

## Gym floor woes frustrate school staff

Written by Greg Viergutz  
Wednesday, 17 July 2013 23:11 -

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What started out as a fairly straightforward summer project—replacing the Community Building gymnasium floor—has increasingly become a big headache for Gothenburg Public Schools maintenance supervisor Jay Holmes.

Members of the District 20 board of education heard at their July meeting Monday how the replacement has gone from bad to worse, both in terms of time and money.

The latest is that the floor base will need to be leveled before a new floor can be installed.

Troubles began when a corner of the floor was damaged as the building received a new roof last summer. The insurance company for Weathercraft paid to have the corner replaced at approximately \$25,000.

After debating whether to repair or replace the floor, the board opted for replacement and accepted a bid of \$81,257 from Midwest Floor Covering, Inc.

The old wood floor was attached to nailing strips which were installed over tiles. The tiles contained asbestos and necessitated removal. Nails had been shot into the floor to connect the strips.

The removal of the nails left numerous holes which now have to be filled. A leveling compound will be used which will result in a more stable wooden floor, according to Dr. Mike Teahon, superintendent.

Leveling the floor will add \$8,000 to the total bill. The leveling company cannot start the job until July 23.

Preparation work will involve moving the bleachers to the center of the floor allowing asbestos

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abatement where the bleachers were located. The bleachers will be returned and the new floor poured in the center. Next, the bleachers will be moved again to have the floor underneath leveled.

All that precedes the installation of the wood floor.

“It’s turned into quite a lengthy project,” Holmes said. “I hope we can get it done before the start of school.”

The board reviewed the amount of money collected as a part of student fees for the 2012-13 school year—\$21,537.78. The board is required by law to review the various collections. The board will consider approval of the transfers into various accounts at its August meeting.

The amounts included: student activity ticket sales, \$9,797; drivers education, \$5,100; class dues, \$2,375; family and consumer sciences projects and supplies, \$1,930; FFA projects and supplies, \$1,180; science fair boards, \$698.50; art club, \$365; industrial technology, \$84; interest, \$8.82.

Also at the meeting, the board did not see a need to adjust salaries for substitute teachers after Dr. Teahon surveyed other Southwest Conference schools and found no changes being proposed at any of the schools.

Gothenburg’s salaries are \$100 per day and \$140 per day for long-term assignments (more than 10 days). Those figures compare favorably to those offered by other SWC schools, Dr. Teahon said.

In other action, the board:

introduced eight policies dealing with fund balance reporting, Family and Medical Leave Act issues, admission requirements, option enrollment and adding social studies to the academic

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content standards for assessments. They are available for viewing at the district office or online as links on the board meeting agenda.

acknowledged that Gothenburg Public Schools has been accredited by the Nebraska Department of Education through June 30, 2014.

delayed action on salaries for administrative and non-certificated staff until a later meeting.

heard a report from Dr. Teahon about his participation in the National Association of School Administrators Advocacy Conference and Governing Board Meeting. He was representing the executive council of the Nebraska Council of School Administrators and the Nebraska Association of School Administrators. He is currently president-elect of this group and will become president in August.

voted to approve Policy 6284 on initiations, hazings, secret clubs and outside organizations with a minor change to the proposal. Information on the policy will now be included in the student handbook.