

Five teachers quit school

Five Morrow County teachers had their rejected contracts accepted by the county school board at its meeting in Irrigon Monday.

Teachers who will not be back next year from the Ione schools are Duane Payne, Carol Boerger and Anne Doherty. From the Heppner schools, Sheri Brock and Andy Clark rejected their contract offers.

Teachers received contract offers April 1 from the county school administration and replied to the offers by April 15. Teachers that were hired in the middle of the school year will not receive offers until the end of the school year.

In other teacher-related news at the school board meeting, resignations were accepted by Stewart Crogen, Lorina Jones and Lucille Peck of Heppner Elementary.

Heppner High School's Hal Whitaker was denied a leave of absence while leaves were granted to Jennifer Byron and Nancy Howell of A.C. Houghton Grade School and Nancy Welborn, a second grade teacher at Ione.

The school board also changed the date of the new schools dedication in Boardman and Irrigon from April 19 to May 17.

The board approved the sale of a school bus that has a blown engine.

School's calendar for 1980-81 was passed with the school year beginning August 26 to 29 for teacher work and inservice days. Sept. 1 is the Labor Day holiday and Sept. 2 is the first day of school for students.

Oct. 10 is Inservice Day holiday and Nov. 11 Veterans Day. Thanksgiving Vacation begins Nov. 26 with an early dismissal at 1:30 p.m. and school is out Nov. 27 and 28.

Christmas Vacation is from Dec. 24 to Jan. 2 with a 1:30 p.m. early dismissal Dec. 23. School resumes Jan. 5 after Christmas break. Spring break is planned for March 16 to 20.

Ione High School graduation will be May 21, Heppner May 22, and Riverside May 23. The Memorial Day holiday will be May 25 and the last day for students is June 3 with early dismissal at 1:30 p.m. Teacher work and inservice days are June 4 and 5.

There was a request for school bus use in the summer made by the Heppner swim team and the U.S. Forest Service but action was postponed because of problems the school district is having with over-expenditures in the bus budget.

Gary Hunt was hired as a teacher at Heppner Jr. High and Margery Green-Clough was named the girls track coach at Columbia Jr. High. Duane Payne was changed from the baseball coach at Ione High School to the tennis coach. Rita Sumner, Marjean Secl and Pamela Leathers were hired as teacher aides.

Superintendent Matt Doherty told the board about some financial problems the district is having.

The flood at Ione High School last year has created a debt in this year's budget of \$25,200. The amount spent on fuel is already more than the amount budgeted. The repair and maintenance of school buses budget is also more than what was allotted so it too is operating in the red.

"We are going to have to scrunch and save in other areas of the budget," Doherty said.

Doherty added that tax receipts from the county will be short \$23,703 because the county collected more than it should have in taxes and all agencies that receive county taxes are going to be affected when that money is refunded.

The school system is also going to have \$34,000 less than anticipated in Basic School support from the state.

"It all affects this and future budgets," Doherty said. "We will have to anticipate a reduced carryover for next year."

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