

## **Trenton Board of Education agrees to pay portion of new bleacher seating**

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### **Trenton Board of Education agrees to pay portion of new bleacher seating** **News**

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The Trenton R-9 Board of Education has agreed to make a conditional payment to the city for use of portable bleachers, adopted a lower school tax levy, and heard about some changes as a result of Missouri's waiver from the federal law known as "No Child Left Behind". The graduation date for Trenton High School's Class of 2013 also was set.

After being told the portable bleacher seating obtained by the city of Trenton will meet school needs and insurance requirements, the board voted to contribute UP TO seven thousand dollars PENDING a written agreement between city and school officials. There also was an indication the Bulldog Booster Club will be asked for a contribution.

Director of Supportive Services Dennis Gutshall said three sets of portable bleachers could be used for spectator seating on the north side of C-F Russell Stadium. Each would be set on concrete pads to be poured (two west of blocks for growth, one east side).

Efforts are to be made to have an agreement in place in time for home football games. Revised figures show Trenton R-9 assessed valuation at nearly 73 million, 708 thousand dollars. With the higher figure, the school district levy was reduced by seven cents—making this years' rate nearly four dollars 36 cents (4.3577) on the 100 dollars of assessed valuation. It will generate almost three million, 212 thousand dollars.

The annual secretary of the board report shows an unrestricted fund balance of 35 percent which is steady with a year ago. As of June 30th, there's over three million, 455 thousand dollars in the general fund; more than one million, 173 thousand in debt service, and over 744 thousand dollars that's available in capital projects. (\$5,373.606 total reserves)

Those funds are available due to remaining school bond proceeds. Superintendent Becky Albrecht said about 400 thousand dollars is earmarked for a new bus barn. Other priority projects are to be determined within a few months.

On the recommendation of THS Principal Dan Wiebers, the school board has approved graduation for May 19, 2013. Six seniors were approved for early graduation requests after the first semester: Kate Ewald, Jacie Tracy, Jessica Tracy, Kelsey Ward, Monica Weaver, and Tiffany Norman.

Approved for part-time THS attendance in the first semester so she can attend NCMC was Haley Purkapile. Superintendent Albrecht announced Trenton R-9 has again achieved all 14 state performance standards.

Due to the state of Missouri's three year waiver from "No Child Left Behind", she said the state suspended school recognition known as "Distinction in Performance."

Mrs. Albrecht said Trenton has met many of its goals in the comprehensive school improvement plan. Strengths and concerns were reviewed. The district will now focus on goals that pertain to technology curriculum, tutoring programs, professional development for staff, standardized training for administrators to evaluate teachers, upgrading technology for student achievement testing on line, and continuing the "Parent's Portal" web page, with involvement at board meetings by community members.

Among other news, Trenton R-9 is custodian of the Rose Hoover and Jewett Norris Library funds. Three hundred eighty-six dollars in interest earned will be forwarded to the library. The board

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approved an update to crisis management plan with copies placed in each classroom and the district office.

The board adopted a resolution to demonstrate support to the Missouri School Boards Association for a "vision" project. It involves efforts statewide to prepare students for "life after high school." There also would be an increased focus on following up on graduates who go on to college or technical schools or to work.

A routine conflict of interest policy was adopted for board of education members. Marcia Gutshall reported the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education has again determined Trenton is meeting special education requirements of the Individuals with Disabilities Educational Act (IDEA).

Director of Supportive Services Dennis Gutshall reviewed various summer maintenance projects at the three school buildings including improvements made to the high school's locker rooms.

The first "Back to School" activities were held Wednesday morning when all of the new R-9 employees gathered to meet administrators and board members.