HIRD

Bruce Hird employed for three years

Because of health reasons, Brady Public Schools principal Bruce Hird of Cozad will retire from his position.

During its monthly meeting on April 8, the Brady school board approved Hird's resignation.

Superintendent Bill Porter said Hird will be paid for extra days worked.

Porter recommended that the board replace the position with a grades 7-12 principal and assign Porter as the K-6 principal but the board declined to do so.

The position will be advertised.

Minutes from the meeting showed that the board believed the change would be too much of a workload for Porter, noting that the principal also needs to be a liaison with teachers and the superintendent.

The board also accepted the resignation of fourth-grade teacher Jeanene Lusk who is retiring from the district after 10 years.

During other personnel action, board members hired Sarah Dutton of North Platte to teach language arts in the high school.

Dutton will fill a vacancy left by Brian Fleming who intends to return to California.

On another matter, the board approved the 2013-14 school calendar that includes two days for teachers to attend a conference that wasn't included in earlier proposals.

Porter said parent-teacher conferences will be in the evening next year to make up those days.

The first day of school for students will be Wednesday, Aug. 14 with the final day scheduled for May 16, 2014. A more complete calendar is available at the school.

Teacher contract days were increased from 175 to 176 days.

A closed session, scheduled at the end of meeting, was tabled to April 29 at 7 p.m..

Porter said the board will discuss the direction of the board at the meeting and define the superintendent's evaluation directives.

Under the open meetings law, public boards can have closed sessions to discuss collective bargaining, real estate purchases or litigation; talk about security personnel or devices; discuss investigative proceedings regarding allegations of criminal misconduct or evaluate an individual's job performance if the person has not requested a public meeting.

In other business, the board:

approved payment of $90,000 from the building fund to Lexington Glass for windows and their installation at the school.

decided not to buy property insurance from Arnold Insurance. Instead, the district will stay with ALICAP, a consortium of municipal entities. Arnold's premium is $35,375 and ALICAP's is $43,000.

voted to buy 16 girls' basketball uniforms for $1,424.

passed the final reading of policies dealing with child abuse reporting procedures and student memorials.

agreed to allow the administration to advertise for and hire high school or college students as part-time summer help for 522 hours at minimum wage.

heard about a complaint concerning the principal. Meeting minutes said board members apologized for an incident with a student that happened at a ball game.

learned that the facilities committee is looking at dividing the business room into distance learning and a business room and adding a new science lab.

were informed that federal Teacher and Principal Training & Recruitment will not be consorted with Educational Service Unit 16 and the district will pay for what services it uses. High ability learning funds will be spent on online classes or programs.

found out that Sandy Burke will monitor credit recovery students this summer.

were told that the activities and academic banquets are scheduled May 2 and May 9 respectively. Both will begin at 7 p.m.

Porter said he heard complaints about the length of the banquets in the past so the board decided limits are needed on the presentation of awards.

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