

Golf, swimming approved as full high school sports

Written by Brenda Johnson Brandt

Boys' golf, girls' golf and girls' swimming were approved as official HHS sports starting with the 2013-14 season. Approval was given at the Tuesday, Aug. 20 meeting of the Re-1J Board of Education.

With the "official sport" status comes a head coach salary of \$1,825, assistant coach salary of \$1,241 and costs for travel, entry fees and uniforms.

Superintendent Bret Miles recommended the upgrade from club sports to official sports for the three activities. He said the catalyst was the ability to continue to find volunteer coaches after a decade of activity.

Boys' golf became a club sport at HHS in 2002, girls' swimming in 1997 and girls' golf in 2009. The girls' softball program started as a JV club sport in 2003, became a varsity club sport in 2004 and upgraded to an official sponsored sport in 2005.

Financially, Miles said they're looking at minor impact to the uniform budget, and entry fees for local golf tournaments will provide new revenue.

Several extra-duty assignments were approved at last week's meeting, adding to those already approved on July 16 and Aug. 6.

Coaching assignments approved last week were for Vanessa Tharp, volunteer HS volleyball; Dave Rice, volunteer HS girls' basketball; Jeremy Dirks, volunteer HS wrestling; Brett Gerk, volunteer HS baseball; Garrett Gordon, head HS boys' golf; Stefan Betley, assistant HS boys' golf; and Jim Yakel, head JH boys' basketball.

In other personnel action, the school board approved the resignation of Wendy Weatherly as the elementary special education paraprofessional and hired Tina McNulty to fill that position for the 2013-14 school year.

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Summer construction progress reviewed

Miles gave an update on the summer construction projects. Commenting on the new track, he reported that all black face should be down and the red surface finished before the Aug. 30 home football game.

Striping would then be completed after that game and before the next home game on Sept. 13.

Updates were given on dual switch lights, elementary ceiling fans, air conditioning, science lab upgrades, elementary classroom doors, keyless entry, snowmelt outside the old gym, restroom upgrades, metal siding/gutters, sprinklers, controls system, exterior doors, old gym interior doors, concrete and carpet.

Overall, Miles said he was pleased with the construction progress over the summer.

Other business

In other business at last week's meeting, the school board:

—approved second reading of the policy on evaluation of licensed personnel.

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—reviewed the 2013 TCAP test results, as reported in last week’s Enterprise.

—noted that a welcome reception for new teachers at 6:30 p.m. will precede the Tuesday, Sept. 3 board meeting.

—reviewed the rough draft of the Destination 2016 annual report which will be printed and mailed in early September.

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