisance, found guilty by default, fined \$280; status hearing September 9.

Daniel Simpson, Hoopeston, pleaded guilty to restraint of dog, fined \$180; paid in full.

Brandon R. Irvin, Hoopeston, found guilty of unlawful acts constituting disorder, fined \$230; status hearing September 9.

James R. Roof, Hoopeston, appeared at status hearing for battery, fined \$280; new status hearing September 9.

Gourav Sharma, Hoopeston, pleaded guilty to unlawful acts constituting disorder, fined \$180; paid in full.

Christopher Compton, Hoopeston, pleaded guilty to breach of peace, fined \$180; status hearing September 9.

Joshua Fiala, Hoopeston, failed to appear at initial appearance for theft; sentencing September 9.

Jose Cabrera Jr., Joliet, failed to appear at sentencing for disobeying police, found guilty by default, fined \$280; status hearing September 9.

Jose Cabrera Jr., Joliet, failed to appear at sentencing or trespassing, found guilty by default, fined \$230; status hearing September 9.

Weather

Mostly sunny today. High 78. Tonight, partly cloudy. Low 52. Tomorrow, partly sunny. High 77, low 53.

For real time Hoopeston weather, visit justthefacts.net/weather/.

tion report, detailing salaries and benefits for Richardson, principals, assistant principals and curriculum director. All salaries were approved earlier this year.

The report is available on the district website, www.hoopeston.k12.il.us.

In unrelated discussion, the board questioned a proposal from the curricular/extracurricular committee that middle school baseball be played at McFerren Park.

Due to issues earlier in the season, games were moved

to the park this year. The change is supported by coaches and parents, who said the mini golf course, splash pad and playground equipment were popular with younger siblings while middle schoolers played ball, said Debbie Klaber, committee chair.

Hoopeston Mayor Bill Crusinberry raised the possibility at last week's city council meeting.

Both bodies say liability insurance and other questions must be answered before approving the change.

Classifieds

APARTMENTS FOR RENT

Located on McNeil Street in Hoopeston, this two bedroom apartment has plenty to offer. With recent updates, parking and friendly neighbors you will feel right at home in this complex. You can find our application online at www.bkmgmt.com and call our office at 765-637-0208 for a showing!

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KS i in Cissna Park is seeking a qualified Controls Technician for project site startups and in-field customer training for controls systems. The ideal candidate will possess excellent communication, electrical, technical, and troubleshooting skills. An understanding of PLCs and HMI applications is preferred. Travel is required. Apply online at www.ksiedge.com or send resume to hr@ksiedge.com.

Vermilion County Animal Shelter is hiring kennel workers, full and part time available! Email ksnyder@vercounty.org or visit www.vercounty.org/jobs_general.htm for an application.

Dogtown Heating, Air, & Plumbing is in search of an experienced HVAC technician to help serve our customers in the area. Pay based on experience. Health insurance, Life insurance, and 2 weeks paid vacation. We have a family atmosphere that serves our customers with honesty and integrity. Email brad.dogtown@gmail.com

United Prairie-Hoopeston has openings for Fall help for the following: CDL Drivers and Non-CDL . Please pick up applications at 18978 E 3850 North Rd, Hoopeston, IL 60942. For more information, please call the office, 217-888-0164 or Jordan Reese, manager, 217-918-2876.

Mechanic wanted. Experience with heavy truck, construction, and agricultural machinery preferred. Call 217-474-8349.

Cade's Heating and Air HVAC installer/ service tech. must have valid IL drivers license and EPA freon license. Please send resume to ramcade@frontier.com or 101 E Penn St., Hoopeston IL 60942.

Private in home caregiver 5 days/week from 7 to 11 for female with dementia. Hoopeston area. Must be able to use lift equipment for transfers. Call Tracey at 765 490 9642. May text for contact.

East Lynn Fertilizer is seeking full time and seasonal help. Requirements include at least a Class B CDL and ability to pass a drug test. Call 217-375-4225 or stop by 41284 S Main St., East Lynn, IL for more details.

Teasdale Latin Foods has immediate openings on 2nd shift in both Distribution and Manufacturing. Pay to be determined based on experience level. Stop by the Human Resources office at 215 W. Washington Street, Hoopeston, for more detail. Please no phone calls.

Aquality Solutions is looking for full-time delivery drivers skilled in efficiency, organization, and flexibility. Delivery Drivers will deliver bottled water and bagged salt to commercial and residential customers and must have knowledge or be willing to learn maintenance operations when not driving. Apply in person at 102 N 1st Street in Hoopeston or call us at 855-692-7824.

Full-Fill Industries Henning, IL, is offering many job opportunities for full-time and part-time positions. We offer full-time positions with a full benefit package. 1st and 2nd shifts are available. We also offer a unique opportunity to choose the schedule that fits your lifestyle - choose to work 1, 2, or 3 days a week. Candidates must be 18 years old, and you can pick your shift. Machine Operators are needed for 1st & 2nd shift.

We are now offering a part-time flexible work schedule for Moms & Dads who want to earn extra cash during school hours, with an 8 am - 4:30 pm schedule to fit the needs of your family. Also:

Chemical Lab Supervisor-prior experience working in a chemical laboratory.

IT Assistant- Troubleshooting and maintaining computers and programs in the facility. Both positions are Full-time Day shift M-F with a full benefit package.

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